

#ENTERPRISING

Elevating the F&B Industry

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Tusharika Singh
Freelance writer and city blogger

There are three friends who are really fond of eating and trying out different kinds of cuisines and restaurants. Doesn't sound like anything out of the box, right? Each of them translated their passion for food into opening different eateries. As luck would have it, all of their restaurants fail and this paved the way for a one-of-its-kind restaurant consultancy in Pink City. They pooled in their resources and learnings from their failures to open a consultancy for eateries so that other restaurateurs and café owners do not make the same mistakes as they did.

Meet Ronak Maheshwari, Ujjwal Gupta and Ayush Khadwalal – the enterprising Jaipur-based trio behind Food Craft Company. Till now they have worked on over 100 brands not just in Jaipur but also in cities like Udaipur, Pali, Surat, Kota and Delhi. From culinary curation and designing the ambience to marketing, branding as well as manpower hiring and training, their work revolves around the diverse aspects of running a restaurant. A master checklist created from their several successes and failures in the industry now helps new restaurant owners to elevate their game and put their best foot forward. In a one-on-one chat with Arbit, one of the co-founders, Ronak Maheshwari shares some insights of the F&B industry, some DOs and DON'Ts for restaurateurs as well as the challenges of running such a consultancy among other interesting inputs.

Interesting Projects
Shedding light on some of their most popular projects in the Pink City, Ronak says that their focus is on opening cuisine-specific and customer-centric spaces. Their consultancy has been instrumental in opening and running Napoli (a C-Scheme located eatery specialising in Neapolitan Pizzas), Akuri (a Tonk Road situated eatery that specializes in Parsi, Irani and Mumbai-inspired cuisines) and Silk Route (a MI Road situated vegetarian Pan-Asian restaurant). Each of these restaurants added something new to the culinary landscape of Jaipur. "Our latest project is Sub Rosa which is designed like an apartment and gives the feel and vibe of home and is ideal for house parties", shares Ronak.



Ayush, Ronak and Ujjwal.

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The CBI Works... Hard



Shantou Sen
Former CBI Joint Director

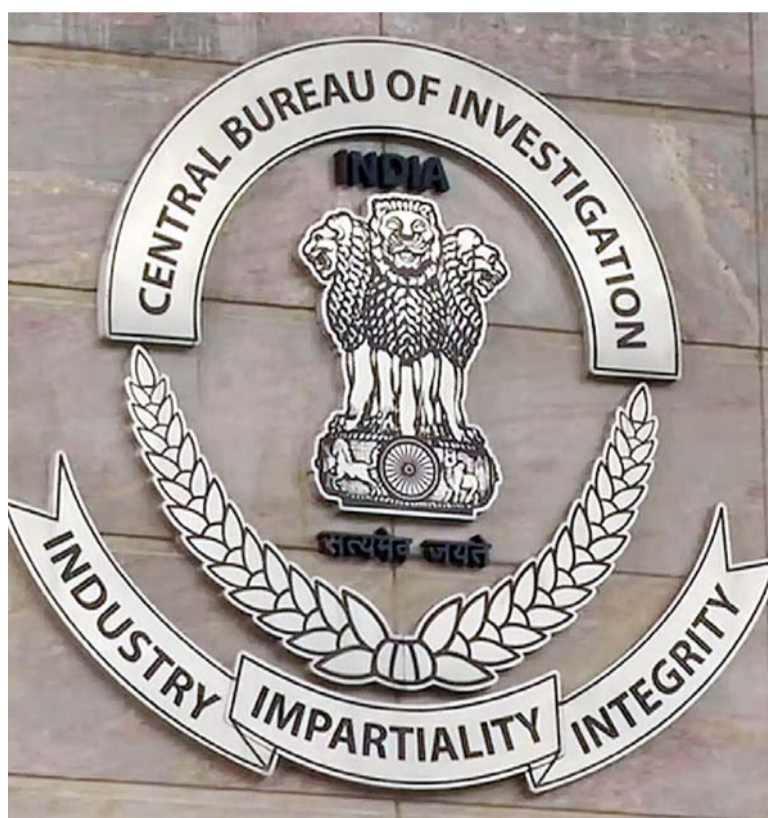
The misuse of central agencies has been occupying mind space in recent days. The former CJI N V Ramana said on CBI's foundation day in April 2022 (CBI was founded on 1st April 1963 and I joined it on August 1963, selected by Union Public Service Commission sometime in May 1963). "When it comes to the CBI, it possessed immense trust of the public in its initial phase – but with the passage of time-- CBI has also come under deep public scrutiny".

The last alleged major misuse of the CBI was on July 22, 2022. The Lt. Governor Delhi recommended a CBI probe into the liquor policy of the Delhi Government on that date. The CBI took action. It registered a First Information Report (FIR). The searches were carried out in 31 locations in seven states on August 20; after 28 days from the reference. That is how we know CBI is investigating.

How does the CBI deal with a complaint from a competent authority? The CBI units, wherever they may be located in the country, are presided over by a Superintendent of the CBI, and are not regular police stations. They entertain no complaints from the members of the public. The CBI is a subordinate central government department. When it receives a complaint from a competent authority, it follows its crime manual. First, it fully verifies the complaint. In other words, the veracity of the allegation is confirmed by:

- (a) Checking everything verifiable with reference to documents, exhibits and by seeking views, in absolute confidence, of people in the know;
- (b) Identifying all those who are primary persons of interest in the matters alleged in the complaint and then verified by CBI;
- (c) Fixing their present known

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#WORKINGS

secting a finding that is not yet given on any of the allegations. For instance, here the allegations made on the Lt. Governor's complaint are already a finding their way into news channels. That is really jumping the gun. When the CBI or the ED, the ACB or the SFIO are just starting any investigation, there is nothing to discuss on what could be the truth in the allegations.

Questions Of Interest

Does it mean that for media, any media, this case is off limits? No, certainly not. What it should discuss is what triggered the complaint. Here it could discuss what was the liquor policy that was scrapped? What is the present policy? The CV of the persons, their credentials and the records of all those named in the FIR could be discussed too. Who in the investigation agency are in charge and what is their record and such other questions of interest?

Another point must be made. It is a sad reflection of times that our opposition is not able to seek any action on any government misdemeanours. In the past, the opposition could do it. It started in the 50's and continued well beyond 2000. Dalmia Airways and the Vivian Bose Commission, Haridas Mundhra and the LIC scandal, ONGC Scam involving Serajuddin and Minister K D Malvea, ONGC East and its corruption with the Congress Treasurer O P Tantiya in the matter of excess payment for acquiring land from his Tea Garden for oil drilling, Harshad Mehta playing the Stock Market and the RBI and some bank's role in them, the Hawala diaries, the Urea Scam are some of the major instances.

That is how the Opposition got the party in power to investigate themselves and those enjoying illegal pecuniary gains because of

location and their other locations that may not be publicly known but have become relevant since they are persons of interest;

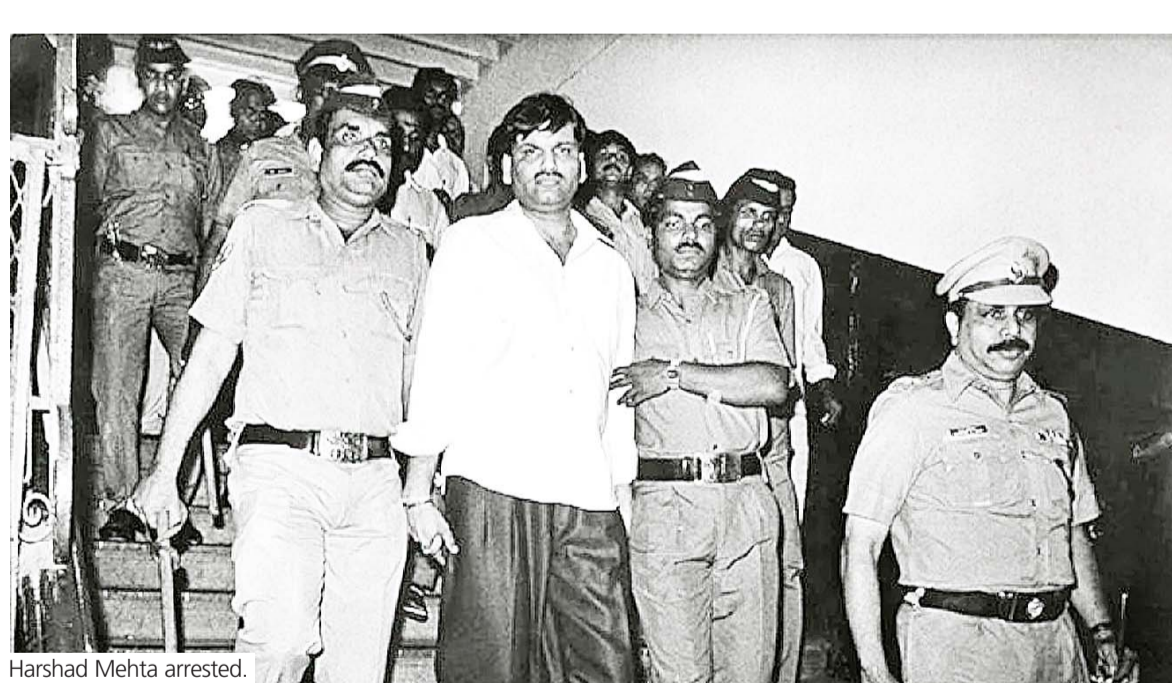
(d) Determining their involvement. In other words, are they witnesses; are they suspects; are they the accused who need to be put through custodial interrogation and/or whether any searches are necessary. Searches are normally not done on festive days. They are done after confirming that there is illegality and there is corruption in the deal and it is so, prima-facie, that if proved it will in conviction of, at least, some of those under investigation.

Criminal Procedure Code 1973

A search, whether done by CBI after exercising its own powers vested in the investigating officer under Criminal Procedure Code 1973 or done after obtaining a search warrant from the competent Magistrate, is a carefully-planned exercise. It requires a force comprising CBI men and women. Among them have to be a group of CBI detectives, who are drilled and coached to search for what is relevant. The presence of independent witnesses is mandatory. The presence of local police is also mandatory. They are required to be informed as the person searched may otherwise think that it is a robbery and inform the police who, not being privy to the raid, may arrest the CBI officers.

The search therefore, is an operation and needs time to organise with thoroughness. There is hardly ever any connection of any search with any newspaper report. In this case, what has been published in the New York Times a few days earlier on

their corruption. The last case, the Urea Scam merits special mention. Rs. 133 crores was paid in advance to a non-existent Turkish Company in 1994-1995 to import Urea and not a gram of urea arrived in the country! This is investigated by CBI 1996-1998. I have some hitherto hidden information about this case as I was appointed Consultant to the Ministry of Chemicals in May 1996 (I retired from CBI in 1996) to advise how to deal with this sort of siphoning. I am aware how important public servant, a Secretary to the Prime Minister and a Cabinet Secretary escaped prosecution. They were later indicted by the Parliamentary Committee on Chemicals which was chaired by Abdul Rehman Antulay, a veteran Congress Member of the Parliament and former Chief Minister of Maharashtra and later Health Minister in the Union Cabinet when I was introduced to him. Even that report was not placed in Parliament. I heard the story from A R Antulay himself. The former Prime Minister P V Narsimha Rao requested him not to. He, then on the plea, that elections were on the anvil (14 days Vajpayee Government was on its way out) did not place it in that Parliament. Later it was carried by the Statesman Delhi. The trial lasted 23 years and all accused including Turkish citizens, public servants and kith and kin of then Minister of Chemicals and then Prime Minister of India were convicted.



Harshad Mehta arrested.



World Vegetarian Day

Every year there are thousands of people making the move to a healthier, more socially responsible way of living. These people care about the lives of animals and want cruelty to come to an end, they want to live long healthy lives and avoid the perils of heart disease, and they want to have beautiful bodies sustained by living in tune with the Earth. Who are these people? They're vegetarians, and World Vegetarian Day celebrates their decision to eliminate meat and animal products from their diet and live a more conscientious life.



Former CJI RM Lodha.

Herald deals while still in the opposition. Jayalalita died but her collaborator V K Sasikala was convicted by Karnataka court on his complaint. In the National Herald matter his complaint is under consideration of ED and Courts.

Credibility

Today the opposition has corruption cases in the lid Vyapam in Madhya Pradesh, the land deals in Karnataka, cases of crony capitalism, bank scandals, allegations by Contractor Association of Karnataka in their hands. But has the Opposition been able to score even any brownie point anywhere so far?

The unpalatable truth is that the present opposition is not hardworking and is not as credible as the past. People do not come to them as whistle-blowers. People do not help them with information. They have been too many Party hoppers. The elected MLA / MP are, apparently, not trusted by potential deep throats and whistle-blowers. In the past they were credible. They sought out whistle blowers. One member of the opposition, who often exposed the government, was the late Gurudas Dasgupta. He approached me to give him information on Harshad Mehta and the RBI Governor in the infamous stock market scam

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I was then a newly appointed. Joint Director of CBI overseeing investigating public servants involved in the Stock Market Scam. I spoke to the Director, S. K. Dutta. He approved and I met the retinue of his co-workers. They were all in their own way "deep throats". They worked for him. They trusted him. I have known of some of those opposed to government cracking down on corruption in Government in the past. The likes of Pillo Mody, Feroze Gandhi and Jyotirmoy Basu all, like Gurudas, Members of Parliament, had their bevy of informers like Gurudas had. I saw for myself Jyotirmoy Basu's office and his carefully filed dossiers of information. His informers trusted him. Similarly others. Today, with nearly 300 of people's elected hopping into the lap of a party they opposed, who will trust them? Also, most of the political opposition today is dynastic and is limited in its spread and influence. It fears the BJP and supports it in Parliament. So, they get no inside information.

The CBI has also been cut to size. The government felt uncomfortable when CBI investigated decisions of public servants. These are cases where there is illegal pecuniary gain either by the public servant as a result of this decision or to another party or to both. These investigation have been stopped without orders of the competent authority after the Prevention of Corruption Act 1988 was amended in 2018.

CBI is also misused, it is increasingly alleged, when it is ordered to investigate those opposed to the ruling party. This actually, started long ago. In 1967, CBI was unleashed by Mrs Gandhi against the Birlas because its scion supported the C. Rajagopalachari-led Swatantra Party. Courts were active those days.

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act only on orders of the government. It will investigate whenever so ordered. But now it cannot investigate on its own any public servant for any decision he or she may have taken. That a law had to be passed to compel CBI to act only on orders of the government is a testimony to CBI's independent role in matters of investigation earlier to 2018.

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Investigations

The CBI, being a subordinate office of the government, has to start an investigation on government orders but its finding is not dictated. I hope it never will. There are checks and balances with in CBI to ensure this. In recent times, the CBI investigated Sushant Singh Rajput's unnatural death. CBI investigated on orders. Rhea Chakraborty was investigated but neither arraigned nor indicted, much to the chagrin of as those who got issued orders on CBI to investigate the suicide of Sushant Singh Rajput.

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The liquor policy of the Delhi Government.

#MUSIC-DAY

Where Words Fail, Music Speaks

Music occurs within nature and humans have been recreating it probably since the beginning of time, as singing or humming seems to be a natural part of human development.



Music is the light of life for many people. It inspires, encourages and brings people together. Studies even show that music is good for the health and the brain, providing positive physical, mental and emotional responses when people simply listen to music as well as when they play or sing it.

History of International Music Day

Music occurs within nature and humans have been recreating it probably since the beginning of time, as singing or humming seems to be a natural part of human development. Babies can even begin to sing as early as three months old! While music has its unique attributes based on the culture and area of the world it comes from, it is a human activity that is exclusive to the human race and part of every culture in the world. Music unites human beings!

With that in mind, in 1949, the International Music Council was created as an associate organization of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Its purpose was to express solidarity between human beings in the global music ecosystem.



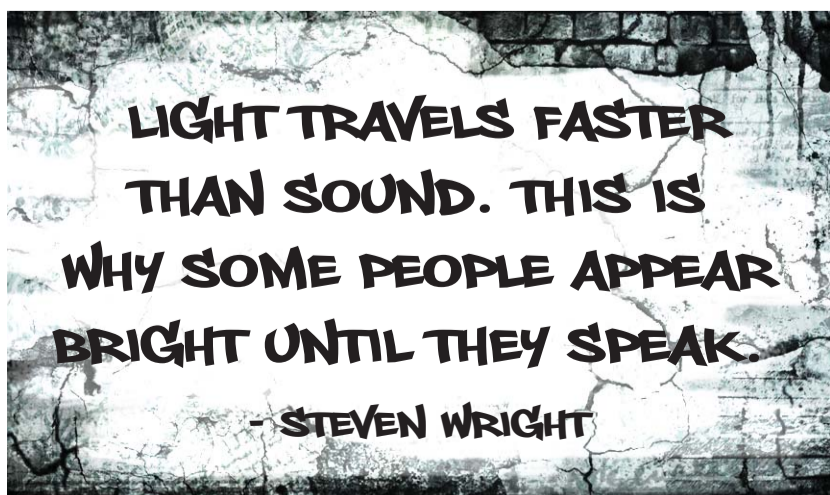
Connecting, encouraging and providing access for musicians around the world, this organization started International Music Day by the 15th General Assembly of the International Music Council, the first International Music Day was celebrated in 1975. The intention behind the day was to promote musical art among all sectors of society as well as applying the UNESCO ideas of peace and friendship among people. Many methods of teaching music have been embraced all over the world, some of these specific to certain cultures. In Europe, the Americas, Asia, Africa and other places, children are often taught different versions of music in schools including singing and the playing of instruments such as recorders or percussion like drums and bells.

Whether a professional musician or novice, whether an opera singer or someone who really can't carry a tune, International Music Day encourages people all over the globe to join in with five goals:

- To allow children and adults to express themselves freely through music.
- To give opportunities for children and adults to learn musical skills and languages.
- To provide access to musical involvement for all.
- To allow musical artists to develop and communicate through media and using proper facilities.
- For musical artists to obtain recognition and fair remuneration for their work.

By Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman

THE WALL



BABY BLUES



By Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

ZITS

