

Hotel job training boost

MORE than BD377,000 is to be spent on a scheme for training and developing Bahrainis in the hotel and catering sector this year.

The Specific Council for Training in Hotel and Catering has increased its budget slightly, from last year's BD376,500, to help step up Bahrainisation in the hotel industry.

Council chairman Abdulnabi Daylami said a budget of BD226,670 was being allocated for the training of 370 new Bahraini trainees.

"They will include 300 Bahraini job-seekers, irrespective of their qualifications and 60 graduates of the Hotel and Catering Training Centre (HCTC)," he said.

"Four Bahraini university graduates will also be trained, two in accounting and two in engineering.

"The money will also be used for providing scholarships for six Bahrainis for their higher studies abroad for two years."

Mr Daylami said the council spent BD270,000 last year for the training of 370 Bahrainis.

"The majority of them are currently employed in Bahrain's hotel industry," he said.

Mr Daylami said this year's budget also included BD150,678 which was being allocated for

By SOMAN BABY

upgrading the skills of Bahrainis already working in the hotel sector.

"We have not yet specified the number of such people who will be either trained locally or abroad," he said.

"The money spent for the same purpose last year was BD106,000, which benefitted 485 employees."

Mr Daylami said the council fully supported the Government plan to promote Bahrain as a regional centre for training and human resources development.

"We will embark on a programme in co-ordination with the Labour and Social Affairs Ministry to invite international institutes specialised in hotel and catering education to have their presence in Bahrain," he said.

"Major international hotel chains will also be invited to conduct training programmes for both Bahrainis and non-Bahrainis working in hotels, catering establishments and the hospitality industry in the Gulf region.

"Some of the key international institutions have already responded positively to our invitation," said Mr Daylami.



■ Mr Daylami