

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



BY

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PTV's irritant

Of late the PTV has started showing an advertisement, right in the middle of its "Khabarnama" at 9:00 p.m. This is a constant source of annoyance for the viewers.

Will the PTV authorities remove the irritant?

Dr.Pir M.V. Shallwani, Hyderabad

DR PIR MUHAMMAD V SHALLWANI
(1926-2001)

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PREFACE

For my brother and sisters, as for me, he was Peero Ba. My earliest recollections of him are from the late 1950's. He lived in a part of our house which is next to the Ismaili Jamat Khana on Britto Road in Karachi (it still stands!). Those were the days when he was studying for his medical degree at Dow Medical College. He, my father Amirali, and elder brother Samir would play Luddo and Carrom board games well past my bed time but I was sometimes allowed to watch. Sometimes they would get into arguments and accuse each other of cheating. It was a lot of fun.

Peero Ba was something of an iconoclast, especially after he returned from completing a medical degree from London. He did not fit into the mold of Hyderabad society very well, choosing to remain on the periphery. His house on Prince Aly Khan Street was where I stayed several times. I was put in a room full of books, mostly in English. In those days it was very rare for people to have books at home – but then he was quite a different person from most.

Although our relatives, who lived on the first floor of the building, were extremely punctual, I cannot remember his visiting the Jamat Khana opposite the street even once. It all needs to be changed, he would say. That he still managed not to offend religious sensibilities, and stay on some Ismaili boards, goes to his credit and that of the Ismaili community. Perhaps the most outstanding memory I have of him is the delight with which he read the comic strip called The Gambols. He would summon his wife Badr Aunty and read them out to her while she stood behind his chair. Then, when some cartoon strip struck him as very humorous or enlightening, he would laugh heartily and ask her to fetch a pair of scissors with which he would carefully cut out the strip for inclusion in his rather thick file. I do not think that any other reader of Dawn has more letters to his credit than Peero Ba. As he once said, he saw himself to be the Ralph Nader of Pakistan in working to set things right. There was scarcely a topic that he left untouched – traffic, illegal dwellings, road encroachment, noise, scarcity of onions, slowness of the legal system, etc. The publication of this compendium of his letters will serve to remind us of what the problems of those times were as well as how they are both similar and different today.

May Peero Ba and Badr Aunty rest in peace.

Pervez Hoodbhoy
Islamabad, 8 February 2018

A BIOGRAPHY

If you ask any avid reader of Dawn in the years of 1970s to 2000, the name of Dr. Pir Muhammad V Shallwani and his writings in the 'Letters to the Editor' automatically comes to your mind. He wrote prolifically in the reader's column of Dawn, The Muslim, The Nation, The Pakistan Times and numerous medical and social gazettes of that time. For him, airing his point of view through writing in the readers column was the way to reform the society and to confront the lethargy and inadequacies in all the walks of our lives and he did that with vengeance mincing no words and sparing no one, let it be the health officer of a local Government or the President of the country.

“High thinking but simple living” this was the motto of our father, Dr. Pir Muhammad V Shallwani, who was born in a small family of traders doing leather business in the thriving city of Hyderabad. He was one of the five brothers and the only one who made it to the medical college to study medicine. He was the first in the family of Shallwanis to become a doctor and did not choose to become a trader like his father. For him, education was the epitome of success and he did not let any family rituals or compulsions come in his way to achieve the high standards of education that he wanted to achieve in his life and wanted the same from his family. This was evident from the fact that he encouraged his matriculate wife to study upto graduation even after having four children. A very firm believer of God but still very secular in his beliefs, His life style which we saw speaks volumes of his constant struggle to achieve excellence and pursuit of knowledge through avid erudition of books and newspapers and then pinning his thoughts in writing. He valued time the most in his life and it was time which dominated his routine and managed his life. He could sacrifice anything coming in way of time and this was reflected when his eldest daughter was getting married and he said goodbye before formal ruksati could take place as he could not afford to lose time. He was very conscious of ethical values and basic principles of life and wanted the society to practice them. He could not tolerate hypocrisy, dishonesty, wastage of resources including time and show off in life.

Hyderabad is a small trading city in the southern province of Sind in Pakistan. Dr. Shallwani received his early education from the Noor Muhammad High School and later went to DJ Science College Karachi and from there got into the elitist medical school of that time Dow Medical College, Karachi. He was one of the eleven students of his batch passing out in 1955. Some of his class fellows were Dr. Ali Mohammad Ansari, Dr. Allah Buksh Bhurgari and Dr. Amina Ashraf. He later went to London in 1961 to receive his post graduate degree from London School of Tropical Medicine. His travel to London made a long lasting impact on his mind and he always narrated the positive sides of the English life and the power of the language. His views were always very strong on the inability of the Urdu Scholars and poets who could not bring their language to the academic level where our language could become a medium for education.

Some of the famous sayings he always used to narrate to his children while taking them to school or at the dining table was that “one who sleeps more loses all” (jo sota hay khota hay) or “a fool and his money are soon parted”, “the one who lend his book to someone is a fool but the one who returns it is a bigger one”. And likes of such sayings which he used to keep

a diary on which he wrote while reading and contemplating. This habit has been inherited from him by his younger daughter and son.

An avid listener of BBC Urdu service and its daily news bulletin of 11.00 PM with a programme on the philosophy of life at 11.30 when he would call us near the radio and make us listen to all the programs and news.

The reading of Dawn, notwithstanding, his crave for reading the newspapers which would give him a satisfaction to keep himself abreast of all the problems of life and to ponder over what has to be done to make the lives of fellow citizens better. His priorities in life were very different from other people and this made him different from his family and friends.

DR ZULFIQAR ALI SHALLWANI

DR IFTIKHAR ALI SHALLWANI

HOBBIES:

Reading and writing to the Letters to the Editor in Daily Dawn, Muslim, Nation.

WIFE:

Late Badrunnisa Rizvi (later Badrunnisa Shallwani), daughter of an academician, Syed Mohammad Ilyas Rizvi, belonging to a literate family of poets, scholars and writers, Her family hailed from Aligarh, UP from India and her father migrated to Pakistan after the partition in 1948 and settled in Sindh starting from Karachi, Shikarpur, Dadu and Hyderabad. Her family contributed immensely to the education system of then West Pakistan. Her father, Syed Muhammad Ilyas Rizvi retired as headmaster, Government High School Dadu and among his pupils were the leading doctors, surgeons, civil servants and politicians of contemporary Pakistan, including his eldest son, Syed Roshan Zamir, one of those rare civil servants who were born with a frame of mind, the likes of which will be difficult to find in contemporary Pakistan.

CHILDREN:

DR NASREEN SHALLWANI

Eldest daughter, working as Gynaecologist in a government hospital in Karachi is married to a Chemical Engineer and maternal cousin Syed Abid Raza has 2 university going children and is settled in Karachi. She has two children: Dr Saman Zehra (Daughter), Ali Raza (Son).

DR SHAHNAZ SHALLWANI

Younger daughter, a public health specialist is working for a UN agency and is settled in Karachi.

DR ZULFIQAR ALI SHALLWANI

The elder son, a doctor turned bureaucrat is married to a doctor and settled in Karachi with four Children: Kanza, Qurat & Kainat (Daughters), Moiz (Son).

DR IFTIKHAR ALI SHALLWANI

The younger son also a doctor turned bureaucrat posted in Islamabad as Additional Secretary, Ministry of Industries. He has two sons: Hassan Ali Shallwani and Hamza Ali Shallwani.

Dr. Pir Mohammad V. Shallwani or Doctor Saheb as my family used to call him has left a host of fond memories with us. He was an epitome of an organized and simple life. An early riser and sleeper, he never missed a day at work, used to read the daily Dawn after lunch and hear the evening radio/TV news after dinner regularly. He was a devoted family man, a responsible and loving husband and father. He raised four lovely children Nasreen, Shahnaz, Zulfiqar and Iftikhar, all of them doctors. The girls are successful professionals and the boys competed for the civil service and are presently secretaries to the Government of Sindh. He often joked how I was the bad influence on his doctor sons which pulled them into the civil service. He was totally secular in his outlook and believed religiously in good honest hard work and love for all.

GOD BLESS YOU DOCTOR SAHEB-----

Syed Roshan Zamir CSP (rtd).

My papa was my mentor and taught me everything what I do and practice now. He always wanted me do my post-graduation in gynaecology field and due to his permission and help I went to Lahore and was awarded a diploma in Obs Gyn. Then I got my first government job and become consultant in Sind Social Security dept. My papa taught us discipline and manners to live our life simply but elegantly. He inculcated into us the habit of reading as at lunch and dinner, he always used to ask what you read today in Dawn paper and I used to read Dawn and most easy news to tell him up till now I read Dawn every day and remember him a lot Now at this stage of life I understand many things which he used to talk about and was very fond of especially the Cartoon of Dawn Gambol was his favorite.

He always taught us the importance of education as he gave us best education and sent us to the best institutes of Hyderabad Sindh. He was a medical practitioner had clinical experience of 38 years, developed his own clinic and pharmacy as patent medicines work not available at that times. I used to go to his clinic in evening when he was free to do my homework and sat in front of his chair then if any patient used to come he would ask me to sit outside for a while he was very caring and dutiful throughout his life and was strict father but a very professional practicing physician.

By Dr. Nasreen Shallwani (Daughter)
Consultant Gynecologist
Sind Social Security Department

My Father, Dr. Pir Mohammad Shallwani, was not an ordinary man and I have not known anyone like him in my life. He had a very transparent personality, easily seen and understood by everyone he met and leaving an everlasting image in mind after a single meeting.

I was closest to him of all my siblings as he considered me the luckiest in the family. The Relationship we had was full of love, Trust and gave me opportunity to understanding of his different and difficult nature and mindsets. In his last 4 years of life, after his surgery at AKU Karachi, his physical dependency was more on me but he maintained his ego, fatherly stance and guiding responsibility. He was very possessive about his personal things, books and document files. He was very candid and practical which was evident when once he told me that he has written his will and kept it in a sealed envelope in his locked cupboard under his clothes. He strictly told me not to open it before time.

His attitude never changed with time or relationships or people around. He loved his profession and felt very devoted and responsible all the time. Although he had his private clinic and going late and taking off any day was his choice without being answerable to anyone, he attended his clinic very religiously and I never saw him sitting at home on a weekday. The most amazing part of life was his time keeping for his daily chores. He never slept late or woke late, never had early or late meals or tea He was like a clock for me. His activities would tell me the time at that moment. My room was next to his room and I would hear his normal activities like radio listening, closing bathroom door, typing on his manual typewriter, clutch opening of his steel cupboard, all were fixed and timely. He followed a very routine life and had fixed chores at home and in his clinic.

He never told us about good life habits but showed and practiced good habits like valuing time, honesty, dignity of labor, writing daily diary, valuing and not wasting all available recourses, living a need-based life and not a want-based life, counting blessing, living contented life, praying to God after rising in morning and before going to bed, planning daily activities and fore-sighting all its and buts. He loved his privacy and respected others as well. He never had double standards in life and his basic standard was simple and honest life. I feel I have inherited most of his lifestyle naturally and my understanding to his life style is getting deeper and deeper with time. Love You Papa.

Dr. Shahnaz Shallwani. (Daughter)

I grew up knowing my dear Peeroo Chacha as an avuncular and benevolent benefactor. He was a disciplinarian at home, in his medical practice and as a Citizen of civil society. As children, we were awed by his outsized personality yet attracted by his gravitas. He was a man of such polar dispositions.

My earliest memory of Peeroo Chacha is of a bridal doll he brought for me from his trip to Lahore. As young children, I and my siblings were also regular visitors to his clinic to get treated for colds and flu. Those were simpler times when he had his clinic in my Grandpa's Shallwani Building in Hyderabad.

Earlier in his career he was appointed City Health Officer with mandate to enforce good hygienic practices and clean environment in Hyderabad, a task that was natural to his personality and reinforced by his medical training. However, enforcing this mandate was a tough calling. He regularly had altercations with 'street food vendors', the purveyors of unhygienic food. Peeroo Chacha was born to an Ismaili family but did not practice Ismaili Tariqa. He was a Maverick. However, he served the Ismaili community as a member of the Aga Khan Health Board.

He was an avid reader and regularly drove to Karachi on weekends to buy books from foreign ships docked at Keamari port for book exhibitions. I have a fond memory of a weekend when he took us children with him.

He was known for writing letters to the DAWN newspaper about day-to-day problems, growing traffic violations and corruption in the city of Hyderabad. He lived life to express and not to impress people. One incident that personally touched me, was when he questioned the Aga Khan Education Board when they unjustly withdrew my merit based awarded scholarship to pursue Master's program in the USA. Peeroo Chacha was a man of action; a doer. A last memory that fell in my lap, though early in Peeroo Chacha's life was when a friend visiting us in Houston recounted a long ago incident when Peeroo Chacha was studying in England. Our friend's brother Dr. Thawrani, Peeroo Chacha's classmate, asked him to take chocolates for his family in Karachi. Peeroo Chacha, the quintessential iconoclast got delicious 'Swiss chocolates' filled with liqueur for the Muslim family!

Peer Mohamed Shallwani did not take societal norms at face value. He regularly challenged them. We salute and celebrate a good life lived and cherish Peeroo Chacha's memory.

Shabnam Shallwani Lutafali, PhD
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Dr. Sahab

We used to call him Dr. Sahab. Since my childhood I found Dr. Sahab visiting my family very frequently. Specially on occasions like Eid or in weekly holidays. My younger brother Zeeshan Sahil, would some time get sick and if not treated in time my mother would always say “Chalo Shalwani ko dikhate hain”. On our arrival at his clinic he would never call us out of the que and never disturbed his clinical administration. He always wrote on right corner of prescription with a red pen “ Free”. After completion of my brothers examination, prescription and medication he would call his wife (My First cousin) and would tell her to prepare dinner for all of us. We all would go to his house on third floor, take dinner at 9.00 pm sharp. And after an hour he tells all his four children and wife to get ready for a ride with the Datsun to our house to drop us telling us jokes all the time. This one example is not enough to describe his love for friends and relatives but his high cultural values and respect for elders. My father was a Police Officer in Indian Police in United India. In Pakistan he did not join any regular service but his love for education and literature made him a Librarian of local Municipal Library. He managed several activities and served the society in providing platform for literary circle called ‘Jaleesan Adab. It is a relevant information as Dr. Sahab had built in respect all honest professionals, educated people and those who followed a discipline. He discussed politics, an eye on current affairs, and kept his opinions if challenged were safe guarded by his knowledge of history and personalities. He never allowed any one to cross the limit he made by himself. He used to have nap in after noon just after lunch and no power in the world could stop him doing so. He was straight forward, honest, hardworking and simple. His quote “Simple Living High thinking” always surrounds us in the family. He had feelings and respected feelings of others but at cost of his discipline and rules no one was spared.

What I learned from him is respect and value for Education and at the same time be cultured. He threatened me on several occasions, to be careful in educational activities, consuming time in reading. He is remembered as a mentor for all in family and friends. He always wrote “Letter to Editor” in Dawn related to the social issues related to general public. Once he wrote about an underground causeway built by Birtish connecting Hyderabad city and Latifabad. This cause way was filled with mud, sand and blocked badly, people remained stuck at Railway Crossing Gate during trains crossing the rail road. Due to this letter and his constant efforts that causeway was made open along with a proper road. The public is till benefited by his effort.

I always count him as a highly respected personality with a practical idea regarding God, Religion and humans. He believed in Islam, Teachings, practices and was a firm Muslim. He was against the status quo and religious differences.

Syed Abid Raza.

THIS IS DIGNITY

The other day while returning to my Latifabad residence in the afternoon from my clinic in the city. I was signalled by an 8 - year old boy near Gymkhana roundabout for a lift. I got him seated beside me in the front seat.

While Driving towards Latifabad, I inquired of him why he had two bags on his both shoulders and where he wished to go. He Said he had gone to his school in the morning and at noon, when the school closed, he went to the city to polish shoes of the affluent people who shopped in the District Shopping Centre.

When further questioned why he was doing two duties i.e, schooling and earning, he said his father was a laborer and for the last week or so he had fallen sick was not going to work. His Mother wanted to earn something as he being the elder son. This required less investment and good income, his mother said, who abhorred begging. At this, we reached the railway crossing and he wanted me to drop hi near a hotel at the roundabout in Unit No 7. When I stopped my car he wanted, he asked me if he could polish my shoes. When I declined the offer, he said "Sahib, I will not charge you anything." At this I simply I could not control my emotions and gave him a 10 rupees note which he was reluctant to accept. I came out from my seat and put it in one of his bags and drove off. It is a clear example of self-respect, self-help and self-reliance - Poverty notwithstanding.

Dr Pir Mohd V Shallwani, Hyderabad.

PARIS OF SINDH

Hyderabad, once called the Paris of Sindh, is now known for its bad roads, insanitation, overflowing of, open drains and gutters, encroachment, adulterated food, absence of street lights, liquor, heroin, prostitution, violation of one-way traffic rules, sale of meat and fish on footpaths, shortage of medicines in municipal dispensaries and government hospitals, sale of dangerous drugs, absence of public toilets and dearth of all facilities that a citizen can have in a developing country. There are many streets here one of whose ends are barricaded with iron poles and cement blocks to facilitate parking of cars, rickshaws, Suzukis and sometimes even trucks owned by the residents of the localities.

On main roads one can see garages repairing all kinds of vehicles blocking the major portion of the roads and creating traffic problems. All this is with the connivance of the traffic authorities. The parks and playgrounds that existed before partition have been converted into buildings, shops and hotels.

Speed-breakers are in abundance all over the city. They hamper the smooth flow of traffic and damage, vehicles as they have been built hap-hazardly: some very high, some conical and some with projecting iron bars as on Tilak Road, the main artery of the city. Now that we have no mayor or members to squander municipal funds in the name of "beautifying" the city the Administrator can do a lot of useful work to improve the image of this old historical city, the second largest in Sindh.

From Dr. Pir M. V Shallwani, Hyderabad.

MOST UNETHICAL

Ethics does not allow the members of the medical profession to publicise themselves with their degrees and specialties, more so with their photographs in the Press. Even the rules of the PM & DC forbid this.

Doctors must have been amazed to see an advertisement (4 inch x 4 inch) with a photo (2 inch x 2.5 inch) of a professor and head of the department of a medical college, Karachi, in the local page of an English Morning daily of Karachi recently.

What must have surprised the public and the medical professional about this specialist is that he is working from 9.00 am. to 9.30 pm. daily, for, according to his ad he works from 9 to 2 pm. in the medical college where he teaches and from 2 pm. to 9.30 pm. in two private hospitals in two different parts of the city.

If these are his working hours, what time he must be devoting to his meals, family, social activities and for preparing his lectures for the next day's academic classes which require strenuous studies?

Already, there is hue and cry from the medical students that teachers remain absent from the classes and wards and there is no proper teaching and therefore the standard of medical education has gone down.

Will the health authorities and the PM & DC please look into this matter.

From Dr. Pir M. V Shallwani, Hyderabad

VOICE OF ANGUISH

The letter from Lahori, “A voice more of anguish than anger” (Sept 21) of a young doctor aged 27 whom circumstances compelled to be a computer operator against his wishes, makes pathetic reading arousing the feelings of remorse amongst the members of the medical profession.

A write-up in a Karachi medical journal with the heading, “Doctors queue for American visa”, narrating how hundreds of doctors wish to leave Pakistan in sheer disgust because of ad-hoc appointments and/or endless drudgery in private in our own country, also makes a sad reading of the present and future of the medical profession in Pakistan. This being the state of affairs, one wonders why the seats in medical colleges are being increased, new medical colleges being opened, unrecognised medical colleges allowed to continue, and Homeopathic and Unani systems encouraged and recognised by the government.

Does not the unemployment of qualified doctors in our country and their migration to foreign lands in search of jobs humiliate and degrade our nation? If in our own country, qualified doctors are working as computer operators and in foreign countries employed at petrol pumps and salesmen at super stores, does it not affect our country’s reputation abroad?

All this is worth consideration by the Ministry of Health.

From Dr. Pir M. V Shallwani, Hyderabad

SNAIL'S PACE

A very important road in Hyderabad connecting Civil Hospital with Tilak Incline, about a furlong long, which was in a dilapidated condition, is now under repair for the last one month or so.

The work goes on at snail's pace. Sometimes there are no laborers for 4-5 days after a day's work when only two men work at leisure.

The contractor, it seems, is taking it easy being busy with other roads' construction work. This slow work is causing innumerable hardships to the vehicular traffic especially the Hyderabad Karachi buses, ambulances taking emergency cases to the hospital, cars and scooters of doctors and paramedical staff of the hospital, buses of school-going children and other public transport. It is not known why the HMC, which is carrying on the repair work is so apathetic to the grievances of the public and not expediting the work which could have been finished within a week had the work started in right earnest. Will the authorities concerned please look into this matter and redress the grievances of the commuters of this road.

From Dr. Pir M. V Shallwani, Hyderabad

GLUT OF DOCTORS

The Federal Minister for Science and Technology while speaking as a chief guest at the engineers' convention in Karachi on Dec.14, 91, said the main reason for unemployment in the engineering profession is that the country is producing more engineers than it needs.

What the minister said about the engineering profession applies at all or even more aptly to the medical profession. The country reached the saturation point some years back, and the Sindh Government announced the reduction of seats in the medical colleges to check the excess of turnouts from the medical colleges. But due to political pressure, the order was rescinded and more medical colleges, both recognised and unrecognised, were established. This has aggravated the unemployment situation for doctors. To add insult to injury, ban was imposed on the employment of doctors in government service which has been lifted a few days back. To start an engineering college, heavy machinery and electronic gadgets worth millions of rupees are required, while for a medical college only few lacs of rupees are needed. That is why bogus medical colleges, run by individuals, are functioning and flourishing in our big cities to fleece the gullible students aspiring to become doctors. Coupled with this, quacks and charlatans are also playing havoc with the health of the nation and with impunity.

All this requires stringent action by the government to check the glut of doctors, produce standard doctors from the present recognised colleges and take strict measures against quacks in the interest of the country.

From Dr. Pir M. V Shallwani, Hyderabad

‘BEAUTIFYING’

The Federal Government recently sanctioned Rs. Five crores for the development of Hyderabad, particularly its roads which were in shambles. The Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (HMC) utilized these funds for the so-called beautification of the city.

Except for some minor changes at certain crossroads (chowks) and patchwork on a few streets, the beautification is conspicuous by its absence. Even the original shape of this once neat and clean city has not been restored. Not a single paisa has been spent on the renovation of Navalrai Market the main market of the city, which lies in a dilapidated condition.

The condition of roads, street lights, drainage system, disposal of garbage, availability of potable water and mechanism for ensuring cleanliness are just a few prerequisites for a city or town to be called modern. But in Hyderabad, important roads and streets like Miani Road, Jail Road, Shah Maid Road and the two main streets opposite, St. Mary's School are in the worst imaginable condition. The numerous speed-breakers built mostly by the residents of the localities, not only impede the smooth flow of traffic but also damage automobiles besides breaking the fragile contents in them. The civil authorities and the HMC are requested to pay attention to these problems confronting the inhabitants of Hyderabad.

From Dr. Pir M. V Shallwani, Hyderabad

LORD MAYOR

The PTV and Radio Pakistan in their Urdu news bulletins on Jan 10 said the 'Lord' Mayor of Lahore, Khwaja Riaz Mahmood hosted a reception in honour of the Prime Minister of Pakistan.

For ought I know, the title of Lord Mayor is only for the Mayor of London - How this English title is applied for a Pakistani Mayor and that too by the Government media is not understood.

Even the Mayor of Karachi is not addressed as Lord Mayor. It only depicts our sycophantic mentality and mockery for the head of the Municipal Corporation. Through the columns of your esteemed paper I urge the Federal Ministry of Local Bodies to issue a notification calling upon everyone to address the head of the Municipal Corporations simply as Mayor or Nazim-e-Baldia.

From Dr. Pir M. V Shallwani, Hyderabad

INCOGNITO TRAVEL

It is heartening to know from your esteemed paper dated December 12, 1991 that the federal minister for railways had travelled in disguise from Nowshera to Karachi by Awam Express in the economy class to assess for himself the hardships of the travelling public in the lower classes. In this context, please refer to my letter published in your paper dated November 17, 1991 drawing the attention of the railway authorities to the defects in the 1st class compartment, which I noticed during my journey from Hyderabad to Lahore on October 16, 91. I had, inter alia, urged the federal minister, the secretary and other higher administrative staff of the PR to travel incognito in the trains to ascertain the grievances of the travelling public.

The railway minister himself received many complaints from the passengers at the Rohri railway station about the bad condition of coaches, toilets, and electric fittings in the train. I hope the minister's travel will bear fruit and things will improve in the near future. The other ministers must emulate the example of the railway minister by personally visiting in disguise their 'beats' they have been entrusted with and reduce the woes of the public.

From Dr. Pir M. V Shallwani, Hyderabad

AN UNPRECEDENTED UNITY...

The House of disrepute by Mr. S.G. Jilane on May 22 is an eye-opener not only for the public but also for the voters who elected these hungry legislators. The unprecedented unity displayed by the government and the opposition in passing the six bills so quickly and swiftly and the speeches of Iftikhar Gilani, Ramay, Iqbal Cheema, Maulana Niazi and other for the bills only displayed human nature: avarice and insatiability.

Calling the proceedings of the House sacrosanct (Iftikhar Gilani) one may ask how many times the speaker had to expunge the unparliamentary words used by the members in every session since the Assembly first met after '90 Elections'. Being affluent and well-off and contesting N.A elections where millions of rupees are spent lavishly and then to call themselves "Poor" (Maulana Lakhvi); Stressing the need to be looked after properly (Maulana Hasan); criticizing the bill as conspiracy (M. Afzal Khan); must be termed hilarious. But no one will disagree with Syed K. A. Shah when he said "we are not ashamed of it".

In his letter to the DAWN dated May 22 '92, MNA Kunwar Khalid Yunus narrated an incident of North American country in the 19th century. There, the elected representatives passed a bill raising their honorarium. The reaction was severe. In the next elections most of the members who supported the resolution or remained neutral, were defeated. Hope our electorate will keep this in mind.

Dr. Pir Mohd V Shallawani, Hyderabad

OPERATION CLEAN-UP

The police in Karachi had launched a successful campaign against narcotics pedlars in Lyari eliminating the menace which had polluted locality affected the young boys and girls ('Dawn', April 23 .1982).

In Hyderabad a locality named Tando Wali Muhammad in the jurisdiction of Market police station, Is known for similar hectic trading in narcotics Opium, morphia, pethidine, charas, country liquor and mandrix tablets are available clandestinely to the addicts in the narrow streets and by-lanes of the area after sunset.

This particular area of the city has acquired notoriety not only for the sale of narcotics but also for the constant nuisance of stray cattle, parking of trucks on both sides of the roads and streets and gambling den. The residence pass sleepless night because of the blaring of powerful electric horns of the trucks, high pitched tape recorders in the wayside restaurant's and frequent brawls and scuffles ('Dawn', Dec 1, 1982). Many complaints have been lodged with the nearby police station and higher authorities but all in vain. For the success of a campaign like the one in Karachi, to rid the area of narcotics peddlers. It is suggested that the Superintendent of Police adopt a different strategy and keep the Thana police off the scene during the pedlars. The force be collected from other police stations for the conduct of successful raids.

Dr Pir Mohd V Shallawani, Prince Aly Road, Hyderabad

WASTAGE?

The Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (HMC) is reconstructing footpaths at cost of thousands of rupees as these were demolished when the road level was raised last year.

However, one can hardly see any foot path being used by the pedestrians for these remain occupied by cobblers, cabin holder, 'juggies' if beggars, second hand booksellers newspaper vendors, fruit vendors, palmists, fortune-tellers with card and parrots, typists, denters, garage-mechanics, push-cart vendors etc.

On Prince Aly Road, Market Road, Foujdari Road, Sarfaraz Road footpath are blocked with architectural grills and gates of religious places; with stylish parapet wall in front of Police Station; with latrines, store rooms and raised platforms (in front of houses in Silawat Mohalla); with chairs and tables of cafes and restaurants; with 3-4 step staircase or houses made close to the road alignment; with junk material of Kabari shops for parking of bicycles and rickshaws in front of cinema house; for display of articles like carpets, pedestal fans, water-coolers room coolers washing-machines, geysers, foam-mattress etc by shopkeepers; with bags of rice, atta, sugar, tins of vegetable oils by grocers and so on. This being the fate of footpaths all over the city, it is not known for whom the HMC is constructing the these footpaths the penetrations or the contractors.

Dr. Pir Mohd V Shallawani, Hyderabad

DEAD CEMENT

According to news report (Dawn 27.5.84) the Lasbela police have seized thousands of bags of dead cement from an unserviceable ship at Gadani beach in a dramatic Operation. The dead cement was being filled in bags of some popular brands with machine in such original packing that no one could doubt its spuriousness. This news must have shocked people because some years back the collapse of newly constructed building Bismillah Manzil, in Karachi with many casualties, is still fresh in our minds. It is really sad that for pecuniary gain, some people play with the lives of so many people with the lives of so many innocent persons. Such heinous crimes must be dealt with iron hands.

The inquiry must probe how the new cement bags of popular brands were acquired and how this shady business went for more than two weeks. The cement depots where this inert cement was supplied and the buildings where this cement is ward off any catastrophe in future.

To prevent such malpractices, I suggest that all edible articles and building material found in such scarp vessels must be destroyed by the authorities before such ships are delivered to the buyers for breaking them at the beach.

For quick and stringent punishment to the offenders of the such horrid crimes I suggest this case be tried under Martial Law regulations.

Dr Pir Mohd V Shallawani, Prince Aly Road, Hyderabad

‘THANA’ & SCHOOL

During a recent visit to Lunikot, a village about 20 miles from Hyderabad on the Super Highway, I saw a police station in a pucca building, which, as I remembered was constructed about five years back on the appeals of the residents for a primary school.

For the last two and-a-half years this building has been “acquired” by the police department and converted into a Police Station. School going children are now either roaming about or helping parents or elders in their daily chores of life.

On inquiry, a policeman -told me that unless they get alternate accommodation, they will not vacate the premises. Four teachers of the school do come there once a week to mark their attendance in order to draw salaries every month. What is the future of these innocent children? Nobody bothers.

Will the Education and police departments do something for the future of these poor children?

From Dr. Pir M. V Shallwani, Hyderabad

LONGEVITY FOR MALES

I have gone through the article “How to live long as your wife” by Jeremy Campbell (‘Dawn magazine, (Oct.8.1982).

Dr Ramey observation that the difference in life expectancy between males and females was obvious all along and the fact that men die earlier than woman because men work harder than women is no doubt a painful but hard fact of life.

But her observation that male hormone testosterone predisposes men to heart attacks, and blood clot in the lungs and other fatal cardiovascular events cannot be regarded as authentic and is yet to be confirmed by medical experts.

As for her advice that by taking one aspirin a day with plenty of water, a man can increase this life expectancy might have been prompted or fascinated some of your readers to take this drug daily. For information and knowledge the following harmful side effects of aspirin are worth remembering.

1. It causes severe and sometimes lethal acidosis.
2. It causes giddiness and buzzing in the ears.’
3. It causes bleeding in the stomach and thereby anemia.
4. There is evidence that it causes gastrulæ if taken for long time.
5. Some people who are allergic to this drug manifest symptoms like nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, diarrhea, skin rashes, and restlessness on taking only a single tablet.

Dr Pir Mohd V Shallawani, Prince Aly Road, Hyderabad

VANISHING HOSPITALS

A propos the news item in your esteemed newspaper (Oct 16) about the laying of the foundation-stone of the Infectious Diseases Hospital at Old Golimar, Karachi, by the Mayor of Karachi, I wish to say that a infectious diseases hospital did exist in Karachi till the 60s near the present rear or OPD exit of the Civil Hospital. Senior students of the Dow Medical College were taken there to see the infectious cases like smallpox (now extinct), measles, chicken-pox, mumps, scarlet-fever etc. On my taking over as Health Officer, Hyderabad Municipal Corporation in mid-SOs, I had started similar hospital about one kilometer from Hussainabad (then Giddu) and it functioned well till the 80s. This hospital has also been closed now. As a matter of fact, infectious diseases hospitals have now become the things of the past due to great reduction in their incidence for the last 30 years. Even sanatoria for tuberculosis patients are vanishing. The advent of antibiotics and chemo therapy revolutionised their treatment coupled with public awareness of personal hygiene and health due to the campaigns in electronic and print media.

Modern disinfectants against flies, mosquitoes, cockroaches and other poisonous insects has also contributed much in eliminating many infectious diseases. The School Health Service has played a significant part in impregnating the sense of hygiene in the young generation.

In advanced countries 'isolation' or 'infectious diseases' hospitals no longer exist and these hospitals are now dealing with general, medical and surgical cases.

From Dr. Pir M. V Shallwani, Hyderabad

POWER BREAKDOWN

Power breakdown in Latifabad is frequent particularly in units No. 9,7,8 and 10. But for the last fortnight it has become a daily affair and that also there or four times in a day.

It seems that electricity in latifabad is allergic to rain. The moment it starts drizzling the power is off. It is restored one to two hours after the rain is over. The stereotyped reply from the complaint office always, "Work is going on at the pole."

On the Independence Day the breakdown lasted from 2pm up to midnight. The people of latifabad who had decorated there residences with colorful lights could see the illumination for which they had to spent money and time. They were also deprived of Independence Day programme on the TV and the live telecast of second test match at Lords. Over and above this the medical students of latifabad who number about 300 are feeling great hardships and inconvenience because of the power failures as there annual examinations have started they have to study day and night for there future career. Through the columns of your esteemed paper I urge the WAPDA authorities to pay heed to grievances of the residents of Latifabad and bring an end to this constant nuisance in this sweltering season.

Dr Pir Mohd V Shallwani, Prince Aly Road, Hyderabad

CLOCK TOWER

The Clock Tower of Market, Hyderabad, was built during the colonial regime with architectural design resembling Karachi's Merewather Tower, Denso Hall Tower and the Empress Market Tower. This four-sided historical landmark of the city stopped working about 30 years back and its dials and hands are now broken or missing. Since no care was taken for its maintenance or upkeep, its outer structure is also ramshackled now with the vagaries of weather.

The Hyderabad Development Authority (HDA) which has undertaken improving and renovating the city's archeological places, has begun with renovating the outer structure of this Tower without setting in order its clock for the time-conscious people of Hyderabad or the outsiders who come here.

It is really ironical that the Clock Tower of the Old University Campus, built at the same period and having the same design, is functioning well till today, albeit, with constant repairs but the Market Tower has remained neglected by the municipal authorities.

From Dr. Pir M. V Shallwani, Hyderabad

DOG BITES

A propos your news item (July 7) of a mad dog biting 35 people in Karachi on July 6, the dog, no doubt, created a record in the annals of rabies bites in our country.

In this context, both the residents of Lyari and the KMC are equally responsible for this tragedy.

The sorry spectacle of the whole episode is the shortage of vaccines in the government hospitals. These vaccines are a must for public hospitals as procuring the same in private from medical stores at Rs 1,200 to Rs 1,500 per vaccine is not possible for the common men who are mostly the targets of pye-dog bites.

While the government hospitals must stock the vaccines in sufficient quantity to meet the emergency, the KMC must also gear up its campaign against street dogs whose bite is a threat to the human lives as cure for rabies is still a forlorn hope in the medical science.

From Dr. Pir M. V Shallwani, Hyderabad

BANNING SMOKING

The campaign against smoking is no doubt a very laudable step and will be highly appreciated by every health-oriented organisation, society and individual. The hazards of smoking are known to all and sundry but the large scale publicity through TV, radio, newspapers, magazines, cinema slides and cricket matches sponsored by the cigarette companies lure the masses, especially the young generation, to smoke and move in modern society of West and others to divert their attention from this world's manifold perplexing problems.

Referring to MQM's campaign against smoking, I think it would have been far better had it started from the top level instead of from the grass-root level. The KMC's move to remove the cigarette advertisements from roads, streets and other places within its jurisdiction is also a step forward in this campaign but the TV and radio's constant and every day publicity for different cigarette companies need curbing to make the campaign a grand success.

While the PTV and Radio Pakistan claim of getting huge monetary gain from these cigarette commercials, they little realize how much the nation pays back by way of treatment of the patients who suffer from the lung cancer and other chest diseases caused by the smoking. Also how much our precious foreign exchange is consumed by those who go to foreign lands for the treatment of their illness.

The MQM deserves all praise for their campaign against smoking but I wish they pay attention to other methods of stopping the smoking.

From Dr. Pir M. V Shallwani, Hyderabad

EYE INFECTION

The recent outbreak of eye infection or viral conjunctivitis, in Karachi gave some unscrupulous chemists the occasion to make hay while the sun shines. With personal hygiene, e.g using clean handkerchief or small towel to wipe away the tears and washing the eyes frequently with clean water. This self-healing disease disappears in five to six days.

On the other hand, nature, has provided intrinsic defenses in our body to ward off this malady. How?

Through decades of studies scientists have found out that our body is safeguard by an ingenious series of defenses arranged in depth like the successive lines of an army entrenched to ward off invaders. Countless bacteria and viruses gain entry into our body through food, water, through air we breathe or through cuts in our skin. Yet we stay healthy. Similarly, germ-laden fleck of dust and raw water enter our eyes not infrequently. Since our eyes surface is constantly bathes in tears which contain anti-bacterial or antiseptic lysozyme our eyes stay healthy. It is said that lysozyme is so powerful that a single teardrop diluted with half gallon of water will destroy at least one species of germs (Ruth & Edward brecher).

Natures plan provides a great power in ourselves to keep fence in depth mechanism mankind cannot survive.

Dr Pir Mohd V Shallawani, Hyderabad

CLEANER CITY

This refers to the news item (23.7.89) about the pulling down of hoardings in Saddar on the ground that they were not only a traffic hazard but also spoiled the looks of the area.

In my letter, "Saddar congestion (16.2.86) I had suggested construction of shops around the compound wall of this old church which will not only bring handsome income to the church authorities but will also help remove the vendors and hawkers from the footpaths and eliminate the insanitary nuisance from this fashionable rendezvous of the metropolis. The Sindh Chief Secretary's plea to the church authorities to renovate the boundary wall with high steel spikes for security of the church and beauty of the area will not solve the problem of insanitation in the area.

Dr. Pir M. V Shallwani, Hyderabad

POST OF A.C.M.S

Please refer to my two letters “SPSC exams” (6.5.89 and 12.10.89) and “Coffers” from Mr. Abdul Ahad (15.5.89) regarding the selection of 20 Assistant Commissioners in Sindh. What was apprehended has come true. The Sindh Government’s advertisements in the Press, including your esteemed paper of November 3, 1989 (pages 6) for the posts of Assistant Commissioners (BPS-17), clearly show that the posts, earlier advertised by the SPSC in its Notification of December 30, 1988 and later on cancelled without mentioning any reason, were meant to be filled at the sweet will of the Sindh Chief Minister.

Appointments at the cost of meritorious candidates for administration is not only unwarranted but also not in the interest of efficient administration which Sindh needs badly at this juncture when the law and order situation is already in a fluid state. Also, cancelling the competitive examinations, not refunding the candidates money and not returning their precious documents and filling the posts through lateral entries amounts to adding insult to the injury not expected under any democratic dispensation.

Dr. Pir M. V Shallwani, Hyderabad

SADDAR CONGESTION

This refers to the letter “Saddar congestion” from Mr Mohammad Zafar (2.2.86). I wholeheartedly support his second suggestion regarding clearing of hawkers from Footpaths (giving them alternative accommodation around St. Andrew’s church) on three main roads in Saddar-Preedy street, Abdullah Haroon Road and Aga Sultan Mohammad Shah Road and the back street intersecting the last two named roads. As matter of fact walking on the footpath adjoining the compound wall of his church one has either to keep handkerchief on the nose or hold breath to avoid the stinking urinary smell. The back street, having uncleaned municipal toilets, has terrible faecal odour. In fact, this spot is slur upon Saddar, the heart of the city frequented by citizens and tourists. The construction of shops around the compound wall of this old church will not only bring handsome income but will also help remove the vendors and hawkers from the footpaths and eliminate the insanitary nuisance from the fashionable rendezvous of the metropolis.

It is hoped the church authorities and the city fathers will consider this suggestion and beautify the hub of the city.

Dr Pir Mohd. V Shallwani, Hyderabad

BEGGARY MENACE

The Sindh Governor's orders to the SSPs to arrest beggars in Karachi to wipe out this menace will be welcomed by the citizens of Karachi. But what about the other major cities of Sindh which are also infested with beggars most of them able-bodied who have made it their profession?

One wishes the Sindh Governor had proclaimed his orders to all the SSPs of the province so as to get rid of the beggars who are slur on the society.

One encounters these so-called beggars at every place be it shops, supermarkets, bakeries, cinemas, hotels, restaurants, petrol pumps, railway stations, gardens, parks, courts etc. The road crossings having auto-signals have become their favourite rendezvous nowadays. The presence of traffic police does not scare them from harassing the motorists. Beggars Homes can easily be set up by social workers like Mr. Abdul Sattar Edhi and organisations like Rotary or Lions Clubs and vocational training imparted to make them useful citizens and earning members of their families.

From Dr. Pir M. V Shallwani, Hyderabad

QUALITY OF DRUGS

Your editorial safety and quality of drugs (11.7.87) is thoughtful emphasizing more on sub-standard drugs than on spurious and adulterated ones. Medicines are major health hazard. But how much more harmful and injurious the spurious and adulterated drugs are due to their side effects idiosyncrasy and anaphylaxis only practicing doctor can realize being in constant touch with patients and medicines. You have rightly said that the ministry of health should go a step further and issue a complete list of drugs for which license have been withdrawn so that people using any of these are duly warned. No doubt people use the drugs but it is the doctors who prescribe them. Therefore the government should issue the list of these drugs to the PMA, which in turn should inform the members through circulars, medical newspaper and periodicals. Your revelations that 35 out of 64 internationally banned medicines are still use in Pakistan, 18 of these still being on the essential drugs. List is not only surprising and startling but also serious concern to the medical profession as to quote you. "It amounts to playing with the lives and health of the people".

The medial profession should be kept in touch with the substandard spurious and adulterated drugs and their manufactures for the safety of the patients. The PMA shedding its petty squabbles can play viral role against these drug health hazards by keeping a close liaison between its members, on the one hand, and the government and the pharmaceutical firms, on the other to eradicate this menace in medicine.

Dr Pir Mohd. V Shallwani, Hyderabad

DELEGATION RACE

Since the present Government has come to power, I find a race of delegations going abroad between the Senate Chairman and the National Assembly Speaker on one pretext or the other ostensibly to increase the 'mutual benefit' between the two countries.

Every time, the Chairman and the Speaker take 8-10 members of the Senate and the National Assembly, respectively. When one returns, the other is ready to go. Each delegation spending lakhs of rupees of our national exchequer in foreign exchange. While the Prime Minister is adopting austerity measures to save the national wealth, this squandering of public money for the sight-seeing abroad on the flimsy ground to 'cement the ties' between the two countries is nothing but mockery of democracy and befalling the public through the Government media. We are paying a very high price to pamper the Senate and Assembly Members for their support to the Government. Will the President and the Prime Minister please stop this bogey of foreign visits so frequently at the cost of our national wealth and utilise the money for upgrading the standard of our poor people who have no shelter, food and clothes and are seen begging on the streets.

From Dr. Pir M. V Shallwani, Hyderabad

MANHOLE COVERS

The worsening situation of law and order in Sindh particularly in Karachi and Hyderabad which has given rise to increasing cases of dacoities, kidnappings, rapes, firings, snatching of vehicles, thefts from flats and bungalows and many other crimes has made the life of the average citizen horrifying.

The unemployment of the educated, the growing inflation, the meagre wages of the unskilled workers, the high cost of consumer goods coupled with the increased rates of petroleum products and fertilizers has only added a straw on the nation's back. This has resulted in misery for the poor and the middle-class with fixed incomes who find it difficult to make both ends meet. Many of the unemployed have resorted to thefts of minor items from houses, flats and bungalows in posh localities where such things were unheard of in the past.

There was a time when we heard of the theft of manhole covers from streets and roads. Now, with the growing poverty for the reasons mentioned above, even the manhole covers of gutters inside the compound walls of flats and bungalows are not spared. Not a day passes when manhole covers, plastic dustbins, electric bulbs on the gates other minor items are not stolen from some bungalows in every unit of Latifabad particularly Nos. 2,4,6, & 7.

When the 11-year rule of autocracy and dictatorship could be changed to democracy within 5-6 months why not control the law and order situation to curb the growing crimes, thefts and poverty within half that time with peoples support and cooperation?

Dr. Pir M. V Shallwani, Hyderabad

COTERIE OF DOW; GRADUATES

According to a news item in a daily newspaper, an annual 'get-together' of Dow Graduates Association was to be held on 29th September, 1988 at Bagh-e-Jinnah Karachi. When the association was formed, who are its office-bearers, when it was inaugurated and how many graduates are on its list are not known. I am a Dowite since 1955 and do not know of such an association.

Thousands of graduates have come out of the Dow precincts and they are scattered all over the country and abroad. To convene a meeting of all the Dowdies is well nigh impossible. But the activists who have formed this association should have at least informed the Dow graduates in the country of this meeting thru' the national and medical newspapers or through the circulars to the PMA branches. Nothing of the sort was done. I am sure even many Dow doctors in Karachi must have been ignored.

When for the 'get-together' of September 29, 1988, the Hyderabad graduates only 100 miles away, were not informed, let alone the others in the rest of the country. In true perspective, I suggest the present coterie of Dow graduates to label it as "Karachi Dow Graduates Association" and not to exploit the name of all the Dow Graduates for their own vested interests.

Dr. Pir M. V Shallwani, Hyderabad

KALI MON BRIDGE

Kali Mon Bridge on Phuleli canal, on the Eastern side of Hyderabad, was built during the colonial rule to connect the then only English-medium Arts and Science D.G. College and the once famous rendezvous Mukhi Gardens with the city. After Partition, as the city expanded, Aminabad, Aliabad, Bens Colony, Modes factory, multi-storey buildings, bungalows and shopping centres sprung up on the other-side of the Phuleli canal.

Though the traffic increased on this narrow bridge by leaps and bounds, no one thought of widening this bridge to combat the heavy load of vehicular-traffic. The road on this bridge is now in ruins with deep ditches and cavities, the guard-rails have disappeared and replaced by single-row ordinary bricks posing great threat to human lives in case of accidents and heavy traffic jam during the peak hours. Since skywalks were not- built from the beginning, the fate of pedestrians on this bridge can be well imagined. Much water has flown under this bridge without its proper maintenance and upkeep. The bridge is now in shambles, unfit for any vehicular traffic and likely to collapse. The office goers and students of schools and colleges suffer the most due to congested traffic on this bridge.

The authorities concerned are urged to expand and reconstruct this outdated bridge in the interest of residents of the residential colonies and -the students of the now Government D.G. Science College.

Dr. Pir M. V Shallwani, Hyderabad

A CHARISMATIC LEADER

According to BBC's Urdu broadcast a few weeks back the election of Ms Benazir Bhutto as Prime Minister of Pakistan has caused mixed reaction in some Muslim countries where some religious scholars have disapproved of women being the head of state.

On the other hand, many Muslim countries have felicitated Ms Benazir Bhutto on her assumption of the highest executive post in Pakistan, being the first modern Muslim State to have a woman head, Internationally, women have such position since long —Britain and the Netherlands having Queens as sovereign heads and India, Sri Lanka, the Philippines and Israel having women as Prime Ministers.

Britain also has a woman Prime Minister, "Iron Lady" Margaret Thatcher. When we proclaim that Islam has given equal rights to women and in no other religion women enjoy as much rights and privileges as in Islam, then why this hullabaloo. Muslim history quotes the names of Noor Jehan and Razia Sultana who ruled over the countries and fought shoulder to shoulder with men.

Ms Benazir Bhutto has, in fact, brought significant political change and enhanced the prestige of Pakistan and the Muslim World by being elected for the first time Prime Minister of any Muslim country. She fought for the democratic rule the military dictatorship and suffered imprisonment and exile.

She achieved this singular honour with great determination, conviction and will power and toppled Pirs, Mirs, Jagirdars. Zamindars and men who wielded power during caretaker governments. She deserved this glory as according to President Ghulam Ishaq Khan "she is educated, intelligent, decent, cultured, having great qualities of leadership and above all a choice of the nation".

Dr. Pir M. V Shallwani, Hyderabad

DOCTORS AND DRUGS

The Drug Licensing and Registration Board on the back cover of the “Pakistan Drug Information”, published for the first time by the Federal Ministry of Health for the medical profession, has recommended to the provincial governments to ensure that antibiotics, anti-cancers, hormones, psychotropic’s and narcotics are sold only on prescription from a registered medical practitioner.

It advises the doctors: 1. To ensure that these groups of drugs are not dispensed without proper prescription, 2. To provide a duplicate copy of the prescription to the patient for such drugs as the chemist will need to keep one copy for his record; and 3. The patient may be advised to get a photocopy of the prescription, in case he (the doctors) is unable to provide a duplicate copy.

Now, it is not for the doctor, but for the drug inspectors and the chemists to see to it that no drugs mentioned above, are dispensed without prescription of a qualified medical practitioner. Also some unscrupulous chemists may misuse the photocopies lying with them as they can easily get as many photocopies made as they want to dispense the drugs of others.

To ensure foolproof method of dispensing these drugs, it is suggested that chemists must be bound to keep a register for entering the name of the doctor, the name of the patient, the name of the drugs dispensed and the date. These registers must be casually checked by the drug inspectors to ensure proper dispensation of the drugs.

Dr. Pir M. V Shallwani, Hyderabad

POWER BREAKDOWN

The Chairman, Area Electricity Board, Hyderabad, announced last week through the Press that there will be no more load shedding in Hyderabad.

It seems, however, the load shedding has been replaced by power breakdowns in several localities of Hyderabad at one time and in the worst form. While load-shedding lasted for an hour or so but the breakdown, last for five or six hours at a stretch for six or seven days running.

For instance, Hirabad, Market Area, LMCH, Siroghat, Tando Wall Mohammad, Tilak Incline were in the grip of power 'breakdown' in the morning hours for several days (till March 24) affecting clinics, hospitals, X-ray and ultrasound clinics, laboratories, mills, factories, sawmills, petrol pumps, lathe machines etc of the area. To add insult to injury no previous notice was given to the power consumers for this sudden shutdown. The reason given, on phone inquiry, is that repairs or replacement of wires and cables was going on.

And this is not the first breakdown in the mentioned localities. By turns, almost all of Hyderabad, from Phuleli to Latifabad and from Mubarak Colony to Gari Khata, is denied power for five to six hours for days together on the pretext of repair work. This cycle of power failure in selected localities at peak business hours has been going on for a couple of months to the detriment of the citizens. What will happen when the summer season will begin in right earnest with the advent of the holy month of Ramazan, is anybody's guess.

That under this democratic regime, the people wail at the WAPDA vagaries is really ironically and reprehensible.

Dr. Pir M. V Shallwani, Hyderabad

SUBSTANDARD FOOD

Dear Sir,
According to a report in the Press, the management of 4 posh hotels in Karachi were challenged by the KMC Court for substandard food. If this is the state of affairs prevailing in the leading hotels charging exorbitant rates, the condition of food in - ordinary hotels and restaurants can well be imagined.

It is for the health departments of the civic bodies to check periodically the hotels, restaurants and eating houses within their jurisdiction. The food inspectors must pay surprise visits to these- places and check the kitchens, the utensils, the crockery and cutlery and the drinking water containers (metal or earthen).

The cooks and the serving staff must also be examined by the medical officers and bear health certificates. The restaurants in schools, colleges and cinema houses must also be checked occasionally so also the canteens of factories and mills.

The health officers of these civic bodies must monitor the working of food inspectors regarding the samples of food they collect, the laboratory results of the samples, the challans submitted to the courts every months and their follow-on. The defaulters punished by the court must be given wide publicity as has been done in the present case. Such vigilant and stern action on the part of civic authorities will not only ensure hygienic food to the customers but will also help prevent the diseases emanating from eating unhygienic food and water.

Dr. Pir M. V Shallwani, Hyderabad

POOR TRAIN SERVICE

During my train journey to Lahore in a first class sleeper by Khyber Mail on March 29, 1989, in bogie No. 1583, seat No. B1, I was confronted with three problems which not only caused me tension but also disturbed my sleep. The train arrived at Hyderabad at 12.20 a.m. and had many passengers, probably ticketless, crowding the aisle. This obstructed many passengers who boarded the train from Hyderabad with reserved seats. Compartment 'B' had no light as the bulb was fused soon after the train left Hyderabad. The toilet had no water right from Karachi, as some passengers told me.

The attention of the ticket checker and the guard was drawn to these problems but nothing was done even at Rohri junction where the train arrived at 4.15 a.m. and stopped for half an hour. It was only at Khanewal that the water was filled in the tanks on my repeated complaint and the aisle was cleared of the unscrupulous passengers but the fused bulb was not replaced up to Lahore.

Will the Railways please take note of this complaint and see to it that the train is well checked from the starting point and at the main junctions on the way.

Dr. Pir M. V Shallwani, Hyderabad

KNEE JOINT SURGERY

The news in your esteemed daily of December 14, 1988 of “cement-less total knee joint replacement” operation performed by two orthopedic surgeons of Karachi on a 25 year old girl suffering from rheumatoid arthritis is a welcome news for the patients of this common disease and the medical profession in particular. The members of the profession and senior medical students must be anxious to know technical details of this unique operation performed for the first time in Pakistan. I request the PMA, Karachi branch, to organise a symposium on this subject in the PMA House or in the auditorium of Dow Medical College to enhance their knowledge of this latest surgical feat.

Dr. Pir M. V Shallwani, Hyderabad

NEGLECT

Believe it or not a section of an important and busy road in Hyderabad measuring about furlong has been under repairs for more than three years now. This portion of the Station Road, extending from Garikhata Chauk to the Municipal Workshop, was dug up in the center for laying waterpipes. The digging work went on at snail's pace and took about a year. Now since the middle of the last year the road is under repair and God alone knows when it will be completed and opened to traffic. On this road there is one cinema, two hotels, three restaurants, one bank, a National savings Center, about 10 shops of motor spare parts, five welding shops of consumer goods. The traffic the city station is diverted to the nearby Tulsidas Street which is too narrow for the heavy round-the-clock traffic. Through the columns of your esteemed paper, I urge the civic authorities to expedite the repairs as early as possible for the resumption of the smooth traffic on the main road to the city station.

Dr Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Prince Aly Road, Hyderabad.

HEALTH POLICY

A front page report in Dawn of December 29, 1988 said that “the new health policy being formulated on priority basis,” was “to be announced within the next six to eight weeks”.

It said, “A high level committee has been constituted by Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto to formulate the health policy in accordance with the PPP manifesto to finalise the draft of the new policy within a fortnight’s period.” The new health policy was also to envisage the creation of job opportunities for the unemployed doctors and better terms and conditions for the doctors in service.

More than four months have passed but the new health policy has not seen the light of the day. Are the people, the medical profession and the unemployed doctors hoping against hope?

This reminds me of the well known adage, “Saying is easy, doing is difficult.”

Dr. Pir M. V Shallwani, Hyderabad

CLEVER QUACKS

While the new Federal Health Minister is busy formulating new health policy, reducing the drug prices, creating jobs for unemployed doctors etc., the loopholes that exist at present in the health delivery system e.g. quackery, sale of spurious and date-expired drugs, bogus pharmaceutical firms and the sale of banned drugs under the chemists' counter at exorbitant rates goes unabated.

The quacks are inventing new methods of augmenting their money minting manoeuvres with clever innovations at the cost of patients' lives and their hard earned money. A quack having an eye clinic near Garikhata, Hyderabad, is distributing hand bills in Urdu and Sindhi all over the city chandelling the qualified doctors with Rs. 50,000 reward, to cure the eyes of patients which he has declared incurable, Though he has not disclosed his name, he has given his address as "Sind Clinic", Gari Khata, Hyderabad. Another quack, a Hakim, calling himself a 'Cancer Specialist' has got published a paid article in a daily Sindhi paper on "Cure of Cancer" dated January 25, 1989. A month later on 24th February 1989, he advertised in the same paper that a large number of people are anxious to know his name and he -has given his full address.

These are simply the cunning and clever methods of quacks to mislead and misguide the poor and innocent people to boost their business through the cheap and unethical methods in the absence of stringent health rules and regulations.

Will the Federal and Provincial Health Ministries take up cudgels against these quacks and charlatans who are bent upon fleecing the innocent public by playing with their health in this 20th Century scientific era.

Dr. Pir M. V Shallwani, Hyderabad

ASSTT. COMMISSIONER

The Sindh Public Service Commission, Thandi Sarak, Hyderabad, through a notification dated 30th December, 1988 invited applications for the posts of 20 Assistant Commissioners. The last date for submission of applications was 31-1-89. At least 15 to 20 thousand candidates obtained the application forms by paying Rs.55/- each and submitted the forms along with the testimonials of matric, intermediate and degree certificates from the principal and two notable citizens etc.

How much time and money each candidate must have spent for obtaining the original certificates and their Photostat copies apart from the conveyance charges, can well be imagined.

And all of a sudden the Sindh Government announced in the press that the posts of Assistant Commissioners have been cancelled without mentioning any reason. It is said the posts would be filled by the sweet will of the Sindh Chief Minister. The setback and disappointment of the aspiring candidates who were preparing for the hard competitive written and viva voice examination by purchasing costly books and visiting various public and private libraries can well be imagined. Such reversals or somersaults are least expected from any responsible elected government not even from the private organisation.

The sad aspect of the whole affair is that the candidates who had applied and paid for the competitive examination with high hopes have not been informed individually of this cancellation nor even through the leading English dailies. Only some regional papers disclosed the news of cancellation.

Now that the die is cast, the Government is urged to refund Rs.55/- to the candidates along with their precious documents.

Dr. Pir M. V Shallwani, Hyderabad

SALE OF MEDICINES

A news item in your esteemed paper of October 21, 1987 says the Pakistan Chemists and Druggists Association (PCDA) has voiced its concern to the Government for launching a drive against those chemists and druggists who sell medicines at higher prices than those fixed by the Government by pasting stickers on 'labels of packings. I' have been a practising doctor for many years and have come across a number of ampoules, vials and bottles of tablets, capsules and syrups tonics where the chemists have erased the prices of the drugs with markers and written the prices of their own choice. Even the expiry dates have been erased and fresh dates written to make good of their dead stocks of imported items. Anticipating short supply from the manufacturers through their agents, the wholesalers and retailers enhance the prices to their sweet will. Nowadays many Injections are in short supply and are being sold at various higher prices at different chemists counters.

The rates Of life saving drugs have already escalated with the approval of the Government and their short supply now has given impetus to the chemists to plough their harvest to the maximum at the cost of poor patients' health.

As regards the query of the IPCDA of the PCDA people will know that dealers are selling drugs at more than the prices revised by the Government, my reply is; The practicing doctors are well informed beforehand by the manufacturers trthrough the medical Press and mail whenever there is rise in the rates and we guide and inform the patients of the prices when we prescribe the medicines.

The Government's decision is consistent with the interests of the patients and the medical profession.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

UNCLEAR

On the back page of your esteemed paper of October 2, 1987, the news that a new medical college, was being set up in Karachi, 18 miles away on the Super Highway, for the next academic session, must have surprised the public in general and the medical profession in particular.

Sometime back, the Government had taken the decision that no more medical colleges would be opened in Pakistan in view of the glut of doctors and the paucity of house jobs in the affiliated hospitals and the consequent unemployment of the turnouts. The Punjab and the Sind Governments took the steps of reducing the number of seats in their colleges every year at the rate of 10 per cent to minimise the annual production of doctors. The Sind Government refused the KMC whose ex-Mayor wanted to establish a girls medical college in the premises of the Abbasi Shaheed Hospital considering the hardships 'faced by' the Karachi medicos at Nawabshah.

One wonders why the same government has now conceded to open another private medical college in Karachi when we already have the prestigious Aga Khan Medical College, with 100 seats, with latest and sophisticated medical gadgets and foreign trained medical and paramedical staff.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

ERUPTION OF VIOLENCE.

After a long lull, some cities in Sind mainly Karachi and Hyderabad witnessed disturbances in the last week of October resulting in closure of educational institutions, thin attendance in offices, non-availability of public transport, burning of vehicles, ransacking of some banks, damage to telephone exchanges and clashes between police and public resulting in some casualties.

The question is: Are we going to witness these disturbances and damage to public property each year?

Banning the ethnic regional and sectarian organisations is the only way out to rid the country of these disturbances every now and then. This will not only help maintenance of peace and tranquility but will also raise the economy and esteem of the country which is hurt with repeated riots and ravages.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

RAILWAY JOURNEY

On 5:11.87 I went to attend the 3rd International Congress of IAMANEH at Lahore by Tezgam in bogie No.1347, My berth (No. E-3 and 3-4), being broken, disturbed me throughout my long journey. As the seat had touched the floor it was impossible for me to put my luggage below the berth and sleep at night. So I passed the whole night sitting in one corner of my berth the toilet had no water as the tap was jammed. It also had no lights not even the natural from the window whose glass was painted black. On closing the door, it was total dark day and night.

On my return journey from Lahore on 11.11-87 by the same train, many passengers, without tickets, boarded the 1st Class bogie and squatted on the aisle outside the compartments. When the train started from Lahore I saw a ticket checker collecting cash from each passenger without issuing any ticket.

At Sahiwal Station when I complained to the Guard of the train, he said the aisle passengers would get down at Multan and we would have comfortable journey thereafter. Another train official said he was helpless in the matter.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

BREAST-FEEDING

At a seminar on ORT held recently at Islamabad, the speakers emphasised on breast feeding which, according to them, could help in bringing down the mortality rate of the infants in Pakistan by about 50 percent.

A leading fortnightly medical newspaper of Karachi in its latest issue (June 1-14, '88) says a quarter of a million infants in Pakistan die every year of diarrhoea and its related conditions due to bottle feeding. It further says Pakistan spends nearly Rs. 65 million on the import of powder milk and another Rs. 113 million for the purchase of bottles and teats from abroad yearly.

These high figures of infant mortality and foreign exchange can easily be curtailed if vast publicity of tinned baby foods in printed media, radio and television can also be curtailed and instead, a campaign is launched on the benefits of breast feeding as is being done now on family infections diseases.

It is said, "breast fed is best fed". Life is startling and even terrifying adventure to a new born baby. To make him feel that this new world is a friendly and welcoming place, he needs a great deal of warm and intimate contact with his mother. During his first few weeks, especially, he wants the smell and feel of his mother and closeness of her arms (Eleanor Lake).

Breast fed babies gain more weight, have few allergies, natural immunity to many diseases, few skin and digestive disorder and consider food as fun.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad

PRIVATE PRACTICE

According to press reports, the government is considering a ban on the private practice if doctors working in government hospitals and medical institutions. Complaints from medical students that professors don't come prepared for their lectures and even miss the classes, and from the patients that consultants don't attend OPD's nor see them in the hospital wards, are rampant.

No proper treatment is rendered to them and they are left to the mercy of under-training house doctors and registrars. Patients in the wards who wish to be examined by specialists are advised by the hospital paramedics to go to private clinics of the doctors which they are charged heavily.

Even those doctors working in the provincial secretariat or in the provisional secretariat or in the divisional offices are carrying on their private practice in the evening with impunity against the existing rules of service. This has resulted not only in maladministration but also in red tapism in the health department. The heads of pathology, ultra sound and physiotherapy departments in the hospitals are also running their own private clinics in the vicinity of the hospitals and near the clinics of the specialists in the city. The patients are diverted there on the pretext that hospital appliances are out of order or the technicians are on leave.

To circumvent this, it is urged that government doctors be barred from private practice.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V Shallwani, Hyderabad

HYDERABAD ROADS

The roads in Hyderabad in almost all the localities including Latifabad, already in bad shape with countless depressions and cavities, have become worse after the heavy monsoon showers. In most places the upper layer of asphalt is eroded and the next of stones is visible making the drivers take zigzag turns to avoid the projecting stones that can damage the tyres.

To add insult to injury, all the roads have triangular cone shaped speed-breakers which damage the underneath of the vehicles. And those roads which are cut across for laying the pipelines are not repaired for months together and they make deep depressions. Thus many roads give seesaw movements to the passengers of the vehicles to their utter anguish and annoyance.

A portion of the main road in the posh area near the Cantonment Board's office always remains submerged in water due to an underground leaking water pipe. Other streets and by lanes in Saddar, many speed-breakers and many manhole covers missing or dented making the driving very jerky and dangerous.

Will the authorities concerned please improve the pitiable road conditions of Hyderabad, Latifabad and Cantonment areas in the interest of the smooth road traffic.

Dr. Pir M. V Shallwani, Hyderabad

ONIONS

The article, "Little known facts about onions" (Dawn magazine 12.2.88) by Ms Rehana Anis is thought provoking, 'stimulating and panacea for those' suffering from heart attacks, cholera, cold, influenza, coughs, tonsillitis, skin diseases etc. No doubt onion is the best natural antiseptic, bacteriostatic and antibiotic which prevents us from many harmful diseases, the medical science still being unaware of its inherent properties and beneficial effects on human, animal and vegetable kingdom. Because it is a vital and important ingredient of many cooking dishes vegetable or Meat and it is handled mostly by women whose eyes water, when cutting it, by its pungent volatile smell, the women suffer less from the common eye ailments like trachoma, cataract and glaucoma than men, medical statistics reveal.

What to talk of ancient times when "onions were kept near the pillow of a sick", to quote the learned writer, even now many patients from rural areas are seen hanging onions, tied in a thread, around their necks a fact noted by many practising doctors.

Dr. Pir M. V Shallwani, Hyderabad

EYE INFECTION

The Eye infection or viral conjunctivitis in Karachi has given some unscrupulous chemists an occasion to make hay while the Sun shines. Almost all brands of eye drops and ointments have vanished from the market or are being sold under the counter at premium causing harassment to the affected persons.

With personal hygiene e.g. using clean handkerchief or small towel to wipe away the tears and washing the eyes frequently with clean water this self-healing disease disappears in 5-6 days.

On the other hand, nature has provided intrinsic defences in our body to ward off this malady How?

Through decades of studies scientists have found out that our body is safeguarded by an ingenious series of defences arranged in depth like the successive lines of an army entrenched to ward off invaders. Countless bacteria and viruses gain entry into our body through food and water, through air we breathe or through cuts in our skin. Yet we stay healthy.

Similarly a germ laden fleck of dust and raw water enter our eyes not infrequently. Since our eye surface is constantly bathed in tears which contain antibacterial or antiseptic lysozyme our eyes stay healthy. It is said that lysozyme is so powerful that a single teardrop diluted with half a gallon of water will destroy at least one species of germs (Ruth & Edward Brecher).

Nature's plan provides a great healing power in ourselves to keep fit and healthy. Without this defence in depth mechanism mankind cannot survive.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

SOME TACTICS

Dear Sir
If there is no dearth of touts in the legal profession, the medical profession does not lag behind. The indecorous and wanton methods of dragging the illiterate and gullible patients to their clinics has surprised and amazed even the layman on the streets.

In the Sahi Bazar of Hyderabad there is a narrow lane hardly 8-10 feet wide known as 'Doctor Lane' where at least 12-15 general practitioners are clustered on both sides of the street. Some of these doctors have equipped their clinics with X-Ray, ECG and mini-laboratories to augment their income without possessing any special knowledge of the subject.

But the novel method to lure and beguile innocent patients adopted by their hiring is to drag the passing patients adopted by their arms inside. If the patient says he want to go to Doctor XYZ, he is told that the particular doctor has gone to Karachi and will not return before 3-4 days. These hirelings acclaim and laud their Doctor of having X-Ray and ECG and charging less then other doctors in the same lane. They also assure the patients of 100 p.c cure in one day.

Similarly the hirelings of the doctors on the other side will drag the patient by the other arm and say "Dr. XYZ is inside. He is the doctor you're looking for. Our doctor will give you the best medicine and charge you only Rs.20/- for the glucose infusion. Thus, the scene of the tug of war is witnessed on the street by the public who are astonished at the tactics of the street Doctors. 'Oh, what a fall was there my countryman' – Julius Ceaser.

Dr Pir Mohammad V. Shallwani, Prince Aly Road, Hyderabad

UNETHICAL MEDICAL PRACTICE

Dear Sir,
Medical ethics do not allow members of the allopathic medical profession to make publicity or blow their private practice. But lately it is seen that some highly qualified doctors have adopted ingenious methods to browbeat these restrictions. Writing articles with photos, designations and addresses in vernacular regional papers is one of the novel devices adopted by two doctors who have recently started their practice here.

While one writes on common skin diseases the other writes on some tropical diseases. Though both cannot find equivalent Sindhi words to describe their laborious textbook translated diseases nevertheless they dub the technical words in brackets which are erratically printed and difficult to decipher.

And what can these readers of vernacular regional papers know about 'viral hepatitis' 'septicaemia' 'Bone marrow', 'staphylococcus Streptococcus', 'impetigo' etc. which are interjected in these articles.

And then why should the drugs like 'Fucidin' and Ampiclo' find their names as the drugs of choice in these articles? Is this not a publicity of these drugs at the instance of the manufacturers? Are then articles written for the welfare of the public or for self interest? I think these doctors want to show their expertise in these diseases, why don't they publish the same in medical newspapers and journals or deliver the lectures on the forum of the PMA for the benefit of their professional colleagues?

The Ministry of Health, the PM & DC, the PMA and APNS are urged to see to it that unethical articles misleading the masses and maligning the medical profession are avoided in the regional paper.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

BREAD PRICES

Once again the manufacturers of various brands of bread have increased the prices of all sizes sold in cellophane packings. The manufacturers increase the prices after every 3 to 6 months as if they were not answerable to any authority or as they are doing this under the protection of the authorities concerned. The reasons given are stereotyped i.e. increase in the rates of atta, sugar, salt and other ingredients used in the manufacture of bread. Lately, there has not been any increase in the prices of these materials except wheat. The increase in wheat price too is nominal. This time the price hike of big size bread is Rs.11.50 from Rs.10. In the past whereas previously the increase had always been 50 paise. The price of smaller sizes of bread have also increased by 50 paise though in the past it had been 25 paise only. All this shows the manufacturers have raised the prices of bread at will, ignoring the public interest and government Sanction.

Will the government please check this escalation in bread prices and come to the rescue of the public?

From Dr. Pir M. V Shallwani, Hyderabad.

MEDICAL EDUCATION

With reference to the article, "Destruction of medical institutions", by Dr. Syed Sher Shah (Dawn 2 .12.86) I wish to clarify and elucidate some points. Liaquat Medical College (LMC) and Dow Medical College (DMC) in Sind in the past were not the finest medical colleges in the country. No doubt Lahore's King Edward Medical College (KMC) and Fatima Jinnah Medical College are the oldest institutions and have high academic standards. The former recently celebrated its centenary. In the past, the DMC also had a high standard of teaching but ever since the previous regime increased the number of students on political grounds in all the medical colleges, DMC also was equated with the rest of the medical colleges in Sind. Now owing to various factors not only the standards of teaching has gone down and the quality of the turnouts has been far from satisfactory but the usual five-year course also gets stretched to seven or eight years, causing frustration among the students and their guardians. These factors and the glut of doctors and their unemployment in the country and abroad have made many a doctor go for CSS and PCS.

As regards medical professional bodies, the Pakistan Medical Association (PMA) is not a mandatory organization for the doctors. Being divided into factions which often engage in squabbles and brawls at its biennial conferences, many peace loving and serene doctors prefer to keep away from this organization. The Pakistan Medical and Dental Council (PMDC) is a government controlled body and has no voice of its own. Far from controlling the declining standards, of medical education, it has not even taken any punitive measures against doctors who indulge in unethical practices.

Standards and prestige of the medical profession can be raised only if the PMA and the PMDC raise their own standards and cooperate with each other under the umbrella of the Ministry of Health away from politics and polemics.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

CITY OF PROBLEMS

The “Hyderabad Newsletter” (14.9.86) highlighting the host of problems facing this second largest city in Sind really depicts a sad picture.

No doubt Hyderabad was once one of the cleanest cities in the Subcontinent. This had many parks and playgrounds in almost every locality but now these are extinct. Cricket and football games are now being played on the roads, putting at risk the lives of youngsters and hampering the vehicular traffic. It is sad that this city has not produced any Test Cricketer or sportsman/athlete worth the name.

Frequent power breakdown for the past fortnight has added to the miseries of the citizens. No day or night passes without power failure for hours together sometimes four or five times in one day. The water supply also is affected by the electric breakdown. As for the roads the less said the better. The dilapidated roads add disgrace to the city and cause damage to vehicles. It seems some roads in Latifabad were never constructed, nor the sewerage system. The roads and streets remain submerged in rain water for days till this naturally evaporates.

The encroachments on roads, streets and footpaths is a usual sight and goes on escalating every day with the connivance of the police and the municipal employees. Now all the amenity plots in Latifabad are Katchi Abadis.

The miseries of the citizens multiply each day with no hope of redress in the foreseeable future. Only a miracle can rescue the taxpaying citizens from further tensions and turmoils.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

GARDEN EAST

With reference to the article with photograph on high rise buildings in the posh locality of Garden East (Dawn 1.2.87), I would like to draw your attention to my letter, "Garden East" (21.11.85).

The letter said Garden East has remained a posh and prestigious residential locality since before partition. After partition, as the city expanded, many Ismailis migrated from India, Africa, Burma and other countries and settled in this area and it became a cosmopolitan area where calm, peace and tranquillity still prevails. Lately some house builders who mint money from this lucrative business have purchased bungalows near Jamat Khana and have constructed shops on the ground floor and flats on the upper storeys. It is reliably learnt that the KDA had first refused permission for shops in this purely residential area but now, for reasons best known to the high-ups of the KDA, this peaceful residential locality is being converted into commercial area much to the anguish, annoyance and protests of the Ismaili community.

That was 15 months back. Now, many bungalows on both sides of the Britto Road near the Jamat Khana have been purchased at premium by professional house builders and are being demolished to raise multistorey buildings in clear violation of the KDA's own December, 1972, Notification under the Master Plan.

Britto Road is now fast changing into Tariq Road with many video shops, general and electronic stores, restaurants, film-studios, bakeries etc springing up creating congestion and traffic hazards for the peace-loving residents of the locality and sacrilegising the sanctity of the Jamat Khana. The Ismaili ladies who used to go freely to their place of worship are now scared as, after sunset, many urchins and unsocial elements throng on both sides of the road to tease and harass them. Many brawls and scuffles have been reported. It is really sad to note that the Deputy Commissioner overlooks even the KDA Notification. This may be under pressure from powerful vested interests.

It is time the genuine grievances of the residents are considered sympathetically by the authorities and further communalization of this residential area stopped forthwith.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

UNFAIR

All the 20 doctors 'who appeared for D.G.O. (Diploma in Gynaecology and Obst.) from LMCH, Hyderabad, in 1986, have failed. And one of the failed candidates later on appeared for MCI'S and FCPS (1) and passed in both the examinations. The selection of the candidates was also based on bias. Barring a few, those who passed in regular MBBS examination were bye-passed and those of supplementary and second or third attempts were selected for the course. Furthermore, those doctors who appear for DCI (Diploma in child Health), a postgraduate diploma in paediatrics, are failed outright.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

DOG-BITE CASES

I have been regularly reading in your esteemed paper reports of dog bite cases in Karachi, the number of victims receiving antirabies vaccines daily, the storage facilities for these vaccines in the JPMC and CIIK, the cost of A.RVs, anti-pye dog campaign by the KMC, medieval methods of treating dog-bite cases etc. All this after the death of Mr. Muhammad Ayub, an employee of NA who died of hydrophobia recently. But what struck me was the news of March 31, 1987 in your esteemed paper that "the PIA Hospital had given ARV injections' to Mr Ayub's family members to prevent possible spread of the dog bite infection."

Medically, it was a waste of precious ARV injections and unnecessary painful pricks to members of late Mr Ayub's family because rabies is not an infectious disease like cholera, smallpox, measles, diptheria, pertussis or tuberculosis etc. which spread through the virus in the air, water and food. It is only through the bite of rabid dog, cat, jackal and wolf that the disease affects someone. The virus travels along nerve fibres from the bite to the brain cells.

It is only when a hydrophobic man bites another man that the disease is conveyed from man to man and not through any other source.

As pointed out in your esteemed paper of April 4, 1987, stepping up measures to eliminate pye-dogs from streets is the only way to eradicate rabies, the viral disease having no cure at present.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

ALLERGY

A news item in your esteemed paper (Jan.7) says the allergy cases are increasing in the Federal capital and doctors are coping with 5,000 cases per month. As senior practicing physician in Hyderabad, I have found case of allergy more in rural areas than urban because of poverty, illiteracy coupled with unhygienic conditions of living.

Since allergy is a contagious disease, if one member of a family is affected, the other member does not take precautionary measures to escape from this malady by avoiding the patient's personal articles such as spoon, glass, soap, cup, towel, bed etc. as the bacteria and viruses of the disease pass from the affected patient to the healthy one and thus other family members are affected.

In my practice I have come across instances where 5-6 members of the same family have the same symptoms of itching, urticaria and rashes on the skin. On questioning, they reveal they have been using the same house-hold articles since they are ignorant of how the disease spreads.

My advice to the general public, through the columns of your esteemed paper, is to strictly observe personal hygiene at home or place of work to avoid the communicable disease. Doctors can play a great role in teaching their allergic patients the rules of hygiene and health.

Dr. Pir Mohammad Shallwani, Hyderabad

CHILD LIFTERS

After the harrowing tale of camel-kids in your esteemed paper, comes the gruesome and hair-raising tale of child lifting in Quetta (Dawn 31.8.87). The modus operandi: Enticement with sweets and soft drinks, offer of free lift to their houses, good food at the hideouts and later on transporting them to Karachi for onward journey to Gulf and European countries for domestic employment or sale to childless couples for adoption. All this horrible account must have made everybody, especially the parents of school-going children, shudder in their shoes. Though the responsibility for leaving the children at school doorsteps and picking them up after school hours solely rests with the parents and guardians but the school authorities cannot be absolved from the responsibility of the safety of the taught. They must employ chowkidars posted at the school gates to keep an eye on suspected characters who frequent the school premises with ulterior motives.

The Government also should mete out harshest punishment to these gangsters who indulge in child trade as suggested by Begum Ra'ana Liaquat Ali Khan in her appeal to the President and the Prime Minister (Dawn 31.8.87).

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

DANGEROUS DISPENSING

All medical stores, according to the Government notification, are required to have qualified compounders at their counters to dispense correct medicines to patient or their relatives according to the doctors prescriptions.

But, it is generally seen this directive is more often flouted than honoured. The qualified compounders are paid monthly by the chemists to fulfill the legal formalities and thus hoodwink the patients, the doctors and the government at the expense of patients health and welfare.

Wrong medicines are dispensed by the semiliterate persons employed by these chemists at their counters. In some cases even the school-going children of the owners of these stores help their fathers / relatives to cope with customers without knowing ABC of the drugs.

Such medical stores dispensing wrong medicines not only harm and aggravate the patients agonies but also bring bad name to the prescribing doctors and the medical profession at large. One such medical store by name Ali Medical Store on Prince Aly Road, Hyderabad, is known for dispensing wrong medicines to the customers especially to those coming from rural areas.

In the recent past, some of my patients were dispensed by this so called medical store, Bayers Tonic instead of Baycuten Ointment, Diateben tablets instead of Dibenese tablets, Solu-Medrol instead of Solu-Decadron, Otosil drops instead of Otosporin drops, Saridon tablets instead of Sosegan tablets. The height of the grotesque was that on 29th July 1987 patient was given Disposable syringe instead of Dicynone tablets which I had prescribed. My annoyance and anguish can well be imagined.

Will the health authorities concerned please look into this complaint and cancel the license of this bogus medical store in the interest of the patients in general and medical profession in particular.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

DRUG PRICES

I have gone through the letter, "Drug prices" (282.85) from Mr Haji. Briefly I submit my comments:

Abdominal discomfort: It indicates a disorder, not necessarily serious or lasting, of one of the internal organs that lie in the region between the chest and the pelvis. These organs include the stomach, liver, pancreas, spleen, gall bladder, urinary bladder, kidneys, appendix and intestines; in women the ovary and the uterus. Various investigations have to be made to diagnose the "little tummy ache" and treat the cause. Peppermint oil is not a panacea and wrong medication or delay in treating the acute conditions of pain in appendix or gall bladder may prove harmful and dangerous.

Generic names: These were introduced by the former regime but with the passage of time it proved to be impractical. The generic or pharmaceutical names were lengthy, difficult to pronounce, difficult to remember and difficult to write. Doctor's hasty writing of these drugs were not only illegible for the chemists and druggists but also led to mistakes in dispensing of the proper drugs and medicines.

This "original and bold experiment in drug policy and management" failed in our country and was withdrawn by the same regime on the protests of the PMA and the pharmaceutical industry. The trade names of the drugs which are short and easy to remember eliminate the chances of wrong prescription and dispensation of the drugs. No developed country has adopted the generic scheme, as claimed by your correspondent.

High prices: Drugs and medicines are not immune to inflation which is universal and inevitable.

In our country the drug prices are controlled by the government and the prices are mentioned on each carton. No pharmaceutical firm dare raise the price without government sanction. This rule does not apply to other consumer goods whose prices, we find, keep escalating almost every month. The prices of these items being underbid and the margin of profit of the manufacturers is so high that we find flats, bungalows, cars, diamond sets, fridges, TVs, VCRs and motorcycles being offered as lucky prizes. At least pharmaceutical firms have not entered these ventures to show off the huge profits.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

DIALYSIS

Ms Nafisa Hoodbhoy's article, "The alternative to dialysis" front paged in the magazine section of your esteemed paper (14.6.85) was academic, thoughtful and highly informative not only for the general public but also for the medical profession.

That out of approximately 2,700 chronic renal patients 85 per cent die in our country because they cannot afford the costly treatment of haemodialysis is really sad and distressing. While dialysis equipment is installed in three or four of Karachi's public hospitals, Lahore, Rawalpindi, Quetta and Multan have one each. And Hyderabad, Sukkur, Faisalabad and Peshawar have none at all?

As for its formidable cost, recently a patient was referred by me to a private hospital in Karachi and he was charged, after bargain, Rs 8,000 for one dialysis. The patient had to undergo dialysis four to five times till he left for Bombay for kidney transplant. As said above; since only about 15 per cent of patients can afford such exorbitant cost of treatment, it is for the Government to install dialysis machines in all the district hospitals of the four provinces so that poor and middle class patients can avail themselves of this modern lifesaving treatment at moderate rates. The haemodialysis machines and dialyzer coils should also be exempted from import, custom and other duties so that the private sector could import the equipment for the convenience of more patients in major towns. The College of Physicians and Surgeons, Pakistan, also is urged to start postgraduate course in nephrology or urology to have more surgeons in this specialised branch for the kidney transplants for which patients have to go abroad at a heavy cost in precious foreign exchange.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

SADDAR CONGESTION

This refers to the letter “Saddar congestion” from Mr Mohammad Zafar (2.2.86). I wholeheartedly support his second suggestion, regarding clearing of hawkers from Footpaths (giving them alternative accommodation around St. Andrew’s Church) on the three main roads in Saddar Preedy Street, Abdullah Haroon Road and Aga Sultan Mohammad Shah Road, and the back street intersecting the last two named roads. As a matter of fact walking on the footpaths adjoining the compound wall of this Church, one has either to keep handkerchief on the nose or hold breath to avoid the stinking urinary smell. The back street, having un-cleaned municipal toilets, has terrible faecal odour. In fact this spot is a slur upon Saddar, the heart of the City frequented by citizens and tourists. The construction of shops around the compound wall of this old Church will not only bring handsome income to the Church authorities but will also help remove the vendors and hawkers from the footpaths and eliminate the insanity nuisance from the fashionable rendezvous of the metropolis.

It is hoped the Church authorities and the city fathers will consider this suggestion and beautify the hub of the city.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

FAKE MEDICINES

The news in the Press that the FIA had unearthed a racket of fake medicines with labels imitating firms making products like Maxicam, Benadryl, Ampilox etc must have caused shock and concern to the public in general and the medical profession in particular.

What is more reprehensible is that a doctor, a medical store and a printing press were involved in this. This indeed is a heinous crime as it aggravates the condition of the sick, discredits the innocent doctor, maligns the manufacturing firm and denigrates the medical store.

Already, the health of patients was being played with by quacks with impunity and now these spurious drugs will only add insult to injury for the innocent who purchase these drugs from their hard earned and sometimes borrowed money.

These antisocial elements must be awarded exemplary punishments as capital punishment for smuggling narcotics is awarded in some countries and the same is being contemplated in our country. I think the makers of fake medicines and drugs deserve no less punishment to curb this crime against humanity.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

ANTI-RABIES VACCINE

I have gone through your commendable editorial of May 3.

While you have emphasised on the availability of vaccine in Karachi hospitals, you have ignored the prophylactic measures to minimise the need for this vaccine. For this the responsibility falls on the civic authorities to kill the stray dogs in and around the city with dog-catching gangs or with baits. All measures should aim at eliminating the pye-dogs to save the people from dog bites vis-a-vis exposing them to the 14 agonising and painful intra-abdominal injections.

Also you have not championed the cause of hospitals in major cities and towns of Sind where such vaccines are always extinct and the pye-dogs are plenty and the victim die mercilessly due to ignorance, poverty, lack of publicity from the dangers of rabid dog-bites and non-availability of the vaccine.

In Hyderabad, the second largest city of Sind, there is only one hospital (LMCR) where antirabies vaccine is available but not always, The victims of 'dog-bite from Latifabad have to go there to save their lives from the sure killer disease.

I would rather suggest that measures be focussed on preventive and not curative side. What an irony that while developed countries have got rid of flies and mosquitoes, we cannot purge the pye-dogs even in urban areas, let alone in rural areas.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

SCARE SYNDROME

Since the kidnapping of Prof. Dr. Hussain Ahmed Shah of the Biochemistry Department, LMC, Jamshoro, last month, scare has gripped the families of the rest of the teaching staff of the medical college and the nearby Sind and Mehran Universities. Now the teachers soon after leaving home, telephone from their departments their safe arrival. In case of delay, members of the family ring up to ascertain their safety. If the teachers get late, the students and the staff contact their residences. And, if the students want to postpone their practical examinations, they write threatening letters to the examinees. In one recent incident, a senior lady professor at the Chandka Medical College, Larkana, received such a letter. It was only after receiving solemn assurances and pledges from students, staff and law enforcing agencies that she agreed to conduct the gynae examination there.

Medical colleges in Sind usually take seven years, instead of the normal five to turn out graduates, with these tactics it will now stretch to eight or nine years, jeopardising the career of the serious students and putting extra economic burden on the poor and middle class families.

Here I am reminded of Julius Caesar's quotation: "Oh! What a fall was there, my countrymen".

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

VANISHING FOOTPATH

In Hyderabad some of the main roads were reconstructed last year. The level of these roads was raised to 4 to 6 inches resulting in the disappearance of the footpaths which were not reconstructed.

Prince Aly Road, one of the main arteries, was one of them. Since the Municipality did not reconstruct the footpaths the owners of hotels restaurants, bakeries, shops, and residential buildings on this road have constructed footpaths with hexagonal bricks, cement, mosaic, tiles, marbles etc.

Now on these embellished footpaths the hotel and restaurant owners have placed chairs and tables for their customers, the shopkeepers have put their wares for display, the Silawat Masjid and Khoja Jamat Khana have installed fancy light poles and the Market Police Station has constructed a cemented parapet wall.

In cone portion of the road, known as Silawat Mohalla, a residential area of about a furlong long, the owners have constructed verandahs, garages, toilets, store rooms in front of their buildings where once existed the foothpaths.

All these unauthorized structures on both sides of this busy, dual traffic road in the heart of the city give a queer and bizarre look to a visitor to this third largest city of Pakistan. The pedestrians have no alternative but to walk on the road and risk their lives to the heavy traffic flowing on both sides. There being three schools on this road, the children face greater risk to the hazards of these vanishing footpaths.

Through the columns of your esteemed paper, I urge the civic authorities to remove these encroachments on this busy road in the interest of the beauty of the city in general and safety of the pedestrians in particular.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

QUACKERY FLOURISHING

Sir,
Of late some articles have appeared in the Press regarding quacks who are practising, with impunity, in urban and rural areas playing with the lives of the patients with their superficial and scanty knowledge of medicines and drugs without knowing their pharmacology and toxicology.

Quackery has since long been regarded as a scourge in the medical profession but now it has assumed a perennial pattern leading to a malignant malady. It has so widely permeated the medical profession that for a layman it has become difficult to distinguish a doctor from a quack till either the patient's condition worsens or he succumbs to the effects of wrong and injurious medicines.

Lately some "Health Clinics," "Bone clinics," Eye Clinics, "Chest Clinics" and "Cancer Clinics," prefixed with a particular name and managed by quacks, have sprung up in various localities on the main roads and streets of Hyderabad. Some of them have been inaugurated by the provincial Health Ministers, members of National and Provincial Assemblies and local councilors giving them wide publicity in the vernacular Press where tempting and luring advertisements of these quacks are regularly published with guaranteed cure for the diseases which in scientific medicine require surgical remedy e.g. gall stones, kidney-stones, cataract, abscesses, multiple fractures etc.

To some extent, even doctors are responsible for promoting and perpetuating quackery. It has been observed that in government, semi-government and municipal dispensaries doctors usually come late or remain absent and it is left to the compounders and dressers to dispose of the patients by giving them routine mixtures, tablets and capsules. Even in private clinics the compounders carry on the "practice" on the doctor's instructions if they are late or are out of stations.

This is how quackery flourishes.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

PAYING PRICE FOR PAMPERING

Since the present government has come to power, I find the race for sending delegations abroad, between the Senate Chairman and the National Assembly speaker on one pretext or the other, ostensibly to increase the 'Mutual benefit' between the two countries. Every time, the chairman and the speaker take 8-10 members of the Senate and the National Assembly respectively. While one returns, the other is ready to go. Each delegation is spending lakhs of rupees of our national exchequer in foreign exchange. While the Prime Minister is adopting measures to save the national wealth. This squandering of public money for the sight-seeing abroad on the flimsy ground to cement the ties between the two countries is nothing but mockery of democracy and befooling the public through the government media. We are paying very high price to pamper the Senate and Assembly members for their support to the government.

Will the President and Prime Minister please stop this bogey of the foreign visits so frequently at the cost of our national wealth and utilize the money for upgrading the standard of our people who have no shelter, food and clothes and are seen begging on the streets?

Dr Pir Mohammad Shallwani, Hyderabad (Sindh)

POPPY VS. WINE

The sad and deplorable Gadoon incident resulting in the death of eight persons has caused furore and fury in the country and its echo was heard even in the National Assembly. The Federal and Provincial Governments, according to the Federal Interior Minister have expressed regrets over the ugly incident.

In the national Assembly the leader of the Independent Parliamentary Group was of the view that if poppy cultivation in our country is harmful to the western countries then wine production there is also detrimental to our country as it leads to intoxication, addiction and is un-Islamic.

In our subcontinent poppy cultivation has keep going on since time immemorial and is a source of bread and butter for many families- as is wine, whisky and beer for many a people in the western hemisphere.

But whereas 'wine in western countries is used as a luxury liquor to provide pleasure or to give relief from anxiety, tension and perturbation, opium from poppy has important and vital medicinal value and is an essential ingredient in drug manufacturing. Medically from poppy or papaver somniferum opium is obtained as a juice. After drying this juice it is converted into alkaloids, morphine, pethidine, codeine, thebaine, noscarpine, papavarine etc. depending upon the percentage of opium.

Therapeutically they are used to relieve pain, nocturnal dyspnoea (difficulty in breathing), distressing haematemesis, to control restlessness, persistent cough, diarrhoeas and to give relief to the dying.

Thus it will be seen that eradication of poppy cultivation will mean depriving the medical profession of a very useful therapeutic ingredient and adding suffering, sorrow and torture for the ailing humanity.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

UNETHICAL PRACTICES

Medical ethics do not allow members of the allopathic medical profession to make publicity or blow their trumpets in the public to boost their private practice. But lately it is seen that some highly qualified doctors have adopted ingenious methods to circumvent these restrictions.

Writing articles with photos, designations and addresses in vernacular regional's papers is one of the novel device adopted by two doctors who have recently started their practice. While one writes on common skin diseases the other writes on some tropical disease. Though both cannot find equivalent Sindhi words to describe their laborious text book translated diseases nevertheless they dub the technical words in brackets which are erratically printed and difficult to decipher.

And what can these readers of vernacular regional papers know about viral hepatitis septicaemia, Bone Marrow, Staphylococcus, Streptococcus etc., which are interjected in these articles.

The Ministry of Health, the PM & DC, the PMA and APNS are urged to see to it that unethical profession are avoided in the regional papers.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

AN EYEWASH

The clarification by the Pakistan Chemists and Druggists Association through a Press release regarding expired medicines and drugs sold by the chemists is an eyewash.

It is an open secret that drug inspectors and chemists are hand in glove with one another. The drug inspectors have their monthlies fixed by the chemists and no action is taken even if cognizable complaints are brought to their notice by the doctors. Half literate persons not conversant with the pharmaceutical names, are employed by the chemists in violation of the rules who dispense wrong medicines to the illiterate patients or their relatives, especially from the rural areas, making the condition of the patients worse than what it was and bringing bad name to the prescribing doctors in particular and medical profession in general.

Only recently I came across two cases when instead of Zantac, Zentel was dispensed and instead of Diabenese, Diateben was dispensed. My bringing this gross mistake to the notice of the concerned health authorities brought no tangible results. If keeping of stocks after there is not an offence, why keep them on shelves? They should be kept in the backyard of the store or in the godowns and their labels be defined with a cross by a marker so that the mistake is avoided in the interest of the patients. Through the columns of your esteemed paper I urge the health authorities to see to it that the Drug Act 1976 is scrupulously observed by the chemists under vigilant surveillance of the drug inspectors.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

NIAZ STADIUM

The Niaz Stadium in Hyderabad is the only cricket ground where Test and one day cricket matches against international teams are played. In November last, New Zealand played a Test match on this ground with our team.

Before the game is played thousands of rupees are spent by the BCCP to level the ground and pitch and make it worthy of a Test match. Even otherwise the HMC spends thousands of rupees on its upkeep and maintenance for the local teams.

About a week back, for the first time in the history of Niaz Stadium, the HMC allowed a notable of this city to solemnize the marriage of his son on this ground. Due to freezing weather many covered shamianas were erected on the ground for 2-3 thousands guests and the valima dinner.

One can easily imagine what must have happened to the lawns of the cricket ground under the feet of so many people besides the bamboos and big nails stuck into it for the erection of so many shamianas not to speak of the bones and leftovers from the plates. It is said a big cooking vessel, a Degchi full of raita had fallen on the pitch and completely spoilt it.

Thus thousands of rupees spent on proper maintenance of this prestigious cricket ground were drained overnight due to a wrong decision.

Will the BCCP and the civic authorities please see to it that the Stadium grounds are not used for any purpose other than sports and that this principle is scrupulously and meticulously adhered to.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

METER READERS

It is learnt that some lady councilors of the HMC have suggested to the WAPDA authorities to appoint lady meter readers for the residential areas. It is often noted that meter readers visits the houses during morning hours when menfolk are away at work and the grown up children are at schools or colleges. The lone ladies at home hesitate to allow meter readers inside the premises where meters are usually fixed.

Complaints of misconduct against these meter readers have also been reported from time to time, while unsocial elements, in the guise of meter readers, have committed thefts, robberies and criminal assault on the helpless women folk taking advantage of the absence of the male members.

The suggestion is sound and worth consideration by the WAPDA authorities as it will not only facilitate prompt meter reading but also eliminate complaints of misbehavior towards the lady inmates of the houses. This will also boost employment of educated girls.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

FORENSIC MEDICINE

Medical Jurisprudence, forensic medicine or legal medicine, is an important subject in the curriculum of MBBS. It is taught to the senior medical students by a police surgeon having considerable medico-legal knowledge and experience. In his professional career the doctor, sometimes, will have to give evidence as medical jurist in a court of law to prove the innocence or guilt of his fellow subjects or to authenticate or disprove a criminal charge of assault, rape or murder brought against an individual. Apart from theoretical teaching of this subject, its practical side is very important as it is altogether practical subject and class lectures should be illustrated with demonstration of the cases. The students, in batches, should be taken to criminal courts when any cases of medico-legal interest are being tried. The students should get ample opportunities to examine cases, of injury and poisoning and witness autopsies of medico-legal importance. Similarly, students should be taken also to mental hospitals to see cases of insanity and its medico-legal aspects.

For many seats this vital subject was not being taught to students at the LMC, Jamshoro. It is only for the past some years that only theory classes have been started. The students of Larkana and Nawabshah medical colleges do not have even the theory classes, for want of teachers.

I urge the Ministry of health, the PM & DC and the college authorities to enable the students to acquire theoretical and practical knowledge in the subject so as to make medical Jurisprudence also a postgraduate specialty.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

POOR ROADS

The condition of most roads, streets, and bylanes in Latifabad is unworthy of vehicular traffic. Ever since this modern satellite town, across the railway track in Hyderabad, came into existence in 1950, the roads and streets have not remained so neglected and overlooked as at present.

The main dual traffic road of this modern town extending front time railway crossing to the Muhammadi Hospital, in unit No. 5, is in a shambles now. It is the busiest long road in Latifabad having school; hospitals, nurseries, marriage hall, car showrooms, government offices, shops and decent bungalows on both sides. It leads to Units No. 2,5,6,7,9,10 and 11.

Thousands of vehicles including cars, trucks, mini-taxis, rickshaws, scooters and suzukis pass on this road round the clock. About eight months back the left side of this road was excavated for laying pipelines but as yet it has not been repaired and it has become a nightmare for the drivers. In the meantime, countless ditches, depressions and deep cavities have developed on the remaining portion of the road giving it a very bad shape. The traffic on this main artery of Latifabad flows at a snail's pace damaging vehicles, raising dust clouds and giving jerks to the 'occupants of the vehicles and tilting the contents of the carriers.

Through the columns of your esteemed paper, I urge the civic authorities to reconstruct this road in the interest of residents of Latifabad and the smooth flow of traffic on this important and busy (and, yet unnamed) road of the satellite town.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

UNETHICAL

Sometime back I had written about the unethical practice of a physician here who used to write question-answer series on medical subjects beyond his jurisdiction every week in a vernacular paper with his name and photograph giving the proprietary names of drugs of various companies.

The outcome of that letter was that the physician concerned realised his folly and stopped the articles. Now another doctor seemingly a new graduate has started writing in the same paper under the caption “Why heart attacks?” with his name in bold letter and photograph. In the article he has used many technical medical words and the names of drugs with its dosage in English.

Everybody knows that heart disease is a highly specialised subject and every doctor, let alone a common man, cannot diagnose it or suggest self-medication for its cure. Obviously, the article with its high technical words and names of the drugs will not help the common man except the writer for his self-projection. And this contravenes not only the ethics of the medical profession but also the rules and by-laws of the Medical Council. Through the columns of your esteemed paper, I urge the Health authorities, the PM & DC and the PMA to see to it that members of the medical profession do not adopt quack like methods.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

SPEED-BREAKERS

I have read several letters and seen a photograph of speed breakers on the Mahabat Khanji Road in the Kharadar area in Karachi in your esteemed paper, the latest being one from Mr S.A. Khan (8.2.85).

They say "seeing is believing." About a week back I had the chance to pass on this road in a rickshaw from Lea Market to KMC's Dispensary in Kharadar. It was horrible, loathsome and incredible when the rickshaw driver and myself swung up and down the vehicle in amusement and in anguish. While we smirked at this seesaw, some children on the footpath simply sneered at our swing in the rickshaw. It is said these multiple speed-breakers were built by the KMC at the instance of the residents of the area after a child's fatal accident. But do such accidents not occur on roads, streets and bylanes in other parts of the City? Is not the KMC creating a precedent to dot all the roads with speed-breakers like the one under reference? I wonder whose brain-wave it was to convert this wide road into a mosaic of rectangles. Apart from delaying the fire tenders, ambulances and doctors to reach their destinations quickly, the automobiles, moving in first or second gears, apart from damage, consume more petrol whose price has reached sky-high and is imported at the cost of our precious foreign exchange.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

APPETITE STIMULANTS

S ometime back it was reported in the national Press that two drugs, pizotifen and cyproheptadine (generic names) sold under their trade names as appetite stimulants in the Third World countries were hoax played in the general public as well as the medical profession. The WHO has not recognised these drugs for lack of proper evidence and the FDA in America also considers their claim as inadequate.

Senior members of the medical profession will recall that cyproheptadine, when first introduced in our country, was claimed to be a good antihistamine drug with drowsiness as side-effect. The manufacturers of pizotifen, under its trade name in our country claim it to be appetite stimulant while in other countries, the same manufacturers claim it as treatment for migraine and warn of appetite stimulation, weight-gain, dizziness and nausea as side-effects. Are not the manufacturers playing a dubious game in the promotion of their drugs? Is this not a malpractice?

Medically, loss of the appetite is a common complain in various diseases especially of gastrointestinal tract (GD). It is important to treat the underlying cause rather than artificially stimulating the inner lining of the delicate intestines. Malnutrition should be treated with food and not with drugs. These so-called appetite stimulants, it may be remembered, are not even on the list of essential drugs of WHO.

In our country even many middle class families cannot afford the cost. When they spend money on drugs, they have to forego some essentials of life. To misguide and beguile them with tall claims of stimulating their appetite and bring weight-gain without treating the underlying cause, is not only unethical but also fraudulent and deceptive.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

RENAMING ROADS

According to a news item, the Karachi Development Authority has recently constituted a committee , under the Sind Local Government (Amendment) Ordinance 1981, for naming and renaming of different streets, roads, public places, townships and projects of public housing in different parts of Karachi. According to the notification the naming and renaming would be done under certain categories of service to the nation and Islam, one is work in the field of art, culture, science and education or notable public service.

It is surprising to note that the KDA's naming Committee, which consists of members from all walks of life, does not include any member from the medical profession to suggest the name of a prominent doctor.

Be that as it may, through the columns of your esteemed paper I urge the Naming Committee to consider the names of Dr. O.V. Jooma the neuro surgeon of international repute who sacrificed his life for the cause of medical profession; and Dr. Nagi, who sacrificed his life for the cause of medical education, while naming or renaming the main roads as reminder to the people of personalities who have left their footprints on the sands of time.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

BEAUTIFYING HYDERABAD

Once again we hear about beautifying the city of Hyderabad – first from the erstwhile Mayor of Hyderabad and now from a Sindh minister who recently visited Hyderabad in connection with the two bomb blasts killing 24 people.

The citizens of Hyderabad are really amazed that while the basic needs of the city remain unfulfilled and ignored, how can its beautification be envisaged when even the security of the citizens is now at stake and no one finds himself / herself safe at any locality at any time.

While the roads and streets are in a shambles, open drains and gutters overflowing, street lights fused, footpaths and main roads full of encroachments, numerous speed-breakers retarding the smooth flow of traffic, walls of schools, colleges and public buildings displaying obscene advertisements of hakims and quacks and no potable water of beautifying Hyderabad? I consider it a hollow and futile talk to hoodwink the citizens of Hyderabad.

Dr Pir Mohd V Shallawani, Hyderabad

FIRST-AID LESSON

The death by drowning of a five-year-old boy in a roadside water tank built for an under-construction mosque will be grieved by all. It is said the child was rushed to the nearby Abbasi Shaheed Hospital but he breathed his last on his way. The doctors at the hospital opined that the life could have been saved if first aid was administered in time.

Such accidents of drowning, burning, heatstroke, nose-bleeding, snakebites etc. frequently occur almost everywhere in cities, towns and villages. Many a life can be saved if first aid is rendered to the victims by the public before proper medical aid is made available. For this I suggest the Pakistan Medical Association and other social welfare organizations should start a campaign of teaching first-aid techniques to the general public through the mass media, i.e press radio and television. The last will be more educative and useful as demonstration of the first aid methods can be shown on the screen. In schools the students of higher class should be given first aid classes by health officers.

Dr Pir Mohd. V.Shallwani, Prince Aly Road, Hyderabad.

REFERRAL SYSTEM

A consultant cardiologist of Karachi in an article in the leading national morning English daily of Karachi has exposed the cliques of some consultants by rotating the large corporations or companies patients from one specialist to another for the sake of inflating their bills.

The evil of this malpractice are not only confined to consultants in the medical profession but the paramedics i.e. ward-boys, nurses, compounders and technicians of the hospitals are also part and parcel of this racket.

Nowadays almost all the specialists working in Government, semi-government and Municipal hospitals have opened their private clinics, laboratories, X-Ray, Ultrasound and physiotherapy clinics in the nook and corners of the cities and big towns. And it is these paramedics who 'advise' the patients to go to these private clinics if they want quick and reliable treatment. For getting expeditious admissions in the wards of the hospitals, the patients are 'directed' to consult the physicians or surgeons at their private clinics. They say "money makes the mare go" and this, no doubt holds good here. As for the referral system, specialists, as soon as they set up their private clinics, approach the general practitioners to refer to them perplexing cases or those requiring X-Ray or laboratory investigations. Of course, it is done "under special financial arrangements between various parties" to quote the consultant. No consideration is given to hardships, embarrassment and monetary loss suffered by the poor, innocent and gullible patients. The irony is that PMA Pundits, knowing well all these cliques and rackets in the medical profession, keep mum for the reasons best known to them.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

TUG OF WAR ON PATIENTS

If there is no dearth of touts in the legal profession the medical profession does not lag behind. The indecorous and wanton methods of dragging the illiterate and gullible patients to their clinics has surprised and amazed even the layman on the street. In the Shahi Bazar of Hyderabad there is a narrow lane hardly 8-10 ft wide known 'Doctors Lane' where at least 12-15 general practitioners are clustered on both side of these doctors have equipped their clinics with X-Ray, ECG and mini-laboratories to augment their income without possessing any special knowledge of the subject.

But the novel method to lure and beguile the innocent patients adopted by their herrings is to stand outside the clinic and drag the passing patients by their arms inside if the patient says he wants to go to Dr. XYZ he is told that the particular doctor has gone to Karachi and will not return before 3-4 days, These hirelings acclaim and laud their doctor for having X-Ray and ECG and charging less than the other doctors in the same lane. They assure the patients of 100% cure in one day.

Similarly, the hirelings of the doctors on the other side of the street will drag the patient by the other and say "DR XYZ is inside", will give you the best medicine and charge you only Rs. 20/- for the glucose infusion".

Thus, the scene of tug of war on patients is witnessed on the street by public who are astonished at the manoeuvre and tactics of the street doctors to fetch their patients. Oh! What a fall was there my countrymen – Julius Ceaser

Dr. P.M. Shallwani

ASTHMA

The news that the incidence of asthma is higher in the coastal regions of Pakistan (Dawn 1.7.85) will not cause eyebrows to be raised in the medical profession. Asthma is more common in coastal areas all over the world.

Two basic factors are: infection of the nose, sinuses, bronchi or lungs; and allergic reactions, which may be hereditary, or sensitivity to pollens, house dust, animal dander, molds, insecticides, wool, cotton, fungal spores, certain foods or medicines. Emotional stress is also a major factor.

Chronic patients who have tried Unani, homoeopathic or allopathic medicines for long without permanent relief, have shown durable improvement after a change to warm and dry climate.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

GOING TO THE DOGS

While the hollow promises of the former mayor and members of the erstwhile Hyderabad Municipal Council of developing and beautifying Hyderabad remained elusive, even the basic civic amenities have not been provided to the citizens, e.g. good roads, street lights, potable water, sanitation, hygienic food, etc. All sections of the city's main Navalrai Market – meat, fish, vegetable and fruit are in dilapidated condition. The fish section has no roof as it was demolished for reconstruction about 8 years back. The sellers and buyers of fish are exposed to the sun and wind. The floor of the vegetable section has deep ditches filled with water sprinkled by the sellers to keep their perishable stock fresh. The meat section has no wire gauze and swarms with flies. Encroachments can be seen all over the city. The footpaths have vanished, concealed under the merchandise of the shopkeepers. The gutters are overflowing on the roads and streets, hampering the smooth traffic and are a nightmare for the pedestrians. The Civic authorities are urged to pay attention to the growing problems of the city which are detrimental to the citizens of the second largest city of Sindh.

From Dr. Pir. M. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

JAMSHORO ROAD

Starting from Police Kiosk in cantonment area upto Jamshoro Colony, I have noted the following points which are worth consideration and rectification. The Municipal Octroi post is situated on the left side of the road while the trucks and other vehicle, bringing merchandise to Hyderabad from Karachi and Dadu, park on the other side of the road. This creates road block and congestion hampering the smooth flow of the traffic.

Near the Filter Plant, four speed-breakers have been recently erected on this thoroughfare on each side of the newly established police check-post. These speed breakers are very high and pointed like triangles. Many accidents have taken place resulting in severe injuries to passengers and tilting of the contents of the vehicles. A few days back I saw a piece of this road with spilt milk as all the milk cans in the Suzuki van had fallen down with severe jerk on these speed-breakers.

On a big signboard on eastern side of the Indus river it is written "Kotri Barrage One km ahead" while on the similar board on the western side of the river it is written "Kotri Bridge One km ahead". It is a real wonder that the highway authorities have not noticed this gross mistake.

Authorities concerned are requested to rectify the above points in the interest of tourists, smooth traffic and safety of the travelling public and vehicles on Jamshoro Road.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

BUS TO KARACHI

I travelled to Karachi on October 4, 1984 by bus No. 969-418. The tape-recorder inside the bus was blaring at a deafening volume. On my protest the volume was lowered down to some extent. When I asked the driver and the conductor how they were playing music despite the government's recent ban, they said they had no knowledge of the order.

Though the bus was full to capacity, at Jamshoro railway crossing the conductor allowed in more passengers making some of them sit between the two seats and the rest to stand on aisle. The overcrowding together with their luggage made the journey torturous. At the midway restaurant, the driver made the passengers wait for 40 minutes as he and the conductor were busy with sumptuous lunch, cold drinks, cigarettes and 'pan' provided free by the cafe owner. By the way, this facility is provided to all the drivers and conductors who make a halt at the restaurant.

In Karachi, near the Tin Hati petrol pump, the driver filled the tank with 85 litres of diesel and had another cold drink and cigarette. This wasted 20 more minutes of the passengers. From Hyderabad to Karachi it took us nearly four hours while this should take less than three hours.

Will the Traffic authorities please look into this matter and see to it that passengers travel in comfort and that their time is not wasted by the drivers?

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

LATIFABAD-HYDERABAD ROAD

One track of the Latifabad Hyderabad dual road is out of use for the last six months, having been destroyed by the heavy downpour last year. The traffic of this double Track road now flows only on the other track which is narrow, not meant for the two-way heavy traffic round the clock.

The Hyderabad-Karachi air-conditioned buses also start from Latifabad and they have made their stand near a petrol pump on this road, the rickshaws, eager to carry passengers to and from Latifabad, have also made their stand there. This has simply aggravated the traffic turmoil on this narrow road causing bottleneck congestion.

It is not understood why the Cantonment authorities, in whose territory this road lies, are keeping mum over this traffic hazard, The congestion and traffic jam has become a vulnerable point of many small accidents and skirmishes.

The authorities concerned are urged to pay immediate attention to this nightmare of commuters between Hyderabad and Latifabad and restore smooth traffic to save their time in reaching the place of their work on time.

Dr. Pir Mohammad V. Shallwani.

HEALTH FACULTIES IN LATIFABAD

Dear Sir,
The new satellite town, Latifabad, on the other side of the railway track in Hyderabad, was built in 1950. The roads, streets, parks, markets, schools, colleges and other civic amenities were well planned except the hospitals, storm-water drains and filtered water-supply in each of its 12 units.

But life in this so-called modern satellite town is not easy, comfortable and without mental tension at any day, in any unit. During rainy season, due to lack of storm-water drains, water stagnates on the roads and streets, knee deep, for days together and roads give in at short time at many places. They also become the breeding grounds for mosquitoes creating nuisance for the residents.

Unlike Hyderabad where clean water is supplied from the Filter Plant, Jamshoro, in Latifabad we get muddy water without any pressure. To avoid water-borne diseases, the water has to be boiled every day for drinking.

The only 50-bed Shah Bhitai Hospital opened 2 years back in Unit No, 5 has no medicolegal section and all accident cases are referred to the LMCH about six miles away. There are only two Municipal dispensaries working in the morning hours only with inadequate medicines. In short, there is no proper health cover for the residents of Latifabad. Pye dogs are in abundance here. I have not seen any Municipal campaign against these street dogs for the last 10 years. The victims of dog bites have to go to LMCH for antirabies vaccines daily for 14 days as there is no vaccine at Bhitai Hospital. Stray cattle is also a great nuisance as they sit on the middle of the road and create traffic hazard, A buffalo in front of each bungalow under a kutchha shed is a common site in Latifabad. Will the authorities concerned please bring this satellite town to the image that was envisaged at the time of its planning and let the residents of this town have a sigh of relief from the problems mentioned above.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

SQUEEZE

I was amused to read the statement of the Federal Minister for Communications (Sept. 29) that the recent increase in the telephone call-charges was levied by the Federal Ministry of Finance as excise duty and not by the Ministry of Communications. In short, he wanted to absolve himself and his Ministry from the blame for the increase, little realising whether the money is put in one pocket or the other, it goes to the same coat.

The telephone subscribers' anguish for the unjustified increase in the call charges is all due to the Government, no matter through which route the money is squeezed from them.

From Dr. Pir M. V Shallwani, Hyderabad

LIFE IN LATIFABAD

The new satellite town, Latifabad on the other side of the railway track in Hyderabad, was built in 1950. While the roads streets, parks, markets, schools colleges and other civil amenities were well planned the lack of hospitals, storm-water drains and the problem of supplying filtered water to this part of the town have caused great hardship to the residents.

Since 1950 many modern bungalows, flats and houses have sprung up. Today many Government semi-Government in this private offices are located in this part of Hyderabad. Made up of twelve units Latifabad has a population of more than seven lakhs. Each unit is represented by a councilor in the H.M.C.

But life in this so-called modern satellite town is neither easy nor comfortable .the lack of storm water drains means that during the rainy season, water stagnates on the roads streets knee-deep, for days together ,With the result roads are in a desolate condition stagnant water also become breeding ground for mosquitoes.

Unlike Hyderabad where clean water is supplied from the filter plant jamshoro, latifabad gets muddy water without any pressure. To avoid water borne diseases, the water has to be boiled every day.

Power failures, three to four times a day, for hours at stretch, is common place. Voltage fluctuation every now and then has made the installation of circuit breakers in every house necessary to protect costly electric appliances.

Water logging and salinity had at one time, threatened the existence of this new town. The timely installation of pumping stations, to draw underground water in some units, saved the situation to some extent though the danger still remains.

The condition of roads, streets and bye lanes is pitiable. Repairs of a small portion of a road, say a furlong or two, takes more than three to four weeks causing inconvenience to traffic and pedestrians. What is even more aggravating is that the roads thus repaired remain in good condition for hardly six or seven months because of inferior material used in their construction.

....continued on next page

Except in Unit No.6, the plots earmarked for playgrounds and parks in various units have been encroached upon and 'jugis have been constructed haphazardly. They are now 'Katchi Abadis' waiting to be made permanent in course of time. Sanitation is at its lowest ebb. There are no dustbins anywhere in any of the units. All garbage is thrown outside the bungalows. There is only one refuse van for all the twelve units and each unit gets its turn after three or four days.

The hospital in the area, the 50 bed Shah Bhattai Hospital falo in front of each bungalow der a 'kutcha' shed is a common site in Latifabad. The residents pass sleepless nights and Mohalla committees have been formed to look after the safety of the different localities because thefts, robberies and dacoities are a common occurrence for the whole of Latifabad. Since roads and streets and even the units are not named or numbered, it becomes well nigh impossible for a new comer to locate a particular house without wasting his time and money.

Will the authorities concerned please look into these matters so that the residents of this town can heave a sigh of relief.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

‘ID NOT EID’

I was amazed to read the letter from Prof. Qamaruddin Khan (Dawn 3.7.84). According to the learned professor “in scholarly printing the ‘I’ of Id carries a horizontal bar over it, indicating the long and deep vowel sound; but in ordinary and journalistic works this bar of diacritical mark is generally not printed.”

Here I would like to point out that the diacritical mark over “I” would be pronounced as “Ice” or “write” - The horizontal bar over “e” would be pronounced as “even or “tree,” indicating long and deep vowel sound. In this analogy the correct spelling of “Eid” would be “Ed” with diacritical mark over “E”. (vide pronunciation key, How to Increase Your Word Power by Stuart B. Flexner, page 8).

In the absence of the bar of diacritical mark in our day-to-day ordinary and or journalistic printed media, I think we are justified to spell “Eid” otherwise “ID” - would be pronounced like “If”, “In”, “Is” and “It” may lead to incorrect pronunciation.

Since “Eid” is a proper noun, the combination of “ei” in the word does not matter.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.

MILK IN PACKETS

The other day I purchased two packets containing milk with due dates two weeks ahead. At home, I found that the milk turned into curd in one and in the other it had turbid and tainted. I had to throw away both as the shop was six miles away from my house.

I have heard such complaints from many friends and relatives also. It seems either the paper packets are not airtight or, owing to excessive heat, the milk gets contaminated in the absence of refrigeration. Whatever the reasons such milk is injurious to human beings especially children.

Through the columns of your esteemed paper, I urge the authorities concerned to stop its sale unless the shops and stores have deep freezers or refrigerators to store these packets. The Health authorities also should check these packets at various shops from time to time to ensure the safety of the consumers.

Dr. Pir Mohd. V. Shallwani, Hyderabad.



Childhood – 1935



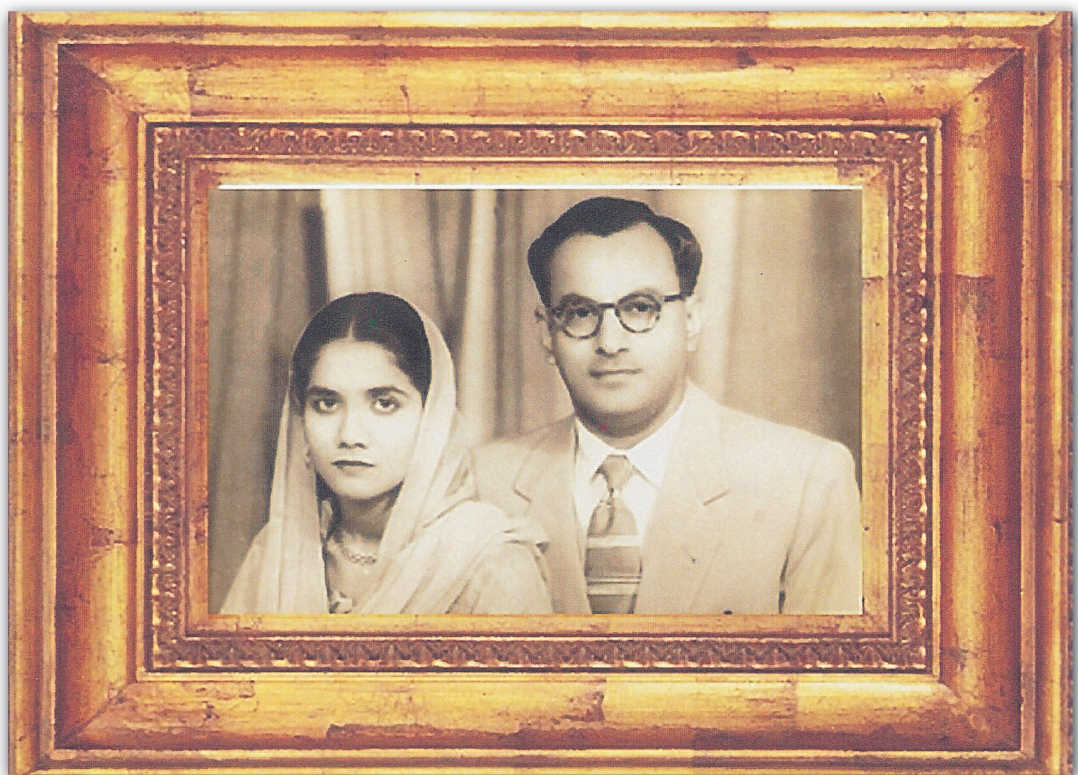
At Dow medical College Karachi during graduation in 1955.



In Hyderabad Sindh 1970.



With friends at a tea party 1962.



With wife (Late) Syeda Badrunnisa in 1957.



Speaking in a medical conference in Karachi 1963.



At 142-E unity 6 Latifabad Hyderabad residence in 1995 with family. L-R Son Iftikhar Ali, Grand Son. Hasan Ali, Wife (Late) Syeda Badrunnisa, Son Zulfiqar Ali, Daughters Shahnaz and Nasreen.



At latifabad Hyderabad residence with family in 1991. L-R – Syed Abid Raza (Son in Law), Dr Shallwani, Saman Zehra (Grand Daughter), (Late) Syeda Badrunnisa (wife), Zulfiqar Ali (son), Standing L-R – Nasreen (daughter) with her son Ali Raza, Naseema (daughter in law), Mausooma (daughter in law), Shahnaz (daughter)



With wife (Late) Syeda Badrunnisa at 142-E unity 6 Latifabad Hyderabad residence – 1999.



At 142-E, unit 6, latifabad Hyderabad residence in 1999.



Sitting L. to R. 1. Dr. Razia Ansari (Editor), 2. Dr. Pir Mohd Shalwani (Vice President I) 3. Brlg S.H.A. Gardezi S. Q. A. (Preseident) 4. Dr. Saleh Memon, (Past President) 5. DR. E. F. Nunes, (Vice President II)
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 4. DR.Akil-bin Abdul Kadir (Hon Auditor)



With wife (Late) Syeda Badrunnisa at DC House Jaferabad, Baluchistan in 2001.



With wife (Late) Syeda Badrunnisa and son Iftikhar at DC house Jaferabad, Baluchistan in 2001.



With wife (Late) Syeda Badrunnisa, daughter and son Iftikhar at DC House, Jaferabad, Baluchistan in 2001.

MEDICAL COUNCIL

No. 365.


PAKISTAN

CERTIFICATE OF FULL MEDICAL REGISTRATION

Name	Address	Date of Registration	Qualifications and dates thereof	Remarks
SHALWANI ETIMAHOMED VALIMAHOMED.	PRINCE ALY ROAD (MIANI ROAD) HYDERABAD.	6th Oct., 1956. (6-10-1955)	M.B.B.S. (CARACHI) 1956. *****	Valid upto December, 1985. *****

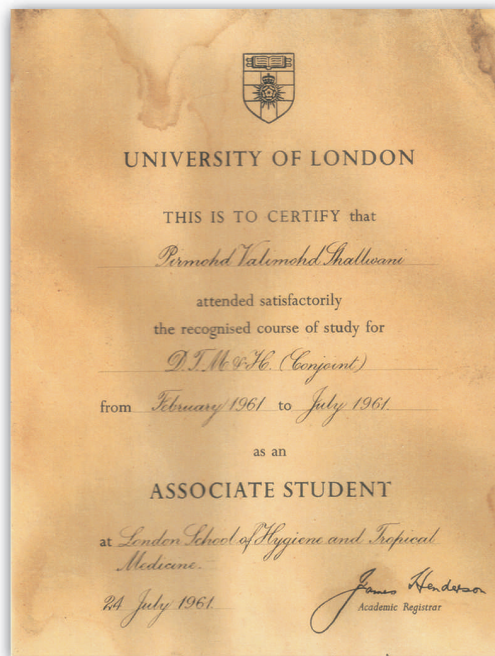
Office of the Medical Council, Islamabad Dated the 28th October, 1978.

It is hereby certified that the above is a true copy of the entries in the Medical Register (Part A) in respect of the medical practitioners specified therein.

Important Notice:—Every registered medical practitioner should be careful to send to the Registrar immediate notice of any change in his/her address and also to answer enquiries that may be sent to him/her by the Registrar in regard thereto in order that his/her correct address may be duly inserted otherwise such practitioner is liable to have his/her name erased from the Register.


REED BHTRAM AL
 REGISTRAR

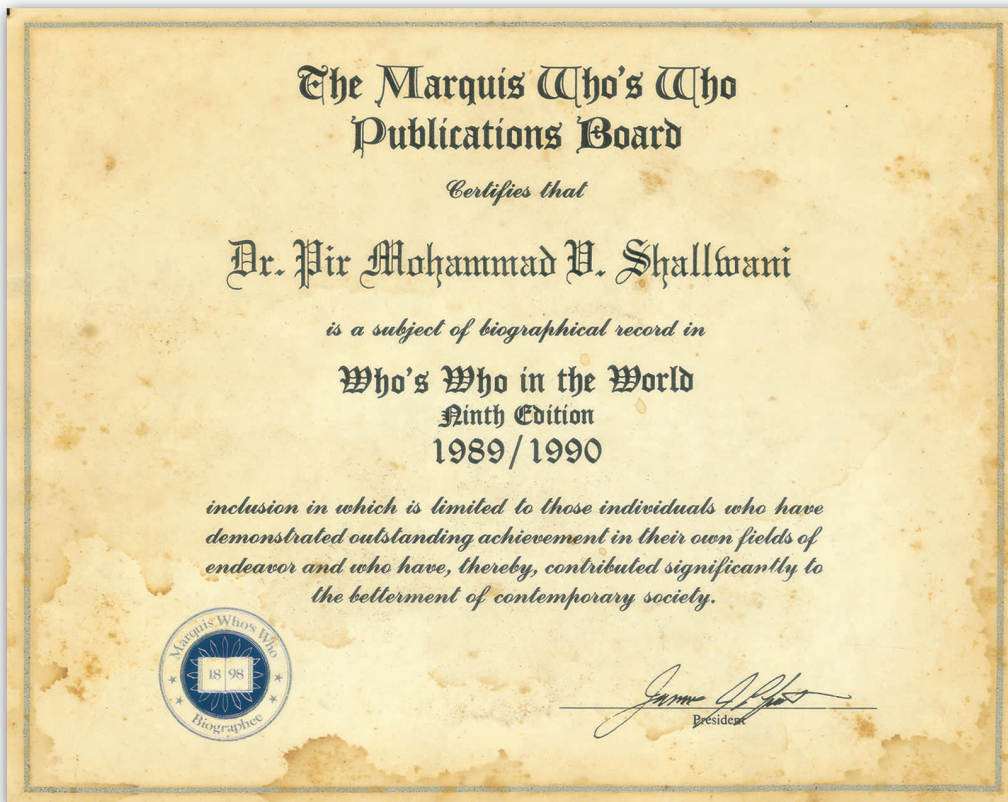
Certificate of Full Medical Registration from Medical Council in 1956.



Certificate of Diploma in Tropical Medicine & Hygiene (DTMSH) From University of London.



Certificate of membership Royal Society of Health (MRSH) From London.



Certificate from Marquis 'Who's who' publication based for being a subject of biographical record in ninth edition of "who's who" in the "world" 1989-90.