

Hiring in new-age IT skills to pick up in 2021

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IT sector hiring is expected to rise in 2021, especially in new-age digital skills, as organizations accelerate their digital transformation.

Artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML), data engineering and robotic process automation (RPA) will account for over 25% of the overall hiring, said Han Digital, a talent consulting firm.

“Indian IT-BPM (business process management) hiring picked up heavily from the second half of current fiscal year, like hockey stick growth. By fiscal 2021-22, we anticipate the top 300 IT-BPM companies to invest in hiring talent across the DARQ stack, which refers to distributed ledger technologies, artificial intelli-



IT workers are trying to learn new digital skills. **BLOOMBERG**

gence, extended reality and quantum computing,” said Saran Balasundaram, founder and CEO, Han Digital.

Hiring in the IT software and services sector has risen every month, growing 7% in October from September as the pandemic pushed for a virtual and digitally-enabled world, according to the latest Naukri JobSpeak Index.

While large IT services

companies such as Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) Ltd and Infosys Ltd will account for the bulk of the hiring, global in-house centres or captives are also expected to contribute to the sector’s hiring.

“BFSI captives will add over 15,000 in headcount in 2021 in digital, product development, information security, IT infrastructure and application services skills,” said Balasundaram.

Professionals and learners are trying to upskill themselves in digital skills. For instance, Jigsaw Academy’s Integrated Programme in Business Analytics saw a 130% rise in enrolment during the pandemic. “Enrolments in our cloud pro-

gramme have increased two-fold and we have witnessed a whopping 300% increase in learners’ interest in other emerging technology courses. Professionals with business intelligence skills, cybersecurity skills and cloud skills will

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find higher chances of career growth in 2021, as compared to 2020,” said Gaurav Vohra, co-founder and CEO, Jigsaw.

TCS virtually onboarded more than 8,000 freshers across India, Europe and the US in Q2 and plans to hire another 12,000 freshers in Q3. Infosys said it will hire around 15,000 college graduates in India and 1,500 college graduates outside the country, over the next 12 months.