



Priti Paul, Tarun Tahiliani, Rohit Bal, Priya Paul and Manish Arora



Shirin Paul with Karan Paul

A party with no end



Veena and Ashok Advani

This was one do that will be talked about for a few days by those who attended it, for sure! The party lasted for two days, and the who's who from across the country were invited to raise a toast to Apeejay Surrendra Group's centenary by the Paul family as they celebrated this milestone at The Park, Hyderabad. From Tasha drummers and Lambada dancers to fire eaters from Brazil and classical musicians from India, there was everything and then more to keep the guests entertained. Also, singer **Grace Jones**, **Bickram Ghosh**,

Californian drummer **Greg Ellis**, funnyman

amazing delicacies added warmth to the evening. There was cuisine from Bengal, Andhra Pradesh and a chocolate bar with a sinful spread from Flurys, Kolkata, for those with a sweet tooth.

Sufi singer **Parvati Kumari** gave the evening a soulful touch, and then, the evening moved on to a modern note, with a disco.

There was a fashion show too,



Ravi Krishnan with Maira



Pinky and Sanjay Reddy



Grace Jones performs

Papa CJ and **Warsi Brothers** gave live performances.

The first day of the three-day celebrations saw Brazilian acrobatic dancers do a jig. At dusk, the lights of the hotels turned red — in sync with the corporate colour of the group. **Shirin Paul**, chairperson emeritus, spoke about the vision of the group founder **Jit Paul**, and how **Karan Paul**, the group chairman, has taken it forward. "A 100 years in business is indeed no small feat and our group has achieved this distinction through great resilience, hard work and vision," she said. Added Karan, "Only the sturdiest foundations and the greatest values pass the trials and tribulations of time. Our forefathers have tied us together with a common sense of purpose and values."

On the next day, the guests were taken on a curated tour of the city — Hyderabad. Tours led by author **William Dalrymple** and **Narendra Luther** were the most popular ones. A food safari offering a variety of



Devika and Suresh Bhojwani



Arvind and Tanya Dubash

with designers **Tarun Tahiliani**, **Manish Arora** and **Rohit Bal** showcasing their talked-about designs, and then singer-actor **Grace Jones** sang her famous numbers like *Strange*. And even after all this, the party went on till the wee hours, with five DJs churning out great music.



Haseena Jethmalani



Ayesha and Nitasha Thapar with Ramona



HOT STUFF! Fire acrobats from Brazil kept everyone enthralled

The third day was a Sunday and it began with a lazy brunch and meditative music recitals by **Yodakka**. It relaxed the pace of the previous two days, and left everyone feeling a bit nostalgic. One of the guests was heard asking another, "Why does the weekend have to end?" But so that everyone took back something with them, the 500-odd guests were given gifts and hampers including Single Estate Tea packs from their Apeejay Tea plantations packed in **Cha Bar Caddies**, there was **Heath and Heather** tea packs from **Typhoo**, UK, **Dark Chocolates** from **Flurys**, among other things.



Fashion skywalk