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title: Need to establish more medical colleges in the country.

SHRI P.C. MOHAN (BANGALORE CENTRAL): India which is having a population of 125 crore is one of the most dynamic democracies in the world, having a doctor-population ratio of 1:1700 against the projected target of 1:1000 made by High Level Expert Group for Universal Health Coverage constituted by the Planning Commission. To achieve the goal set by the High Level Expert Group (HLEG), India has to establish 200 new medical colleges within 10 years to meet the projected shortage of 6,00,000, doctors.

Further, India is facing gross shortage of medical teachers. More attention is required to render medical services, education and research. Most of all, rural health services are in dire need of trained specialists and super specialists.

60% of specialist posts are still vacant at community health centres. This shortage is expected to rise to about 50% in the next four years. With recent rationalization in infrastructure and faculty requirement for medical colleges, the number of MBBS and post graduate seats is likely to double soon.

Despite the low doctor-population ratio, other indicators like literacy, hygiene and health awareness also play a major role to achieve the World Health Organisation benchmark of 4 doctors for every 1000 people. For achieving the WHO benchmark of doctor-population ratio, long term planning to establish more medical colleges across India covering all the States & Union Territories is required.

I request the Honble Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare to look into the matter for establishment of 200 targeted medical colleges as early as possible.