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# Goel murder suspects held

AJIT JAIN  
in Toronto

Sanjay Goel is glad that the Mumbai Police has arrested three persons October 1 in connection with the brutal murder of his mother, Dr Asha Goel, a medical doctor in Orangeville (Ontario).

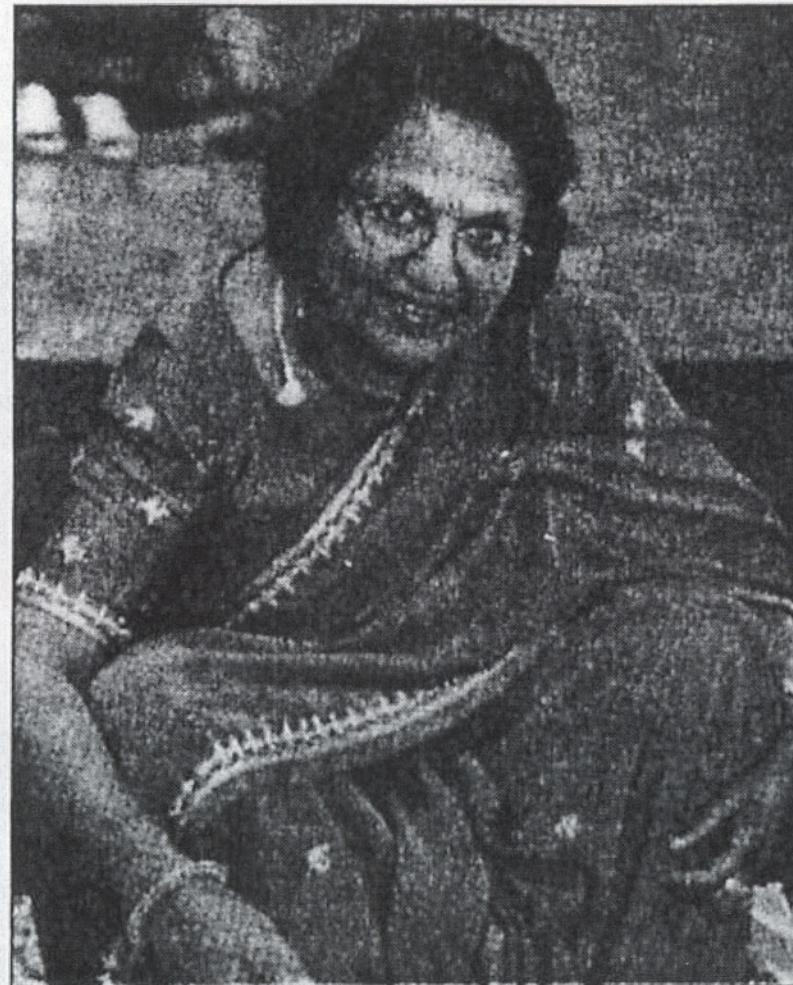
The 61 year old obstetrician and gynaecologist was found stabbed to death August 24, 2003, at her brother Suresh Agarwal's Mumbai apartment.

Those arrested reportedly are Manohar Mahadev Shinde, 50, Pavankumar Satyanarayan Goyanka, 43, and Narendra Ghanshyamdas Goel, 43.

Narendra is the son-in-law of Agarwal's son-in-law's. Shinde and Goyanka worked at the Little Lodge, an ancestral property that Asha owned over which, published reports say, there was some dispute in the family.

Sanjay, who owns a Vancouver-based company 'Cruise Connection' is currently in Venice, from where he told *India Abroad* that he applauds the "the Mumbai crime Branch under the leadership of Joint Commissioner Mira Borwankar. We congratulate her hard work, diligence. She's very fair and gave us a patient hearing."

Sanjay is likely to soon go to Mumbai from Venice



▶ Page 5 ■ Dr Asha Goel, who was murdered in Mumbai in 2003

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to meet the police to update himself with the latest developments.

However, he warned that the arrests are not the end of the road. "There's a long way to go before it (case) is completed," he said. "So, I am delighted that there have been these arrests but I am also cautious because there's a long way to go."

In fact, the family has already gone a long way, literally: Sanjay has traveled to Mumbai 13 times since the murder, his father, also a doctor in Orangeville has made six trips and his brother-in-law has made at least the same number of trips.

After several months of the murder, the family announced a reward of Rs 10 lakh (Cdn \$30,000) for information against the conspirators that would result in actual convictions. However, until a conviction is reached, the reward cannot be claimed.

However, he added that the arrests weren't attributable to the award. "I believe these arrests are the result of the fact we have been relentless," he told India Abroad. "We have pursued scientific methods and we have made 24-25 trips to India."

He also suggested that there might be "many other people who are involved in this conspiracy, planning and execution of the crime or in covering up the crime. All of those people need to be fully pursued to the extent of the law."

The Goel family has passed on all the information to the Police that they believe is relevant in this case. "Our disappointment has been that the Canadian Police, Canadian authorities at the government level, have not applied, in our opinion, sufficient pressure (on the Indian Police) to move this case at the speed it should have," Sanjay said.

"A lot of pressure that has come from the Canadians has been a direct result of our pressure on the Canadians. On their own there has been a very little action."

Sanjay said the Canadian Police merely said 'they are doing what they can' but "we don't believe that the level of activity was commensurate or suitable for the matter involved. In our opinion they did so much but not as much as they should have."

But more remains to be done, he said, on the part the Indian government which will "require the cooperation of the Canadian government, whether they be phone records or what have you to establish some of the elements of the crime."

Sources reveal Pradip Parab, manager at the Little Lodge, testified for several hours before a magistrate recently; he was first arrested in September 2003.