

## Record high packages for computer, IT engg grads

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**Ahmedabad:** It's windfall season for computer and IT engineering students with average salary in the past two years rising between a record 45 and 60% across major institutes. Experts said the northward trend in pay packets, which has coincided with the Covid pandemic due to major shift to tech-driven industry, is here to stay for a while due to high turnaround in both conventional and emerging fields such as artificial intelligence, data science, machine learning, etc.

At Nirma University, this year's highest pay package

for computer engineering students is Rs 87.5 lakh per annum, an all-time high for the discipline. Likewise, at DAI-ICT, the highest package offered during this year's placement is Rs 82 lakh per annum, again the highest for the institute. At LD Engineering Col-

► **Continued on P 4**

lege, computer discipline got an unprecedented Rs 45 lakh per annum package. Prof Madhuri Bhavsar, HOD of computer department at Nirma University, said that a blend of tech skills and soft skills won the grads good bucks.

## 'Data science getting traction, demand pushing the envelope'

► **Continued from P 1**

Fields such as data science are getting a lot of traction. Industry demand is pushing the envelope," Prof Madhuri Bhavsar, HOD of computer department at Nirma University said. According to the placement records, 357 offers were made against 273 students who opted for placements.

Prof Ahlad Kumar, placement convener at DAI-ICT, said that the firm Atlassian has offered Rs 82 lakh per annum, which is the highest ever package. "The average package has gone up from Rs 14.12 lakh per annum to Rs 24.54 lakh per annum in two years. Zero Day of the placement saw companies like Google, Microsoft, Sprinklr and D.E. Shaw participating, as com-

pared to past couple of years, with a sizable number of students getting placed," he said. Prof Mithun Radhakrishna, head of the career development services at IIT Gandhinagar (IIT-Gn), said that there is an upward trend in placements with average salary in computer science and engineering discipline going up by 44% in this year's placement.

Vinod Patel, placement officer at LD Engineering, said that companies like Microsoft and Amazon have participated in this year's placement with average salary going up by over 50% in two years.

"Employment market in ITes businesses has become very liquid in the last few years. Fresh graduates tend to stay with the company for a long period, and they have a better appetite for learning

new technologies," said Nitesh Lohar, CEO of a city-based IT company. "Overall a good balance of fresh talent with learning intent, mentored by experienced team leaders, turns out to be both cost efficient and productive for the services companies."

"Computer and IT streams have seen maximum admissions because they offer almost twice the salary to freshers than other engineering streams. Average fresher package was around Rs 4 lakh around 2 years ago in a mid-level company and now it has reached Rs 6-7 lakh and good students get offers of more than Rs 10 lakh per annum," said Tejinder Oberoi, chairman of GESIA IT Association.

(With inputs from Bharat Yagnik, Parag Dave)