

Nasscom says no job losses in 2009

■ **NEW DELHI:** The National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) has strongly refuted reports suggesting that BPO firms are likely to see 2.5 lakh job losses by the first quarter of 2009 in the wake of the global downturn. The association has said that the industry has made 1.5 lakh job offers for 2009 in campuses and is unlikely to see any lay-offs. BPO Industry Association president Samir Chopra in a statement had said that severe job cuts are expected, and that the association will appeal for a fiscal package from the government. "The pipeline of BPO companies is much stronger than before, primarily due to the pressure on companies in the developed economies to cut costs and improve efficiency. We believe that the BPO industry will continue to grow in 2009 and will be a net hirer across its various lines of business," said NASSCOM's BPO forum chairman Vikram Talwar.