

# Innovations with a heart

**Runa Mukherjee Parikh**, TNN Oct 20, 2013, 06.46AM IST

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AHMEDABAD: The fourth [edition](#) of the annual tech summit of IIT-Gandhinagar started on Saturday with innovation as the buzzword. The summit has organized an innovation centre for students and entrepreneurs to showcase their startups and innovations. TOI spoke to some of the bright minds about their creations.

## Desi batmobile

Five students from the automobile engineering department of LD Engineering College have come up with their version of the 'batmobile'. Working on the principle of horizontal suspension, the team has prepared a car that can deal with jerks and tumbling over during accidents. "Our idea was rejected at first as people could not think over vertical suspensions. But we have tested our prototype and it works well," said Saurabh Singh, one of the creators.

## Lion of rural roads

These youngsters wanted to replace the risky chhakadas. Evomo, an organization working towards providing an affordable rural transportation solution, have created 'Saavaj' (lion in Gujarati), a truck-like vehicle that has been designed for roads of rural India. "We want to replace illegal and dangerous transportation contraptions like jugaads. Our vehicle is less capital intensive and can be made in a workshop even," said [Abhinav Kumar](#), CEO and founder of Evomo. This start up has been incubated by NID's National Design Business Incubator.

## A green chulha

The villages of [Tamil Nadu](#), Kerela and [Andhra Pradesh](#) are thankful to the innovation of two MBA graduates, Neha Juneja and Ankit Mathur; their signature stove is a single burner high-efficiency cook stove that is not only a low-cost replacement for the traditional mud chulhas but also the healthier version. "It is said that inhaling 4 hours of smoke from a chulha is equivalent to [smoking](#) 30 cigarettes. We have overcome that in our model and it costs just Rs 1,299," said a team member.

## Help during distress

A team of three students of Manav Rachna College of Engineering (MRCE) have developed a life-saving helmet device that gets activated if an accident occurs. It connects with one's smartphone and calls a family member. "It is a crash detection system where a device is attached to the helmet and is paired with the rider's smartphone. It will help in lowering mortality rate and neurological disabilities from road accidents," said Mohit Bahl, a research associate with MRCE.

## Easier pathology tests

After a survey of 23 villages, 5 students of MRCE realized the need to develop a mobile, economical and accurate medical testing kit that can confirm existence of anaemia, [diabetes](#), jaundice or renal damage in a patient at 75% lesser the cost. "With a website and a mobile application in sync with the device, doctors anywhere in the world can receive the result of the test," said Prashant Gupta, one of the innovators of 'Swasthya Sanjivani'. Their prototype represented India in 'Microsoft Imagine' recently.

### **Making blind feel safer**

Live Braille is a navigation system for blind people that alerts them much before an obstacle comes in front of them. Four students of Chitkara University in Punjab have won accolades for their innovation which is a breakthrough in products for the blind. "If the GPS instructions are noisy for normal people, imagine how much worse it is for someone who is blind. We developed this device keeping them in mind," said Anchal Gupta, one of the team members.