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While Tina became famous of her own accord, Usha has clearly earned the trust of Lakshmi Mittal, says Forbes magazine

Usha Mittal, Tina Ambani in the billionaire wives' club

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THEY are married to the wealthiest individuals in the world but a few of them have etched out their own identity, with two Indians — Usha Mittal and Tina Ambani making a cut in the latest 'Wives of Billionaires' list compiled by US business magazine Forbes.

Usha Mittal is the wife of world's fourth richest person and steel tycoon Lakshmi Mittal while Tina Ambani is married to sixth wealthiest person Anil Ambani, whose flagship firm Reliance Communications is currently in talks with South African telecom major MTN for a possi-

ble amalgamation. In an article on its website, Forbes said that "gaining membership to the billionaire wives' club is no easy feat... so what does it take to marry one?... For starters, looks are great — but brains are even better."

Taking about 53-year old Tina Ambani, the magazine said that "being famous of your own accord is often a plus." Prior to marrying Anil Ambani, Tina Munim was a famed Bollywood actress, it noted.

At the same time, Usha Mittal, wife of the world's fourth richest person and who has apparently worked in the steel business for 15 years, has clearly earned the trust of Lakshmi Mittal, Forbes said.

Hollywood celebrity director Steven



Tina Ambani with husband Anil

Spielberg's wife Kate Capshaw, Larry Ellison's spouse Melanie Craft, Susan Dell who is the wife of Michael Dell, media baron Rupert Murdoch's spouse Wendi Deng, Kenneth Griffin's wife Anne Dias Griffin, Lucy Southworth who is married to search engine giant Google co-founder Larry Page and Barry Diller's wife Diane Von Furstenburg are part of the list.

Interestingly, wives of only three people among the world's top 10 richest have made it into the list, which has a total ten such women. Apart from Usha Mittal and Tina Ambani, the other person is Melinda Gates, wife of Bill Gates, the world's third richest billionaire. In March, Forbes had ranked legendary investor Warren Buffet

as the richest person with a fortune of 62 billion dollars. He was followed by Mexican telecom tycoon Carlos Slim Helu with a net worth of 60 billion dollars.

Other members in the top ten league are retailer Ikea's Ingvar Kampard at the seventh spot (31 billion dollars), Russian billionaire Oleg Deripaska (28 billion dollars) at the ninth place and Germany's Karl Albrecht procuring the tenth position (27 billion dollars). While all the ten of them are married, Carlos Slim is widowed and has six children. Saying that getting a membership to the billionaire wives' club is no easy feat, Forbes said, "Today, there are just 110 eligible 10-figure bachelors, including divorced men, in the world."