

**TOBB President M. Rifat Hisarcıklioğlu:**

## Our country can prosper faster with an innovation based growth

**1** 6% of Turkey's GDP's has been generated from manufacturing sector and another 15% has been generated from construction and real estate services. On the other hand machinery and equipment investments share in GDP is only a third of these, just 10%. So, we need to find the reason why there is not as much as investment in machinery and equipment as in construction. We should stop bragging about the things that "we can also do" and start doing what the others can't do. Innovation based growth means being able to add your own distinctive products beside the goods and products the others can do. It means to be able to transform the manufacturing processes in conventional sectors with new technologies. If we can do that, our country can prosper faster and the distribution can be more equal.



**TOBB transforms SMEs into exporters**

**P** private sector's roof organisation Turkish Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges (TOBB), with its 365 chambers and commodity exchanges in 81 cities among 160 districts and over 1.5 million members, opening SME's that renovate the 60% of our 150 billion dollars exports to world markets.

TOBB beside raising export awareness of SME's and encouraging them, sprinting to add new exporter companies to turkish economy. In this regard TOBB organised "Intelligence for Foreign Trade" trainings for chambers and commodity exchange personnel. TOBB Chairmen M. Rifat Hisarcıklioğlu stated that they want to transform more SME's to exporters wand by this way add new jobs and foreign exchange to the country's economy. He added that they are trying to position Turkey in the global supply chain with its strong economic structure.



## Latvia calling Turkish entrepreneurs

Investors looking for opportunities to invest in Baltic states, scandinavia and CAC (commonwealth of independent states) or companies willing to produce in European Union now prefers Latvia. The reasons en-

terpreneurs choosing Latvia is country's low costs, the good level of foreign language, qualified workforce, development level of logistic sector and a strong infrastructure. Latvia Republic's Ankara Ambassador

Pēteris Kārlis Elferts said "We provide a lot of advantages, especially tax reductions, for the companies doing business in our country. We want to see more turkish companies doing business in Latvia in the future".

## 26 more Chamber and Exchange Commodity became 5 stars



The certification ceremony regarding the 'Accreditation System' aiming to raise the corporate capacity and service quality for members of chambers and exchange commodities took place at The Turkish Union of Chambers and Exchange Commodities (TOBB). TOBB President M. Rifat Hisarcıkloğlu speaking at the 12nd Term Certificate Ceremony told that 26 more chamber and exchange commodity has earned to get 5 stars. Hisarcıkloğlu said "Today, our chambers and exchange commodities with 5 stars has reached the service quality of the ones in London, Paris and Berlin. These chambers and exchange commodities have at least the same standart of service with those. It means they authenticate that their work is world class."



## TOBB opens the door of Uzbekistan for Turkish companies

**T**urkey-Uzbekistan Roundtable Meeting took place in TOBB Twin Towers with the attendance of Uzbekistan Deputy Prime Minister Rustam Azimov and his delegation, hosted by The Turkish Union of Chambers and Exchange Commodities (TOBB) President M. Rifat Hisarcıkloğlu. Speaking at the opening ceremony TOBB President Hisarcıkloğlu stated that they

want to open new cooperation ways between Turkey and Uzbekistan, and said "We are in an ideal period to improve the relationships we built. Especially recently there is a stronger political will to accomplish that". TOBB President Hisarcıkloğlu underlined that their focus was to raise the trade volume between Uzbekistan and Turkey, and investments.

**D**ue to delays of investments like high-speed train, airport and organised industrial zone's expansion, Edirne can't make the moves on track becoming a Brand City. Edirne Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Edirne Commodity Exchange are the leading organisations adding value to the city. Edirne Chamber of Commerce and Industry Chairman Recep Zıpkıncırt wants to overcome the challenges against Edirne's industrial improvement and calling for the investment atmosphere needed by the businessmen. Edirne Commodity Exchange Chairman Özey Öztürk says "It's very important to us to keep Edirne's values alive, which has a remarkable history, cultural values and a significantly important plant production for our country. It is important to use these values, promote them and establish a common management".



## Edirne wants to come out off Istanbul's shadow