

Knot Guilty

Is marriage on your mind? Someone may be stalking you — perhaps, a detective your prospective in-laws have hired...



Illustration: Arya Praharaj

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It is raining moolah for the new age Sherlock Holmes, who are busy following the footsteps of the soon-to-be-married brigade. Blame it on the increase in the number of weddings (especially during November/December) or the decrease in trust, but the truth of the matter is that if you plan to get married, be prepared to undergo a thorough scanning!

All about trust

“Earlier, such arrangements were based on word-of-mouth basis, but with the changing scenario, trust has now assumed a changed definition — now it’s the accuracy that matters. We can’t ignore the fact that even though our society is undergoing a change, our notions about marriage are still the same. We still consider it a lifetime arrangement,” says psychiatrist Megha Hazuria.

And if you think that people

don’t take them seriously, detective agencies have a decent break-up list to flaunt.

“We don’t want break-ups to happen, but it will be unfair for us to hide the truth. So, instead of acting as judges we act merely as a bridge. Our job is not to analyse, so we don’t advise. Instead, we just transfer information,” says Major Inderjeet Singh of Sigma Security Services.

The bad news continues to be for the single-and-ready-to-mingle gang, particularly if you are a girl, as “too much of openness is a complete no, that’s the first thing we are asked to check,” says Sanjay Singh of Indian De-

tective Agency, adding, “However, we are approached from both the sides for this, still there is a shift in trend, wherein the enquiries for the girl’s character have seen a rise.”

Society mindset

Though Megha does not blame it on the fact that “women have to be at par with men,” she feels that, “it is something to do with the mindset of the society, which will eventually change.”

Anupama Sharma, 25, states: “Matrimonial-related enquiries have shifted from being a trend to a norm in the past two years. And why not when marriages are fixed even over an Internet chat? In the absence of a trustworthy medium, such investigations becomes essential.”

If you think you are convinced, it’s time for you to shell out some money. While a “normal surveillance will cost you Rs 10,000 – Rs 15,000, a detailed enquiry costs Rs 25,000,” says Sanjay. But, it differs with agencies.

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