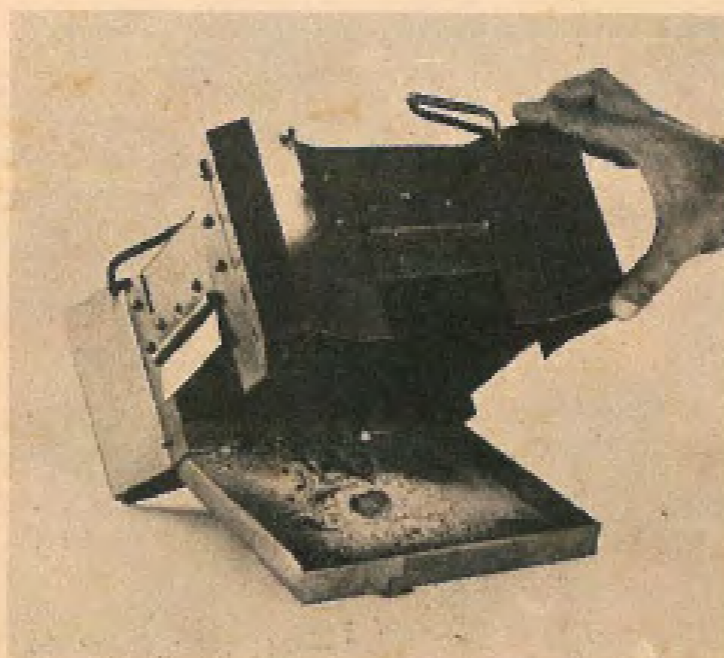
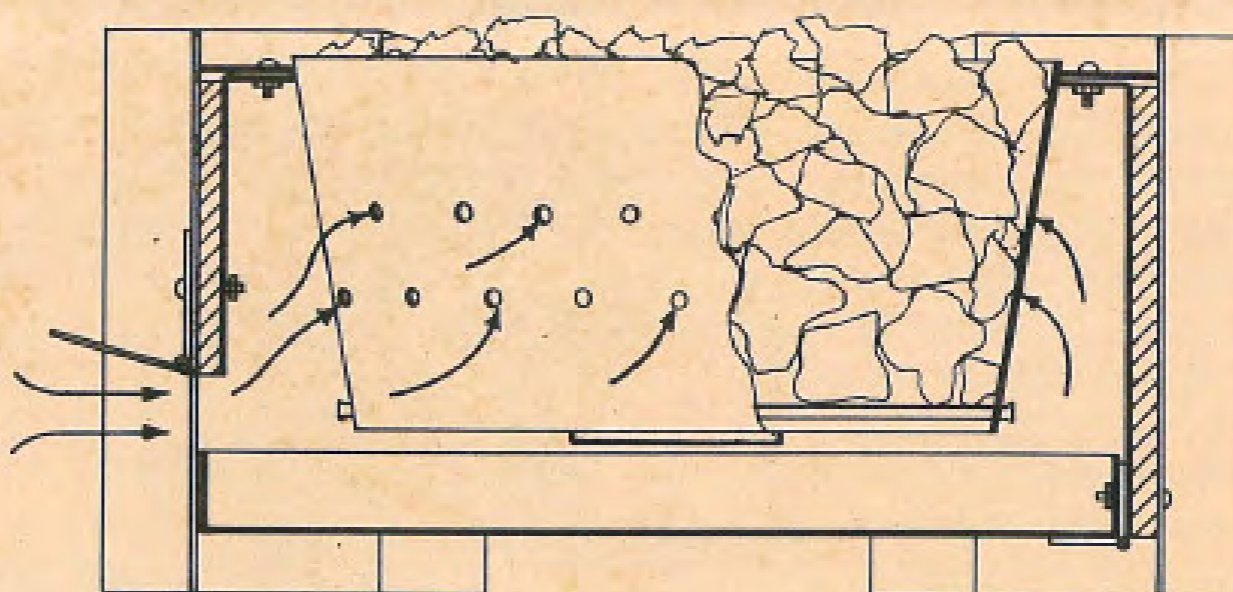
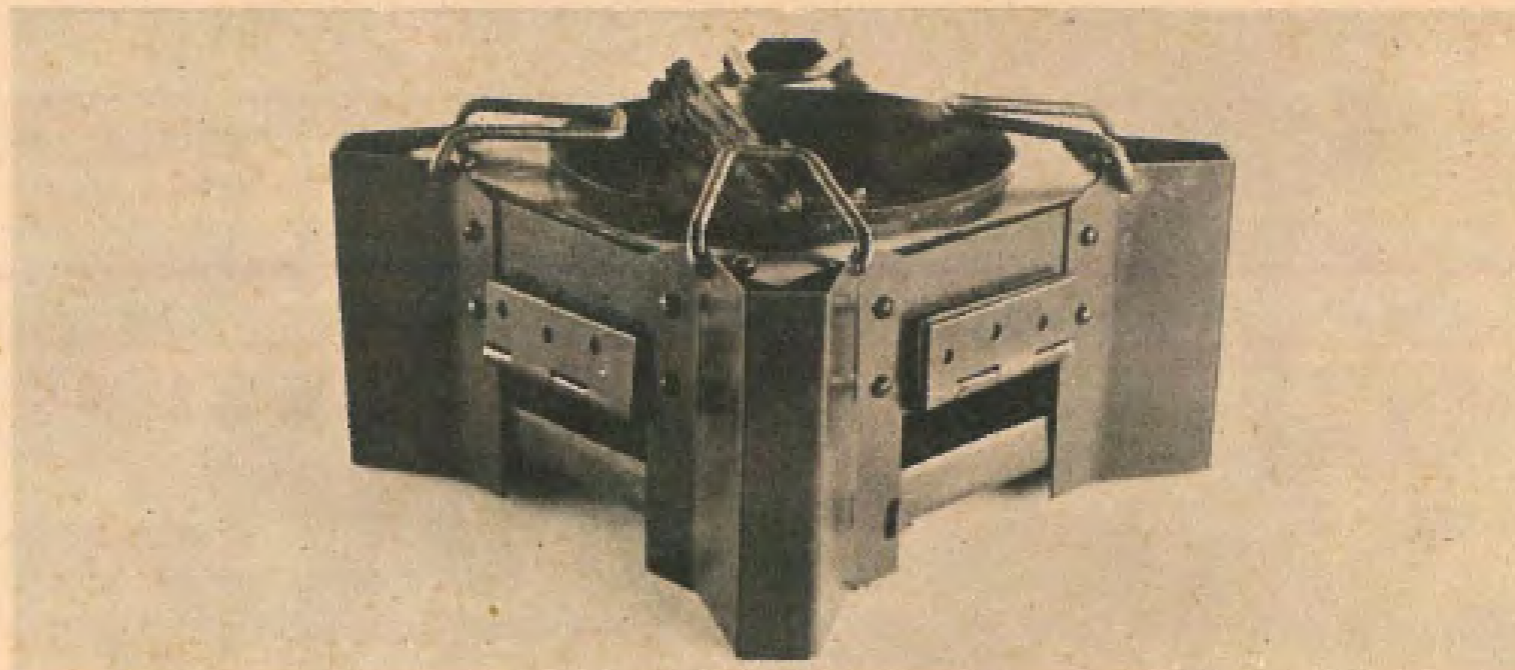


Coal Chula

Portable coal stove (Chula) is traditionally made with a bucket and thick cement or mud insulation. A competition announced by Coal India provoked the designers to go into the basics of the problem. The new design arrived at, is for semi-urban use. Air gap between the outside asbestos insulation and fire pot in introduced which acts as a light weight insulator and also supplies hot air. The fire pot, has several holes to supply air evenly through out the coal to avoid smoke formation. The ashes can be cleaned easily as the whole bottom plate is hinged on one side. The two ducts help in getting controlled burning. The height of the 'chula' is kept low to increase stability. The unit can be made by a small industry with very little skills.

Design : A. G. Rao
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Sabastian.



Background Story

The narrative which follows gives details of how we designed the 'chula' (Coal stove).

It also brings out the intellectual eco-system at IIB at that time! It took many years for IDC to create a space for 'design' in the minds of Engineering and Science faculty around.

We also learnt how to shape design in an Engineering Institute. Some research culture got rubbed into us from the very beginning, thanks to colleagues and friends in Science and Engineering departments. To have the status of a department unlike other Centres in the Institute was a great advantage! We could show what 'design' means through practical projects and collaborations! We could bring a new work culture in our workshops which we named 'Studios'.
to read all that,'Enter' [Design Narrative 2](#)