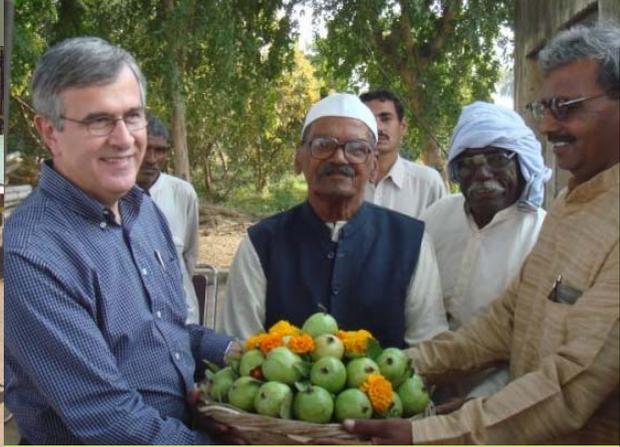


Photographs by ABRAHAM LOTHIA



Calcutta Consul-General Henry Jardine visited the Heritage Village in Kisama, Nagaland, during the Hornbill Festival in December, where he enjoyed breathtaking Zeliangrong dancing, tapped out a beat on a Yimchunger log drum and tasted some Sema meat and Rengma rice beer. He said Naga culture is a unique advantage for the state's tourism industry, which has a bright future if peace takes hold, infrastructure is developed and restrictions on travel by outsiders are removed.



RAJA BHATTACHARYA

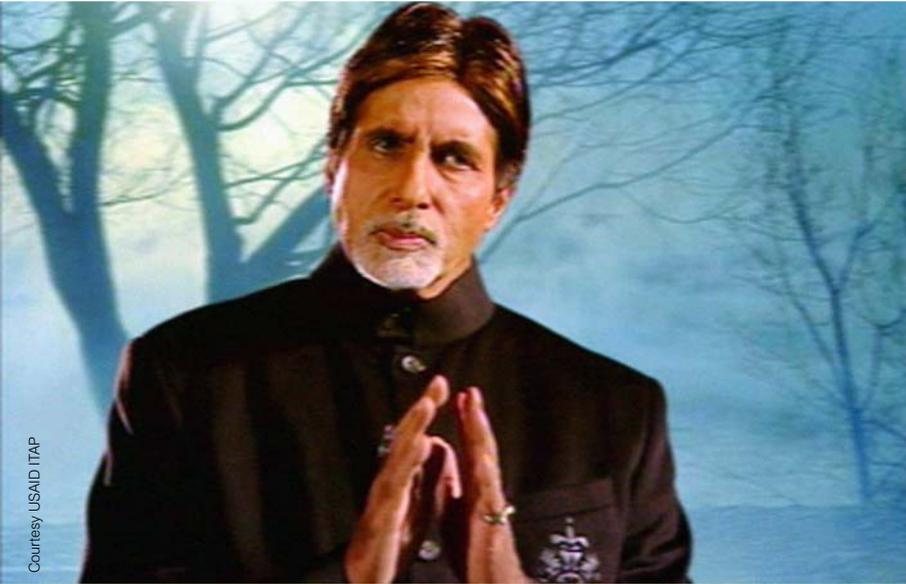
Secretary of Agriculture Mike Johanns discussed cooperation in the farm and food processing sectors during a meeting with Prime Minister Manmohan Singh in November and also interacted with farmers in Hyderabad.



Courtesy USAID Clean Technology Initiative

India's first natural gas cupola furnace was commissioned in Agra in November with support from USAID after three years of working closely with the foundry industry that makes glass and bangles. Replacing existing furnaces with this clean technology will eliminate particulate emissions and protect the Taj Mahal. The technology also improves the quality of iron, so it's good for business, too.

# NEWS SCAP



Courtesy USAID ITAP

The Uttar Pradesh government has told all movie halls in the state to show ads four times a day in which Amitabh Bachchan delivers important messages on HIV-AIDS prevention and polio vaccination. Over the next year, 86 million people are expected to see them. Bachchan has taken no fee and the initial investment by USAID has been matched 15 times over by public and private donations.

Desh Pal Verma, professor of molecular biology at Ohio State University, in discussions with the principal, Dr. J.M. Delhekar (right), and faculty of Pravara Agricultural Science College in Loni, one of several institutions in Maharashtra that he visited in mid-December to discuss how biotechnology can produce higher crop yields. He also shared methods for reducing waste and lowering costs on farms. Biotechnology can provide more rural employment and thus expand the farm economy, which is important for India's national prosperity, said Verma, shown interacting with professors (from right) Shivaji Sakhare and K.G. Patil.



MUTHUKRISHNAN JANARDHANAN