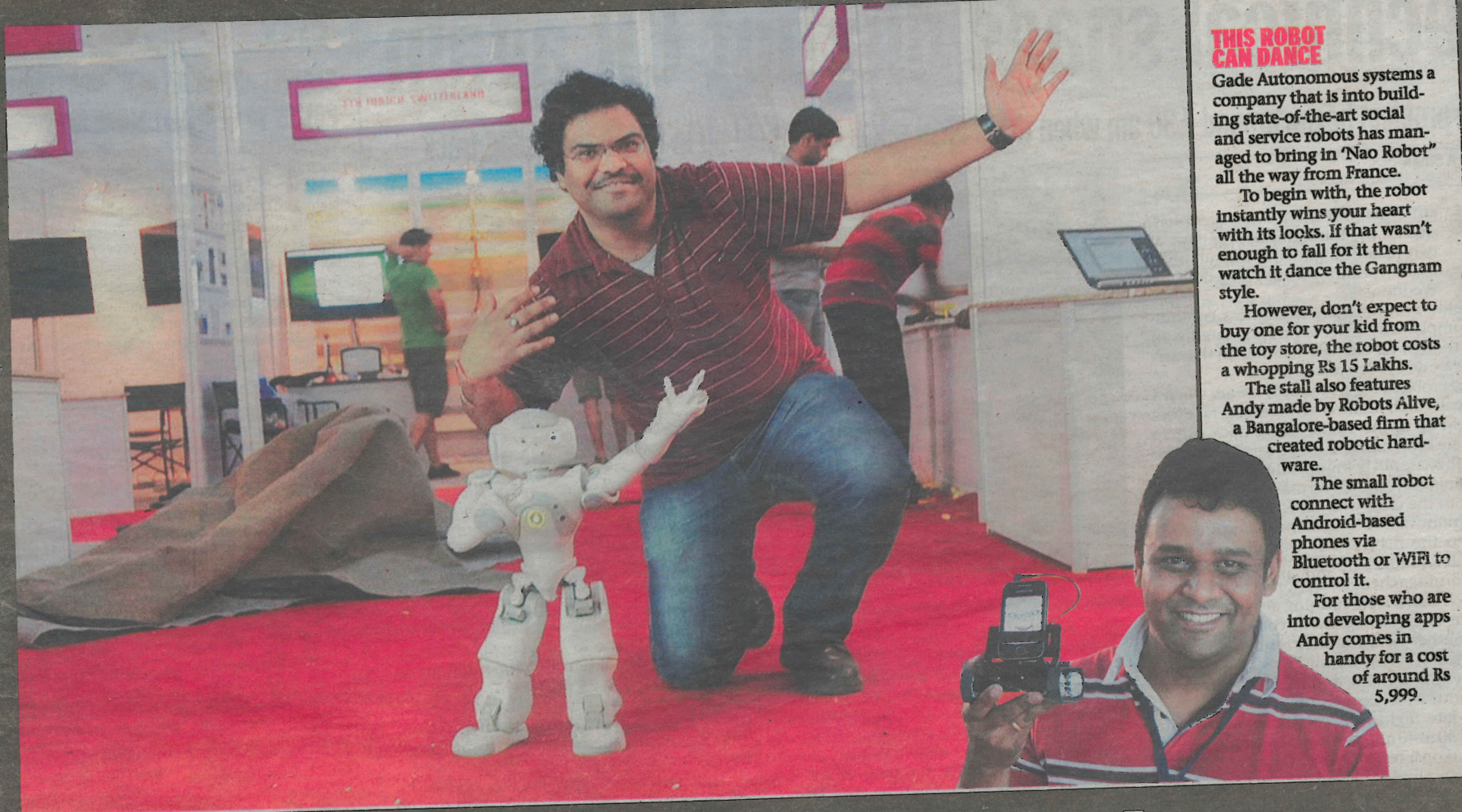


SACHIN HARALKAR



THIS ROBOT CAN DANCE

Gade Autonomous systems a company that is into building state-of-the-art social and service robots has managed to bring in 'Nao Robot' all the way from France. To begin with, the robot instantly wins your heart with its looks. If that wasn't enough to fall for it then watch it dance the Gangnam style. However, don't expect to buy one for your kid from the toy store, the robot costs a whopping Rs 15 Lakhs. The stall also features Andy made by Robots Alive, a Bangalore-based firm that created robotic hardware. The small robot connect with Android-based phones via Bluetooth or WiFi to control it. For those who are into developing apps Andy comes in handy for a cost of around Rs 5,999.

Gangnam robot and more

FEEL IT!

Kelo Xlab may not compare to the other showing off extraordinary robots, but a closer look would reveal some nifty gadgets. Amongst the gadgets showcased is a walking plant that can use branches from a tree as legs and still manage to walk, adding a different sized branch changes the gait of the device. The second features a haptic feedback device, using a vibrator from a gaming controller and a simple microphone connected to paper cups, the researchers can let you feel what's hap-



pening in other cup they are holding as if it was happening to the empty one you have. The final device is a sensor based kid's game that teaches them about colours while playing with flour-based dough.

CELEB-BOT HIRO

Techfest also happens to have a celebrity this year with Hiro. It made headlines late last year because it can react by making educated guesses based on past experiences - meaning it can learn, react and think just like a human being would.

The robot was programmed using an unsupervised learning mechanism created by the

researchers called Self-Organising Incremental Neural Network (SOINN) that processes information in a dynamic way making it easy for the robot to think up future patterns.

The creator Osamu Hasegawa will also be giving a lecture at Techfest on his robot at 1.00 pm.

Mumbai Mirror had previously covered the Hiro robot in August read the article at <http://bit.ly/ZUj9FY>.



Pooja Naik and Jaison Lewis mumbaimirror.com/indiatimes.com

In its sixteenth year now, IIT-Bombay is all set to host its annual Techfest, one of Asia's largest science and technology fest. With more than 92,000 people in attendance and a reach of over 2200 colleges across

India and over 500 colleges overseas, IIT is set to blow your minds with the latest innovations in technology.

Mirror brings you a sneak peak of what to expect from the fest that starts from today.

The fest is open to anyone who wishes to attend, just make sure you carry a valid Photo ID.

SOW AND REAP

This stall by the department of Computer Science and Engineering has a host of robots on display from robots that can spy and dance to robots that can be used for agricultural purposes. The three main highlights here are the kinect - gesture based robot, a robot interfaced with Aakash tablet that works as a spy robot and the agriculture based robots that are functioned for sowing, reaping, fertilising etc. At this stall you will also be able to see the hexabot - a robot with six legs that can shake all it's legs on music.



FLY, BOUNCE, ATTACH

This team of a PhD student, Adrien Briod and an engineer, Przemyslaw Kornatowski from Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne (EPFL) college in Switzerland, have developed a multi sensor, light-weight robot that is capable of flying in clustered environment.

"The robot weighs just about 350gms and does not need to avoid obstacles, thanks to its design there is very little scope for damage. In of chance it does land on its side, it has the capacity of standing upright on it's own with its flexible legs," said Adrien.