

# BAND, BAJA, TECHNO ON ENGG CAMPUSES

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 College engineering students have jumped on to the bandwagon of Baja (professional Baja) events organised by Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) worldwide with full throttle for past few years. Universities have been organising special programs and making cracks for the students to practice - when they design and make all terrain vehicles to make their mark on national level.

Their excitement and hard work finally paid off when a team from Nirma University won an IBA and the Gujarat Technological University (GTU) team won Formula Bharat 2018 last month. According to experts, the team now has over 10 teams fully devoted to vehicle making whereas unskilled and experienced students lack behind.

It's not easy to break into this elite club though - one must clear a written exam and personal interview to get the coveted spot in the team. It's the world of speed and thrill as the students have the potential to design and put together functional vehicles from roll cage to suspension and control to gear box.

On Semester, the automobile workshop near IIT College of Engineering (IITCE) based blocks use Formula activity as Mark IV, which is a four-wheeled vehicle.



IIT College of Engineering has created a special track for the teams to practice on different terrains.



Teams of Nirma University that participated in e-Baja and Baja events in January 2019

2019 to Phase next week - in ready to go.

"We have a team of over 20 students who come from diverse disciplines ranging from automobile and mechanical to electrical and I&C. We also have a student performing quantitative analysis of the vehicle," says Anshul Khandekar, vice-captain of the team and driver of the ATV.

The team from Nirma University (NU), identifying themselves as Team Shaktima - is on a high after winning the e-Baja in heavy category electric vehicle category in January. The team of 30 members of a 4th year is led by the vice-captain.



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## Car-Making Fever Grips Ahmedabad's Engineering Students With City Teams Winning Laurels At National Events



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### HOT WHEELS

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IIT Gandhinagar (IIT-Gn) is a new entrant on the block with their maiden Baja event participation this year under the banner of Team Moksha. Sushrut Surve, third year B Tech (mechanical) student, who helps the team, said numerous technicalities go into the making of a vehicle and the best part is that it's peer-to-peer learning. "We also have students from material science and chemical engineering among the team of 23 that help us improve the vehicle," he said.



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### RACE TO BUILD

#### FORMULA FOR SUCCESS

"The team from Gujarat Technological University (GTU) - GTU Motorsports - has won the Formula Bharat 2018 at Gandhinagar in January. The team is a group of 10 students from 10 colleges. It's a rigorous process to get an entry. This year, we received about 600 applications to be part of the team. The process and exam constantly mentor the team to improve vehicle balance, design and efficiency," said Prashant Patel, captain of the team, adding that he wishes to make his career in automobiles. The GTU team also has management and graphic design students along with engineers.



#### REAL-LIFE LESSONS

"A Kapil and Dhawal Sen, assistant professors at IIT Nirma University and coordinators for the Baja events, said that the students work round the clock and learn more life skills like problem-solving, finding solutions and coping up with innovation gaps. "It makes their preferred conditions for automobile companies that come for campus recruitment as they have practical exposure to the real life problems and have learnt how to find solutions collectively," said Kapil.



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IIT-Gn students welding a roll cage

for automobiles and zeal to do something out of the box. After their success in the national arena, the team will make a debut internationally later this year at New York.

Niharika Sablok, an I&C engineering student at NU and vice-captain of the team, said

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