

# IT hiring in fast lane, seen growing 12%

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After hitting the slow lane, IT hiring is expected to pick up in 2021 as global clients open up their purse strings to digitise their operations using new age technologies.

According to staffing solutions provider TeamLease, the demand for IT talents is expected to gain momentum in 2021 and see growth of 10-12 per cent, backed by positive environment.

The demand is expected to be led by recovery in hiring of contractual staff apart from advanced technical skill set such as data sciences and data analytics, the demand for which is expected to see a rise of 45 per cent.

“With 95 per cent of organisations planning to increase their Cloud spends in the next 12 months, talent skilled in Cloud computing /DevOps also will be in demand,” said Siva Prasad Nanduri, vice-president and business head (IT staffing), at TeamLease Digital. The demand will also be driven by cybersecurity professionals while the demand in Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning and product owners/Certified PM professionals will also increase significantly, he added.

Though IT services is one of

the least affected sectors during the ongoing pandemic, hiring the leading players had taken a complete pause in the first half of the year. Hiring slowly started picking up pace July onwards. Most of the headcount growth by the sector, however, was driven by fresher hiring, as firms started onboarding talent from campuses in the previous year.

The IT contract hiring, which was one of the earliest to take a hit during the pandemic, has regained nearly 75 per cent of the pre-Covid levels

**The IT contract hiring has regained 75% of the pre-Covid levels by Sept this year, says TeamLease**

by September this year, said TeamLease, which is one of the largest players in the space. “The drivers for this recovery were digitalisation, new projects & product development across captives, global in-

house centres and development centres apart from BFSI, pharma, manufacturing.”

According to the staffing solutions provider, the New Year is expected to see a complete change in the working patterns. With remote working continuing, criteria of location for a job will become less important. Recruitment will become data-driven with the help of AI, digital experience will be enhanced with respect to virtual screening, interviews and even recruiting candidates, TeamLease added.