

Observer : 15th March 2011

Jobs galore in hospitality sector



A PROMISING career awaits young Omanis in the hospitality sector.

By Mohammed bin al Alawi

MUSCAT — Tawfeeq bin Mohammed al Ajmi, Commercial Development Director, National Hospitality Institute, confirms that the institute, in co-ordination with the hotel and hospitality sectors endeavours, to prepare Omani youths for jobs through training and qualification.

This trend has lately acquired particular importance in the wake of a Royal order directing the public and private sectors to provide job opportunities for 50,000 Omani nationals.

The Royal order has motivated the institution's officials towards intensive co-operation with companies operating in the travel and tourism sector to convince them to seize the opportunity to fill their job vacancies.

Al Ajmi pointed out that the institute has announced job opportunities in the

hospitality sector, provided the applicants should be properly qualified especially when it comes to technical jobs such as cooking and customer services which require high skills.

“Co-ordination is going on with the Manpower Ministry to enlighten hotel and tourism companies to grab the opportunity and submit their job vacancies. We, as a specialised institute, will take it upon ourselves to provide the applicants with sound training at par with international standards,” he said.

Al Ajmi added that some 650 job-seekers submitted applications for training and employment. Interviews are under way and a number of trainees are now ready to join work in the hotel and hospitality sector.

“Within two days we have received training applications from hotels and tourism companies, Grand Hayatt Muscat (20

trainees) and Radison Blu (22 trainees), besides Park Inn and The Chedi Muscat, among others”.

Speaking about the actual job opportunities provided so far, Al Ajmi said that 150 applicants were interviewed last week, of whom 80 will be recruited soon. This signifies the excellent results achieved within a short span of time. “We expect to recruit 80-100 on a weekly-basis, and we are co-operating with ministries and companies in an extremely positive way”.

Al Ajmi indicated that most of the jobs being provided are receptionists, room managers and waiters. However, the demand is mainly for receptionists, assistant cooks and travel and tourism agents.

“We have been engaged in co-ordination with the establishments in need of such specialties to provide training in the coming weeks,” he said. ■ **To page 2**