

Nukkadwala to Add 10 More Outlets

Parent Vatika Group to spend Rs 45 crore for expansion; company plans overseas foray with restaurants in NY, London, Dubai

Our Bureau

Gurgaon: Nukkadwala, the street-food restaurant chain promoted by the Vatika Group, is set to expand its presence in Gurgaon by adding 10 outlets to the existing seven in the city. The new outlets will have small as well as large-format stores, which will be targeted at corporate customers.

The plan is a part of an overall expansion for the financial year 2018-19, under which 25 stores will be opened, including some in other cities. The group additionally plans to open one outlet each in New York, London and Dubai by next year.

The Vatika Group will invest Rs 45 crore in the overall expansion, of which as much as Rs 2 crore will be allocated for new outlets in Gurgaon. Nukkadwala presently has 10 outlets in the National Capital Region and will soon spread to more places in north India and Bengaluru.

"We plan to invest Rs 100 crore to open around 200 Nukkadwala restaurants in India by the end of 2019," said Gaurav Bhalla, managing director of Vatika Group. "The aim is to take Indian street food on an international platform and make it famous worldwide, as America's street food – the burger – has been famous globally."

The food chain plans to innovate its menu by introducing combo meals such as vada pao, freshly fired pota-



to and nimbu pani or dabeli, chips and shikanji.

"We will also launch our own brand of snack items such as aam papad," Bhalla added.

Nukkadwala serves regional snacks such as daal bati churma or litti chokha at its outlets from time

to time and plans to continue doing so.

Within a year of starting, Nukkadwala currently occupies 12,000 square feet of retail space and employs 120 people. The average size of an outlet is 1,000 sq. ft., with seating capacity of 35-40.