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Bypass eatery chain makes debut in New Town

Goutam's, the popular food joint on E.M. Bypass, has opened its first air-conditioned sit-and-eat restaurant and it's in New Town.

The outlet is on the ground floor of the Hideo Utility Building next to Tank 3, a short walk from New Town bus terminus. It was inaugurated by Hidco chief Debashis Sen on September 4.

"This G+5 building will house utility offices such as NKDA, electricity and telephone departments. The top floors will be let out to the private sector. But on the ground floor, we wanted an eatery to cater to the employees



The outlet all decked-up for inauguration. (Right) Chowmein, Crispy Chicken and cold coffee on offer. (Mayukh Sengupta)

of the building as well as the residents nearby," said Sen.

Goutam Karmakar, who started the Goutam's chain on the Bypass in 1995, said their customers from New Town would urge them to open a branch closer to home. "This township either has star hotels that are unaffordable on a regular basis or road-side hawkers serving unhygienic fare. We provide hygienic food at affordable rates. One can eat one's fill by spending around Rs 100 here," he said.

Goutam's has a branch in the Mani Square parking lot and an open-air cafe opposite City Centre Salt Lake but this is this first air-con-

ditioned sit-and-eat restaurant. "It is a 55-seater, but we also have space for 20 guests outside and are providing car delivery," said Karmakar, a resident of Salt Lake's DA Block.

They will be open from 12.30pm to 11pm and will serve all the dishes available at their Bypass branch—chowmien, momos, Crispy Chicken, Fish Cutlets and, of course, the drink that started it all — Cold Coffee. "I had started my Bypass counter with a single coffee machine," recalls Karmakar.

Residents like Manisha Hembram of NBCC complex had walked into the outlet minutes after it opened. "There was really no eatery nearby before this and if I was hungry for a snack I had to make instant noodles for myself," she said.

Brinda Sarkar