

Turkey defines 132 rules to restart tourism sector

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ISTANBUL, May 13 (Xinhua) -- Turkey's tourism sector has been planning to resume operations in a controlled way in June under the guidance of 132 well-defined, comprehensive measures against the COVID-19 pandemic, local media reported on Wednesday.

The Sozcu daily cited Culture and Tourism Minister Nuri Ersoy as saying that people's concerns over hygiene guided the scope of the measures in tourism facilities across the country, and they were set in a way to ease their worries in a maximum way possible.

Each facility will have authorized personnel to inspect measures and hygiene standards, it said, noting that disinfection works will be regularly conducted.

It noted that necessary arrangements would be executed to secure the social distancing rule in common areas, restaurants, and rooms, and disposable materials would be used as much as possible in every point.

Protective suits and facial masks will be available at the entrance of every tourism facility, while body temperatures will be taken through thermal sensors, the daily added.

Contact-free payment systems would be preferred with a rapid reduction of the use of cash to limit the contact, according to the new normal of the sector.

Additionally, in case of an emergency, isolation zones would be fixed inside each facility, and employees would be granted a hygiene education certificate after attending online courses, it said.

Currently, 90 to 95 percent of tourism facilities across the country are closed as a precautionary measure to curb the outbreak of the coronavirus.

Last year, Turkey observed 34.5 billion U.S. dollars of tourism revenues, with a 17 percent year-on-year increase.

The Turkish government has recently introduced a normalization process to ease the coronavirus restrictions, and shopping malls and barbershops across the country became operational on Monday.