



Press Release

**HCL – THE LARGEST INDIAN IT EMPLOYER IN THE UK  
PRIME MINISTER TONY BLAIR ANNOUNCES HCL'S PLANS FOR 600  
NEW JOBS FOR ARMAGH AND BELFAST**

**Noida, India, 8th September, 2005:** HCL, the \$2.5 bln (£1.4 bln / INR 11, 000 cr.) global IT and technology giant today said that it will create 600 jobs in a major expansion of its Armagh and Belfast contact centre operations.

The British Prime Minister, Tony Blair, made the announcement in India during the launch of the 2006 UK Trade and Investment India Business Awards in New Delhi, an event attended by Shiv Nadar, Founder of HCL, Chairman and CEO HCL Technologies Limited.

The Prime Minister referred to a number of positive developments involving economic links, between India and the UK, and highlighted the strategic importance of the UK for Asian companies seeking a springboard for developing business within the enlarged European Union.

**The Secretary of State in Northern Ireland, UK, Peter Hain** welcomed Prime Minister Tony Blair's confirmation of HCL's investment: **"It's a credit to the quality of our workforce that Northern Ireland continues to be an attractive location for outsourced services, in the face of stiff competition from lower waged economies. This expansion, supported by Invest Northern Ireland, will create at least 400 new jobs in Armagh with the balance at Armagh or Belfast depending on operational requirements."**



HCL Technologies today employs approximately 2350 employees in the UK, 2000 of which are UK nationals. This makes HCL the largest Indian IT employer in the UK of local staff and among the top 10 private sector employers in NI. HCL's operations in the UK are led by its landmark BPO operations in NI (UK) at Belfast and Armagh. HCL currently employs around 2000 local staff at of these two locations with approximately 1750 based in Belfast and 250 in Armagh. The company will create 600 additional jobs in the country to take their manpower strength to almost 3000 in the next one-year.

Speaking at the breakfast meeting organized in the honor of British PM Tony Blair, **Mr. Shiv Nadar, CEO and Chairman, HCL Technologies** said, **"We are committed to work with the government and the people of UK and take this relationship to new heights. While India is an integral part of the solution we offer our clients, far from taking jobs out of the UK, we are actually creating hundreds of new positions while investing in the UK economy. It's a model that is unique in our industry. But it is one, I believe, that others will have to try to replicate sooner rather than later if they are to make the most of the global opportunities that now exist in offshore business process outsourcing and the IT led services business."**

HCL's European headquarters are based in London and run by HCL Great Britain which has staff strength of around 350. Approximately 25% of HCL's global IT, BPO and Infrastructure business is contributed by the European business and driven from its London base. HCL's UK & EU business comprises high end Product Engineering and Technology led services for the Aerospace and Automotive Industry, Banking and Financial Services, Insurance, Retail Services, IT Remote Infrastructure Management, and BPO operations.

HCL, as part of its global expansion strategy will continue to invest in the UK leveraging its advantages as competitive location for its global delivery centers, and, its strategic location as the gateway to Europe. The visit of Hon'ble Prime Minister Tony Blair will further reinforce HCL's commitment to grow its operations there.



### **About HCL Enterprise**

HCL Enterprise is a leading Global Technology and IT enterprise with annual revenues of US \$2.5 billion (GBP 1.4 Bln / INR 11,000 cr) with IT Products and Services contributing to revenues of over \$1.2 billion. The HCL Enterprise comprises two companies listed in India, HCL Technologies & HCL Infosystems. Founded in 1976, the 29-year-old enterprise is one of India's original IT garage start ups. Its range of offerings span Product Engineering, Technology and Application Services, BPO, Infrastructure Services, IT Hardware, Systems Integration, and distribution of technology and telecom products. The HCL team comprises nearly 30,000 professionals of diverse nationalities, who operate from 15 countries including 300 points of presence in India. HCL has global partnerships with several leading Fortune 1000 firms, including IT and Technology firms. For more information please visit [www.hcl.in](http://www.hcl.in)

### **About HCL Technologies**

HCL Technologies is one of India's leading global IT Services Companies, providing Product Engineering & Technology Solutions, Custom and Enterprise Application Services, BPO, and Remote Infrastructure Management. Making a foray into the services domain in 1997-98, HCL Technologies has rapidly reached a leadership position in each of its service areas. The company leverages an extensive offshore infrastructure and its global network of 26 offices in 15 countries to deliver solutions across select verticals including Banking & Financial Services, Insurance, Retail & Consumer, Aerospace, Automotive, Semiconductors, Telecom, Media-Publishing-Entertainment, and Life Sciences. For the twelve month period ended 30th June 2005, HCL Technologies along with its subsidiaries had revenues of \$ 764 million and employed 24,000 professionals. For more information, please visit [www.hcltech.com](http://www.hcltech.com)

### ***Forward Looking Statements***

*Certain statements in this release are forward-looking statements, which involve a number of risks, and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in such forward-looking statements. The risks and uncertainties relating to these statements include, but are not limited to, risks and uncertainties regarding fluctuations in earnings, our ability to manage growth, intense competition in IT services including those factors which may affect our cost advantage, wage increases in India, our ability to attract and retain highly skilled professionals, time and cost overruns on fixed-price, fixed-time frame contracts, client concentration, restrictions*



*on immigration, our ability to manage our international operations, reduced demand for technology in our key focus areas, disruptions in telecommunication networks, our ability to successfully complete and integrate potential acquisitions, liability for damages on our service contracts, the success of the companies/ entities in which we have made strategic investments, withdrawal of governmental fiscal incentives, political instability, legal restrictions on raising capital or acquiring companies outside India, and unauthorized use of our intellectual property and general economic conditions affecting our industry. The company does not undertake to update any forward-looking statement that may be made from time to time by or on behalf of the company.*

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