

# Mr. A.M. Naik Conferred Gujarat's Highest State Honour - 'Gujarat Garima Award'

Our Chairman & Managing Director, Mr. A. M. Naik, received Gujarat's highest state honour – the Gujarat Garima Award ('Pride of Gujarat') – presented by the Chief Minister of Gujarat, Mr. Narendra Modi.

The award – a shawl, a citation and a memento – was presented on January 12 – the inaugural day of the 'Vibrant Gujarat' exhibition currently being held at Ahmedabad. The award was presented in the presence of a galaxy of state ministers, diplomats, visiting state guests, dignitaries from around 40 countries, senior government officials, business leaders and over ten thousand people.

The citation highlighted Mr. Naik's philanthropy and his contribution to several social initiatives, in Gujarat as well as in other parts of India, and his achievements as a professional in transforming L&T into an engineering powerhouse. The award acquires special significance in view of the fact that Mr. Naik has risen from a humble school-teacher's family in rural Gujarat to the highest echelons of corporate leadership.

In a glowing speech, Mr. Modi recalled Mr. Naik's outstanding contribution to the uplift of rural Gujarat and his role in the development of the state. Mr. Modi also invited Mr. Naik's wife, Mrs. Geeta Naik, to the dais, and complimented her for her role in facilitating Mr. Naik's numerous achievements.

In his acceptance speech, Mr. Naik said this award carried special emotional value as it came from his birthplace, Gujarat. Mr. Naik said this high recognition to the son of a middle-class teacher and grandson of a Gold Medalist primary teacher would be a source of encouragement to the youie1rth Mr.Mukesh Ambani, and of social persons, philanthropy etc.



**D. Morada**