This is a very versatile, lightly flavoured rice. As always, use a good quality Basmati rice, soak it for 20–30 minutes, then drain well. It is most important that the lid of the haandi fits well to ensure perfect rice.

chick pea and tomato rice

(Kabli Chana Aur Tamajar Chawal)

- 1 Heat the ghee with the oil in a haandi or saucepan until hot.
- 2 Add the onions, black cardamoms, cinnamon, cloves and peppercorns and stir-fry over a high heat for about 2 minutes, then add the ginger, garlic, salt and sliced tomatoes.
- 3 Stir in the drained chick peas and rice and lower the heat to medium. Add 1 tablespoon of the fresh coriander.
- 4 Pour in the water, cover tightly and cook for about 15–20 minutes or until all the water has been fully absorbed.
- **5** Remove the haandi from the heat and leave to stand for 3–5 minutes before serving the rice, garnished with the remaining fresh coriander.

ingredients

- 1 tablespoon vegetable ghee
- 2 tablespoons corn oil
- 2 onions, sliced
- 2 black cardamoms
- 1 cinnamon stick
- 2 whole cloves
- 4 black peppercorns
- 1 teaspoon ginger pulp
- 1 teaspoon garlic pulp
- 1½ teaspoons salt
- 2 tomatoes, sliced
- 1 x 425 g (14 oz) can chick peas, drained
- 400 g (13 oz) Basmati rice, washed and drained
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh coriander
- 750 ml (1½ pints) water