

Biggies pep up hiring on eco revival

Pankaj Doval | TNN

New Delhi: The pick-up in the economy has kicked off hiring plans in India Inc, with companies across the manufacturing and services sectors looking at new recruitments as they go into expansion mode. They are not just expecting more business from the domestic market, but anticipate a boom in overseas business too, thanks to cash-crunched foreign companies looking at cost rationalisation.

The buzz in manufacturing, one of the key engines of economic activity, is palpable particularly in crucial sectors like automobiles. Major companies, including Maruti and Hyundai, have been hiring, reflecting the upturn. Maruti, which plans to boost annual production to one million units, has plans to add around 400 new people. Close rival Hyundai has hired as many as 1,200 workers between July and September this year and plans to further boost its strength as it looks to attract NRIs and expatriates.

Japanese car major Nissan, which is setting up a new plant near Chennai, has also said it

would be more than doubling its manpower from 700 to 1500 by May next year.

The mood is no different in the services sector. Cisco has drawn up huge recruitment plans as it shifts some of its activities from abroad to India. The company plans to boost its manpower in India to 15,000 over the next two years, adding as many as 12,000 new workers.

IT major Wipro has also been hiring and after recruiting 1,000 people in the first six months of the fiscal plans to add another 2,000 in the second half. The need for additional hands comes with Wipro winning a slew of large projects across India and the Middle East, and also to cater to the growing requirements of existing accounts. The company is also planning to extend salary increments across the board in Q4, which is significant considering it had not even budgeted for a hike at the beginning of the year.

iGate, another outsourcing solutions company, also said it plans to add about 1,500 new recruitments in 2010. CEO Phaneesh Murthy said he expected IT budgets to be up 2-

Betting On India



Company	Recruitment Plans	Company	Recruitment Plans
Cisco	12,000	Wipro	2,000
Cognizant	8,135*	iGate	1,500
Accenture	8,000	Hyundai	1,200*
TCS	7,880*	Nissan	800
Infosys BPO	2,000	Maruti	400

* People Already Hired

4% next year. Another outsourcer, Infosys BPO also said it would hire 1,500-2,000 people

by the end of this fiscal. The company gets a significant part of its business from North

America and Europe and is also reportedly planning to set up a new delivery centre in the US before 2009-10-end.

Accenture said it will add around 8,000 new people in India by the end of next year, taking its total employee strength to 50,000. Accenture's focus in India is going to be in the analytics space, company Chairman and CEO William D Green said at the India Economic Summit where the overall mood was buoyant.

Hirings in the IT space have in fact been continuing over the last few months. Cognizant has added a net 8,135 people since December last year while TCS has taken on 7,800 people. Cognizant CFO Gordon Coburn said the company will continue to hire aggressively.

There is activity on the finance front as well. Barclays Plc, Britain's second-largest lender, plans to increase staff in Asia by 10% next year, said Robert Morrice, the bank's Asia-Pacific chairman and CEO at the Economic Summit. In India, the company plans to double its 35-person investment banking team over the next 18 months, Morrice added.