

West Asia Conflict, Weak Rupee Slow Hiring of Sr Execs

Cos focus on critical hires, scale back growth mandates

Sreeradha Basu

Bengaluru: India's executive search market is beginning to slow as the continuing West Asia conflict, inflation concerns, a weaker rupee and softer corporate sentiment weigh on hiring decisions.

Search firms said several clients have shifted to a wait-and-watch approach amid rising input costs, supply chain concerns and the prospect of price hikes across sectors. Consumer-facing industries, particularly FMCG, retail, consumer durables and real estate, have seen senior-level hiring moderate.



Overall, companies are prioritising critical and replacement hires while scaling back on growth mandates.

"The overall market is slightly sluggish... and we are definitely seeing an impact on the consumer side given the rise in input costs and demand compression," said Shiv Agrawal, managing director at search and talent advisory firm ABC Consultants.

According to Agamjeet Dang, CEO of executive search firm Executive Access, companies are focusing on controlling costs.

"Companies are taking time to make their decisions. In the long-term story, there will be no impact, but in the short to medium term, there is a focus on ensuring that costs don't balloon."

Most companies are proceeding only with critical hires, while growth-oriented recruitment has slowed, he said. Replacement hiring has weakened as well.

"In a market like this, many candidates start developing cold feet. The replacement market itself goes down; there are fewer positions to fill," he

added.

PM Modi's austerity call has deepened concerns over the West Asia conflict's economic impact, prompting cos to reassess near-term plans

With several IPO plans being deferred, growth expectations flattening and candidates becoming increasingly hesitant to switch jobs, industry executives said the current quarter would determine whether the slowdown remains temporary or broadens into a deeper pull-back in senior hiring.

"No one has pulled back or delayed yet, but May and June will be important," said Nav-

nit Singh, chairman at executive search firm Korn Ferry. "Everyone is worried about price hikes, rising inflation, the falling rupee and spiralling crude oil prices."

The India head of a search firm, who did not wish to be named, said the impact may not be fully visible in the first quarter of the financial year but could become more pronounced from the second quarter onwards.

Cost pressures have gone up and if this situation persists, companies will see poorer results, he said.

"Has everyone put every mandate on hold? No. But can we expect to grow this year? Unlikely," he said.

He said the market could recover sharply once there is clarity on the conflict.

"While the short-term outlook is cloudy, we expect a big bounce-back the moment we see a definitive end to the conflict."

Hybrid Viewing Now Accounts for 70% of IPL Audience: Study

Javed Farooqui

Mumbai: The Indian Premier League (IPL) is increasingly shifting from appointment television to a near-daily multi-platform viewing habit, with nearly 70% of audiences now consuming matches across both television and streaming platforms, according to a study by Hansa Research Group.

The findings point to a structural change in how audiences engage with cricket's biggest property. Exclusive television viewing has sharply declined, while hybrid viewing across TV and OTT has become dominant.

Only 18.98% of respondents said they watched IPL solely on television. In contrast, 38.26% mainly watched on TV while supplementing consumption on OTT platforms, while another 31.18% primarily watched through streaming and occasionally tuned into television.

The shift also reflects the growing frequency of engagement. Around 41.18% of respondents said they watched

world live telecasts.

The findings are based on an online panel survey conducted through Hansa Cheetaah. The study covered 4,200 respondents during the first six weeks of IPL 2026, comprising male and female audiences aged 15 years and above from NCCS A/B households across 16 markets, including metros as well as Tier 1 and Tier 2 cities.

Pramod Pawar, Vice President, Quantitative Research at Hansa Research Group, said a double-digit decline in television viewership among core male audiences during the first six weeks of IPL 2026 reflected a mix of scheduling fatigue, changing viewing behaviour and weaker audience pull factors.

He attributed this to the tournament's prolonged format, overlap with other cricket properties including the T20 World Cup and bilateral series, and growing migration of younger urban audiences toward mobile streaming, connected TVs and high-lights-led viewing.

Pawar added that heavily batting-friendly pitches and the absence or limited participation of marquee players such as



seven or more IPL matches a week, while another 29.78% watched six to seven games, taking average weekly consumption to 6.12 matches.

The findings suggest IPL viewing is increasingly resembling a daily habit rather than event-based consumption.

The shift extends beyond live matches. Around 8.4% of respondents said they watched match highlights on YouTube, while 13.64% consumed IPL clips and reels on social media, underscoring how short form and catch-up formats are extending fan engagement be-

MS Dhoni and Rohit Sharma, along with weaker performances by franchises such as Mumbai Indians and Chennai Super Kings, may also have softened engagement among casual viewers.

For advertisers, however, the fragmentation of viewing may be creating more touch points rather than fewer. Brand visibility remained strongest on player jerseys, recalled by 55.05% of respondents, followed by on-ground and pitch branding, boundary ropes, commentator backdrops and player helmets or hats.

Shift in Hiring Strategies

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Poorvi Chothani, immigration attorney and managing partner at LawQuest, said companies focused on registering students in the United States (on F-1 visas). Also, some employees on L-1B (intra-company transferee with specialised knowledge) were transferred to H-1B since it allowed them to file for green cards and avail of additional H-1B extensions at a later stage. "This number was not significant but there was a noticeable increase in these cases," she said.

USCIS had clarified last year that the \$100,000 fee will not apply to petitioners already in the US on a valid visa, be it F-1 or L-1.

Gnanamookan Senthurjothi, immigration attorney at The Visa Code, noted that FY27 saw a structural shift away from traditional entry-level hiring that included many bachelor's



degree candidates to favouring advanced degree applications with higher wages. "This has forced many consulting and staffing firms to rethink recruitment strategies," he said.

This is also coming at the time of declining entry level jobs in the US amid rapid artificial intelligence adoption, geopolitical uncertainty and slower business growth. According to a March report from the World Economic Forum citing data from Revello Labs, entry level jobs in the US have fallen by 35% in part due to AI.

More intentional

Shilpa Malik, managing attorney at VisaNation Law Group, said the H-1B lottery was no longer a numbers game.

"It is evolving into a narrow, high-stakes filter for senior and specialised talent," she said. "For us, every case now demands a much deeper up-

front analysis of wage positioning, role justification, and long-term strategy, which were conversations we would previously have had at the petition stage and happening before a single registration is filed."

Joel Yanovich, senior attorney at Ganey Law Group, had earlier told ET that compared to previous years, when compensation was used by employers to verify a qualifying role, it now directly dictates their lottery odds. "The process has become significantly more cumbersome and costly," he said.

In March, the US Labour department proposed a rule to increase wages for H-1B workers by 20-30% across wage levels. While this is still in the proposal stage awaiting comments, these could further impact the applications, experts noted.

While these moves will reduce the number of applications, the US is still one of the favoured destinations for Indians. "But the scrutiny will increase for H-1B in terms of wage evaluation," Senthurjothi of The Visa Code said.

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E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (read with provision to Rule 9 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002)

Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, The Authorised officer has issued demand notice for recovery from Borrowers/guarantors/mortgagors (herein referred to as Borrowers). Further in exercise of powers conferred in the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002" the Authorised officer has taken the possession of the under mentioned assets which held as securities in respect of loan/ credits facilities granted. Whereas sale of the secured assets is to be made through Public E-auction for recovery of the secured debts due to Punjab National Bank, the General Public is invited to bid either personally or by duly authorised agent.

Date & Time of E-auction- 08.06.2026 11 AM To 4 PM			Last Date of EMD Deposit - Before Auction		
SL. No.	Name of A/C Borrower/Guarantor / Mortgagee & Name of Branch	Description of Properties (Movable/Immovable) Owner Name	A) Dt. of Notice Issued u/s 13(2) B) Outstanding Amount (In Lacs) as per 13(2) C) Nature of Possession	A) Reserve Price B) Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) C) Bid Increase Amount	
1	Mrs. Munni devi W/o Kaillash Singh Branch: Lajpat Nagar, Moradabad	1) All that part and parcel of property situated at: Ward No- 65 Mohalla, Sitapuri, Sambhal Road, Tehsil & Distt, Moradabad (UP). Registered in Bahi No- 01, Zild No- -11710, Pages No- 325 to 358, SI No- 6126, Dated- 15.04.2015, Total area- 98.00 sq mtrs. Standing In the Name of Kaillash Singh S/o Ghansi Ram. Bounded By:- North: House of Ram Charan. South: Rasta 18 feet 6 inch wide. East: House of Kishan Lal etc. West: Property of Bhagwandas & Munni Devi. 2) All that part and parcel of property situated at: Ward No- 65 Mohalla, Sitapuri, Tehsil & Distt, Moradabad (UP), Registered in Bahi No- 01, Zild No- -11710, Pages No- 295 to 324, SI No- 6125 Dated- 15.04.2015, Total area- 109.456 sq mtrs. Standing In the Name of Munni Devi W/o Kaillash Singh. Bounded By:- North: House of Ramcharan & Girdhari. South: Property of Bhagwandas. East: Gali 4 feet Wide. West: Property of Bhajan Lal.	(A) 06.04.2022 (B) Rs. 21,70,000/- + Int. rate and other charges (C) Symbolic Possession	(A) Rs. 45,85,000/- (B) Rs. 4,60,000/- (C) Rs. 25,000/-	
2	Sh. Madan Singh s/o Sh. Umrao Singh (Borrower/Mortgagor) Branch: Didaura	Property Situated at Khasra No: 63/5, Village - Anyari, urf Ali Nagar, Block Chhajalet, Moradabad 244504 (UP), Area 0.080 Hectare or 800 sq. mtrs., (In the name of Sh. Madan Singh s/o Sh. Umrao Singh), Registered in Bahi No: 01, Zild No: 2550, Pages: 173 to 188, Serial No: 3856, Dated 04.05.2019 Bounded as: North: Khet of Mahendra South: House of Sompal Singh East: Rasta West: House of Madan Singh	(A) 03.06.2021 (B) Rs. 10,14,000/- + Int. rate and other charges (C) Symbolic Possession	(A) Rs. 18,10,000/- (B) Rs. 1,81,000/- (C) Rs. 25,000/-	
3	MOHD. FAHEEM & MOHD. FAIZAN Branch: Amroha Gate, Moradabad	Property Situated at Mohalla - Kisrol, Moradabad, (UP). Area 66.59 sq. mtrs., (In the name of Sh. Mohd. Faizan & Sh. Mohd. Faheem), Registered in Bahi No: 1, Jild No: 6961, Pages: 375 - 406, Serial No: 2026, Dated 16.03.2011, SR-Moradabad Bounded by: North: Road 5 Feet Wide South: Mazhar of Makhan Shah East: Road 8 Feet 10 Inches Wide West: Land of Smt. Sabana	(A) 11.11.2021 (B) Rs. 7,37,000/- + Int. rate and other charges (C) Symbolic Possession	(A) Rs. 33,01,000/- (B) Rs. 3,31,000/- (C) Rs. 25,000/-	
4	MUKAL KUMAR SHARMA S/O TEJRAM SHARMA Branch: Gajraula IA	Property Situated at Mohalla - Jawahar Nagar, Village - Bhanpur Khalsa, Gajraula, Tehsil - Dhanaura, Amroha, (UP), Area 83.90 sq. mtrs., (In the name of Sh. Mukul Kumar Sharma s/o Sh. Tej Ram Sharma), Registered in Bahi No: 1, Jild No: 5103, Pages: 209-242, Serial No: 4549, Dated 22.04.2016. Bounded: North: Agriculture Land of Jai Pal Singh, South: Plot of Jyoti Sharma, East: Rasta 18 Feet Wide Then Plot of Mr. Amar Singh, West: Plot of Mr. Leelpat Singh	(A) 22.06.2023 (B) Rs. 11,91,000/- + Int. rate and other charges (C) Symbolic Possession	(A) Rs. 27,74,000/- (B) Rs. 2,75,000/- (C) Rs. 25,000/-	
5	AKASH YADAV S/O Sh. JANKI PRASAD Branch: Hasanpur	a) Residential House Situated at Andar Chungi, Mohalla - Kayasthan (Part of Gata No: 473), Hasanpur, Gajraula, Tehsil & District - Amroha, (UP), Area 70.26 sq. mtrs., (In the name of Sh. Akash Kumar s/o Sh. Janki Prasad), Registered in Bahi No: 1, Zild No: 10495, Pages: 147 - 160, Serial No: 19657, Dated 04.11.2022 North by: Muslim Kabristan South by: Rasta 20 Feet Wide East by: Aarji Vikreta West by: Aarji Vikreta b.) Residential House Situated at Andar Chungi, Mohalla - Kayasthan (Part of Gata No: 473), Hasanpur, Gajraula, Tehsil & District - Amroha, (UP), Area 73.63 sq. mtrs., (In the name of Smt. Varsha Yadav w/o Sh. Akash Kumar), Registered in Bahi No: 1, Zild No: 10712, Pages: 389 - 402, Serial No: 4784, Dated 31.03.2023. North by: Aarji Kabristan South by: Rasta 20 Feet Wide East by: Aarji Kreta West by: Aarji Vikreta	(A) 19.04.2025 (B) Rs. 19,32,000/- + Int. rate and other charges (C) Symbolic Possession	(A) Rs. 21,00,000/- (B) Rs. 2,10,000/- (C) Rs. 25,000/-	
6	ANIL KUMAR Branch: Gajraula	EM of Residential Property Situated at Mohalla - Chauhanpuri, Near Chandrapal Shop, Gajraula, Tehsil - Dhanaura, District - Amroha, (UP), Area 80.66 sq. mtrs., (In the name of Sh. Anil Kumar s/o Sh. Patram Singh), Registered in Bahi No: 1, Zild No: 8843, Pages: 57 - 70, Serial No: 17533, Dated 07.12.2023. Bounded as: On the North by: House of Rinku Now Narendra On the South by: Rasta 6 Feet Wide On the East by: House of Ram Gopal Now Narendra On the West by: Plot of Sunder	(A) 30.06.2025 (B) Rs. 5,21,000/- + Int. rate and other charges (C) Symbolic Possession	(A) Rs. 3,51,000/- (B) Rs. 36,000/- (C) Rs. 10,000/-	
7	SHAMA Branch: Gajraula	EM of Residential Property situated at Part of Gata No. 14, Mohalla Nai Basti, Near BSA School, Gajraula, Tehsil - Dhanaura, District - Amroha, (UP), Area 75.18 Sq Meter (In the Name of Sh. Mukhtyar Ali s/o Sh. Abdul Majeed), Registered in Bahi No. 01, Zild No. 8522, Pages 73-86, Serial No. 3592, Dated 16.03.2023 Bounded as: North By: Saraswati Shishu Mandir, South By: Rasta 16 Feet Wide East By: BSA School West By: Remaining Plot of Seller	(A) 30.06.2025 (B) Rs. 9,01,000/- + Int. rate and other charges (C) Symbolic Possession	(A) Rs. 11,18,000/- (B) Rs. 1,19,000/- (C) Rs. 25,000/-	

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EXTRACT OF THE AUDITED STANDALONE AND CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2026 (₹ in Lakhs)

Sr. No.	Particulars	Standalone					Consolidated				
		Quarter Ended		Year Ended			Quarter Ended		Year Ended		
		31-Mar-26	31-Dec-25	31-Mar-25	31-Mar-26	31-Mar-25	31-Mar-26	31-Dec-25	31-Mar-25	31-Mar-26	31-Mar-25
1	Revenue from Operations	(Audited)	(Unaudited)	(Audited)	(Audited)	(Audited)	(Audited)	(Unaudited)	(Audited)	(Audited)	(Audited)
2	Other Income	8,625.10	5,796.59	4,195.44	20,200.74	18,964.50	8,263.72	5,919.54	3,835.29	19,506.47	16,025.86
3	Total Income	96,691.06	125,159.67	103,308.36	405,886.08	319,799.76	98,992.78	126,943.67	194,657.98	412,324.56	334,784.36
4	Total Expenses	77,212.36	85,622.47	70,610.42	322,535.80	258,126.89	73,563.19	86,883.76	72,045.06	327,613.61	281,754.97
5	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before Share of Profit/(Loss) in Joint Venture Entities/Associates, Exceptional items and tax	19,478.70	39,537.20	32,697.94	83,350.28	61,672.87	20,329.59	40,059.91	32,612.92	84,710.89	63,029.39
6	Share of Profit/(Loss) in Joint Venture Entities/Associates	-	-	-	-	-	3,871.05	4,161.39	3,750.42	4,738.04	10,786.83
7	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before Exceptional items and tax	19,478.70	39,537.20	32,697.94	83,350.28	61,672.87	24,200.64	44,221.26	36,363.34	89,448.93	73,816.22
8	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before Tax	19,478.70	39,537.20	32,697.94	83,350.28	61,672.87	24,200.64	44,221.26	36,363.34	89,448.93	73,816.22
9	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after Tax	15,201.65	30,173.64	24,323.39	63,874.19	46,523.76	19,553.48	34,716.79	27,961.00	69,158.94	57,977.13
10	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after Tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after Tax)]	18,953.80	30,182.82	26,606.86	67,598.99	47,737.40	23,377.60	34,719.37	30,445.48	72,937.09	59,159.35
11	Paid-up equity share capital (Face Value of ₹5/-)	28,102.13	28,102.13	28,102.13	28,102.13	28,102.13	28,102.13	28,102.13	28,102.13	28,102.13	28,102.13
12	Other Equity	-	-	-	276,209.87	233,901.89	-	-	-	286,471.14	238,825.96
13	Earning Per Share (EPS) (₹ per share of ₹5/- each)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
14	i) Basic & diluted EPS before Exceptional items in ₹	2.70	5.37	4.33	11.35	8.78	3.47	6.16	4.98	12.30	10.32
15	ii) Basic & diluted EPS after Exceptional items in ₹	2.70	5.37	4.33	11.35	8.78	3.47	6.16	4.98	12.30	10.32

Notes:

- The above results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at their respective meeting held on 21st May 2026.
- The Audited Accounts are subject to review by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India under Section 143(b) of the Companies Act, 2013.
- These financial results have been prepared in accordance with Indian Accounting Standards (Ind AS) as prescribed under Section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Rule 3 of the Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules, 2015 and relevant amendment rules therefor.
- The Board of Directors have recommended a final dividend of ₹2.50 per share (Face Value ₹5.00 per share) in addition to interim dividend of ₹2.90 per share (Face Value ₹5.00 per share) paid during the year. The final dividend is subject to approval of shareholders in the Annual General Meeting.

Place: New Delhi
Dated: 21st May 2026

ENGINEERS INDIA LIMITED
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