

RAINBOW

Newsletter of Priyadarshni Academy

Vol. 3 : No. 2, April - June 2007

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Chairman's Message



Greetings from Priyadarshni Academy!

The New Year has begun well for the Academy. We have already had two major events in the quarter and a third is around the corner. The Bhajan Sandhya programme by Smt. Tabassum went extraordinarily well, both in terms of the selection of devotional songs by young singers

and the audience which thronged The Rama Watumull Auditorium at the K. C. College to fill it. We were particularly pleased that U.S. Consul General Mr. Michael Owen, and Mr. Jignesh Shah, Founder CEO, Financial Technologies Group, graced the occasion as Chief Guest and Guest of Honour respectively. Both made some very telling remarks as to the prospects for further growth in Indo-U.S. relations in a number of fields. The programme was sponsored by Shri Gulab Jeswani, and his wife, Smt. Harsha Jeswani.

The Academy coordinated the visit of a delegation from Boiingbrook from the Chicago area in the U.S. Mayor Roger Claar, who has been Mayor of Bolingrook for an unusually long 20 years, led the delegation of eleven Americans. We were able to organize a fine orientation for them to India and were pleased that they went away with good impressions, promises of return visits, and prospects of exchanges, particularly in the field of education.

Our 23rd Annual Literary Awards and Scholarships Programme will be held on the 22nd of March at the Indian Merchants' Chamber's Walchand Hirachand Hall at 5:00 PM. We will have a number of scholarships this year to honor some of the greats who are no more

with us, the late Shri Ramakrishna Bajaj and the late Shri Harish Mahindra being two of them. There will be other Scholarships in the memory of those who have been dear to our heart. Three literary awards for outstanding work in the Hindi, Marathi and Sindhi languages will also be given.

Priyadarshni Academy's publications project is gradually beginning to take shape. The Academy has decided to bring out, under its Committee for the Promotion of Oriental Studies, a book on the Indus River which will be a compilation of articles by eminent scholars and indologists. We hope to bring the book out in the nottoo-distant future.

I have great news to share. Priyadarshni Academy has already begun work on its 24th Anniversary Global Awards event to be held on the 19th of September, 2008. It has received a big fillip-eminent scientist Dr. Ramesh A. Mashelkar has agreed to be Chairman of the Global Awards Advisory Committee which selects the awards. With his knowledge of people and institutions and contacts all over the world, this is a terrific step forward for the Academy and its awards programme. We will certainly look forward to working with him.

Sincerely yours,

Nanik Rupani

ONE OF THE PILLARS OF PRIYADARSHNI ACADEMY

-Shri Prabodh Bhagwandas Thakker



Shri Thakker has been associated with Priyadarshni Academy from its early days. He has been with the Academy constantly almost all the way. Shri Thakker has assisted the Academy both with his presence and moral as well as facilitative support.

Shri Thakker has more than two decades of experience in the Indian and international insurance and reinsurance market. He is the Director of Global Insurance Services Pvt Ltd, a part of an established group which is in the Insurance business for over five decades. Set up in the year 1973, "GLOBAL" has served the complex and specialized business of marine and cargo insurance. A broking division was established within 'Global', which was then transformed into a joint venture with Aon Global Insurance Services Pvt Ltd in the year 2003.

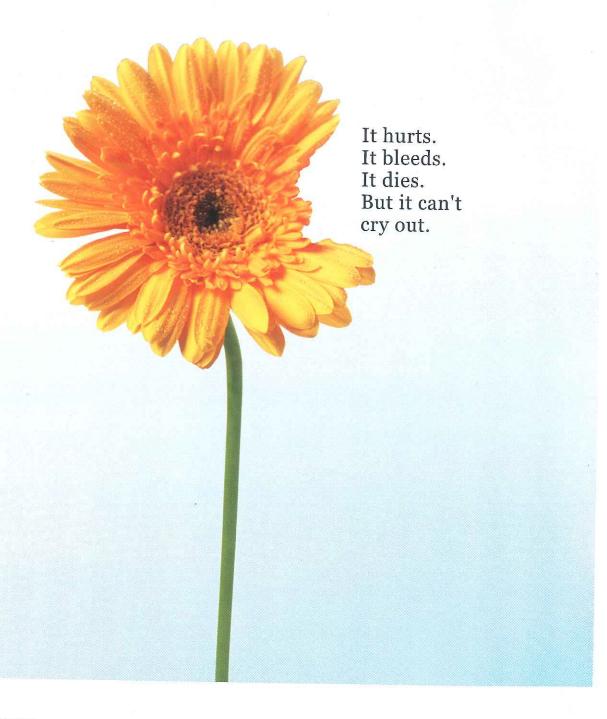
Mr. Thakker is the Chairman of AON Global Insurance Services

Private Limited, a joint venture between Global Insurance Services (Brokers) Private Limited and Aon Holdings b.v., which is a part of the Fortune 500 companies. He has the unique distinction of associating with many of the largest reinsurance placements the Indian market has seen so far. He is extensively involved in major risk areas such as aviation and energy and the mega risk areas in the international market. Some of his key clients are Jet Airways. Air India, ONGC, Reliance Industries Ltd., Indian Oil, NTPC, etc.

Shri Thakker has traveled across major insurance markets in the world and is well known within the insurance circle in India and He holds an Associate Degree from the Insurance Institute of India. He is also associated with various fora including the Bombay Chamber of Commerce and the Confederation of Indian Industry. Currently, he is Chairman of the Insurance Committee of the Indian Merchants' Chamber in Mumbai.

Shri Thakker is well known for his entrepreneurial and leadership skills. He is a keen cricket lover and is extremely fond of reading.

He is the Director of a number of international and national insurance and investment services companies.



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MAYORAL DELEGATION FROM BOLINGBROOK VISITS MUMBAI

Mr. Roger Claar, Mayor of Bolingbrook from the Chicago area in the U.S., and a delegation of 10 Americans visited Mumbai, February 22-25, to gain first-hand impressions of the city and of India and to explore opportunities for exchanges of people between the two countries. Priyadarshni Academy coordinated their visit.

The group began its orientation to the city by meeting a group of educational administrators and educators from a variety of disciplines including management, journalism, the sciences, the liberal arts, etc. Mr. Niranjan Hiranandani, President, Hyderabad (Sind) National Collegiate (HSNC) Board, chaired the meeting and addressed the group on Indian education and welcomed exchanges between Indian scholars and students and their American counterparts. A documentary film on the HSNC Board gave the group some insights into the Indian academic structure. Mayor Claar spoke about possibilities of cooperation in the field of education. Mr. Rupani, Chairman, Priyadarshni Academy, and Ms. Manju Nichani, Principal, K. C. College also addressed the gathering and participated actively in the meeting. There was active discussion among the group and both sides agreed to explore educational exchanges.

The same evening, the group met with businessmen at a meeting and cocktail reception hosted by the Indian Merchants' Chamber (IMC). Shri Nayan Patel, President of IMC, welcomed the gathering. Mayor Claar and Ms. Judy Topinka, former Illinois State Treasurer, spoke on "Emerging Business Co-Operation Between India and USA with Special Reference to Strategy for Urban Development and City-tocity Cooperation". They detailed the growing relations between the two countries which paved the way for further leaps in business cooperation. Mayor Claar expressed the view that public-private partnership is essential for the development of a city. Mr. Nayan Patel presented mementos to all the delegates and Mr. Nanik Rupani, Past President of IMC and Chairman, Priyadarshni Academy, presented mementos to Mr. Riger Claar and Mr. Prem Lalvani on behalf of the Academy.

The following day, the group had an excellent tour of the Hiranandani Hospital and the facilities of the Hiranandani Gardens including a 4000-square feet residential space and were guests at a lunch hosted by Mr. Surendra Hiranandani where they exchanged views on a number of issues. In the afternoon, the group visited the InOrbit Mall in Malad, had a look-in at its Call Centre facilities and were guests at a High Tea hosted by Mr. Chandru Raheja at the J. W. Marriott where



Mr. Nanik Rupani, Chairman, Priyadarshni Academy, is seen presenting the Introductory remarks at an Interactive Meeting held at IMC with the 11-member delegation from Bolingbrook. L-R are: Mr. Roger C. Claar, Mayor of Bolingbrook, Mr. Nayan Patel, President, IMC, Ms. Judy Baar Topinka, former Illinois State Treasurer, Mr. Prem Lalvani, Member, Police and Fire Commission, Bolingbrook, Ms. Nadja Lalvani, member of the delegation.

too they exchanged pleasantries and a number of viewpoints. A visit to the Elephanta Caves, shopping for jewelry and other objects, a chance brush with a Bollywood film star and flavouring Indian food rounded up their cultural orientation to the city. A dinner hosted by Chairman Nanik Rupani at the Breach Candy Club was a highlight. The group seemed impressed with much of what they saw and left India with hopes of coming back.



Mayor Claar is seen expressing his views about educational exchanges at the interactive meeting between HSNC Board Members and the 11-member delegation from Bolingbrook. The meeting was held at K. C. College. Seen from Left are: Mr. Niranjan Hiranandani, President, HSNC Board, Ms. Manju Nichani, Principal, K. C. College and Mr. Nanik Rupani.

BHAJAN SANDHYA



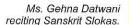
Mr. Michael Owen, US Consul General in Mumbai, lighting the tradional lamp. Also seen are: Ms. Manju Nichani, Principal, K.C. College and Mr. Nanik Rupani, Chairman, Priyadarshni Academy.

The 'Bhajan Sandhya' organised on February 2 was a great spiritual treat and a resounding success. The Rama Watumull Auditorium at the K. C. College was filled to the brim and every one present appreciated the brilliant selection of devotional songs by Smt. Tabassum of 'Phool Khilen Hain Gulshan Gulshan' fame who conducted the highly entertaining programme. The young group of musicians, under the tutelage of Smt. Tabassum, enthralled the audience. The programme was organized in joint

collaboration with K. C. College and sponsored by Shri Gulab Jeswani, businessman, and his wife, Smt. Harsha Jeswani.

The programme was part of Priyadarshni Academy's project on National Integration Through Dance and Music, aimed at preserving Indian culture and the performing arts among the youth. The programme is organised annually to promote Indian classical dance and music and to create greater awareness and deeper interest in India's rich cultural heritage.

The programme began with the traditional Lighting of the Lamp ceremony and was followed by a short recital of Sanskrit slokas by child artist, Ms. Gehna Datwani.



Mr. Rupani, Chairman of Priyadarshni Academy, presented a welcome address. Mr. Michael Owen, U. S. Consul General was the Chief Guest and Shri Jignesh Shah, Founder CEO, Financial Technologies Group, the Guest of Honour. Mr. Owen addressed the audience briefly on Indo-U.S. Relations. He said that the relations between the two countries had never been better and that they could only further surge forward. In keeping with the occasion, he also touched on the expanding cultural relations between the



Mr. Michael Owen is seen addressing the audience at the 'Bhajan Sandhya Program by Tabassum & Party'. Also seen are: Mr. Nanik Rupani, Mr. Khushroo Lakkdawalla, Managing Director, Inter-Graph Technologies, Ms. Madhavi Vora, Mr Gulab Jeswani & Mrs. Harsha Jeswani, Sponsors of the event, Ms. Manju Nichani, Mr. Jignesh Shah, Founder CEO, Financial Technologies Group and Mr. Murli Adnani,

BHAJAN SANDHYA



Artistes of Tabassum's group seen performing a soul-stirring bhajan.

two countries by citing specific examples. He added that more and more visas were being issued by the U.S. Consulate.

Mr. Jignesh Shah spoke about India, the largest democracy, further strengthening its relations with the U.S., the oldest democracy. He focused on the pride of place that India is taking on the global stage. He expressed an avid interest in the publications project of Priyadarshni Academy which would spread awareness about ancient Indian literature. Ms. Manju Nichani, Principal, K.C. College, also addressed the audience.

Mementoes were presented to Mr. Owen and to Shri Khushroo Lakdawala, Managing Director, Inter-Graph Technologies. The latter has been responsible for creating Priyadarshni Academy's new website in a timely and attractive manner.

Sponsor Educational Scholarships of Rs. 10,000 each to needy students who wish to pursue higher studies.

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A section of distinguished guests enjoying the Bhajan SandhyaProgramme.



Mr. Khushroo N. Lakkdawalla receiving an Appreciation Memento from Mr. Michael Owen for his invaluable support to Priyadarshni Academy.

Ms. Madhavi Vora, Chairperson of Priyadarshni Academy's Cultural Committee, proposed a Vote of Thanks.

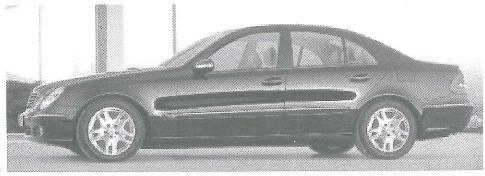
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APPRECIATION CERTIFICATES TO GLOBAL AWARDS EVENT VOLUNTEERS

The wonderful success of Priyadarshni Academy's 22nd Anniversary Global Awards event, held on September 19, 2006, was because of the contributions of scores of people who worked day and night to make it so. Part of this group were 25 carefully selected students from the H. R. College of Commerce doing their BMS who left no stone unturned to help make the experience of the global award winners in India a memorable one. The volunteers were there at airports in the wee hours of the morning, and around the awardees right till they boarded their flights back to their respective countries and cities, to take care of all their professional needs and to show them around and give them vivid 'impressions' of Mumbai and its professionalism. The awardees were all praise for the efforts of the students and in fact stated in no uncertain terms that their contributions to the success of their visit were indeed significant. Mr. Nayan Patel, President of IMC, spearheaded the campaign to recruit the students and gave the students a thorough orientation to their roles and responsibilities.

Priyadarshni Academy presented them Appreciation Certificates at a function at H. R. College on January 16 to recognize the significant contributions they made to making the awards event a grand success.

Dr. Indu Shahani, Principal, H. R. College, lauded Priyadarshni Academy's efforts in providing an opportunity to the students for playing a role and added that the students received an exposure to interacting with the celebrities. Shri



Mr. Nayan Patel, President, Indian Merchants' Chamber and Vice-Chairman, Priyadarshni Academy addressing the student volunteers from H.R. College

Rupani, Chairman of the Academy, stated that a few students have already been invited by Lrod Navnit Dholakia, an awardee, to visit the House of Lords. Mr. Noel Hon, Chairman of the Singapore Kindness Movement, has invited a student to visit his country. Mr. Nayan Patel stated that the students of H. R. College did a marvelous job during the Global Awards Function and invited some of them to assist IMC to help in its ongoing programmes during the visits of dignitaries.

Two of the student volunteers spoke about the experience they gained while interacting with the visiting dignitaries. Shri V. N. Gopalakrishnan, Senior Executive Officer of the Academy, proposed a Vote of Thanks.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Date with Priyadarshni Academy's 23rd Annual Literary Awards and Scholarships Programme

March 22 will witness Priyadarshni Academy celebrating its 23nd Annual Literary Awards and Scholarships programme at the Indian Merchants' Chamber's Walchand Hirachand Hall at 5:00 PM. There will be literary awards given for outstanding work in the Hindi, Marathi and Sindhi languages and over 90 students will receive scholarships and financial assistance as part of the Academy's contribution to their educational growth. Disciplines in which scholarships will be given include all streams of engineering, architecture, medicine, education, and computer applications. A number of new scholarships in memory of late Shri Ramakrishna Bajaj, late Shri Harish Mahindra, late Smt. Geeta Israni, and

Smt. Indira Kotak will be instituted this year. There will also be additional scholarships.

Shri Dilip Walse Patil, Minister for Energy, Technical and Medical Education, Government of Maharashtra, has accepted to be the Chief Guest, Shri Nihchal Israni, Chairman & MD, Blue Cross Laboratories Limited, the Guest of Honour. Shri Jignesh Shah, Founder CEO, Financial Technologies Group will be the Special Guest.

The Awards consist of Cash prize of Rs. 25,000/- each and Trophies. The three recipients of the Awards for the year 2007 are as follows:

PRIYADARSHNI ACADEMY LITERARY AWARDS 2007



Mr. Madhusudan Anand

Shri Krisharam Lekhraj Rupani Memorial Hindi Literary Award will be conferred on Shri Madhusudan Anand for his collection of short stories titled 'Bachpan'. Shri Anand is a Senior Journalist and Currently the Editor of the Delhi edition of Navbharat Times. His stories depict the turmoil of life and exude

the rays of hope. His other collection of short stories is titled Bharat: Ek Antaheen Yatra.



Prof. Chandrakumar

Priyadarshni Academy's Marathi Literary Award will be conferred on Prof. Chandrakumar Nalage for his autobiography titled 'Ratawa'. Prof. Nalage is currently the Head of the Department of Marathi of Shri Shahaji Chhatrapati Mahavidyalaya, Kolhapur. He is a recognised Ph.D guide of Shivaji University

as well as Referee for doctoral theses of Nagpur and Marathwada Universities. He has also published many research books including History of Gramin Sahitya, Marathi Sahityache Udayarang and Dalit Atmakathan. Many of his books have been translated into Japanese, Hindi and English languages. He is also the Editor of Dakkshin Maharashtra Sahitya Patrika and Co-Editor of Maharashtra Sahitya Patrika.



Mr. Vasudev 'Nirmal'

Prof. Ram Panjwani Memorial Sindhi Literary Award will be conferred on Shri Vasudev 'Nirmal' for his overall contribution to Sindhi literature. Shri Nirmal, an Engineer by profession is regarded as one of the popular Sindhi poets and playwrights. He has published several collections of poems, ghazals,

lyrics, stage plays, monologues, adaptations and translations. He is also the author of Self Sindhi Teacher. Priyadarshni Academy will honour Mrs. Grace Pinto, Managing Director, Ryan International Institutions, for her outstanding contribution in the field of education and Mrs. Deena A. Mehta, Managing Director, Asit C. Mehta Investment Intermediates Ltd.,. for her outstanding contribution to the broking industry in India.

Privadarshni Academy also will organize the launch of the novel titled, 'The Cave of Freedom' by V. Radhakrishnan, a Bangalore-based architect and author to coincide with the Literary Awards Function. The novel published by Konark Publishers Pvt. Ltd, Delhi, is "dense in its social details and subtle in its metaphysically meditative narration... The

experience depicted in the novel is moving and the modem reader is challenged to introspect and explore his/her life...."

The Cave of Freedom

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The Cave of Freedom is dense in its social details, and subtle in its metaphysically meditative narration... The experience depicted is moving and the modern reader is challenged to introspect and explore his / her own life....

- U. R. Ananthamurthy

"This book would give us a direction in the wilderness of life... and a meaning to our lives...."

> - N. S. Ramaswamy, former Director, IIM, Bangalore

"This is a chronicle of that spiritual odyssey, which is like no other one. You have to read it."

> - Francois Gautier, author and editor-in-chief, La Revue de l'Inde

Priyadarshni Academy Managing Committee

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Co-Chairman Murli Adnani

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QUOTES FROM _ 'CHANAKYA'S ARTHASHASTRA'.

- " Before you start some work, always ask yourself three questions - Why am I doing it, What the results might be and Will I be successful?.
 - Only when you think deeply and find satisfactory answers to these questions, go ahead."
- "As soon as fear approaches near, attack and destroy it."
- "The world's biggest power is the youth and beauty of a
- "Once you start a working on something, don't be afraid of failure and don't abandon it. People who work sincerely are the happiest."
- "The fragrance of flowers spreads only in the direction of the wind. But the goodness of a person spreads in all direction."
- "Whores don't live in the company of poor men. never support a weak company and birds don't build nests on a tree that doesn't bear fruits."
- "God is not present in idols. Your feelings are your God. The soul is your temple."
- "A man is great by deeds, not by birth."
- "Never make friends with people who are above or below you in status. Such friendships will never give you any
- "Treat your kid like a darling for the first five years. For the next five years, scold them. By the time they turn sixteen, treat them like a friend. Your grown up children are your best friends."
- "Books are as useful to a stupid person as a mirror is useful to a blind person."
- "Education is the best friend. An educated person is respected everywhere. Education beats the beauty and the youth."
- "Even if a snake is not poisonous, it should pretend to be venomous.'
- "There is some self-interest behind every friendship. There is no friendship without self-interests. This is a bitter truth."

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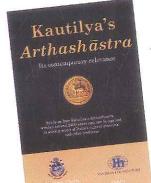
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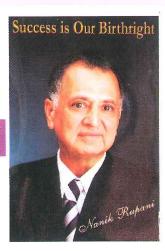
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THE JAPANESE PLAY THE INDIA STORY



All the world is looking at India these days. And, that is not only in business. A group from Japan presented a play called 'Hiroshima Ki Kahani' in Hindi at the I²IT campus in Pune on March 4. Priyadarshni which had organized plays by this group in the past was this time the facilitator. It brought the group and the famed institution in Pune together so that Puneites could get a glimpse of what the Japanese can do with the Indian language. From all accounts, the play was received extremely well. The play was directed by Prof. Tomio Mizokami of Osaka University, Japan. He has been a long-term researcher of the Hindi language.

Names of Priyadarshni Academy Scholarships

Abdulali Y. Chinwala Scholarship Bhagwandas Peraj Memorial Scholarship Devi Lekhraj Rupani Memorial Scholarship Enkay scholarship for B.Ed. Student Fr. Aurelius Maschio Scholarship for B.Ed. Students Harilela Scholarships for Engineering Harish Mahindra Memorial Scholarships K. Jalan Foundation Scholarship for Medical Studies K. T. Shahani Memorial Scholarship for Engg. Kala Gopaldas Mahbubani Memorial Scholarships Kishinchand Motoomal Jeswani Scholarship for B.Ed Koshi & Dialdas Charitable Trust Scholatship Murij Manghnani Foundation Scholarships Nari Pohani Scholarships Neutron Scholarships for Engineering Radha Kisharam Rupani Memorial Scholarship Ram Tarneja Scholarship for needy persons Ramkrishna Bajaj Memorial Scholarships Smt. Geeta Israni Memorial Scholarships Smt. Indira Kotak Scholarships

DISTRIBUTION OF COMPUTER BOOKS

Priyadarshni Academy took on the mantle of distributing over 250 advanced and basic books on computer education to a number of institutions in Maharashtra. The institutions comprised I²IT, Thadomal Shahani Engineering College, and Finolex Academy of Management and Technology whose deserving and needy students will have access to the books in their respective college libraries. The generous donor of the books was Shreyas Business Solutions to whom the institutions are grateful. The Academy is happy to have played a part in providing the donor-institution linkage and in the educational process.

LETTER FROM

DR. HIRANANDANI E. N. T. HOSPITAL

DR. L. H. HIRANANDANI

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January 2, 2007

Mr. Nanik Rupani Priyadarshni Academy Arcadia, Nariman Point, MUMBAI - 400 021.

My Dear Mr. Rupani,

I received magazine Rainbow. Every time I see a new activity. I don't know how you get time to carry on with your activities. Priyadarshni has become a very important world organization.

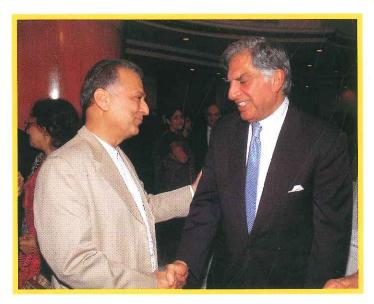
Yours sincerely.

(Dr. L. H. Hiranandani)





Mr. Nanik Rupani, Co-Chairman, FICCI, Western Region & Chairman, Priyadarshni Academy addressing the Interactive meeting on Union Budget 2007-08 and Economic Outlook held in Mumbai on March 01,2007 at the BSE Auditorium. Seen from left are: Mr. S. S. Bhandare, Mr. Nandkishor Kagliwal, Mr. C. B. Bhave, Mr. Kumar Ketkar and Mr. Dadi Engineer.



Mr. Nanik Rupani, Chairman, Priyadarshni Academy is seen with Mr. Ratan Tata, Chairman, Tata Sons Ltd. on the occasion of "Qimpro Foundation Awards" on February 1, 2007.

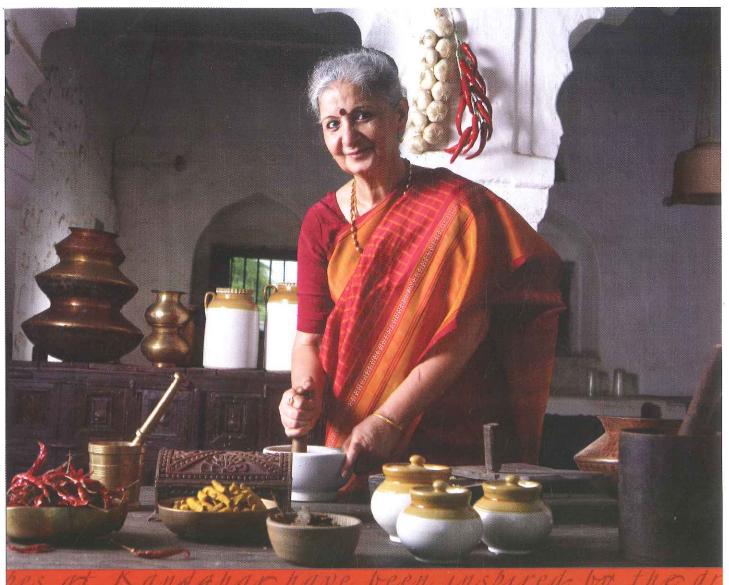


Mr. Nanik Rupani, Chairman, Priyadarshni Academy is being received by Sadguru Sri Sri Mangeshda at the Krishna Leela music programme organized in aid of the Indian Cancer Society on February 23, 2007.



H. E. Ms. Mariann Fischer Boel, European Union Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development addressing the Interactive Business Meet organized by FICCI-WRC on March 09, at Hotel Hilton Towers. (L-R): Ms. Leena Mehendale, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Govt. of India, Mr. Nanik Rupani, Co-Chairman, FICCI-WRC, Mr. N. B. Patil, Principal Secretary - Agriculture & Horticulture, Govt. of Maharashtra.

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