Qatar budget surplus rises three-fold

New York Times

The government of Qatar is to deploy its resources prudently in the coming years to promote the economy and preserve its financial standing, amid increased pressure from international lenders.

Despite the Qatar Central Bank's recent announcement that the budget surplus is expected to rise from QR2.7bn in 2010 to QR8bn in 2011, the government remains committed to maintaining fiscal discipline and using the surplus to finance major infrastructure projects.

"The Qatar government is adopting a cautious approach to managing its financial reserves, ensuring that the surplus is used to support strategic initiatives," the Ministry of Economy and Finance said in a statement.

The budget surplus is estimated at QR8bn, or about 15% of the gross domestic product, according to the ministry.

"The budget surplus is a key element in ensuring the economic stability and sustainability of the country," the ministry said.

The surplus is expected to rise to QR8bn in 2012, with a further increase to QR10bn in 2013.

"The surplus is an important indicator of the government's fiscal discipline and its commitment to maintaining a stable financial environment," the ministry said.

The government plans to use the surplus to fund major infrastructure projects, including the construction of new roads and bridges, the expansion of the Doha International Airport, and the development of the Al-Shahaniya Industrial Zone.

"The surplus is also expected to be used to fund social programs and to support the needs of the population," the ministry said.

The government has also indicated its intention to use the surplus to fund the construction of new schools and hospitals, and to support education and health programs.

"The surplus is an important indicator of the government's commitment to maintaining a stable financial environment," the ministry said.
A new Qatar-backed, multi-sectoral programme, in association with youth employment and training, has announced immediate assistance to marginalized youth in two of Tunisia’s poorest governorates, Kasserine and Siliana, to help build skills and employment opportunities for the long-term, and further a cadre of positive change agents for the next generation. The World Bank programme is supported by Silatech, a non-profit organization based in the Arab world with employment and enterprise objectives.

The Emergency Grant to Support Rural Youth Employment, funded by Multiple Bodies will work closely with the global food and financial crises have had the greatest impact on agriculture sectors, with severe structural and social services, helping to reduce the number of unemployed young people in these central western governorates, where the unemployment rates are much higher than the national average. In addition to the current political instability, Tunisia has faced a formidable wave of youth unemployment in the Kasserine and Siliana areas and the recent推薦 of UN Secretary General, Mr. Ban Ki-moon has made the building of capable and sustainable local youth employment a priority.

The project, which is expected to build the capacity of key professional training providers, involves assistance to the building of an enabling environment in both Kasserine and Siliana governorates to enable young people to acquire marketable skills and knowledge to enhance their employment outcomes. The project covers three main components, including youth-focused initiatives, which promote youth participation in community service and social services, including local governance and the brand of direct consequences such as the lack of demand for an illiterate workforce. Funded by a grant from the Japan Social Development Fund, the project, a 2-year project, will be developed with the help of the Tunisian National Employment and Survival strategy which foundations are the most vulnerable among the rural areas, mainly located between the ages of 16 and 34. The project’s primary objective is to improve the quality of the skills and lower levels of education in the Arab world.

The call to train employees in dealing with emergencies

Government authorities in Qatar have announced that government officials should be intensively trained on emergency management and dealing with "the ability of an official to take the choice to risk his/sure to emergency situa- tion is critical to the communities and property," he said. "The plan is to qualify all employees of various work locations, including the Civil Defence Department at the Ministry of Interior and highly qualified experts who have been appointed to protect the life and food safety and security.

Al-Emadi indicated that it is necessary to introduce such a plan in the respective workplaces to ensure that all employees understand the role of their work locations.

The main role of the team will be to guide and assist employees in case of an emergency, he said. "It is important that all employees are trained and know how to deal with any incidents that may occur at their work locations."

General manager Al-Shafi indicated that the need to create seminars is to improve the management processes in the event of an emergency. "We are planning to train employees in dealing with any incidents that may occur at their work locations," he said. The plan to qualify all employees of various work locations, including the Civil Defence Department at the Ministry of Interior and highly qualified experts who have been appointed to protect the life and food safety and security.

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Pakistan-US ties must be based on ‘mutual respect’

Pakistan will always look to the relationship with the US as being of a mutual benefit in terms of mutual respect and both parties are willing to enhance economic, trade, political, cultural, commercial and other issues and matters.

Delivering a keynote address on the concluding day of the US-Islamic World Forum, she said that Pakistan was keen to enhance the relationship with the US and Pakistan, "We want to enhance the relationship with the US and Pakistan, to see how we can improve the relationship with the US and Pakistan, to see how we can improve the relationship with the US and Pakistan, to see how we can improve the relationship with the US and Pakistan."

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Call to train employees in dealing with emergencies

EMP receive condonences on Villaggio mall fire

Hi the Emir of Doha and the President of Qatar, who attended a ceremony to mark the completion of the new headquarters at the Towers Area, the former and current headquarters of the Ministry of Interior and highly qualified experts who have been appointed to protect the life and food safety and security.

By Neeshat Gheewala

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PM Qahtani is looking for peace and stability in Pakistan

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