

1) Recent numbers of workers, injuries and fatal accidents

The Government of Qatar does not make public any statistics about injuries and accidents. The Hamad Medical Corporation occasionally releases statistics about injuries and fatalities. They have released information on heart attacks, pedestrian fatalities and injuries falling from heights. All links are below.

Sending countries do monitor fatalities as migrant workers post a bond with the Government before they go overseas to work in case of fatality. We have news reports of these figures from Indian and Nepali sources list below.

Hamad Medical Corporation – report on injuries caused by falling from heights:

The Peninsula

<http://thepeninsulaqatar.com/qatar/225209-construction-site-accidents-on-the-rise.html>

Construction Week

http://www.constructionweekonline.com/article-20865-construction-accidents-on-the-rise-in-qatar/#.UYea_LVTDms

Equal Times

<http://www.equaltimes.org/news/despite-world-cup-pledges-building-site-accidents-soar-in-qatar>

Hamad Medical Corporation – injuries

Pedestrians – over 90% are migrant workers

<http://www.gulf-times.com/qatar/178/details/351636/pedestrian-deaths-on-the-rise-in-qatar>

1600 heartattacks in Qatar

<http://thepeninsulaqatar.com/qatar/236113-1600-heart-attacks-in-qatar-last-year.html>

Nepalese workers dying in Qatar

Himalayan Times 2012 – reporting Nepal government figures

<http://www.thehimalayantimes.com/fullNews.php?headline=Over+600+migrants+die+in+foreign+jobs&NewsID=331629>

Himalayan Times 2011 – reporting Nepal government figures

<http://www.thehimalayantimes.com/fullNews.php?headline=191+Nepali+workers+die+in+Qatar+last+year+&NewsID=272207>

These figures are collected for the insurance claims from dead workers – who have to leave a bond with the Nepalese government when they go and work overseas.

Indian workers dying in Qatar

India 98 deaths in first six months of 2012

<http://www.hrw.org/news/2012/06/12/qatar-migrant-construction-workers-face-abuse>

Sri Lanka 30 deaths in 2011

<http://www.sundaytimes.lk/120624/news/more-than-400-lankan-workers-died-overseas-last-year-me-report-4248.html>

- **2) What is the involvement of German/European companies in the construction of the championship's infrastructure in Qatar?**

The contracts for the stadiums are being awarded this year.

There have been media reports that 2 of the contracts for the World Cup stadiums have been granted – but it is not public who these companies are.

A range of infrastructure work has already started involving German and European companies.

Turner construction, a subsidiary of the German company Hochtief has the project management contract for the Doha Convention Centre and Tower.

The Lusail light rail transit project – 30km of lines, 8 underground stations and 25 at grade stations has the involvement of Siemens <http://www.railwaygazette.com/news/single-view/view/qatar-foundation-awards-siemens-EUR100m-doha-tram-contract.html> as well as Vinci, a French company – on civil engineering and construction. The venture is with the Qatari Da Vinci Construction.

The Qatar Bahrain causeway is a made up of Vinci Construction, Hochtief, among others for civil works.

Chancellor Merkel has already called for Qatar to ensure fair procedures for companies which are seeking contracts in Qatar. We want fair treatment for the workers too. <http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/04/15/us-germany-qatar-worldcup-idUSBRE93E12Z20130415>

- **3) Have you contacted any of those?**

Working with the Global Union Federation, Building and Woodworkers International we will be contacting all the companies with whom there are global union agreements to discuss conditions for workers involved in construction of World Cup infrastructure.

Even though Qatar's labour law does not allow migrant workers to join unions, we will be insisting that these companies accept that their workers have the right to organize unions, and we will help the workers organize.

- **4) Are there any motions in Qatar willing to improve the worker's rights, f.e. by setting up a workers union?**

We have had no signals from the Qatari Government that they are willing to improve the rights of workers and pass laws which allow freedom of association and collective bargaining for migrant workers.

We have been in discussions with the Qatari Government for nearly two years. They promised to share their draft labour law for our comments, but this did not happen.

They promised to reform the Kafala sponsorship system – the visa sponsorship system which means workers cannot change employers or leave the country without their permission.

Qatar does not respect even the most basic of workers' rights, and needs to have the World Cup taken away from them, unless they reform.

That is why we are asking FIFA to rerun the vote – with an international campaign at www.rerunthevote.org

- **5) What is the position of the ITUC partner – if there is one – in Qatar?**

Qatar does not allow freedom of association or collective bargaining. There are no unions in Qatar.

We are in contact with migrant worker groups who are organized according to which country the migrants come from. We are in contact with individual workers who have contacted the ITUC about complaints.

Unions from sending countries – including India and Nepal are involved in the global campaign and are in contact with workers in Qatar from their countries.

- **6) What do you expect from the German/European governments?**

Governments can put political and public pressure on Qatar to do the right thing and introduce labour laws that meet international standards, put in place a grievance procedures so workers can have their cases heard and resolved and revise the visa sponsorship system.

We need trade unionists and football fans to show their support for migrant workers in Qatar by joining the campaign www.rerunthevote.org

Together we can shine a spot light on what is happening to workers in Qatar and keep the pressure on the Government to change their laws and give migrant workers the right to form and join a trade union.

Here is a link to all the rerunthe vote campaign materials in German.

<http://www.rerunthevote.org/?lang=de>

You can download the share graphic and infographic from here

<http://www.rerunthevote.org/Do-More>