



**NUMBERS SPEAK:** Candidates throng stalls of companies at 'The Hindu Opportunities Fair' in Chennai on Saturday.

— PHOTO: R. SHIVAJI RAO

# More than 27,000 candidates walk into 'The Hindu Opportunities Fair'

## Those with several years of experience abroad too came looking for jobs

Staff Reporter

**CHENNAI:** Over 400 job offers were made to candidates at 'The Hindu Opportunities Fair' held at the Chennai Trade Centre here on Saturday.

More than 27,000 candidates walked in hoping to land jobs with some market leaders.

Cognizant, one of the top recruiters in earlier editions of the fair, made 300 offers on Saturday. About 250 of them were in the IT services area, while 50 were for the company's BPO space. Wipro Technologies made 62 offers, HCL (BPO) made 15, while Patni computers

made 10 job offers.

The third city edition of the fair had more than 40 companies putting up nearly 100 stalls at the venue.

Companies such as Verizon, Patni, Covansys, STC and SunTec made extra effort to ensure that their stall looked unique.

Other than IT majors such as Infosys, Wipro and Cognizant, several IT and ITES companies of global repute were seen eagerly collecting resumes of candidates. Some of them even started processing the applications.

Organisers allocated space for the conduct of tests and interviews.

Candidates who cleared these rounds walked out with letters offering plum offers

Though most participants were from the IT and ITES sectors, there were a few companies from medical research services, shipping and logistics management. "We are into clinical research and drug testing. We require the services of doctors, microbiologists and persons with a life sciences background," A.P. Prasanth, Manager (IT division), Paragon Biomedical, said.

The companies observed that many candidates with several years of experience abroad had come to the fair to find jobs in India. "There

were people who returned from North America, Europe, Singapore and the Middle East to find jobs here. Many of them had more than a decade's experience," Venkatesan Seshadri, Vice-President of Cognizant, said.

Subhash Bansiwala, Vice-President and HR Head of SunTec Business Solutions, noted that the average quality of a Chennai candidate was much higher than that of candidates in other cities.

Cognizant was the event sponsor, while Verizon, Patni and SunTec were the co-sponsors. The fair is being held on Sunday too from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.