

CITY

# Hush-hush world of private detectives

By AJAY JHA  
The world of private detectives is not glamorous. Most of the time it does not involve chasing speeding

cars and relaxing in five-star luxury. Mr. R.C. Madan, chairman of Goliath Detectives Private Ltd., says it is full of hazards, non-

cooperation from the police and public ignorance. A detective must have a keen sense of observation, patience and extraordinary intelli-



Detectives using electronic gadgets to keep up with the fast pace of criminals.



The Captain in contact with his assistants on walkie talkie.

Pics: ANU PUSHKARNA

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gence. Mr. Madan started his agency in 1962. Since then such agencies have mushroomed, and there is now a National Federation of Security Associations of India. Fastidiousness and an ability to know exactly what one wants are apparently necessary qualities for the profession. Mr. Madan changed his profession 22 times before finally deciding to start a detective agency from a small room in Rajen-



Sleuths observing the movements of a suspect at a New Delhi hotel.

dra Nagar. Today there are 11 branches of the agency spread all over the country and a team of over 2000 security men and 500 detectives.

Initially he lost money as people would take information from him and won't pay. Things changed gradually, and his services are now paid for.

The majority of cases relate to matrimonial disputes, where spouses suspect the fidelity of each other. Pre-marital checking is also on the increase. Specially where marriages are settled through matri-

## Acute power shortage in Haryana

By A Staff Reporter

Haryana is in the grip of the worst ever power crisis causing grave concern to industrialists.

The Delhi-Haryana-Punjab regional board chairman of the All-India Manufacturers Organisation, Mr. Sundar T. Vachani, says in a statement that the 16-hour power cut imposed by the Haryana State Electricity Board has crippled industry which now gets power for only eight hours a day for six days in the week.

"This has seriously affected production," he says.

He fears that such a situation would lead to social and industrial unrest and may put the State's development plans in peril.

monial ads; it has become imperative for parents to get details of the boys. "We carry out investigations and stop cheating and fraud in marriages."

However, they insist on the minimum qualification of graduation. Once the selection is made, the candidates are trained for six months, usually without pay and appointed as apprentices to seniors to learn the trade. On successful completion of training they are absorbed as investigators and get handsome salaries and incentives.

Apart from investigating staff, there are friends who always come in handy. Thirdly, there are partners who are contacted by detective agencies as and when needed and are paid for specific jobs. Investigators burning into black-malers is a possibility. Singularly, an



The "Captain" in real life.

investigator passing on information to an opponent for a price is also possible.

How do detective agencies cope with such problems?

Simple. The whole file is never shown to a single investigator or detective. Each is given a specific job.

Mr. Madan is hopeful that the profession has overcome its teething troubles and is there to stay. Abroad, however, working conditions are better.

## From drinking to wife-burning

By A Staff Reporter

Forty-year-old Sohan Lal had been drinking for a long time until he could not live without liquor. There were daily fights with wife Ram Devi. Their five children witnessed the fight.

On June 30, 1985, Sohan Lal as usual was hell-bent on drinking, and Ram Devi was, as usual, bent on stopping him. There was a scuffle and he set her fire.

After a long trial, Sohan Lal was found guilty of murder and sen-

tenced to life imprisonment by a Delhi sessions court on December 15.

The couple's five children now live on an orphanage. The 12-year-old eldest son, who had to leave studies after class I, deposed against his father in the trial. He told the court his father used to beat his mother.

Ram Devi's father deposed in court that his son-in-law was such an alcoholic that he tried to force his wife to have illicit relations with outsiders.