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CV dressing: Employees brush up qualifications

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Chennai: As the slowdown forces companies to curb discretionary spends like training, employees are sprucing up their resumes with additional qualifications like new IT training and administration degrees.

Training major NIIT has seen a 41% and 29% growth in enrolments (year-on-year) in its banking and management courses respectively during the first quarter of FY14.

"Overall recruitments in IT have declined in the last one year. Also, the job market has undergone a sea change and there is greater demand for people with new IT skills like social media, mobility and analytics. There is also increased demand for banking and finance professionals," G Raghavan, chief executive, career building solutions, NIIT said.

The demand for management courses also continues as employees and executives believe that it adds to the skills sets and resume. Moving forward, the company is planning to launch an analytics course in the next month. "We plan to launch courses on security and application development under the cloud environment," Raghavan said.

Similarly, Aptech has partnered with the National Skills Development Corporation (NSDC) to offer courses in IT/



IT training institutes are seeing rising demand for new skills courses. Demand for management courses continues as many employees believe it adds to the skills sets and resume

ITES, media and entertainment and the BFSI (banking, financial, services and insurance) space. The company has also entered into an agreement with the Universal Commodities Exchange to provide training in the financial services domain.

"Owing to bad economic conditions, there is intense competition in the job market. Multinational companies hire skilled professionals who are well-trained and at par with their global counterparts. Majority of students acquiring traditional degrees from universities and colleges are not industry-ready and lack skilled knowledge and training," said Ninad Karpe, managing director and chief executive officer, Aptech.

A business administration degree is still an evergreen qualification and more executives are signing up for executive MBA programmes. City-based Great Lakes Institute of Management (GLIM) has seen an increase in enrolment in its executive MBA programme to 40 students from 33 last year while its weekend MBA programme has seen a jump of 8 students to 50 from 42 last year. Students need to have a minimum work experience of 10 years for the executive MBA programme.

Indian School of Business (ISB), Hyderabad, where admissions for the PGPMAX (post graduate programme in management for senior executives) are currently on, anticipates a growth of 25% in enrolments this year. "It is delivered as a part-time programme spread over 15 months, which is particularly useful to senior executives who are unable to take a sabbatical from work to attend the full-time programme and is customized for executives with 10 to 25 years of experience," Deepak Chandra, deputy dean, PGPMAX, ISB, said.

With many companies tightening their discretionary spends, there is also a drop in company-sponsored candidates at B-school campuses. "Today only one-third is company-sponsored. Three years ago, half of the class was company-sponsored," said S Sri-ram, executive director, GLIM.