

Vinit Barot (*India*)

A railway station is often the first impression a visitor forms about a city — it is the face of the place, a reflection of its identity. In that spirit, Vadodara Railway Station has emerged as a true symbol of the city's rich cultural heritage and artistic vibrancy.

Celebrated as the cultural capital of Gujarat, Vadodara now proudly hosts a railway station that is unlike any other in India — where art meets innovation. In a remarkable collaboration between the Vadodara Division of Indian Railways, local artists, and visionary architects, the station has been transformed into an inspiring space featuring captivating sculptures, creative and comfortable furniture, and immersive 3D paintings. What sets this transformation apart is its sustainable approach — the sculptures and artistic furniture have been crafted from upcycled railway scrap, turning discarded materials into masterpieces. This project is a shining example of how sustainability and aesthetics can coexist in public spaces.

Flowing through Vadodara is the iconic Vishwamitri River, which adds a natural charm to the city's landscape. The river is home to a thriving population of Mugger Crocodiles, making Vadodara one of the few cities in the world known for its harmonious relationship with these magnificent reptiles. This unique ecological identity is beautifully reflected & displayed as a sculpture "Croc Mother & Child" at the station, reinforcing the city's deep-rooted connection with nature.

Contact info

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Exhibit "Croc Mother and Child"

This sculpture has been installed near the middle entry gate towards the Enquiry Counter at the Vadodara Railway Station. A special platform has been created for the exhibit so citizens can click "Selfies" with it. One idea of this sculpture is to sensitize people about caring for their living Heritage—the crocodiles in the region.

The exhibit is of a Sweet Water Crocodile which refers to the Mugger Crocodile (*Crocodylus palustris*), also known as the Marsh Crocodile. This species is a medium-sized, broad-snouted crocodile found in various freshwater habitats, including rivers, lakes, marshes, and even coastal areas. The male is generally between 3 to 4 metres long and female 2 to 3 metres long.

For a sculpture of this size, it is important that an accurate armature is made to assist with both supporting the sculpture as it is being made but also to ensure correct form and shape of the crocodile is achieved.

Dimensions of Exhibit

4.0 m long x 1.3 m wide x 0.5m high





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