

Cars drift, drones fly at Amalthea 2017

RC racing steals the show on first day of IIT-Gn's three-day annual festival that kicked off on Saturday



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For budding engineers and drone enthusiasts, all roads led to Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar (IIT-Gn) on Saturday. The institute kicked off its three-day annual festival Amalthea 2017 with drift racing and beginners' drone racing among other events.

This is for the first time that an RC racing event has been organised at the festival. Participants had to race radio-controlled (RC) vehicles on a dirt track designed to test the machine's stability and durability. Five teams from across India participated in RC racing, also known as drift racing while 14 people participated in the beginners' drone racing.

Sunday will see professionals participating in drone racing. Class 10 student Aman Virani who came down from Hyderabad, said, "I developed interest in drones after watching online videos. That is how I also learnt making them. I am participating in the professional category on Sunday. I

am excited as the track here will not only need speed but a great control over the drone."

According to IIT-Gn students, the RC racing is the clincher for the mega event.

Student coordinator for the event, Anshul Shivhare, said that the criterion for the racing is that the cars must have a powerful

4.6cc engine to make them nippy on the racing track.

"Drift racing received overwhelming response as it was held for the first time. Besides that, the exhibition at the event is also a big hit. In drone racing, we had only professional racing last year but this year we have introduced beginners' competition as well. We want to make it a regular affair at Amalthea every year," he said.

Events today

Amalthea-2017 has four categories of events everyday—conclave, symposium, event and exhibition.

On Sunday, highlights of the event will be quiz competition, innovation idea competition as well as seismism—a competition where civil engineers will have to make a house from sticks whose stability will be tested by the jury.



Beginners' drone racing as well as RC racing were introduced at Amalthea this year

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