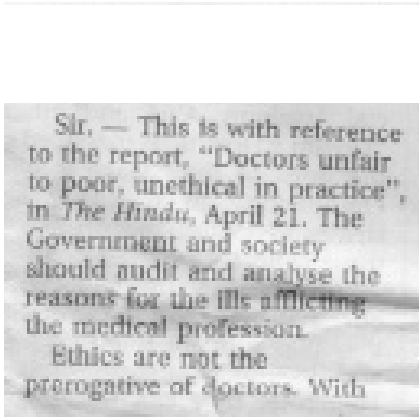


TEACH HOLISTIC MEDICINE



Sir, — This is with reference to the report, “Doctors unfair to poor, unethical in practice”, in *The Hindu*, April 21. The Government and society should audit and analyse the reasons for the ills afflicting the medical profession. Ethics are not the prerogative of doctors. With

changing values in a competitive world, the significance of the “noble” profession could lose its meaning. Surely, with the inclusion of medical profession in the Consumer Protection Act, the boundaries of medical ethics have become not only unclear, but many of its clauses has turned redundant or transgressed as a result. However, the medical profession should keep the interests of patients

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However, the medical profession should keep the interests of patients supreme. The relationship between a patient and a doctor should be unique and based on mutual trust and confidence. Doctors do not got to rural areas for the same reason as other professionals, including lawyers and

engineers, do not settle down in villages. The aping of West and hi-tech teaching offered to medical students make a new doctor diffident as the language of patients in rural areas is strange to him. When the West started offering complementary medicine and integrated medicine to make learning holistic in medical colleges, in India, students are not imparted training in traditional, inexpensive and holistic medicine. This would have helped students integrate better with the rural masses.

