

PAKISTAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION



Hon. President
Dr. Ikram Ahmed Tunio

Hon. President Elect
Dr. Salma Aslam Kundi

Hon. Immediate Past President
Dr. Muhammad Ashraf Nizami

Hon. Secretary General
Dr. S.M. Qaisar Sajjad

Hon. Treasurer
Dr. Qazi Muhammad Wasiq

Hon. Joint Secretaries
Dr. Amir Saleem
Dr. Saeed Ahmed

Hon. Chairman E.B. JPMA
Dr. Sarwar Jamil Siddiqui

Hon. Editor The Medical Gazette
Dr. Muhammad Nasir Sulaiman

August 26, 2020

PRESS RELEASE

An emergent meeting of office bearers and senior members of Pakistan Medical Association (PMA) Centre and PMA Karachi was called by Secretary General PMA centre Dr. S.M Qaisar Sajjad, today at PMA House Karachi and discussed the severe impact of monsoon rains in Karachi and the miseries it brought to the people of the metropolitan and now the people will have to face the effect of different organism like bacteria, viruses, fungus, and others. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Ikram Ahmed Tunio, President PMA Centre through video link from Larkana. It was attended by Dr. S.M Qaisar Sajjad, Dr. Qazi Wasiq, Dr. S.Tipu Sultan, Dr. Mirza Ali Azhar, Dr. Hamid Manzoor, Dr. Sharif Hashmani, Dr. Abdul Ghafoor Shoro, Dr. Shaukat Malik, Dr. Ismail Memon, Dr. Sajjad Ahmed Siddiqui and many other senior members.

The meeting showed its concern over the worst situation in the city **due to the current monsoon rains**. After every spell of heavy rain **people are facing flood like situation**. People are dying of electrocution and drowning. More than a two dozen people have lost their lives in rain related incidents. After rains roads are flooded with water and traffic system seems to be collapsed. Due to the poor infrastructure rainwater mixed with sewage from overflowing drains and nullas flooded many areas, entered into houses and damaged the property. **People fell into manholes and died, abandoned vehicles were floating everywhere, people were feeling helpless and nobody turned to help them**. Government and political parties are blaming each other. People badly affected by this urban flooding remained in distress for whole night and nobody came to provide the shelter and food. These people could have been shifted to safe places like school and college buildings, but nobody bothered to help public. The claims of the Federal and provincial governments are seen failed everywhere in the city. This happens almost every year but nothing is being done, concerned authorities will make lip service, time will move on, the innocent deceased people and property damages will be forgotten. Nothing will be done to save the life and property of the citizens of Karachi. Most of the area of Karachi is drown with rainy water. Now, there are chances of spread of number of diseases like waterborne, mosquito / flies, infectious diseases, etc.

Karachi has multiple civic issues for the **last many decades**. **30,000 tons of garbage of the city** is not picked up for a longtime. There is no proper disposal of hospital waste. This garbage is being burned within the residential areas causing serious health hazards. Filthy garbage is mixed with rainy water and remains on the main roads and small streets even after the drainage of rain water. **The people are suffering very badly from announced and unannounced load-shedding**, it increases after falling a drop of rainy water. The issue of Pollution is increasing day by day, there does not exist any proper policy for controlling pollution.

Page 1of3



PAKISTAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION



Hon. President

Dr. Ikram Ahmed Tunio

Hon. President Elect

Dr. Salma Aslam Kundi

Hon. Immediate Past President

Dr. Muhammad Ashraf Nizami

Hon. Secretary General

Dr. S.M.Qaisar Sajjad

Hon. Treasurer

Dr. Qazi Muhammad Wasiq

Hon. Joint Secretaries

Dr. Amir Saleem

Dr. Saeed Ahmed

Hon. Chairman E.B. JPMA

Dr. Sarwar Jamil Siddiqui

Hon. Editor The Medical Gazette

Dr. Muhammad Nasir Sulaiman

There is dearth shortage of water in the city, while the potable water is not available in the city. People are forced to drink polluted water mixed with sewage, which is causing waterborne diseases like Typhoid, Gastroenteritis, Hepatitis A, E, Conjunctivitis, Skin diseases and Cholera. Then due to this filthiness flies and mosquitoes are mounting. **Mosquito born diseases like Malaria, Dengue, Chikungunya and may be Zika virus are spreading rapidly.** No government has improved the conditions of the hospitals and even not established new hospitals. City has no separate cancer hospital, although the number of cancer cases is increasing exponentially because of so many reasons.

Public transport sector of Karachi is chaotic and messy; resulting in immense problems for the millions of commuters of this mega city and unfortunately our government has no clue about how to tackle this serious urban social issue. There is no government owned public transport system in the city. Government has even failed to regulate the existing transport system. There is acute **shortage of public transport in the city** due to which crowds of commuters wait at bus stops and dangerously overcrowded minibuses with commuters even sitting on their rooftops can commonly be seen on the roads of Karachi.

Pakistan's largest metropolis has been facing severe traffic jams due to badly damaged roads and bridges caused by the movement of heavy vehicles on its main arteries without any restrictions during the daytime. This is a clear violation of Supreme Court orders in 2007. These heavy vehicles have been damaging roads in the city. The government has failed to repair them since several years. **Due to these bad roads** people find it difficult to perform their daily life chores. It obstructs doctors, paramedics and patients to reach hospitals on time.

Noise Pollution is also adding to the miseries of the citizens, this is largely due to the heavy horns of traffic and noise of generators, the number of generators are increasing due to long hours announced and unannounced load shedding. These power shutdowns are increasing the difficulties of the people of Karachi. They are compelled to buy generators which are causing severe noise and air pollution in the environment. **These can ultimately cause impaired hearing irritability, high blood pressure, cardiac problems, diabetic mellitus and air pollution causes sore throat, nasal and throat allergy, sinusitis, pharyngitis, headache, nasal polyp and lungs diseases including bronchial asthma, bronchitis and lungs cancer.** Due to the shortage of electricity medicines in refrigerators of the pharmacies are busted and lose their efficacy, these busted medicines are also being sold without the prescription of a qualified doctor.



Hon. President
Dr. Ikram Ahmed Tunio

Hon. President Elect
Dr. Salma Aslam Kundi

Hon. Immediate Past President
Dr. Muhammad Ashraf Nizami

Hon. Secretary General
Dr. S.M.Qaisar Sajjad

Hon. Treasurer
Dr. Qazi Muhammad Wasiq

Hon. Joint Secretaries
Dr. Amir Saleem

Dr. Saeed Ahmed

Hon. Chairman E.B. JPMA
Dr. Sarwar Jamil Siddiqui

Hon. Editor The Medical Gazette
Dr. Muhammad Nasir Sulaiman

PAKISTAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION



With all other Problems of the city, Karachities are also **facing shortage of domestic gas and low pressure**, due to which they face difficulty in cooking foods.

PMA has been raising its voice for a long time and demanding the government to resolve the issues of this mega city but unfortunately no body owns this city. **Politicians have done nothing to improve the situation.** Only good governance and collective effort of all the stakeholders can resolve all these problems. Any individual or single political party cannot bring end to these issues.

It is suggested not to run Karachi on adhoc basis. Karachi needs permanent solution of all its problems.

At this present situation of Karachi **PMA advise people to adopt following preventive measures** to avoid diseases during this rainy season.

1. Always drink boiled water.
2. Make sure to cover all edibles.
3. Always eat fresh cooked food.
4. Always Wash your hands before every meal.
5. Don't let your children play in stagnant water.
6. Keep yourself safe from mosquitoes.
7. Do not touch electricity poles or wet electric fittings.
8. Have at-least 7 to 8hrs sleep at night.
9. Do not take self-medication.
10. Coronavirus still exists in Pakistan, so people are requested to follow the preventive measures.

Dr. S.M.Qaisar Sajjad
Secretary General
Pakistan Medical Association (Centre)

