

Bahrainis to be trained in hospitality sector

WITH the focus on developing the kingdom's tourism sector, the Labour Fund took a constructive step towards training Bahraini nationals and signed a long-term contract worth BD3.2 million with a local hospitality sector institute.

The five-year contract signed by the Labour Fund with the Bahrain Institute of Hotel Management (BIHM), regarded among the most reputed hospitality industry training institutes in the Gulf region, will cover training Bahraini nationals at various stages.

This initiative by the Labour Fund encompasses training for all job levels and there will be 1,500 trainees for diverse entry-level positions, 300 middle-level positions and 50 are planned to take a BSc. in hospitality management aimed to assume high positions in the sector.

Moreover, the initiative will also

entail sponsoring 20 participants

currently working in the human resources departments of the hospitality sector to complete their professional qualifications in Human Resource Management.

The training programmes will be delivered based upon internationally recognised curriculum from the Educational Institute of the American Hotel and Lodging Association (EI-AHLA) and Northwood University in USA. The duration of this project is five years and will offer 6- to 48-month long programmes.

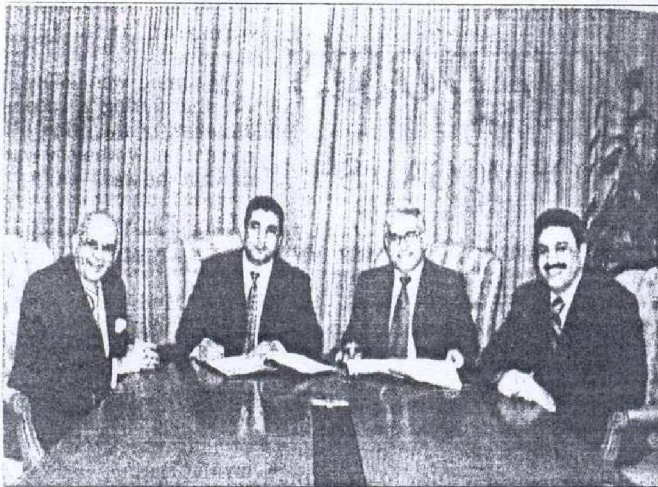
Commenting on the new development, chairman of the BIHM Board of Directors, Qutub Dadab-



hai, said: "It is for the first time in the

Gulf such long term has been awarded in the Gulf in the hospitality education sector. Usually a

short-term contract of one-year period is awarded but this one is for entry to bachelor level programmes. The project will span over five years and will offer six- to 48-month-long programmes."



The Labour Fund signed a contract with Bahrain Institute of Hotel Management (BIHM) for training Bahrainis in hospitality sector. Seen signing the contract, Qutub Dadabhai, Chairman BIHM, second left, and Abdullellah Ebrahim Al Qassimi, Acting Chief Executive of the Labour Fund, second right, flanked by Aqeel Raees, Chairman of the Specific Council for Vocational Training — Hospitality Sector, extreme left, and Dr Ahmed Abdughani Al Shaikh, Vice-President of the Human Capital Development at the Labour Fund.