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## **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN QATAR**

Qatar has embarked on one of the most ambitious development programmes in the world today, which encompasses the oil and gas sector, infrastructure, non-oil and gas-related industry, education health, tourism and even Qatar's cultural life.

- <u>Oil and gas sector</u>. Qatar Petroleum and its international partners have a five-year investment programme that will require spending of at least \$5 billion annually and will enable Qatar to quadruple its liquified natural gas (LNG) capacity to about 60 million tones per annum.
- <u>Infrastructure and construction sector</u>. The government is embarking on a major upgrading of its infrastructure. It plans to spend some \$900M a year in the next six years on road, building, sewerage system, education and health projects.

Qatar's infrastructure and construction industry is on the rise as Qatar gears up for its hosting of the Asian Games, the flagship event that will herald the country's arrival on the international sporting stage.

The scale of the projects is quite staggering involving the upgrading of the existing Khalifa stadium to Olympic standards, which will involve raising the seating capacity to 50,000 and the construction of two entirely new sports stadia.

In addition, training facilities for the athletes will be built in 41 of Qatar's schools which can be used by the students once the games are over. The 12,000 athletes participating in the games will be housed in a specially constructed Olympic standard village consisting of 1000 villas plus ancillary medical and other services buildings. After the games, the village is to be incorporated into Dohas's Hamad Medical City which, when expanded, will boast of three hospitals, nursing homes, outpatient clinics, as well as staff recreational and sporting facilities.

 <u>Health and medical services</u>. The growth in Qatar's local and expatriate population puts increasing pressure on the country's health and medical services as more and more people avail of the free/subsidized health services being provided by Qatar's public health hospitals and clinics.

In light of the government's policy to provide health care for all the residents of the country, plans are underway to develop the Middle East's largest comprehensive medical facility, the Hamad Medical City Complex. In addition to medical facilities, Qatar is also building a world-class teaching hospital with the help of New York's Cornell University. Expected to open in four years, the all-digital medical care and research center will focus on women and children's health, with a full range of medical services.

Source: OMEAA, DFA April 2005