



# THE SUNDAY TIMES

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## Fiesta over siesta

**T**he sleepy township of Salt Lake is coming alive and is fast becoming an ideal getaway for the young and the old from the congested parts of Kolkata. The party animal has been let loose and growing entertainment opportunities are turning this place into a weekend hot spot.

"The presence of the infotech industry has proved to be a big boon for such joints. The availability of drinks and a relaxed ambience is drawing high-profile professionals and the family crowd, especially during weekends," said Debashis Sen Roy, franchisee of Bowlers' Den restaurant and bar, a unit of Nicco Park & Resorts Ltd.

With the excise department issuing bar licence to three other restaurants in and

around the township and several others in the pipeline, the residents are already in high spirits. "I no longer stock up on drinks for the weekend as I can easily relax at the bar without travelling to Park Street," said Anjan Rakshit, a 32-year-old computer professional staying in Salt Lake.

In the past one year, with the opening of bars, restaurants, bowling alleys and cafeterias — not to forget cyber cafes and pool parlours — Salt Lake now matches Kolkata



proper in recreation facilities. That apart, one has the option of going for rides at Nicco Park, boating at Nalban, splashing about at Aquatica, shopping at Charnock City, enjoying lip-smacking ice cream at The Scoops or romancing in the ever-green nooks of Central park.

"Our multi-cuisine restaurant and the bowling alley nearby is attracting crowds from even south Kolkata during weekends," said Sen Roy. Being the only bar so far serving draught beer, it has