

Market Makeover

Dingy shops at Baisakhi are set to give way to a new complex

Gourab Neto

AMP Baisakhi, a new market complex at Baisakhi with underground car parking, is waiting to spring into action to give a hazard free marketing experience to the local people. It is a joint venture of AMP group and Bidhannagar Municipality. The market is being constructed in the place of the old market known as *Baisakhi purono bazar*. In the past, shops were made of bamboo and temporary shadés. The summer and the monsoons called for worsened ambience both for buyers and sellers.

In 2008, the AMP group and Bidhannagar Municipality joined hands and decided to build an eight-storied market replacing the old one. There will be 210 shops inside the market. They have also decided to rehabilitate the existing shop owners there in a very nominal cost. For this, the entire market was shifted inside the construction area with temporary structures. Manish Biswas, a resident of Baisakh Abasan,

said, "I think this kind of a market complex is not appropriate for this area. We are afraid that prices of daily goods will go high."

Some shop owners are not happy with their placements in the upcoming market. Nadagopal Bhattacharya, ex councillor of ward no 5, said, "This will be very much useful for the local residents. The hazard of daily marketing

will come to an end. There were rumours that the prices of daily goods will go high, but I don't see any logic behind it. And about the placement matter, we didn't decide it, the bazaar committee did.

We have also planned to set up a guest house in other parts of the market. As the board changed after the municipality election, we didn't get the time to complete our objective."

Present councillor, Rebeka Sultana, says, "As far as I know the construction will complete around May. But I have heard about some problems related to the placements. We will look into the matter after the election is over."

saltlakeplus@gmail.com

