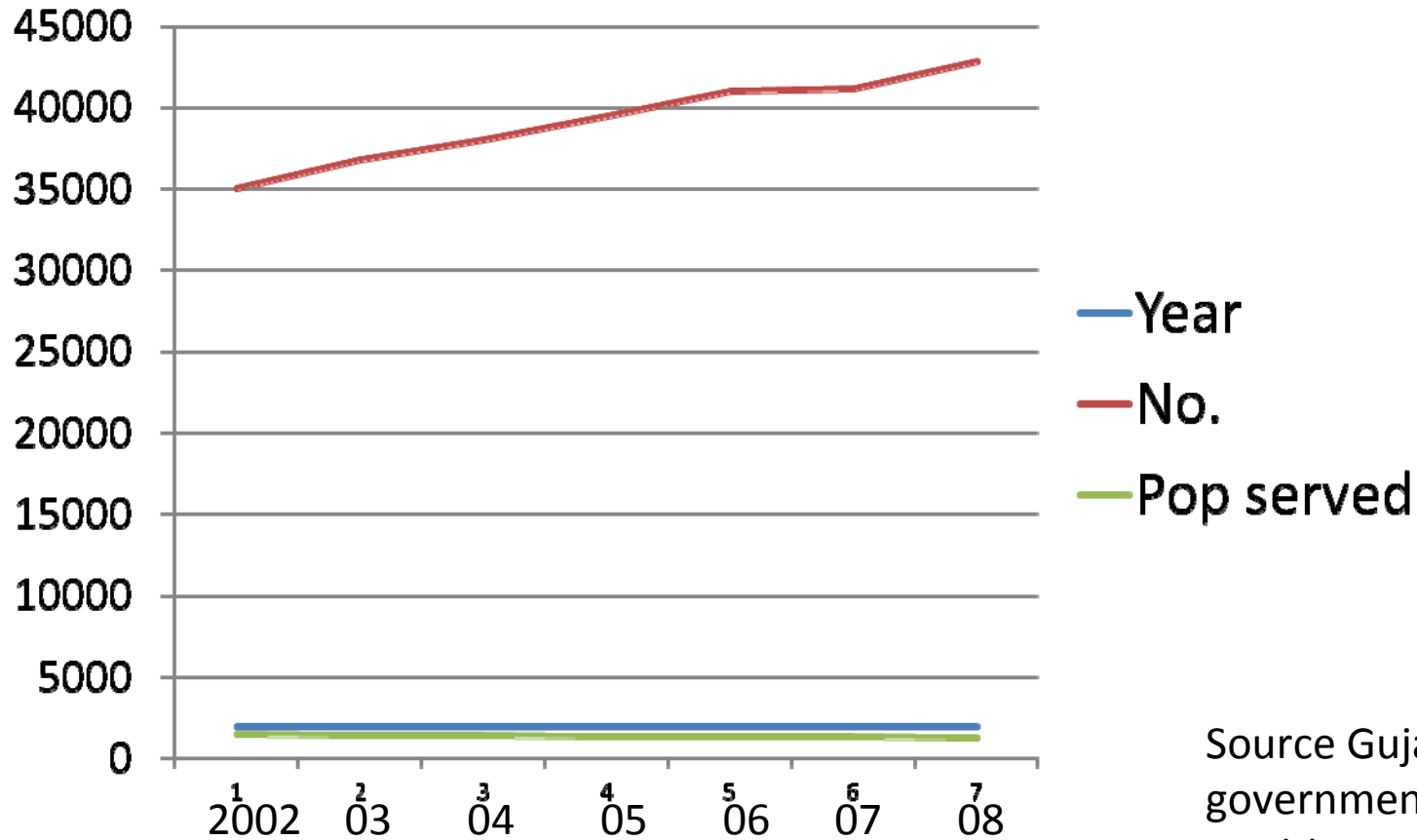


Medical Education: Need for Expansion and Skills Enhancement

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Indian Institute of Public Health-
Gandhinagar
8 July 2010

Do we have adequate number of doctors?

No. of allopathic doctors registered with council in Gujarat



Source Gujarat
government 2007-8
Health Review

Population served per doctor was about 1300 in 2008

Country	Population served per doctor	No. of doctors per 1000
India	1500	0.60
Germany	300	3.37
UK	435	2.30
Japan	500	1.98
Malaysia	1430	0.70
Thailand	2700	0.37
Sri Lanka	1820	0.55
Gujarat	1300	0.77
Tamil Nadu	800	1.25

Population served per medical doctor in Gujarat was about 1300 in 2008 and in Tamil Nadu about 800.

Source WHO 2006 work force report

The admission capacity has already increased from 1550 to 2050 per year. Post-graduate seats have been doubled.

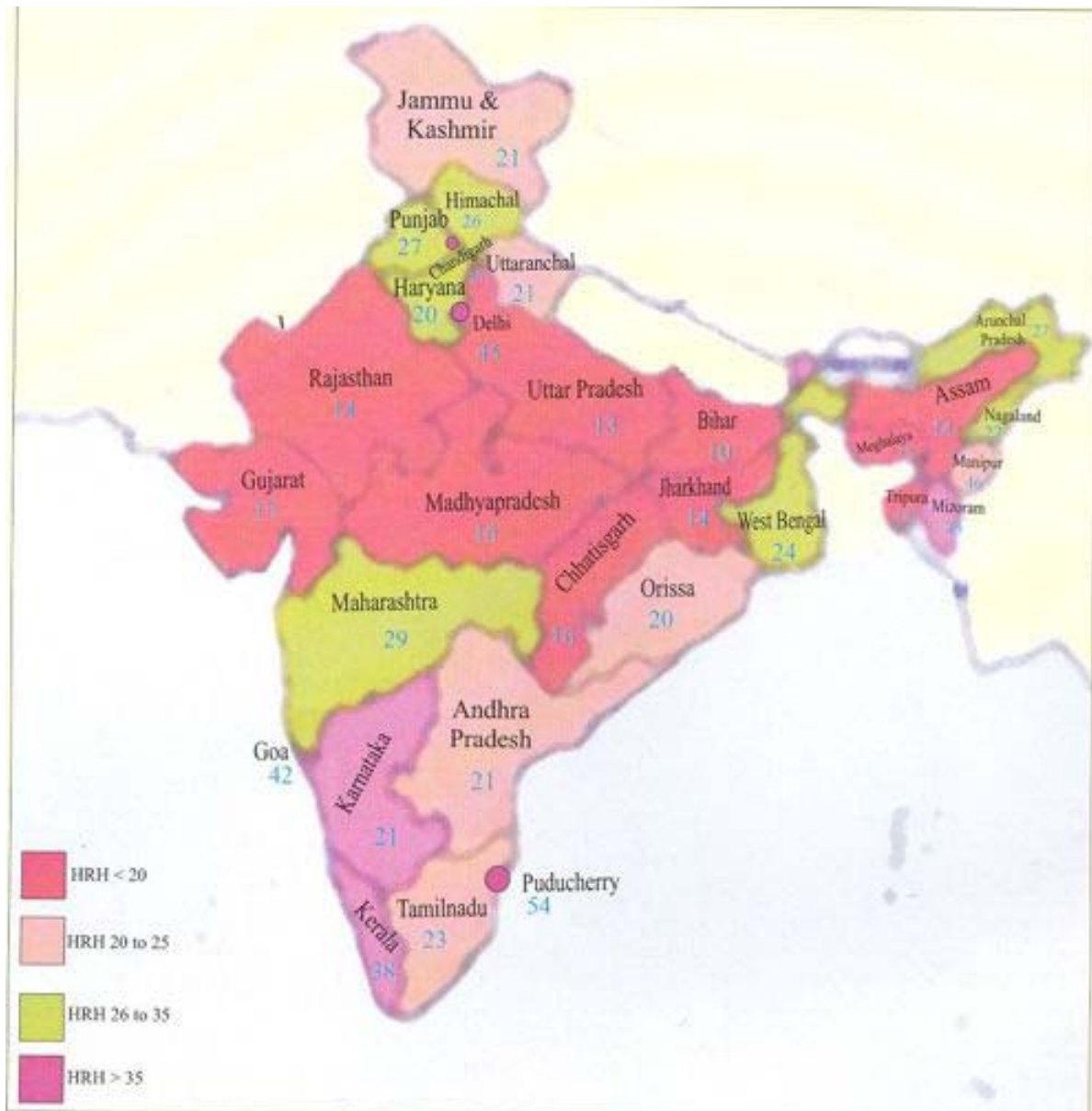
Recently Gujarat Government has taken actions to start new medical colleges. Seven new medical colleges with a total admission capacity of 1050 are at various stages of completion or planning.

So in a few years, the medical admission capacity would be comparable to that of Tamil Nadu currently.

Country	Population served per doctor	Population served Per nurse/midwife
India	1500	790
Germany	300	100
UK	435	78
Japan	500	125
Malaysia	1430	600
Thailand	2700	350
Sri Lanka	1820	570
Gujarat	1300	2370??
Tamil Nadu	800	670

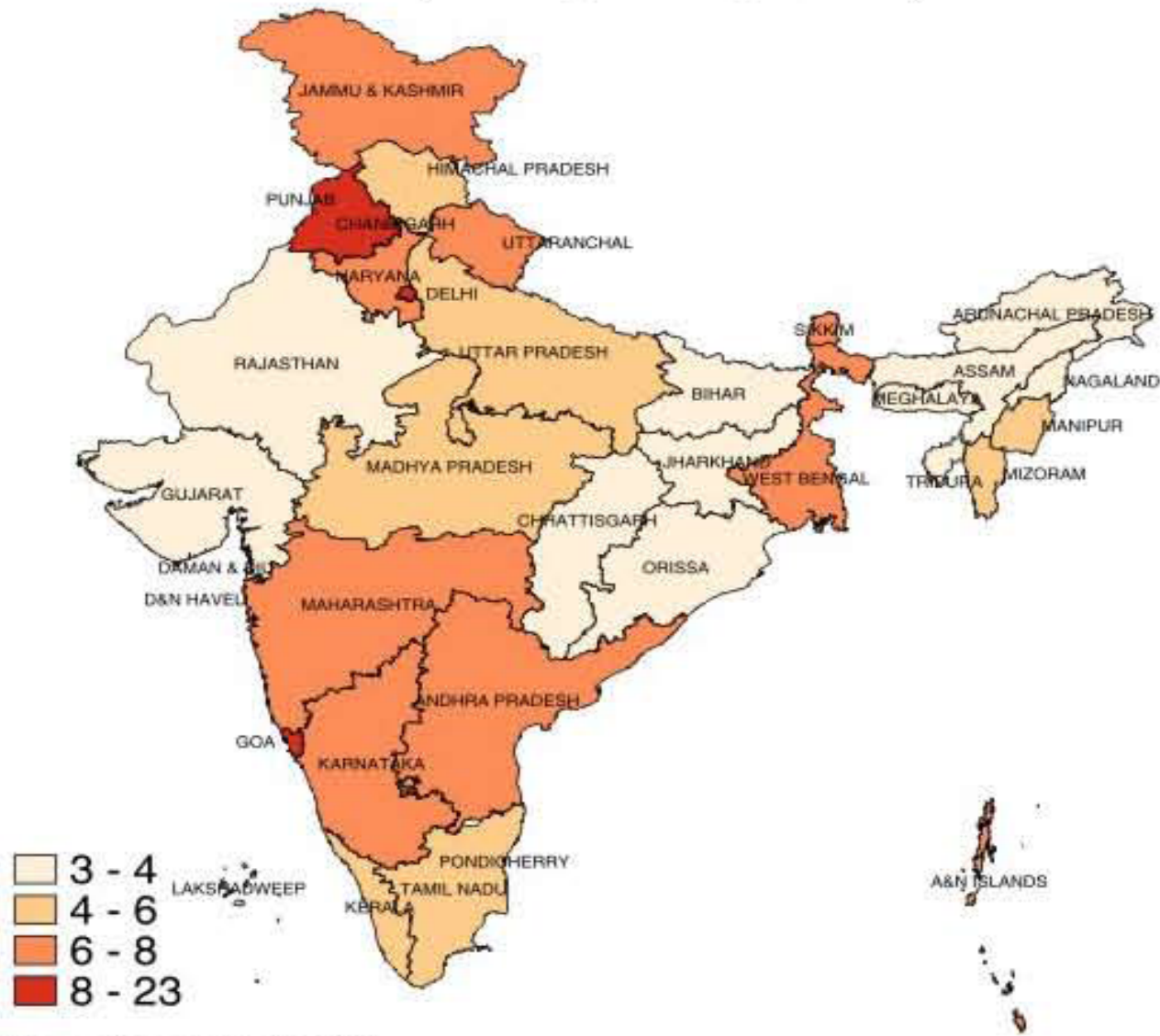
So we need to look at total health workforce density

And their distribution in terms of rural-urban and backward areas



Source:
ICONHS,
Padmanaban

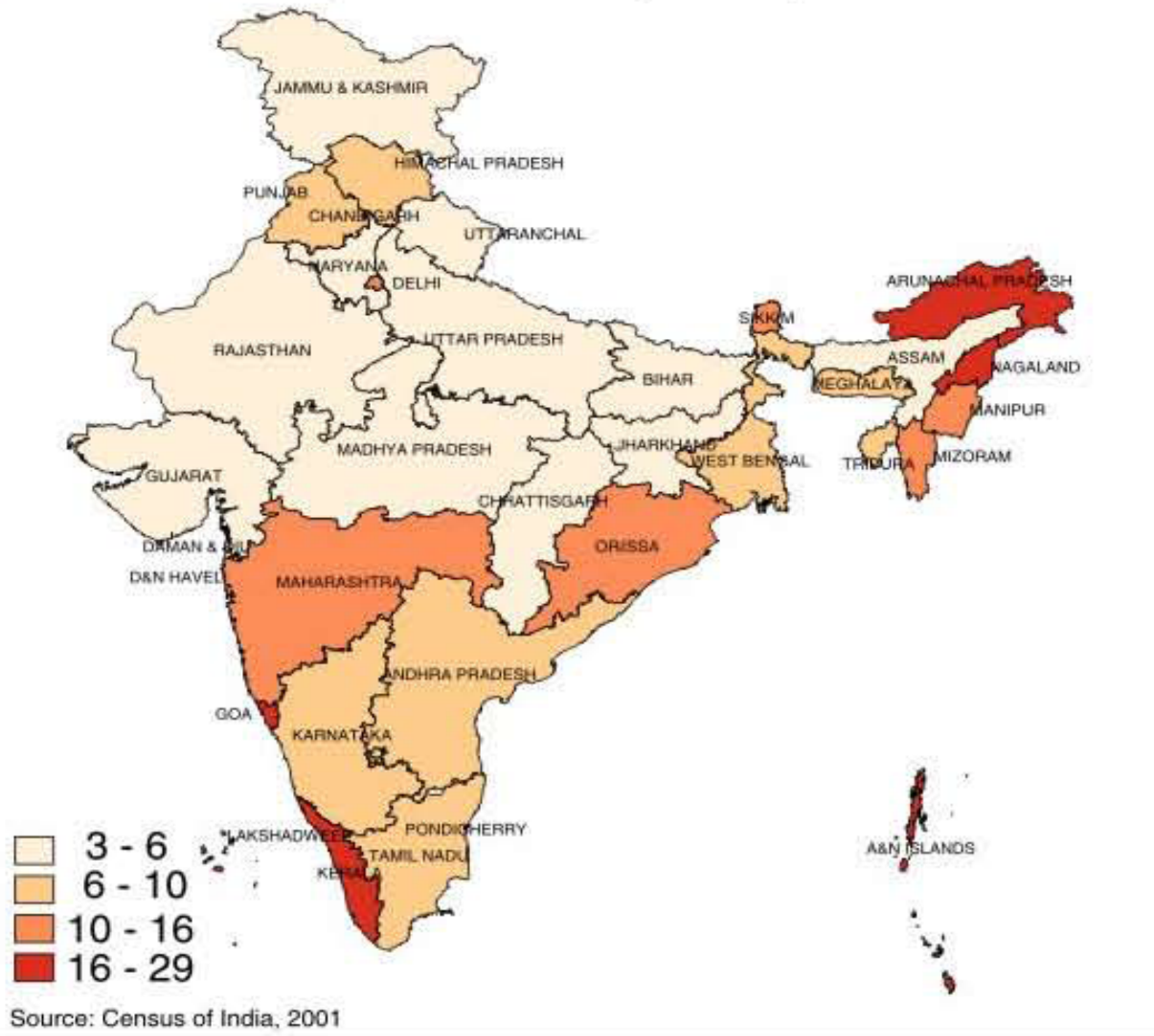
Figure 2: Doctor Density, 2005
(Per 10,000 Population)



Source: Census of India, 2001

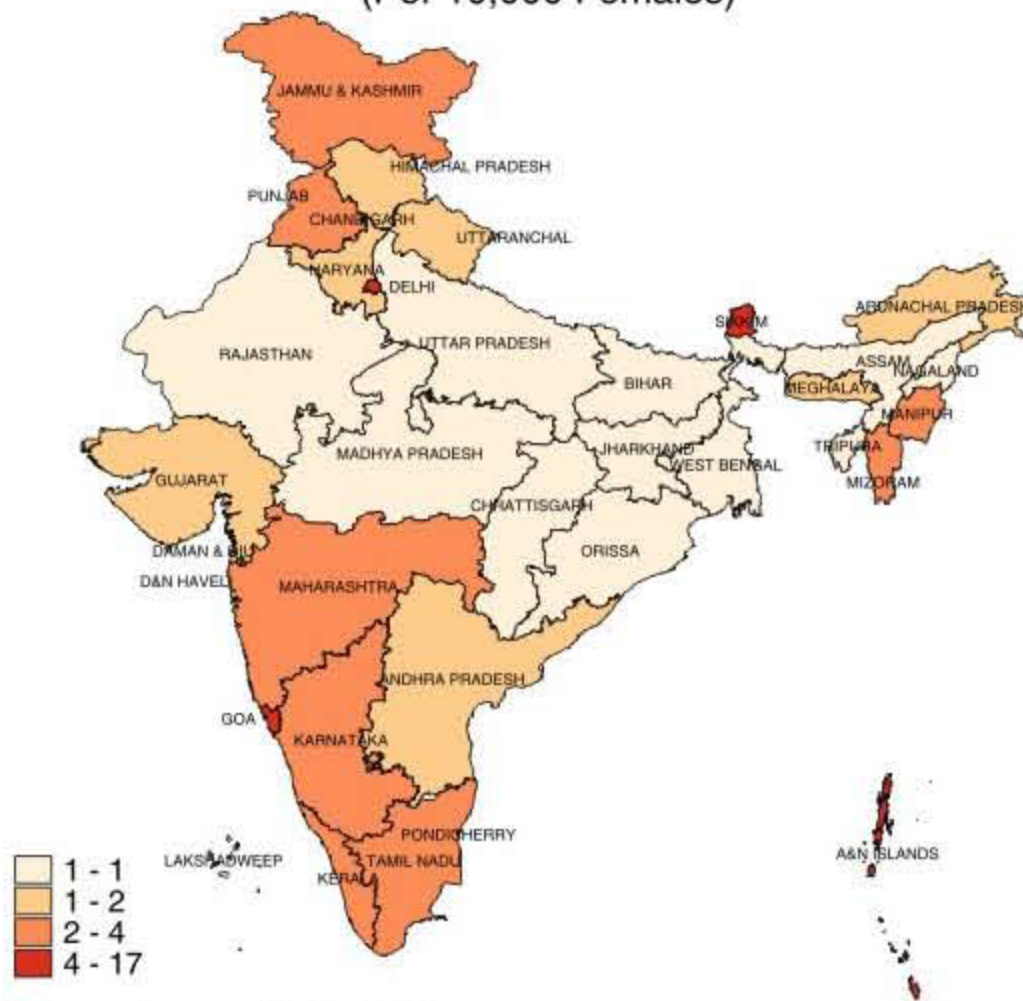
Source:
PHFI
and
World
Bank:
Health
Beat

**Figure 3: Nurse & Midwife Density, 2005
(Per 10,000 Population)**



Source:
PHFI
and
World
Bank:
Health
Beat

Figure 6: Female Doctor Density, 2005
(Per 10,000 Females)



Source: Census of India, 2001

Source:
PHFI
and
World
Bank:
Health
Beat

But what about doctors in public sector?

State	Gujarat	Tamil Nadu	India
Population Served per Doctor	1300	800	1532
Population Served per Doctor in government	19000	9000	

Specialists are in serious short supply in public sector in Gujarat.

What about Ayush Doctors?

There were nearly 34000 Ayush Doctors, one serving an average population of 1660.

Compared to about 43000 allopathic doctors , one serving an average population of 1300.

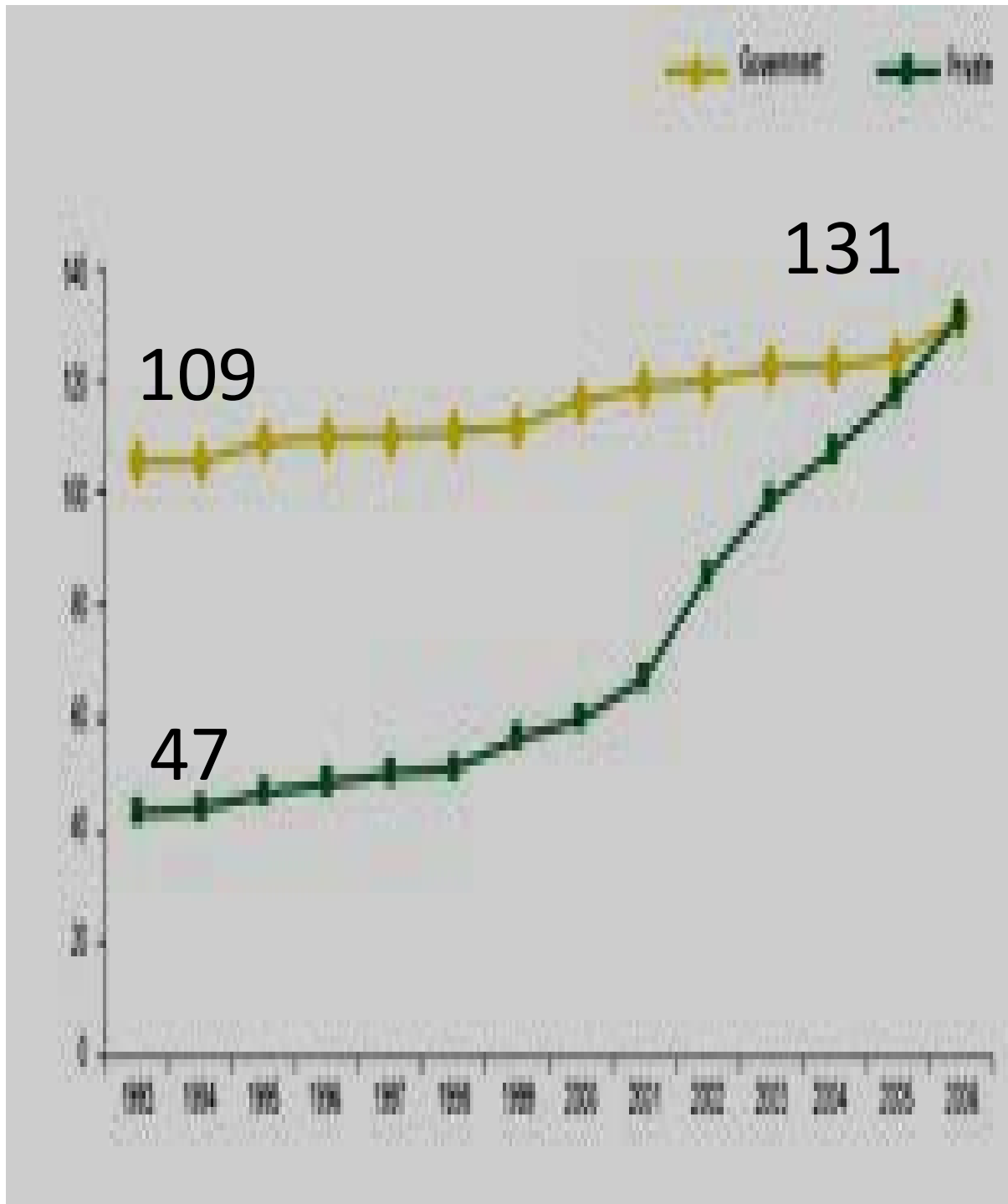
Do we have adequate number of doctors?

Perhaps yes. As economy develops, there would be a need for more doctors.

To improve health, however, we need to pay attention to health workforce, its rural-urban distribution.

Need to pay more attention to nursing staff and role of Ayush doctors.

Are the doctors sufficiently competent:
Skill Enhancement



Growth in
medical colleges

Number of
Private medical
colleges have
grown

63% of colleges & 67%
of seats in 6 states –
Maharashtra,
Karnataka, AP, TN,
Kerala & Gujarat

Source MCI

Competency for what?

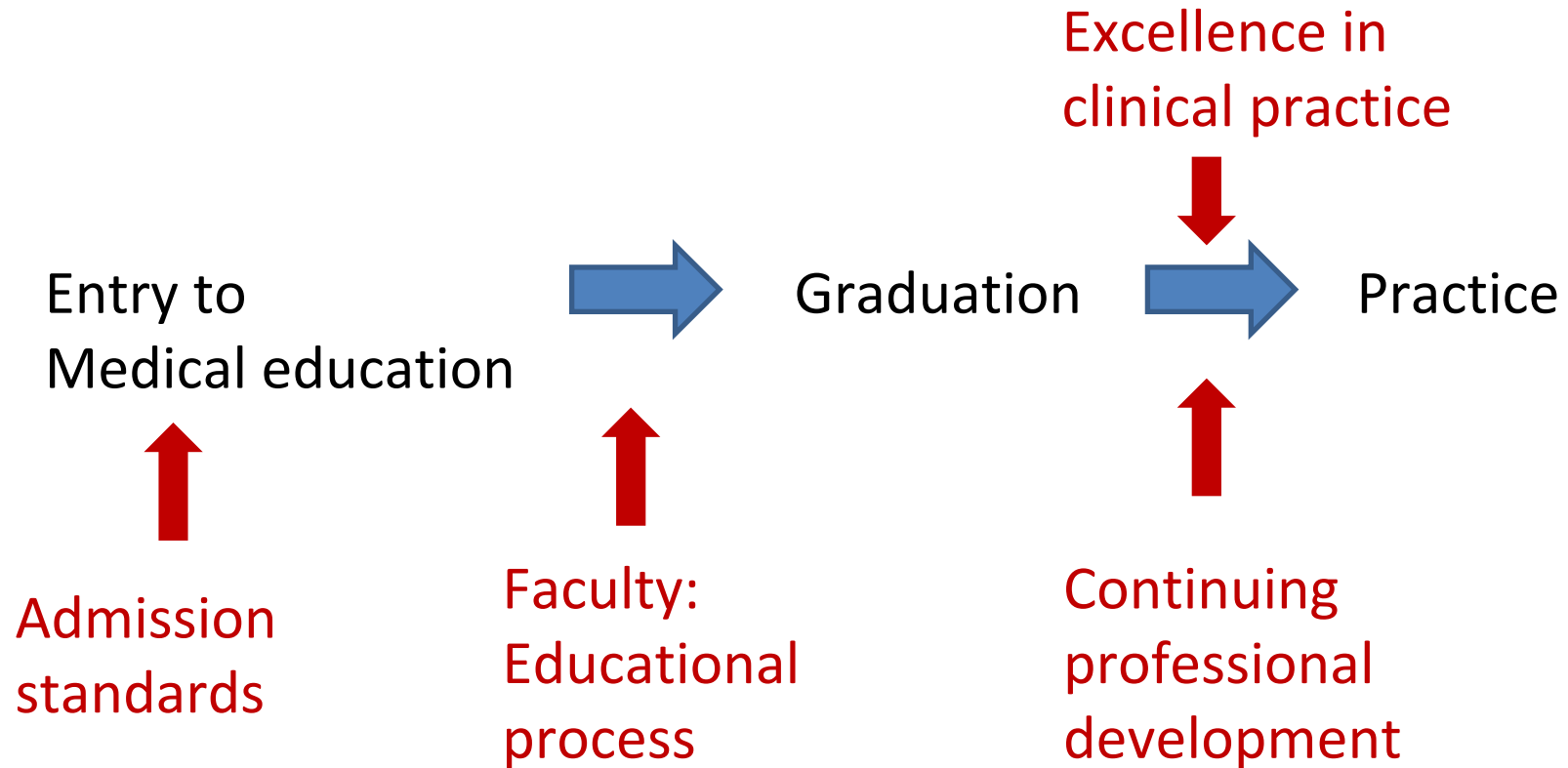
The NRHM task force on medical education says:

About two-thirds of the fresh graduates felt that their skills in medicine needed improvement for them to operate independently; about 30% of the graduates expressed lack of confidence in functioning at the primary care level.

The Task Force makes several recommendations about curriculum, internship, and for enhancing skill development.

Also there is a plan for rural doctors.

There is no single path to skill enhancement



Skill Enhancement

Quality of medical institutions

- Need for **better accreditation** process
- **Faculty development**: training for teaching skills, use of information and communication technology for education and telemedicine

Continuous professional development made more attractive and need based; designed by the practitioners themselves

Clinical excellence: provide guidance on promoting good health and preventing and treating ill health

Are they sufficiently competent: Skill Enhancement

Difficult to say. No significant evidence that they are not. There is no single path to skills enhancement. Much is said but little is done.

Medicine as a profession

A profession is not merely an occupation of highly learned and skilled technicians. It also includes a strong and inseparable moral commitment.....

From: Journal of Ethics: Law, ethics and Medical Councils: evolution of their relationships

Ethics Enhancement

Just like skills, there is no single path to enhancing ethical behavior

Ethics Enhancement

Some thoughts

- Reduce cost of entry to medical colleges (rent seeking behavior)
- Selection of medical students
- What to tell Junior doctors about ethics? (their socialization)
- Law is not sufficient protection, professional norms are important.

Social Mission

- Providing services in underserved areas
- Enhanced emphasis on prevention
- Public health orientation

More doctors should
embrace leadership roles if
Gujarat is to excel in medical
care

Profession should take control of its destiny otherwise somebody else will.

Thanks