

Retail players rentals to pu

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Organised retailers are leveraging the slow-down in demand for commercial property and falling rentals to expand operations in many cities.

With store rentals dropping as much as 35 per cent in the last one year, retailers say opening stores in certain locations has become profitable. As a result, some retailers plan to roll out their bigger format stores and others are booking retail spaces that will come up in two years at a much lower cost (*see table*).

“With the correction in

RETAIL EXPANSION WHAT'S IN STOCK

Retailer	No. of new stores	Timeline (months)
Subhiksha	600	12-18
Spencer's	100	12-18
Koutons	50	12-18
Big Bazaar	40	12-18

country.

Kishore Biyani's Future Group, the country's largest retailer, plans to have a total retail space of 15 to 16 million sq ft by March 2009 from 11 million sq ft last fiscal.

The group's rental cost