



An interior decorator, classical dancer, social activist and a perfect home maker, Shallu Jindal is a perfect multitasking woman. Believing that one has to make sacrifices and compromises to attain something worthwhile in life, here's the lady, sitting with poise, as she readies for a hearty tête-à-tête with SNEHA SINGH.

Perfect

Homemaker: SHALLU JINDAL

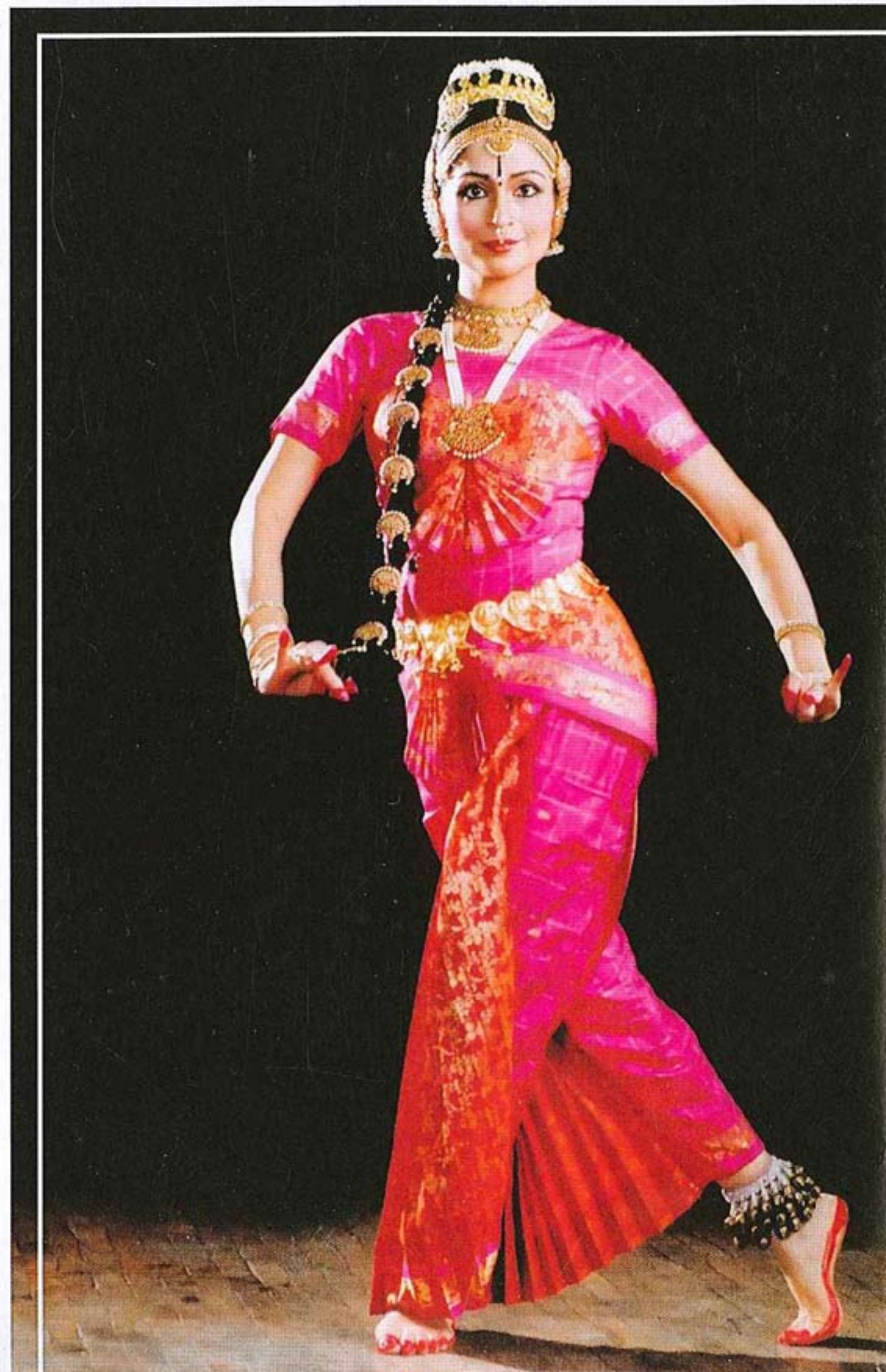
Having spared half an hour from her extra-packed schedule, it was indeed a kind gesture on her part to have sat for this candid interview. Clad casually in her yoga outfits, the lady borne a smile on her face throughout, as she shared with us bits about her life.

Stating her journey so far as long, tough and unrelenting, Shallu admits with all humility that whatever little she has achieved, she had to make huge sacrifices and invest in time, sometimes at the cost of her family life, her husband and children.

Talking about her multitasking talents and how she gripped all this together, Shallu believes that in today's competitive environment, one needs to know multitasking. In the sequential order, 'Interior Decoration' was the curriculum she pursued from her younger days of college and university. 'Classical Dance' has always inspired her. She says, "I believe, dance is my true being. I am really fortunate to be able to pursue this with complete support of my family". As far as 'Social Activity' is concerned, Shallu believes service onto mankind is service onto God! She quips, "In my own humble way if I can help anyone to a better tomorrow, I would gladly do so. I'm built with a very soft interior and my heart voluntarily associates with the problems of others."

#### DANCING ALL THE WAY

Shallu has been a great Kuchipudi dancer, though she still wishes that she could have started dancing at a much young age. Nevertheless, on being asked how she thought to get into Kuchipudi dance form, she explains, "Kuchipudi enjoys a unique place among



the Indian classical dance idioms. I am myself a very intense, expressive and emotional person and hence the bold, expressive, sensuous and deft movement of the eyes and the amalgam of combining speech with my movement and expressions drew me to this dance form. She further confesses, "Navin (my husband) has been a tremendous contributory factor to the success I have achieved in dance thus far."

Showing her full dedication and conviction towards the art form, Shallu shares with élan that she has been practicing regularly. "Dance has always been my passion. I started dancing when I was 33 and I feel really good that my daughter has started learning this dance form at such a young age (13). She is also learning from my gurus and she is one talented girl. I feel really proud that she is learning with so much of dedication and passion."

### THE BALANCING ACT

Passion for interior decoration, classical dancing and being actively involved in social activities, it's indeed surprising to know how the lady manages it all single-handedly and that too with perfection. Ask her how she balances her personal and professional life and pat

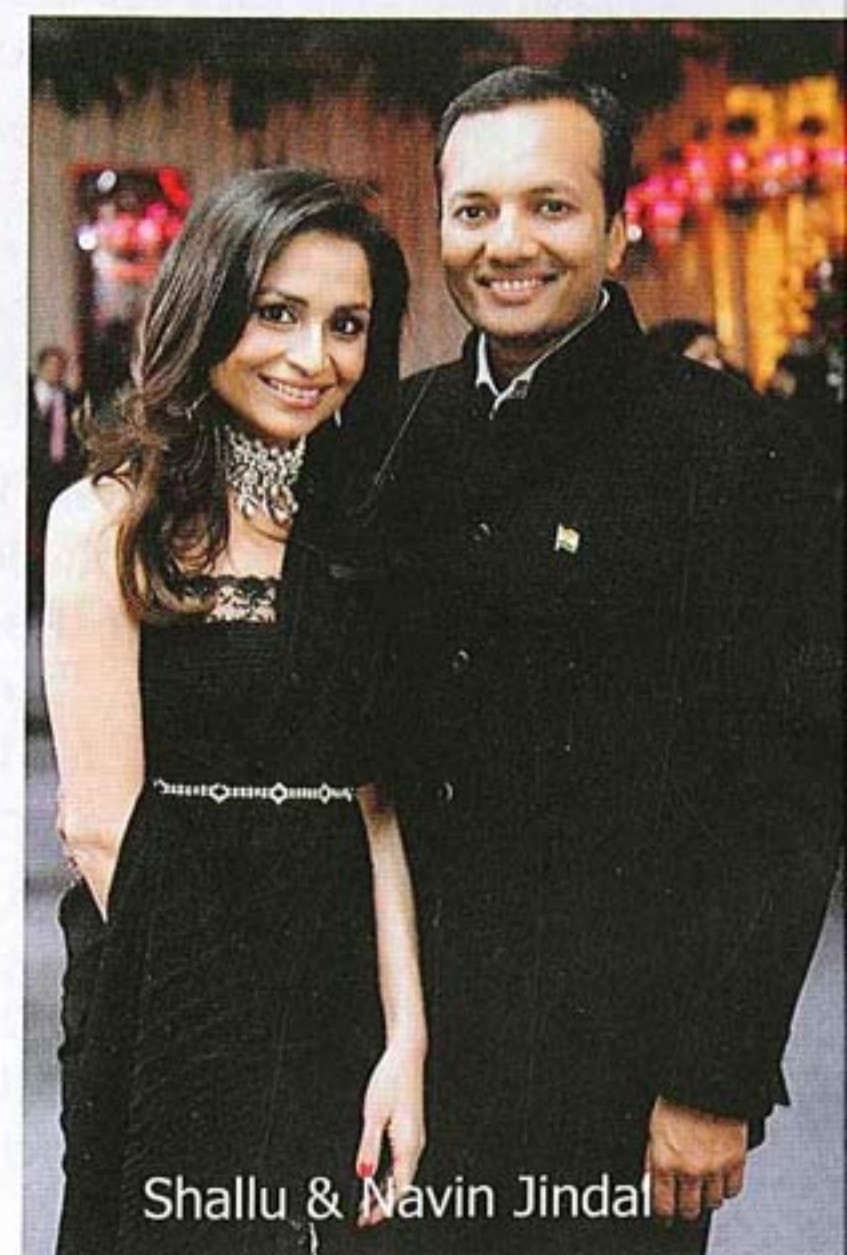
comes a reply, "For me, the upbringing, education, health and happiness of my children are the most important aspects and I can sacrifice everything for them. They both are my topmost priority. No matter how busy I am, but I always make sure that I am around them, like I don't leave home and always prefer to work from home, and I only leave home for my dance practices. My husband and I are very careful in imbibing in them, the discipline and values that would make them good human beings and loyal citizens."

Amid such busy schedules and professional commitments, it might be tough to spare some time for vacations and holidays. Agreeing to this, Shallu says, "I strongly feel that to get away as a family from the 'rough and tumble' of life is most important. Hence, we scrupulously plan to go on vacation with kids as often as circumstances and situations allow. Besides integrating as a family, this is also an edifying and educative experience for the children, seeing new places meeting new people, etc. Like recently I accompanied my husband to all his business trip and I personally learned so much from him."

And when it comes to being a homemaker, Shallu is again a perfectionist, as she knows exactly how to manage time for household activities. "Planning in life, right from grassroots level to conduct one's private chores, responsibilities, social, professional and domestic accountability is something one must carefully regulate. I am a great planner and although I'm not rigid, yet I manage my household affairs rationally and successfully."

### HUBBY IS THE WORD

In this competitive world where females are striving hard to match levels with their male counterparts, Shallu retains her modesty and transcends this stereotype. On being asked if she was a man, then whom would she want to be like, the lady was quick to reply, "I would want to be what my husband is – a loyal son, kind and generous man, an indulgent father, a gracious brother and a patriotic citizen. He is a successful businessman who has taken his company to new heights of success. He is also a National level sportsman and holds the National level skeet shooting record. He is a much respected Member of the Indian Parliament, second time over, fulfilling the aspirations of millions of people from his constituency. If I were a man, why would I want to be anyone else?" ■



Shallu & Navin Jindal

