

# NAMASTE AMERICA

Indo American Association for Art & Culture



# ASIAN AGE

TUESDAY, 22ND JAN. 2013

## RANI MUKHERJEE 'HAAS' A GOOD TIME AT THE U.S. CONSULATE



US consul general Peter Haas and actress Rani Mukherjee share a moment during the screening of US President Barack Obama's swearing-in ceremony at the US Consulate in Bandra-Kurla Complex on Monday —RAJESH JADHAV

## US consulate hosts ball to celebrate Obama's swearing-in

Mugdha Variyar

■ mugdha.variyar@hindustantimes.com

**MUMBAI:** Barack Obama was publicly sworn in as the 44th president of the United States on Monday after an official ceremony on Sunday as several Mumbaiites celebrated the moment at the US Consulate in the city.

The consulate hosted an inaugural ball on Monday where about 300 guests including businessmen, film personalities and socialites gathered to watch the live telecast of Obama's swearing in. They cheered as Obama promised to fight climate change and end the decade of war in his inaugural speech.

US Consul Peter Haas said, "This is a very special day, as it was not just the swearing in of the 45th US President but also because it is Martin Luther King Day. I am proud to celebrate the day in India, the largest democracy in the world."

This was the third US elec-



■ The swearing-in ceremony of US president Barack Obama was telecast at an event called Namaste America at the US Consulate on Monday.

VIDYA SUBRAMANIAN/HT PHOTO

tion event by the consulate after a ballot for Americans in the city to vote, and a US Elections Return party. "It was a fun way to celebrate democracy, and we would have had it irrespective of who had won the elections," said public affairs officer Anne Grimes.

Interestingly, Obama was only the second president after Ronald Reagan to be sworn in twice for the same term. He was sworn in

on Sunday as mandated by the US Constitution to inaugurate the president on January 20. Since public institutions are closed on Sundays, there was a second swearing in ceremony.

The event, which was co-hosted by Namaste America, an Indo-American association of art and culture, was attended by actor Rani Mukherjee and Sheriff Indu Shahani among others.

# DNA AFTER HOURS

WEDNESDAY, 23RD JAN. 2013

**DNA** after hrs.  
DAILY NEWS & ANALYSIS

epaper.dnaindia.com  
Mumbai, Wednesday, January 23, 2013

7

**PARTYING SHOT**

Rajneesh Londhe DNA



ALL SMILES:  
Rani Mukerji



ROYAL CALL: Gregory David Roberts  
and Princess Francoise Sturdza

## AMERICAN NAMASTE

INAUGURAL BALL, MONDAY, JANUARY 21,  
BANDRA KURLA COMPLEX

The inaugural ball was co-hosted by the US Consul General, Peter Haas and Atul Nishar in honour of the 44th President of America, Barack Obama. It had a live telecast of the presidential address from Washington DC and actress Rani Mukerji was felicitated for her valuable contribution to Indian cinema. The evening began with a dance performance by



BLACK N' WHITE:  
Queenie Singh and Adam Rodriguez



Rahul Saxena and his team, followed by ballroom dancing that couples enjoyed at the open air venue. Seen exchanging pleasantries were Niraj Bajaj, Queenie Singh, Adam Rodriguez with Princess Francoise. Dalip Tahil took to the dance floor while Sushma Reddy posed for the shutterbugs. Talat and Bina Aziz along with author Gregory David Roberts also were spotted having a good time.



GLAM IT: (Top) Nisha Jamwal,  
Poonam Dhillon, Sushma Reddy



HAVING A BALL: (L-R) Peter Haas, Atul Nishar, Niraj Bajaj, Dalip Tahil dancing, Talat and Bina Aziz were spotted at the ball

# MID DAY

WEDNESDAY, 23RD JAN. 2013

## Inaugural ball

MONDAY night witnessed a gathering of Mumbaikars at a reception hosted by US Consul General **Peter Haas** and **Atul Nishar**, president of Namaste America, to coincide with the inaugural ball in honour of the 44th President of the United States of America **Barack Obama** which featured a live telecast of the presidential address from Washington DC. Though we couldn't make it we learn that there was a nip in the air, the food and the drinks were good and the party held at the Consulate's new headquarters in the BKC complex was as pleasant a one as one could wish for. However, it's the guest list that intrigues us: actors **Rani Mukherjee**, **Satish Shah**, **Dalip Tahil**, **Poonam Dhillon** and **Adam Rodriguez** (from CSI Miami), tarot card reader **Sunita Menon**, TV anchor and model **Sushma Reddy**, singers **Gary Lawyer** and **Talat Aziz**, columnist and decorator **Nisha Jamval**, ad film makers **Kailash Surendranath**, writer **Gregory David Roberts** and industrialist **Neeraj Bajaj** (whose group sponsored the evening). An eclectic group of people to listen to Obama's historic inaugural address we thought.



US President Barack Obama taking the oath



Rani Mukherjee with US Consul General Peter Haas



Poonam Dhillon, Talat Aziz with wife Bina and Gregory David Roberts with his wife at the event. PICS/SATYAJIT DESAI



Poonam Dhillon, Talat Aziz with wife Bina and Gregory David Roberts with his wife at the event. PICS/SATYAJIT DESAI

# MUMBAI AGE

WEDNESDAY, 23RD JAN. 2013

Wednesday 23 January 2013 28,29

Mumbai Age

party



• Niraj Bajaj with Minal Bajaj • Anaita and Gary Lawyer



• Princess Francoise Sturdza and Gregory David Roberts



• Sushma Reddy



• Lata Patel



• Deepa and Suhas Awchat



• Bina and Talat Aziz

## Fancy dress

The US consul general, Peter Haas and Atul Nishar, president of Namaste America, co-hosted an inaugural ball in honour of US President Barack Obama. The consulate's inauguration ceremony featured a live telecast of the presidential address from Washington D.C. The evening began with a dance performance by renowned choreographer Rahul Saxena and his team of accomplished dancers. Atul Nishar with his wife Dr Alka Nishar and Peter Haas with his wife Amy Haas led the first waltz of the evening which met with a lot of applause. A fine evening indeed!



• Mumbai police commissioner Satyapal Singh and his wife Alka



• Madhoo and Satish Shah



• Peter and Amy Haas

# MUMBAI AGE

WEDNESDAY, 23RD JAN. 2013



● Queenie Singh  
— RAJESH JADHAV



● Rani Mukherji



● Arti and Kailash Surendranath



● Ananya Dutta



● Ranjit and Indu Shahani



● Anirudh Dhoot



● Poonam Dhillon

# MUMBAI MIRROR

WEDNESDAY, 23RD JAN. 2013

mumbai 001



NILESH WAIRKAR



## WHEN RANI MET QUEENIE

They may not be royalty, but they do get counted among the aristocrats in their divergent domains. Even the setting of encounter between this actress and socialite was an unlikely one — a party at the US Consulate to celebrate Barack Obama's swearing-in.

# HT CAFE

WEDNESDAY, 23RD JAN. 2013

Mumbai, Wednesday, January 23, 2013

06 entertainment **htcafé**



Peter and Amy Haas

PHOTOS: PROOIP GUHA



Atul and Alka Nishar



Queenie Singh and CSI star Adam Rodriguez

## Ball of a TIME

WHAT: Inaugural Ball celebration WHERE: US Consulate, BKC



Ranjit and Indu Shahani

The US consul general, Peter Haas, and Atul Nishar, president of Namaste America (Indo American Association of Art and Culture), co-hosted an inaugural ball in honour of US President Barack Obama. The presidential address was telecast live from Washington DC. The evening began with a dance performance by choreographer Rahul Saxena and his team. Haas and wife Amy, and Atul and wife Alka were the first to waltz on to the dance floor. The two couples were followed by other guests, including actor Dalip Tahil.



Rani Mukerji



Satish Shah with wife Madhu



Princess Françoise Sturdza and Gregory David Roberts



Anaita and Gary Lawyer

### Namaste America welcomes Obama

U.S. CONSUL General, Peter Haas and Atul Nishar, President of Namaste America, co-hosted an inaugural ball in honour of the 44th President of The United States of America, Barack Obama. The inauguration ceremony featured a live telecast of the Presidential Address from Washington D.C.. The very versatile and popular Bollywood actor, Rani Mukerji also graced the occasion and was felicitated for her valued contribution to Indian Cinema. The evening began with a dance performance by renowned choreographer, Rahul Saxena and his team. The event was attended by a diverse cross-section of Mumbai society.

Seen exchanging pleasantries were Rani Mukerji, Peter Haas, US Consul General, Mumbai, Dr. Alka Nishar, Atul Nishar, President, Namaste America and Arti Surendranath.

Also seen were Indu Shahani, Lata Patel, Dalip Tahlil, Sushma Reddy, Parvathy Omanakuttan, Mahabanoo Mody Kotwal, Talat and Bina Aziz, Gregory David Roberts and Princess Francoise Sturdza, Madhu and Satish Shah, Simone Singh and Ananya Dutta among others.

1. Alka and Atul Nishar celebrate by shaking a leg  
2. Peter and Amy Haas too take to the stage  
3. Rani Mukerji and Sunita Menon say cheese  
4. Queenie Singh and Adam Rodriguez strike a pose  
5. Vivek Jain walks in solo  
6. Raell Padamsee is here too  
7. All smiles: Kailash Surendranath  
8. Nayan Patel walks in  
9. Reason to cheer: Deanna Abdeen  
10. Niraj and Minal Bajaj pose for the cameras

PICS/ SATYAJIT DESAI



FRIDAY 25 JANUARY 2013

MUMBAI IS TALKING ABOUT

## US EMBASSY HONOURS RANI

**A**tul Nishar, President of Namaste America and US Consul General, Peter Haas, co-hosted an inaugural ball in honour of Barack Obama, the President of the United States of America. Rani Mukerji was felicitated for her contribution to Indian cinema at this do. The inauguration ceremony featured a live telecast of the Presidential address. Deanna Abdeen, Consular Section Chief, US Consulate, Indu Shahani, Nayan Patel, Adam Rodriguez, Lata Patel, Sushama Reddy, Parvathy Omanakuttan, Vivek Jain, Mahabanoo Mody Kotwal, Talat and Bina Aziz, Madhu and Satish Shah, Ananya Dutta and Raell Padamsee were also present.



Atul Nishar, Peter Haas and Rani Mukerji



Sunita Menon and Amy Haas



Shantaram, Princess Francoise Sturdza and Niraj Baja



Deanna Abdeen and Dr Alka Nishar



Queenie and Adam



Kailash and Arti Surendranath



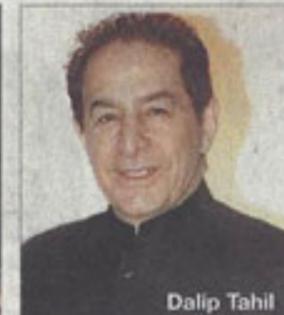
Rahul Saxena



Parvathy Omanakuttan



Simone Singh



Dalip Tahil



Gary Lawyer

Autumn

# AFTERNOON DESPATCH & COURIER

WEDNESDAY, 30TH JAN. 2013

Afternoon Despatch & Courier

www.afternoondc.in

MUMBAI | WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2013

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PETER HAAS & ATUL NISHAR

## American high

**THE** superb sounds of Sharmilla Dias and her band wafted in the air as you stepped into the US consulate lawns at the inaugural ball in honour of Barack Obama, hosted by US Consul General Peter Haas and Atul Nishar, president, Namaste America and presented by the Bajaj Group. Rani Mukherji, Sunita Menon, Indu Shahani and Parvathy Omanakuttan among many more witnessed the live telecast of the Presidential address from Washington D.C. at this cocktail-dinner affair.



SUNITA MENON & AMY HAAS

# SCREEN INDIA

FEBRUARY, 1-7, 2013

58 | happenings

SCREEN

February 1 - 7, 2013, Mumbai

[www.screenindia.com](http://www.screenindia.com)



US Consul General Peter Haas, Niraj Bajaj, Rani Mukerji and Atul Nishar

## Foreign honours

**R**ani Mukerji, who has essayed challenging roles right from the visually challenged girl in *Black* to a distressed housewife in *Talaash*, was recently felicitated for her contribution to Indian Cinema by the United States Embassy at an inaugural ball organised in honour of Barack Obama being sworn in as the 44th President of the United States Of America. The event was held at the US Embassy in Mumbai, when President Obama's swearing in ceremony was held in the US.

# UPPERCRUST

JAN-MAR 2013

CELEBRATIONS AND ALL THAT JAZZ | GUEST LIST

## Namaste, President Obama

The Inaugural Ball in honour of President Obama's victory - thrown by Consul General, Peter Haas along with president of *Namaste America*, Atul Nishar - saw the whos-who dazzle at the US Consulate in BKC



● PETER HAAS, ATUL NISHAR



INDU SHABANI

LATA PATEL

VIVEK JAIN

NIRAJ BAJAJ



QUEENIE SINGH &  
ADAM RODRIGUEZ



SIMONE SINGH

SUSHMA REDDY



BINA & TALAT AZIZ



SUNITA MENON,  
DR ALKA NISHAR

RANI MUKHERJEE



# PEOPLE

22ND FEB. 2013

## StarTracks



### PICTURE PERFECT

*Mumbai, Jan. 21*

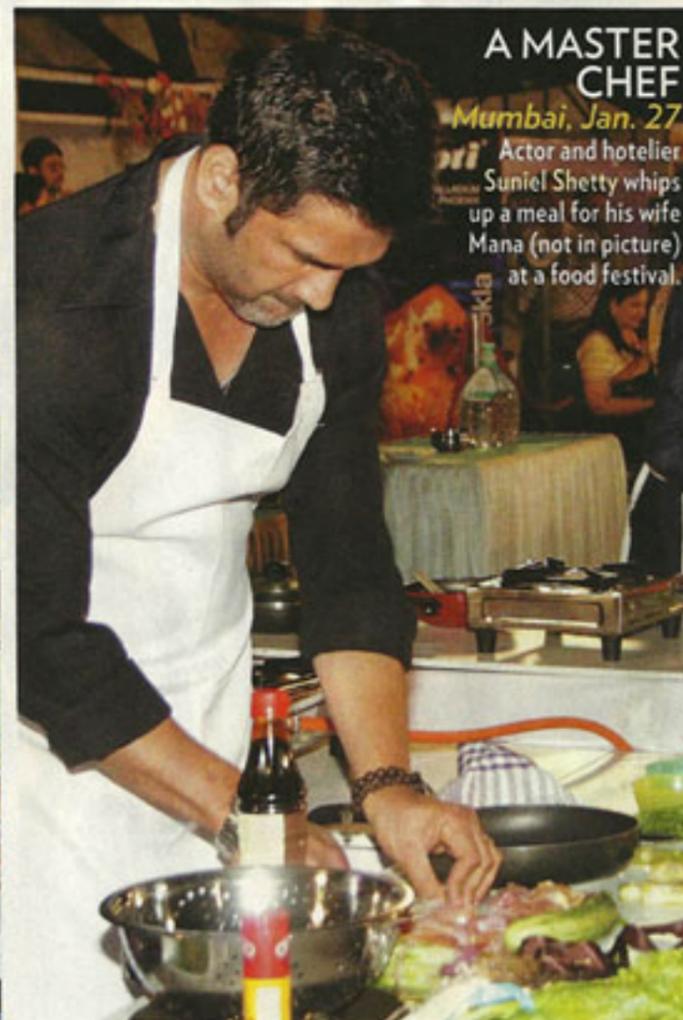
Actress Rani Mukerji flashes her dazzling smile while obliging a fan at an inaugural ball in honour of U.S. President Barack Obama.



### GOING GREEN

*Mumbai, Jan. 22*

Actress Karisma Kapur shops for healthy options at the launch of a gourmet food store.



### A MASTER CHEF

*Mumbai, Jan. 27*

Actor and hotelier Suniel Shetty whips up a meal for his wife Mana (not in picture) at a food festival.

OPPOSITE PAGE TOP: PRAVIN UTTISARAI FOR PEOPLE; BOTTOM: SHARAD

# THE SINDHIAN

## 2ND QUARTER 2013

SNAPSHOTS



Punit Agarwal, owner of Marc Cain Franchise Stores in India and UAE & Norbert Lock, MD

### OF CHAMPAGNE & SILHOUETTES

**WHAT** - Marc Cain celebrated the opening of its new mono label store by launching an exquisite new Spring Summer 2013 collection over a champagne evening.

**WHERE** - Napeansea Road, Mumbai

**WHAT ELSE** - This is the 150th store worldwide for the fashion brand.



Vanya Mishra & Ahana Kumar



Yukta Mookhey & Sangeeta Singh



Evelyn Sharma



Sushma Reddy



Dina Singh



Bina Aziz



Poonam Dhillon



Amy & Peter Haas, US Consul General

### HONOURING BARACK OBAMA

**WHAT** - Namaste America and The U.S Consulate Mumbai co-hosted an inaugural ball in honour of the 44th President of The United States of America, Barack Obama.

**WHERE** - Mumbai

**WHAT ELSE** - Bollywood actor, Rani Mukherji was felicitated for her valued contribution to Indian Cinema at the ceremony.



Princess Francoise Sturdza & Gregory David Roberts



Atul Nishar, President Namaste America & Deanna Abdeen, Consular Section Chief US Consulate



Sunita Menon & Amy Haas



Mumbai police commissioner Satyapal Singh with his wife Alka



Indu Shahani

# Hi! GALA

Namaste America celebrates the return of President Barack Obama to the high seat of American politics with a cultural fest in Mumbai.



Niraj Bajaj, Rani Mukerji, Atul Nishar (President, Namaste America)

Celebrating the 44th American President Barack Obama's comeback to the highest seat of American politics, the US Consul General, Peter Haas, and the President of Namaste America, Atul Nishar, co-hosted an inaugural ball in his honour. At the venue, which was the grounds of the American Consulate, there was a live telecast of the presidential address from Washington DC.

The inauguration ceremony theme of 'Faith in America's Future' commemorated the United States' perseverance and unity. This year also marked the 150th year since the placement of the Statue of Freedom atop the Capitol Dome in 1863. The naming of the inaugural ceremony themes is a new tradition that highlights historic events that helped shape US democracy. As for Namaste America Indo American



Amy & Peter Haas (US Consul General)



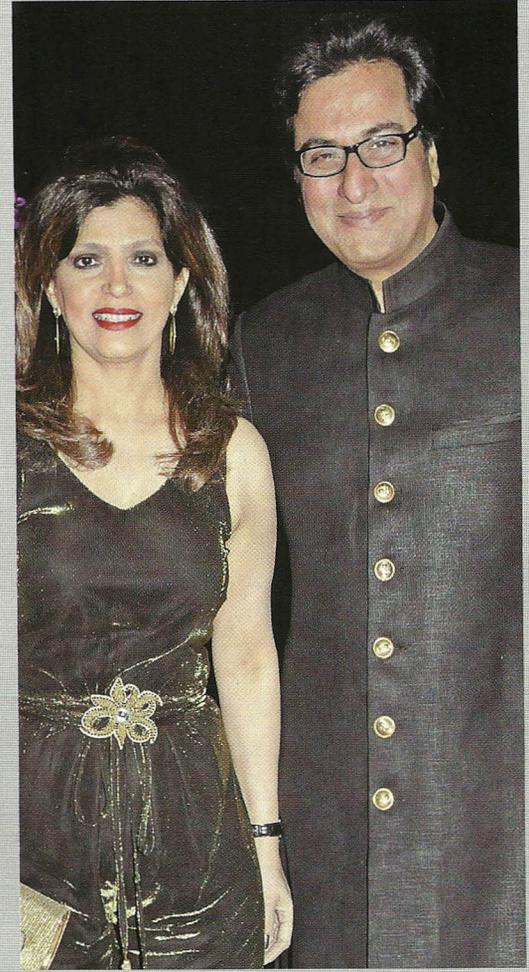
Dr Alka Nishar, Poonam Dhillon



Deepa & Suhas Awchat



Sunita Menon



Bina & Talat Aziz



Anirudh Dhoot

Association of Art and Culture, it is committed to promoting and fostering goodwill between the people of the United States and India by providing a platform for cultural and trade exchange.

A dance performance by renowned choreographer, Rahul Saxena, and his team kick-started the event. Atul Nishar and his wife Dr Alka Nishar and Peter Haas and his wife Amy Haas led the first waltz of the evening. The glamorous Rani Mukerji was felicitated for her valued contribution to Indian cinema. American politics and Indian culture were the topics of conversation amidst the diverse cross-section of Mumbai society. Also making a suitable appearance was Adam Rodriguez (Hollywood star of CSI fame) who had the ladies vying for his attention.

**Venue:** American Consulate, BKC, Mumbai.

**Buzz:** The return of Barack Obama was warmly celebrated by both Americans and Indians.



Indu Shahani

# CHEERING FOR SPRING!

**P**eter Haas and Atul Nishar co-hosted an Inaugural Ball in the honour of Barack Obama at the US Consulate, Mumbai. Parvathy Omanakuttan was the host for the evening, while guests like Rani Mukherjee, Queenie Singh and Adam Rodriguez were present at the do.

ATUL AND ALKA LOOKED  
BLISSFULLY PLEASED.



Deanne Abdeen



Adam Rodriguez and Peter Haas



Bina and Talat Aziz



Atul Nishar



Alka Nishar



Sunita Menon and Amy Haas



Dolly Thakore



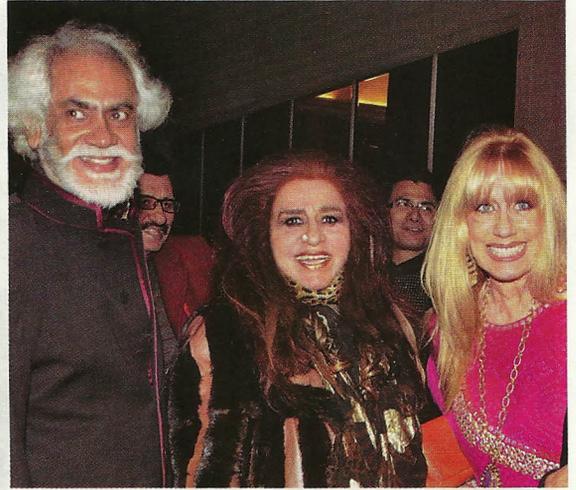
Rani Mukherjee



Parvathy Omanakuttan



Rajashree Birla; Prithviraj Chavan, CM of Maharashtra; Nageshwar Rao; Neerja and Kumar Mangalam Birla at the Aditya Vikram Birla Kalashikar & Kalakiran Puraskar 2012 awards in Mumbai



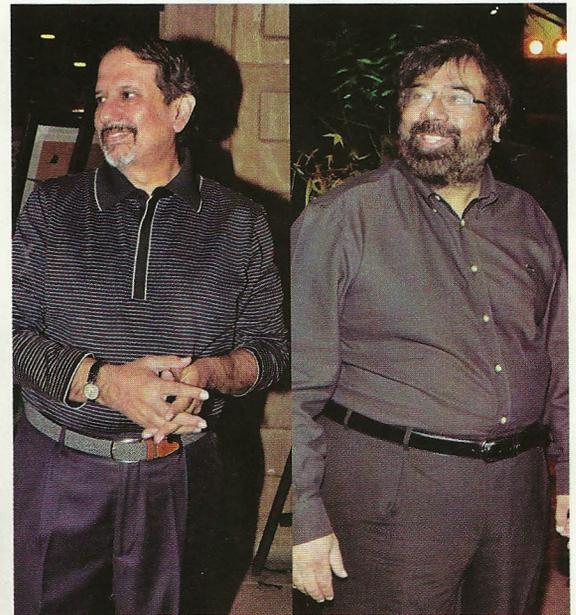
Sunil Sethi, Shahnaz Husain and Caroline Lieberman at the book launch of *Rambagh Palace, Jaipur* by Dharmendar Kanwar at The Taj Mahal Hotel, Delhi



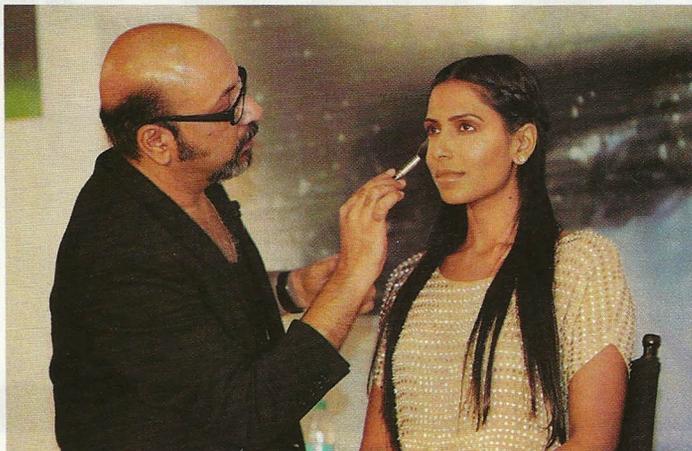
Deanna Abdeen, Consular Section Chief, US Consulate, and Alka Nishar at the inaugural ball in honour of the US President Barack Obama in Mumbai



Anita Dev and Kunika Singh at the launch of the luxury store Lord Wedgwood at Shangri-La Hotel, Mumbai



Hosts Vikram Sethi and Harsh Goenka at a gala dinner in honour of the 15<sup>th</sup> edition of the RPG Art Camp in Mumbai



Mickey Contractor with model Candice Pinto at the launch of the M.A.C Spring Summer 2013 makeup collection in Mumbai



Designer Saira with Sneha and Prasanna at the launch of her Creciva boutique at Alwarpet in Chennai