



A ROYAL TREAT AT BHAAR-E-BIRYANI, PRESENTED BY ECOSPACE AND ₹2

The corporate crowd made a beeline for biryani from noon to 6.30 in the evening for four days on the trot at Ecospace Business Park. And why not? Bahaar-e-Biryani, presented by Ecospace & ₹2, laid out a lavish fare by some of the city's top Mughlai stops under one roof. With options like Aminia, Mezbaan, Naushijaan, Arsalan, India Restaurant (Kidderpore), Tamarind and Zam Zam, foodies were spoilt for choice. Nalin Chandra Das & Sons was present to end it on a sweet note.

"Calcutta biryani has its own taste. We have so many biryani outlets in the city and yet, all of them are much loved. We had done biryani festivals in the City Centre malls and we got a great response. So we thought of bringing it to Ecospace as well, since the employees working here hardly get time to drop into restaurants. It is mostly during lunch hours that we got the maximum footfall, and interestingly it was not just people who work here but also those live nearby who came over to have biryani," said Ramesh Pandey, general manager, marketing and events, Ambuja Neotia Group. And such was the demand that the three-day festival was extended by another day!



The queue during lunchtime on the second day of Bahaar-e-Biryani.



(L-R) Utpalendu Ghosh, Hemon Sanyal and Pankaj Kumar — who work in one of the offices housed in Ecospace — gorged on biryani.



"Thanks to these festivals, we don't miss out on all the amazing food we get in the city!" said Priyanka Ray, who dug into Mutton Biryani from Naushijaan during a work break.



"I can't wait to try the Special Biryani from Zam Zam. I like Arsalan but it is great to see so many different options here," said Sritama Baisya, a TCS employee.



"I am a vegetarian, you can imagine my plight!" said corporate professional Sumang Bajaj (far left), settling down with Veg Hyderabad Biryani from Tamarind. "I am waiting to try the Gajar Ka Halwa from Aminia after this," he added.



Sneha Dasgupta was one among the many who were in a fix about what to have. "I just can't decide! Everything is so yummy. I have already tried biryani from Arsalan, India Restaurant and Aminia. I think I'll go for the Mutton Kacchi Biryani since I have been hearing so much about it.... I was invited over by a friend who works at the business hub and I am glad I could make it," she said.



Spandan Das, 10, had a tough time deciding whether to have biryani or kebabs. He eventually settled for Chicken Tandoori from Aminia. "I love biryani but now it's time for tandoori," said the resident of Southern Avenue who dropped by specially for the festival, along with his parents.



"I was here yesterday and I drove down again today only for food! I loved the Chicken Chatpata Kebab and now it is time for Mutton Kacchi Biryani from India Restaurant," said New Town resident Vineet Arora.



"I had to try the Veg Biryani since all my friends are vegetarian! But I did have kebabs from various stalls and loved them. Such festivals are a great way to try different dishes during lunch hours," said Akansha Srivastava, biting into Chocolate Sandesh from Nalin Chandra Das & Sons.



"I am so happy they have got biryani stalls here. I am a biryani addict and a huge Arsalan fan, though today I ditched it for Zam Zam. I want to try their Chicken Biryani," said Anshuman Chatterjee, a corporate employee.



Rahul Mandapaka helped Sonam Sharma to some Handi Biryani from Naushijaan.