

## UGVCL Chairman honoured with “Gaurav Puraskar”

On 27-Dec-2013, Uttar Gujarat Vij Company Limited’s Hon’ble Chairman Shri Varun Nath Maira, IAS (Retd.), has been honoured with “Gaurav Puraskar” in the field of Photography for the year 2006-07.



Hon. Cabinet Minister Shri Ramanlal Vora honouring Shri Varun Nath Maira, IAS (Retd.), with Gaurav Puraskar in the field of Photography for the year 2006-07.



All Gaurav Puraskar recipients during the occasion

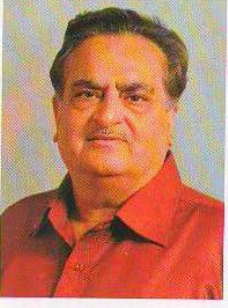
During a gala event organized by Gujarat State Lalitkala Academy at Bhaikaka Hall, Ahmedabad, Shri Ramanlal Vora, Hon. Cabinet Minister (Social Justice & Empowerment, Sports, Youth and Cultural Activities), Govt. of Gujarat, conferred the Award to Shri Maira, in presence of respected dignitaries from various fields of arts, literature and culture.

Shri Maira is a keen landscape photographer, who has held sixteen exhibitions of his photographs all over India. He has written two coffee table books on *Champaner* and *Dholavira* - both heritage sites in Gujarat. A special edition of his book on Dholavira was published by Gujarat Government during the Golden Jubilee Year. The forward of this book was written by Shri Narendra Modi, Hon’ble Chief Minister.

Other nine persons were conferred awards in the fields of Painting, Sculpture and photography for the year 2010-11.

Gaurav Puraskar is considered to be the highest civilian honour offered to artists for their outstanding life time achievements in various genres of creative arts.





શ્રી વરુણનાથ માયરા  
તસ્વીરકાર

VarunMaira is a keen landscape photographer. He held his first exhibition in 1996 at the State Art Gallery, Lalit Kala Academy in Ahmedabad. He has been exhibiting his work regularly and has so far held seventeen exhibitions of his photographs in Mumbai, Delhi, Ahmedabad, Vadodara, Udaipur and Panjim at prestigious galleries like Piramal Gallery - NCPA, Mumbai, India Habitat Centre, Delhi and Goa Kala Academy.

"Maira's World" series of exhibitions have been extremely popular with viewers and have earned considerable critical acclaim as well as media attention. Almost all major national newspapers and TV channels have featured his work.

His last exhibition on Bhutan was inaugurated by Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Gujarat in January 2012. Before that his exhibitions have been inaugurated by Governors of Gujarat, Rajasthan and Goa- Maharashtra, Chief Justice of Gujarat High Court, Chief Secretary of Gujarat, noted national leaders like Shri ArunJaitley, film

personalities like Shri Anil Kapoor and Shri Om Puri as well as eminent artists like Smt. Mrunalini Sarabhai, Smt. SonalMansingh and Shri Amit Ambalal.

With his highly acclaimed Mandu exhibition, he coined a new terminology of "cultural landscapes". His Champaner exhibition took this concept further. His contribution to UNESCO nomination of Champaner as Gujarat's first World Heritage Site is invaluable. He has a deep commitment to promote awareness about India's rich heritage.

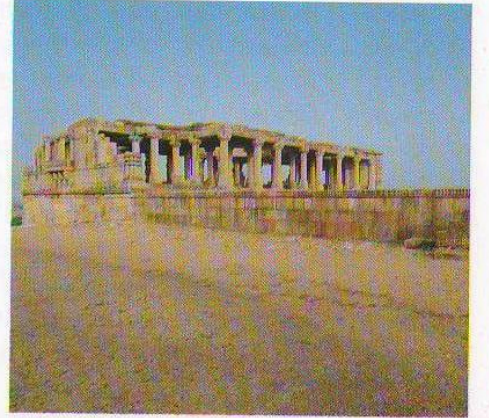
He has written two coffee table books "Champaner A Medieval Capital" in 2005 and "Dholavira - A Harappan Metropolis" in 2009. Both have been very well received and have been reprinted. His book on Dholavira was released by Shri NarendraModi, who also wrote the forward of the special edition of the book published by Gujarat Government during Golden Jubilee Year. His first book on Champaner was released by noted film director and DadaSaheb Phalke award winner Shri Shyam Benegal in Mumbai, whereas in Kolkata the book was released by Shri Gopal Krishna Gandhi, Governor of West Bengal and Smt. Aparna Sen, noted film personality.

VarunMaira graduated with Economics (Hons.) from St. Stephen's College, Delhi and did his post-graduation from Delhi School of Economics. He completed M.Phil in Economic Planning from University of Glasgow, UK.

Shri Maira joined IAS in July, 1975 and retired at the end of October, 2012 as Additional Chief Secretary (Planning). Before that, he served as Principal Secretary, Culture for almost six years.

For Shri Maira, photography is a serious hobby and not a profession. Through his expertise and dedication, he has inspired hundreds of young people as well as professionals from various works of life to take interest in photography and to hold exhibitions and slide shows in order to share their art with the public at large. His contribution in the area of photography for Gujarat has been invaluable.

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M : 9978406144







सत्यमेव जयते



GUJARAT STATE LALITKALA ACADEMY

गुजरात सरकार

रमतगमत, युवा एवं

सांस्कृतिक प्रवृत्तियाँ विभाग तथा

गुजरात राज्य ललितकला अकादमी

ललितकला गौरव पुरस्कार

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श्री वरुणनाथ मायरा

छबीकला क्षेत्रे

२७ डिसेम्बर २०१३ - अहमदाबाद

( भाग्येशभाई जहा ) ( रमणलाल वोरा )

(I.A.S.)

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सचिव,  
रमतगमत, युवा एवं  
सांस्कृतिक प्रवृत्तियाँ  
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