

# IITians' app can guide you to best street food joints in city

Runa Mukherjee Parikh | TNN

**Ahmedabad:** When they joined Indian Institute of Technology in Gandhinagar (IIT-Gn), there was no one to tell them which joints offered good food. So, often their experiments resulted into an upset stomach. Arjita Sharma, Deepti Chopra and Shivam Mani Tripathi — all three electrical engineering students at IIT-Gn — took this up as a personal challenge and developed a mobile app called 'Chaat' which can guide a user to best street food joints in Amdavad.

Search with word like 'spicy paanipuri' or 'best vada pao' and Chaat will show you name and location of eateries in Ahmedabad. "One can even type the name of a food joint they have heard of and the app will show the address and route map," said Chopra.

Interestingly, the app will work on the principle of crowdsourcing. Once a person

visits a shop, he can mention he was there and rate the food. In case someone discovers a new stall, he can add and review it on the app for others to see. "With constant ratings and

visits, we will automatically get the best shops and vendors," said Sharma.

The students have found a willing target audience among their own kind. "Students like us who live in hostels, often live on street food. Nothing beats Indian street food. And to imagine it doesn't make

it to any lists on world's best street foods," said Tripathi, a third year student. The app, in its initial stage yet, will feature top kitslis of Ahmedabad only. "We will gradually incorporate all the cities and also set up a website for the same," explains Chopra. The trio, originators of the app idea that ranked second in CIIE's Dotnet Innovation Challenge recently, plan to make it their entrepreneurial start up.

