

India's first drone racing event held at IIT-Gandhinagar

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Ahmedabad: Indian Institute of Technology-Gandhinagar (IIT-Gn) organized the first drone racing event in the country on Sunday at its annual technical festival event, Amalthea. Bhavesh Sangani, Siddharth Kumanduri and Manjunath M. from the Bangalore team stood first, second and third respectively, while Ken Kouwang from Assam stood fourth.

The event was held in association with Indian Drone Racing League (IDRL) which brought together drone enthusiasts from across India.

A large group of professional pilots who practice 'first-person view' (FPV) drone racing has been formed owing to the event. Some of these pilots have more than 8 years of experience of flying quadcopters. These quadcopters have a transmitter that sends video captured by cameras attached to the quadcopters over radio waves to the pilot's glasses. With the help of the glasses, the pilots control their quadcopters by radio-controllers.

In the event, four pilots at a time raced their drones against each other, with each drone having to complete 5 laps of the racecourse while passing through check-posts. The qualifying pilots were selected for next rounds.