

# Technical institutes launch new training programmes

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During the academic year 1989-1990, the Department of Technical Institutes is implementing an extensive plan aimed at developing the skills of technical, teaching and administrative staffs working in Iraqi technical institutes as well as other government departments.

The plan includes 376 training programmes to be implemented through three formulas. The main one is the so-called continued education, which is considered as an important link between the educational establishments and various government offices. For this, 258 programmes are allocated. Continued education involves refresher courses in the field of specialisation.

The second is carried out through training courses organised by the department for people not necessarily employed in government

offices. Anyone is entitled to enroll in such courses, in the field of their interest or work no matter what level of education they have.

The department of technical institutes has prepared 84 programmes for this purpose. These programmes are intended to acquaint people with the latest developments in the field of science and technology.

Moreover, they are aimed at developing the skills and capabilities of the trainees and providing them with the necessary practical knowledge in this field.

The third formula through which the plan is implemented is the educational training courses intended to develop the proficiency level of the technical, administrative and teaching staffs working in the institutes of the department.

These courses are intended to cope with the development of technical education in the

world. Thus in order to enhance the educational process in the institutes, 34 training programmes are laid down by the department.

Technical institutes exist in almost all Iraqi provinces. Some provinces, such as the case is in the capital Baghdad, have more than one institute. The number of students admitted to these institutes is annually increasing. For example, about 27,000 students were admitted all throughout the country for the academic year 1988-1989 compared to the previous year's total number of 20,000.

These institutes include many scientific sections involving five main specializations: technology, administration, agriculture, medicine and applied arts. It is widely believed that national staff could handle advanced technology well if good opportunities for acquiring technology exist.

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