

# Significant number of people not familiar with labour changes: SESRI survey

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The Social and Economic Survey Research Institute (SESRI), a social scientific survey research initiative of Qatar University, announced the results of a study on 'Qatar's Labour Law Changes and Worker's Welfare' in a seminar recently.

From September 22, 2020, to January 19, 2021, SESRI surveyed 2,760 individuals, including Qatari nationals, higher-income and lower-income expatriates, about Qatar's recent labour law changes. The survey is based on a nationally representative sample interviewed by telephone in nine different languages. The survey shows that both Qataris and resident expatriates have a mostly positive perception of the recent labour law changes and their impact on Qatar's economy and expatriates' working and living conditions. However, the findings also indicate that public awareness surrounding the new legislative reforms remains low.

Director of SESRI, Dr. Kaltham Ali Al Ghanim said, "The

event revolves around migrant workers, a topic that is of great importance to society and has appeared in strategies concerning the population and the workforce over the past decades. Several workshops and seminars have been organized locally and regionally to discuss the issue of construction workers in Qatar to develop this profession and improve their working and living conditions and framed by laws that deal with their well-being during work and their presence in the community. The country has come a long way in this area. Qatar has implemented various laws that protect migrant worker rights, including recent improvements to labour laws."

"This study is funded by Qatar Foundation through the National Priorities Research Program (NPRP) IIth cycle. The grant was won by Prof. Abdoulaye Diop, Manager of SESRI's Research Department, who, due to COVID-19, conducted the interviews for the survey via telephone. The presentation will discuss the main findings of the study, which is to showcase the positions and perceptions of Qataris and



Prof. Abdoulaye Diop, Manager of SESRI's Research Department

migrant workers on the latest changes to Qatar's labour laws."

The majority of Qatari nationals, higher-income, and lower-income expatriates, are not very familiar with Qatar's labour law changes. Overall, few Qatari nationals, higher-income and lower-income expatriates report being very familiar with the recent labour law changes. Considering those who said they were only somewhat familiar along with the very familiar, slightly more

than half of the Qatari respondents (57%) are at least slightly familiar with the changes.

The majority of Qatari nationals (70%) and higher-income expatriates (74%) think that the new legislative changes will make foreign workers less dependent on their employers. This percentage is significantly smaller among lower-income expatriates (54%). Lower-income expatriates (42%) are also most likely out of the three population subgroups to think that the changes will make foreign workers more dependent on their employers (compared to 28% of Qataris and 24% of higher-income expatriate respondents).

More than three-quarters of higher-income expatriates (78%) and lower-income expatriates (77%) said they think that the minimum wage should be increased from QR1000. Overall, Qataris are least likely to think that the minimum wage should be further increased. More than half of Qatari nationals (58%) think that the minimum wage should be kept or maintained at QR1000.

The majority of Qatari nationals, higher-income, and lower-income expatriates, think that the labour law changes have a positive impact on Qatar's economy and the working and living conditions of expatriate residents.

All respondents were also asked about the potential impact of the labor law changes on Qatar's economy and expatriate workers' living and working conditions. Nearly two-thirds of Qataris (64%) and more than three-quarters of resident expatriates reported that these labour law changes made Qatar's economy somewhat or much better. Expatriate residents were more likely to give higher positive impact ratings to the economy as compared to Qataris.

Concerning the impact of the labour law changes on the working conditions of foreign workers, Qatari nationals (51%), higher-income expatriates (60%), and lower-income expatriates (60%) strongly agreed that changing the labour laws will improve the working conditions of foreign workers. Overall, resident expatriates (60%) were more likely to strongly agree

about this positive impact of labour law changes than Qatari nationals (51%).

About the future impact of the labour law changes on the working conditions of foreign workers, resident expatriates were more likely to strongly agree that these changes will make their lives much better (50% for lower-income expatriates & 52% for higher-income expatriates) as compared to Qatari nationals (38%).

Almost two-thirds of respondents reported that their business or workplace was subject to the Ministry of Administrative Development, Labor and Social Affairs (MADLSA) inspection.

Based on the results, respondents who reported that their business or workplace had received a MADLSA inspection were more likely to abide by Qatar's Wage Protection System (WPS). Namely, a higher proportion of these respondents reported paying their employees through direct bank transfer (92%) than those who stated that their business or workplace did not receive a MADLSA inspection (80%).

## Ferns N Petals expands operations in Qatar

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Qatar's e-commerce sales are expected to reach over \$3.2bn by 2022; Ferns N Petals sees this as a rewarding market to cater to online gift solutions.

Qatar witnesses a robust rise in activity from the consumers using online shopping platforms to furnish their lifestyle needs since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, and this healthy momentum continues.

As per the Qatar Financial Center (QFC) - Refinitiv's report, many more companies and consumers are shifting towards e-commerce platforms, with e-commerce sales estimated to reach more than \$3.2bn around 2022.

There is a rise in Qatar's residents' activities leveraging their devices to select and purchase a variety of products through e-commerce portals, from daily essentials, groceries, and electronics to even gifting solutions.

Amir Faizi, Business Head at Ferns N Petals - Qatar said: "Since the post-COVID era, we are investing heavily in

technology and online business services, providing personalized gifting solutions online, available to be delivered at the doorstep of the recipients in India, UAE, Singapore and now also in Qatar."

"The pandemic situation has forced people globally, including those in Qatar, to reinvent ways to celebrate



small and big occasions and enjoy festivals while being away from family, friends and loved ones. With our delivery services now extending to Qatar, Ferns N Petals digital gifting solutions aims to bridge the gap created by the COVID-19 outbreak on people's lives.

"We ensure people express their love on all kinds of occasions through customized arrangements of flowers, cakes, chocolates, personalized gifts and hampers, being directly

delivered to them at the doorstep."

"Ferns N Petals Qatar platform includes flowers, cakes, plants, and the range of personalized gifts from our brand. We will also bring the other SME's operating in Qatar in the gifting vertical to list their products at our portal and get international reach through our websites in Qatar, UAE and India.

"So, whether you are a local Qatari brand owned by a local or a company making products and operating in Doha as an expat, our platform allows you to expand your reach," he added.

"Ferns N Petals Qatar has already associated with brands like Kaafe Chocolatier, Fnter and Zaffran Café (all Made in Qatar products) with their products now live on our Qatar website and more in our pipeline.

"For any Made in Qatar brands that would like to get connected with us and market their products through us can reach us via our website or mobile number 00974-33396020," said Faizi.

## Lulu Hypermarket extends financial support to QSRSN



Dr. Mohamed Althaf, Director of Lulu Group, handing over the cheque to Taleb Abdullah Afifa, Board Member of Qatar Society for Rehabilitation of Special Needs.

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The leading retailer Lulu Hypermarket has offered financial support to the Qatar Society for Rehabilitation of Special Needs for purchase of medical equipment as part of its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives and its ongoing endeavors towards humanitarian causes.

A cheque for QR100,000 was handed over by Dr. Mohamed Althaf, Director of Lulu Group to Taleb Abdullah Afifa, Board Member of Qatar Society for Rehabilitation of Special Needs in a ceremony

held at Lulu Hypermarket's regional headquarters located on the D-Ring Road. The event was attended by officials from Qatar Society for Rehabilitation of Special Needs and Lulu Hypermarket.

This initiative is considered as a contribution from Lulu hypermarket in achieving Qatar Society for Rehabilitation of Special Needs' vision to shed light to the lives of people with special needs by extending solace to their insecurities, bringing them to the mainstream and making them eligible for their entitlements.

The Qatar Society for

Rehabilitation of Special Needs commenced its activities as a charity society nearly two decades back under the Department of Social Affairs at the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. The Society endeavours to facilitate social, mental, academic and healthy rehabilitation for the people of special needs in the society commensurate with the Islamic principles, traditions, customs and peculiarities of the Qatari society, considering the innovation of services and programs to pace with the urban and humanitarian developments taking place in the society.

SL NO.	TENDER NO.	TENDER SALE PERIOD START DATE	TENDER SALE PERIOD END DATE	TENDER CLOSING DATE	TENDER BOND	BOND CURR.	TENDER FEE	FEE CURR.
1.	GT21102500	05.04.2021	11.04.2021	23.05.2021	500,000.00	QAR	500.00	QAR
Title of Tender: EPIC FOR COMMON FACILITIES FOR LIQUID PRODUCT BERTH-31								
Mid-Tender Meeting Location: To be advised if required								
Mid-Tender Meeting Date & Time: To be advised if required								
2.	GT21102400	08.04.2021	15.04.2021	25.04.2021	300,000.00	QAR	500.00	QAR
Title of Tender: PROVISION OF ACCOMMODATION BARGE TO SUPPORT PS1 SHUTDOWN								
Mid-Tender Meeting Location: To be advised if required								
Mid-Tender Meeting Date & Time: To be advised if required								
3.	GT21102700	06.04.2021	12.04.2021	23.05.2021	600,000.00	QAR	500.00	QAR
Title of Tender: TURNAROUND MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR GAS RECYCLING PLANT IN DUKHAN FIELDS - 2022								
Mid-Tender Meeting Location: To be advised if required								
Mid-Tender Meeting Date & Time: 19.04.2021 at 09:00:00								
4.	GT21102200	08.04.2021	14.04.2021	23.05.2021	500,000.00	QAR	500.00	QAR
Title of Tender: BOW-TIE DEVELOPMENT AND OTHER ASSOCIATED MAHM DELIVERABLES FOR ALL QP PRODUCTION FACILITIES AT QP OPERATIONAL AREAS								
Mid-Tender Meeting Location: To be advised if required								
Mid-Tender Meeting Date & Time: 22.04.2021 at 10:00:00								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tender documents can be purchased and downloaded from QP Website (<a href="https://www.eser- vices.qp.qa/etenders">https://www.eser- vices.qp.qa/etenders</a>) during the Tender Sale Period mentioned above against each Tender. Request for issuance of Tender after the specified Tender Sale Period will not be entertained.</li> <li>Always refer to QP Website (<a href="http://www.qp.com.qa">www.qp.com.qa</a>) -&gt; Supply Management -&gt; Tenders page for up to date information on QP Tenders. Subscribe to Tender Alert to receive notification in your email on new Tenders</li> <li>Changes to Tender Sale Period and Bid Closing Date will be updated in QP website only.</li> <li>Brief Scopes of Work for the above tenders are posted on the QP website</li> <li>QP invites all prospective Suppliers and Contractors interested to participate in QP Tenders to register online (<a href="https://www.verreg.qp.qa/ereg/Welcomedo">https://www.verreg.qp.qa/ereg/Welcomedo</a>) and obtain a QP SAP Vendor Code, a mandatory requirement for the issue of Tender Documents by QP.</li> <li>Suppliers and Contractors who are in possession of a valid SAP ID issued by QP are instructed to maintain their Company Registration and Communication details upto date and valid via QP e-Registration system on urgent basis.</li> <li>No queries will be entertained, or bids received, from entities who have not purchased tender documents in compliance with the above provisions.</li> </ul>								

## للإيجار بأسعار مناسبة

للإيجار شقق (غرفتين - صاله - ٢ حمام - مطبخ) بمساحات مختلفه، بمنطقة المطار القديم خلف مجمع الرونق و خلف بنك الدوحه بالدائري الرابع

For Rent 2 BHK apartments apartments with different spaces - Old Airport Area behind Alrawnaq & behind Doha Bank D-ring road

للإيجار مكاتب إدارية بمنطقة بن عمران ومنطقة السد بمساحات مختلفة

For Rent administrative offices in the Bin Omran area and Al Sadd area of different spaces

للإيجار مخازن بمساحات مختلفة بالمنطقة الصناعية ومنطقة ام صلال محمد - جري السمر

For Rent stores of different spaces in the industrial zone and the Umm Salal Muhammad area - Jerry Al Samar

مع شهر مجانا

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## QU Health IPEC holds mental health activity

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Qatar University (QU) Health Interprofessional Education Committee (IPEC) in Qatar, which consists of representatives from all healthcare schools in Qatar, organized its second activity titled 'Interprofessional Education (IPE) Activity on Mental Health.'

Over 150 students and 13 facilitators attended the event. Professions and colleges involved are Biomedical Sciences, Human Nutrition, and Public Health from College of Health Sciences (CHS), College of Medicine (CMED), and College of Pharmacy (CPH).

This IPE activity aimed to introduce the concept of interprofessional education by promoting collaboration between different healthcare professions. The session started with an introductory video by QU-CHS Associate Professor of Public Health and lead facilitator Dr. Lily O'Hara.

Discovery interviews were conducted to learn about other health professional disciplines within the group. A case study was introduced to students on mental health about a 23-year-old female. They looked at her vital signs, nutrition intake, and physical assessment and addressed the mental health and services available for her.

Dr. Lily O'Hara said, "Bringing students from different health disciplines together to learn about, with, and from each other is an incredibly valuable experience for them. In this event, we had a case study of a young woman whose mental, physical, and social factors impact her social health and well-being. This case study was highly relevant to young people today, as they are dealing with many similar issues."