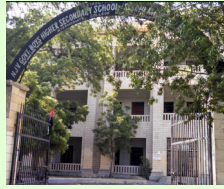


DMCSU

The Cabinet, Events and Elections

1945-1946



NJV High School, the temporary house of Dow

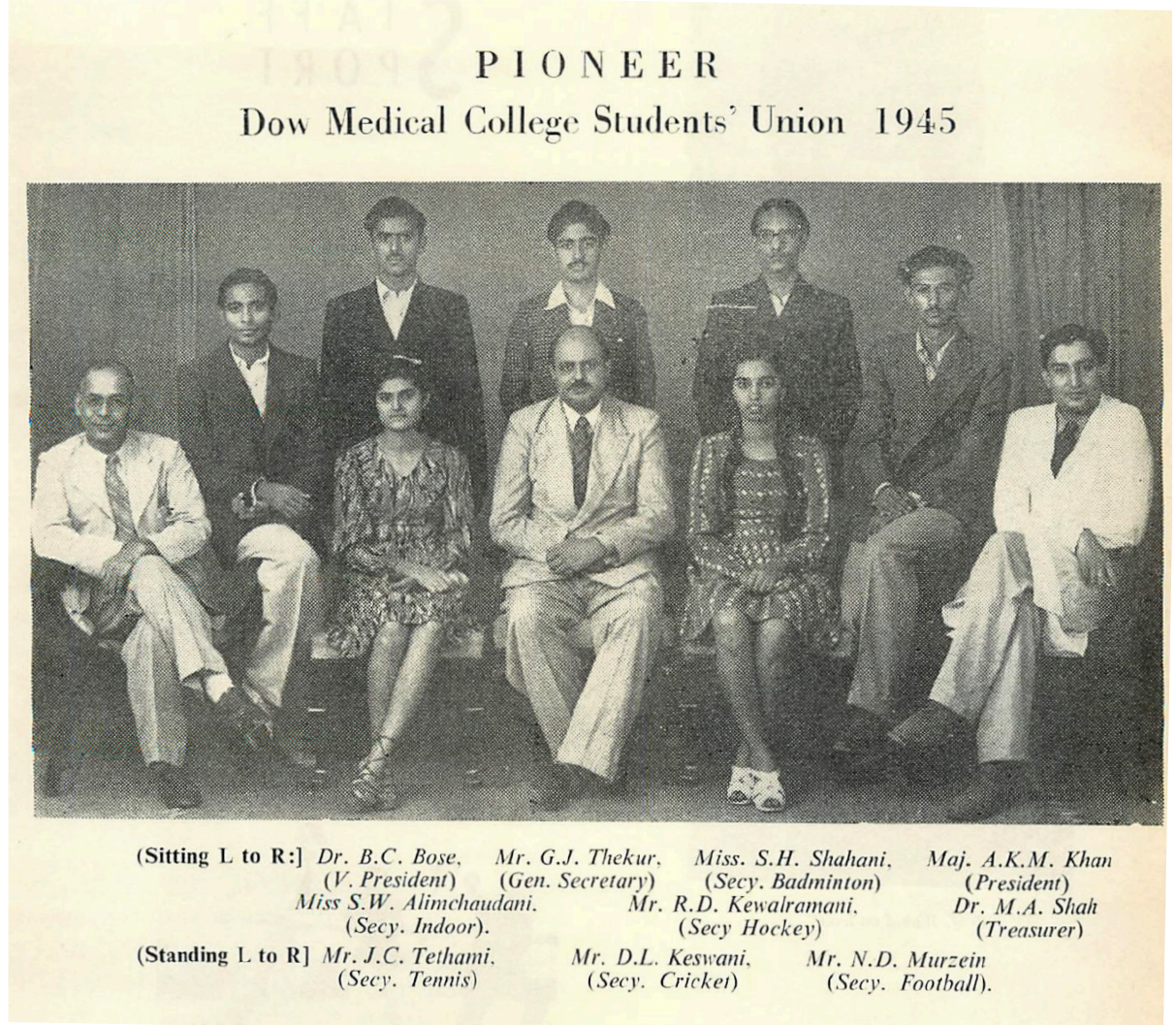
During the 1940s in British India, among other prominent medical institutions, the medical students' union was primarily governed by strict administrative oversight. The college principal held the position of President, emphasizing the centralized authority and control exercised over the union's activities, policies, and decisions to ensure conformity with institutional standards and regulations

Source:

The Annual Dow Magazine 1952, and the personal collection of Dr. Asif Ali Hameedi and later also published in Dowlite International in 1970

Introduction

In British India during the 1940s, the medical college students' union operated predominantly under strict administrative control. The college principal held the position of President, effectively overseeing and directing the union's activities. The role of Vice President was intended to facilitate students' participation in union affairs, serving as a representative voice for the student body. However, there is ambiguity regarding whether elections were actually conducted in 1945 at Dow Medical College, raising questions about the level of student involvement and the democratic nature of the union's leadership during that period.



The Governance of DMCSU

DMCSU - The Cabinet: 1945 - 1946

Governance of Students' Union **Governance and Functioning Before the** **DMCSU Constitution in 1952**

Prior to the drafting of a formal constitution for DMCSU, the activities of the student union were largely run and overseen by the college staff

During these early years, the college principal served as the president of the Union, while students held only the general secretary position and the secretary positions for various sports. In 1945, the vice president and treasurer were also faculty members.

The earliest records we have indicate that student body elections were held in an earlier year. We don't know the year the student union elections started. The setup, structure, and election rules are also unknown. We have no information about the tenure years 1946-1947, 1947-1948, and 1948-1949. But from 1949-1950, we have a photograph of the Dow Medical College Students' Union. It provides us with detailed information about the entire cabinet.

During 1949-1950, the information indicated that the President, Vice President, and Treasurer positions were still held by the faculty.

The Cabinet

President: **Major Aziz Khan** (Principial)

Vice President: **Dr. B. C. Bose**

General Sec:retary: **G. J. Thekur**

Treasurer: **Dr. Mehmud Ali Shah**

Gymkhana Secretaries:

Cricket Secretary: **D. L Keswani**

Tennis Secretary: **J. C. Tethani**

Football Secretary: **N. D. Murzein**

Badminton Secretary: **S. H. Shahani**

Hockey Secretary: **R. D. Kewalramani**

Indoor Secretary: **S. W. Alimchaudani**

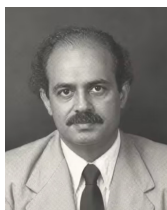
The Evolution of Cabinet Posts:

Note that there were no formal posts for Gymkhana secretary, Social secretary, Magazine secretary, Literary & Debating secretary, and clinical secretary. Sports and gymkhana activities were conducted under each sports secretary and the captains of the teams. There was no mention of a class representative in 1945, and not until 1949-1950.

In 1949-1950, we began to see the designated posts as noted on the 1949-1950 pages. There were separate Literary and Debating Secretaries. The Class Representatives appeared during the 1949-1950 tenure.

DMCSU The Pioneers - the First Cabinet

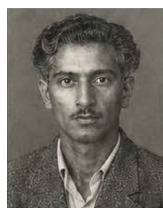
1945-1946



Maj. A. K. M. Khan

President

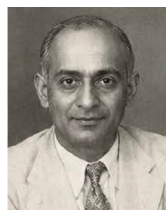
Major A. K. M. Khan served as the President of the Dow Medical College Students' Union in 1945. He was the chief representative of the student body and presided over meetings, coordinated with the college administration and supervised the Union's activities.



Mr. R. D. Kewalramani

Secretary, Hockey

Mr. R. D. Kewalramani served as The Secretary for Hockey. Hockey was one of the most popular sports of the time, and he was responsible for organizing tournaments, practice sessions and representing student's sporting interests.



Dr. B. C. Bose

Vice President

Dr. B. C. Bose served as the Vice President of the Students' Union. He assisted the President in the administration of Union affairs and acted on his behalf when required. He played an important role in supporting student initiatives.



Mr. D. L. Keswani

Secretary, Cricket

Mr. D. L. Keswani served as the Secretary for Cricket. Cricket already enjoyed great popularity, and he was responsible for arranging matches, teams and inter-class competitions within the college.



Mr. G. J. Thekur

General Secretary

Mr. C. J. Thekur was the General Secretary of DMCSU in 1945. He was the principal executive officer of the Union, responsible for maintaining records, organizing meetings, correspondence and implementing the decisions of the Union.



Miss S. W. Alimchaudani

Secretary, Indoor Games

Miss S. W. Alimchaudani was the Secretary for Indoor games. She looked after the indoor recreational activities such as table tennis, chess, cards & other games, promoting social interaction and healthy recreation among students.



Dr. Mehmud Ali Shah

Treasurer

Dr. M. A. Shah served as the Treasurer of the Students' Union. He was responsible for managing the Union funds, maintaining financial records and overseeing expenditures related to students activities and events.



Mr. J. C. Tethani

Secretary, Tennis

Mr. J. C. Tethani was the Secretary for Tennis. He organized tennis competitions and encouraged students to take part in the sport, helping to build a culture of athletics and sportsmanship.



Miss S. H. Shahani

Secretary, Badminton

Miss S. H. Shahani was the Secretary for Badminton. She organized badminton activities and competitions within the college and encouraged participation among students. Her inclusion in the The cabinet reflects the progressive spirit of Dow from its beginning.



Mr. N. D. Murzein

Secretary, Football

Mr. N. D. Murzein was the Secretary for Football. He organized football activities and competitions, inspiring students to participate and build team spirit through the game.

The Governance of DMCSU

In 1945, the Dow Medical College Students' Union functioned under the supervision of the college administration and had limited autonomy. Its primary objectives were student welfare, the promotion of sports and gains, the organization of social and cultural events, and the representation of student concerns. This cabinet represents the first generation of leaders who laid the foundation of student life and students union at Dow Medical College.

The Union functioned without a written rulebook, instead relying on the establishment of "healthy traditions" characterized by discipline, unity, a friendly atmosphere, and a liberal, democratic outlook.

Despite lacking a formal constitution, the student body operated cohesively, and the union maintained cordial relations with the college authorities based on mutual trust and respect.

Inauguration of Dow Campus

The physical campus reached its first milestone of utility in November 1946, when the ground floor became functional. The institution was later inaugurated with a colorful ceremony by Governor Mudie. We have no information about this inauguration ceremony.

DMCSU - the Evolution

The Evolution of Student Union:

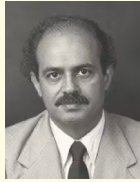
We all know the well-known student union activities, the structure under which they functioned over the years, and how they have evolved, with annual functions, an annual sports day, interclass tournaments, debates, and other activities.

The evolution of these activities took time to establish. For example, there were no formal posts for Gymkhana secretary, Social secretary, Magazine Secretary, Literary & Debating secretary, or clinical secretary. Sports and gymkhana activities were conducted under each sports secretary and the captains of the teams. There was no mention of a class representative in 1945, and not until 1949-1950.

In 1949-1950, we began to see the designated posts as noted on the 1949-1950 pages. Looking at the structure of the early years, we also note that there were separate Literary and Debating Secretaries. In later years, they merged, and the designated post was called Literary & Debating Secretary, well known as LDS. The Class Representatives appeared during the 1949-1950 tenure.

DMCSU 1945-1946

The Dow Faculty's Role in DMCSU



Major A. K. M. Khan

He served as the President of the Dow Medical College Students' Union in 1945. He was the chief representative of the student body and presided over meetings, coordinated with the college administration and supervised the Union's activities.

Academic and Administrative Role

Often affectionately referred to as the "First Principal" of Dow Medical College, Dr. Aziz Khan was instrumental in the institution's physical and administrative foundation

He took a keen personal interest in overseeing the construction of the new college building, pushing to remove any impediments so the project could be completed in the shortest possible time. He officially served as Principal from December 31, 1945, to January 25, 1953 (and again from September 1954 to May 1955). Concurrently, he served as the Professor and Head of the Department of Surgery.

Leadership in the Students' Union

In the pre-1953 era of the DMCSU, the supreme leadership role was not held by a student; rather, the college Principal automatically served as the President of the Union.

In this capacity, Dr. Aziz Khan presided over the student cabinets and guided their early development. He was highly regarded by the student body for his supportive nature. The 1951-1952 Union General Secretary specifically recorded deep gratitude to Dr. Khan, noting that from the very beginning of their term, he "sanctioned every reasonable requirement of the Union," which profoundly helped stabilize the organization and establish its first well-furnished offices.



Dr. B. C. Bose

He served as the Vice President of the Students' Union. He assisted the President in the administration of Union affairs and acted on his behalf when required. He played an important role in supporting student initiatives.

Dr. B. C. Bose (M.D., D.Sc.) was a foundational faculty member at Dow Medical College who played a prominent role in both its academic departments and student governance during its earliest years. Based on the provided sources and our conversation history, here is what is known about him:

Academic Role and Migration

Dr. Bose served as the Professor of Pharmacology at Dow Medical College, holding the position from April 20, 1944, to April 14, 1948. Following the partition of the subcontinent, Professor Bose migrated to India. His departure left a gap in the faculty, prompting Dr. Hamidali M. Khan (who was the Assistant Professor of Medicine at the time) to take on the additional charge of the Pharmacology department to keep the institution's requirements going.

Leadership in the Students' Union

Beyond his academic duties, Dr. Bose was deeply involved in the early administrative life of the student body. He served as the Vice President of the pioneer 1945-1946 Cabinet of the Dow Medical College Students' Union (DMCSU).

During this pre-1953 era when the union was directly supervised by the faculty, Dr. Bose assisted the Union President (Principal Major A. K. M. Khan) in managing the union's administrative affairs, stepped in to act on his behalf when required, and played a crucial role in supporting student initiatives.

The Governance of DMCSU

DMCSU - The Sports Day?: 1945 - 1946



Dr. M. A. Shah

He served as the Treasurer of the Students' Union. He was responsible for managing the Union funds, maintaining financial records and overseeing expenditures related to students activities and events..

Academic and Administrative Role

Dr. M. A. Shah was the distinguished Professor of Ophthalmology at Dow Medical College. He was a cornerstone of the college's administration for decades, initially serving as Vice-Principal from 1948 to 1955, and subsequently becoming Principal for a record period of over 14 years, from May 1955 to September 1969. Among his most notable early and lasting contributions to the institution's academic infrastructure was his effort to successfully set up the college's Anatomy Museum

Leadership in the Students' Union

Like his faculty peers in the college's earliest days, Dr. Shah was heavily involved in the foundational governance of the student body. During the pioneer 1945-1946 session of the DMCSU, he served as the Union's Treasurer. In this faculty-held executive role—which was standard practice during the pre-1953 era—he was responsible for managing the union's funds and carefully overseeing event expenditures, establishing the vital financial framework for the student union before it eventually transitioned to complete student autonomy in 1953.

During 1945 and 1946, the main building of Dow Medical College was under construction, and from December 1945 to November 1946, the college was temporarily housed in the N.J.V. High School Building. This site served as the administrative headquarters, library, and common rooms while the purpose-built campus was under construction.

On December 10, 1945, Sir Hugh Dow, the Governor of Sind, laid the foundation stone for the new building. The physical campus reached its first milestone in November 1946, when the ground floor became operational. The institution was later inaugurated with a colorful ceremony by Governor Mudie.

The Sports Day:

While later traditions indicate that DMCSU organized an annual sports day and annual functions, we do not have information about such events in this tenure year. Based on the designated secretaries for each sport, we assume that there must have been annual sports events.

The Annual Function:

There is no information about this event during this tenure. Also, there was no Social Secretary position during this tenure.

The Annual Dow Magazine:

There was no Dow Magazine Publication. The Annual Magazine first appeared in 1950, and from then on we have had Dowlite International, an annual DMSCU magazine.