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Sanjay Singh, founder-director, Indian Detective Agency, believes the increasing crime rate has, in turn, created a growing demand for detectives

Sanjay Singh



Expect the unexpected

The investigation industry has picked up in the last couple of years and is on a growth trajectory. Individuals, organisations and even corporates have started identifying the role and importance of this industry in their day-to-day business. Our mission is to make India a crime free nation and the government, too, has identified our role in the prosperity of the country.

Detectives around the world assist people who fall victim to white-collar crime and criminal intimidation. Also, as the effects of the recession surface, there has been an increase in crime which has led to an increasing number of people turning to detectives for help.

WORK PROFILE

A detective's job profile can vary on a day-to-day basis. On one day it may involve interviewing people and on the next, one may just be sitting in front of the computer gathering information. Detectives often get to go to places and meet people

that one wouldn't normally be exposed to. So, if you like experiencing new things, this may be the job for you.

Investigations can range from tracking extra-marital affairs and reporting details to the concerned wife or husband to securing details about a prospective bride/groom for their families and the like. In the corporate sector, detectives are hired for employment screening or even to find companies' competitors and their client lists. Just like corporate lawyers are attached to companies, sectors such as banking, IT, law and FMCGs employ their own investigative teams. Besides, detectives are also hired for murder and robbery cases.

SKILL-SET REQUIRED

Prospective detectives should be both intelligent and talkative, and at the same time display the ability to go unnoticed if need be. Maturity is imperative. Further, a detective should suspect anything and everything and should have an eye for

detail, as it helps collect facts effectively. He/she should also have the ability to logically connect different events. A detective aims at precision and expects the unexpected; a lot also depends on how one develops their instincts and reacts to it.

Apart from the right instincts, formal training is also important, as it equips one with the basic knowledge of the field and helps understand the nuances of the profession. Those interested should be graduates in possession of an investigator's degree from a recognised institute. However, one can always choose to learn on the job as well.

REMUNERATION

Salaries start from Rs 10,000 and go up once a person establishes himself. The clients range from individuals to corporates, so it all depends on one's calibre, the nature of work, the kind of client and the efficiency with which one delivers.

Those who aspire to join this field should be enthusiastic, hard working, shouldn't have inhibitions, be ready for any challenge and have a strong zeal to work on personal as well as corporate problems.

— As told to Sakshi Khattar



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