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**CENTRAL BANK OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY
PRESS RELEASE**

As announced in the press release dated March 20, 2003, the Central Bank put some measures into effect with the aim of minimizing the potential adverse effects of the military operation in Iraq on domestic markets, preserving what we have accomplished so far on the way to achieving price stability, and maintaining the banking and financial stability.

In this regard, the interest rate applied to one-week maturity foreign exchange deposit facility provided to banks within their limit of borrowing in Foreign Exchange Deposit Market at the Central Bank was cut down to 8 percent from 12 percent.

The said interest rate has been further reduced by 2 points and it will be 6 percent effective from 13:00 pm today.