

12 September 1983

Fr Ignatius Pinto
Secretary
C.B.C.I. Society for Medical Education
St John's Medical College
Bangalore 560034

Through the Head of the Department of
Community Medicine

Dear Fr. Pinto

Further to the discussions we both had with you, Dr CM Mascarenhas, Fr Percival Fernandes and Fr Bernard Moras, in August 1983, this is to inform you that we both would like to be relieved of our duties as Associate Professor and Tutor respectively of the Department of Community Medicine from the dates shown below:

i. Dr Ravi Narayan : 31 December 1983
ii. Dr Thelma Narayan : 15 October 1983

"Both of us have been reviewing our work and commitments since May 1981. As part of this process, we had spoken to Professor SV Rama Rao and Dr CM Francis, and taken a year's special leave in 1982. During this year, we travelled around the country meeting alumni and Community Health Workers trained in St John's and also visited several health and development projects. This was not a project as such but more an opportunity for personal growth and evaluation. After rejoining in December 1982, we continued this personal review and have now decided that we would like to work at a more grass-root level supporting the growing community health movement.

We have discovered that we are committed to a process of attitudinal change not a speciality, a value system not a university curriculum or regulation, a health movement not a medical institution, and hence, we realise that we have now grown beyond the perspectives of a Preventive and Social Medicine department.

We would hasten to add that we both have gained rich experience in this institution, which has been both our alma-mater and the base for the early part of our careers. We have been actively involved in all the programmes of the department and college and have enjoyed our work immensely. Involvement especially in all the informal training programmes for medical students and Community Health Workers and the continuing education programmes under the auspices of the Ross Institute Unit of Occupational Health and the Directorate of Rural Health Services and Training Programmes, have been particularly meaningful. The experience of being part of the pioneering teams in the evolution of Malhur, Silvapura and State Bank of India Health Projects has also been very rewarding.

We have now felt the need to move out of the confines of a University regulated teaching department to an informal, small Documentation and Research Cell, which will encourage and catalyse the growing awareness and interest in Community Health and Health by the people. In taking this step we realise that it is the vast experience gained in the institution that has given us the confidence to move further and for this we shall always remain grateful to St John's.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the CBOI Society for Medical Education, the College and Hospital Management and the staff of the college especially of our department for all the goodwill, encouragement and support given to us in our work. A special thanks to the medical students, interns and community health workers who have made the last few years so worthwhile and meaningful. //

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Ravi Narayan
Ravi Narayan

Thelma Narayan
Thelma Narayan

cc. Dr CM Mascarenhas
Dean
St John's Medical College
Bangalore 560034

Forwarded