

This article discusses the ranking and challenges faced by Chennai Medical College (MMC) compared to other top medical colleges globally and within India. It highlights the need for government intervention to improve its infrastructure, faculty availability, and research opportunities. Below are the key points elaborated in English:

## Global and National Medical College Rankings (2024)

The international ranking of medical colleges by *CEO World Magazine* (published from New York) for 2024 places:

- **Harvard Medical School (USA)** at **Rank 1** with a score of **99.06**
- **All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Delhi** at **Rank 22**
- **Christian Medical College (CMC), Vellore** at **Rank 46**
- **Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research (JIPMER), Puducherry** at **Rank 55**
- **Chennai Medical College (MMC)** at **Rank 60** with **78.77 points**

The ranking is based on factors such as quality of education, student selection criteria, specialization, global reputation, medical research, student satisfaction, and tuition fees.

## Key Issues Affecting Chennai Medical College (MMC)

### 1. Student Enrollment vs. Faculty Shortage

- MMC has **3,072 students** enrolled in MBBS, MD, MS, DM, and MCh programs.
- AIIMS has **2,559 students**, CMC Vellore has **1,139**, and JIPMER has **1,982**.
- The **high student intake at MMC is not supported by a proportional increase in faculty**, leading to workload issues for students and staff.

### 2. Outpatient and Inpatient Load Comparison

- **Daily Outpatients:** MMC treats **21,512 patients** per day, whereas AIIMS treats **14,335**, CMC Vellore **9,198**, and JIPMER **4,814**.
- **Inpatient Admissions:** MMC has **8,869** admitted patients, while AIIMS has **3,325**, CMC Vellore **2,037**, and JIPMER **2,231**.
- Despite handling a **higher patient load**, MMC has **fewer doctors per student and per patient**, which increases the burden on medical professionals.

### 3. Deputation of MMC Doctors to Other Hospitals

- Many MMC doctors are **transferred (deputed) to other hospitals**, leading to a **staffing shortage** at MMC.
- This further **increases the workload** on the remaining medical staff.

### 4. Lack of Dedicated Research Faculty

- Unlike international and other Indian top medical institutes, MMC does not have **separately appointed research doctors**.
- Existing doctors are **required to manage both patient care and research**, reducing their effectiveness in conducting high-quality studies.

### 5. Impact of Tamil Nadu's CMCHIS Health Insurance Scheme

- AIIMS does not have a state-run **health insurance scheme**, but MMC operates under **Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme (CMCHIS)**.
- Every Tuesday, MMC must conduct **review meetings** to track **insurance patient admissions**, which consumes doctors' time.
- **Doctors must also ensure a high number of patient enrollments**, adding administrative pressure and reducing efficiency in patient care.

## Financial Constraints and Government Support

### 1. Low Budget Allocation for MMC Compared to AIIMS

- **AIIMS Budget (2022-23):** ₹2,237 crore for salaries + ₹1,311 crore for infrastructure = ₹3,548 crore total.
- **MMC Budget:** ₹1,069 crore for salaries + ₹431 crore for infrastructure = ₹1,500 crore total.
- **MMC receives less than half** the budget compared to AIIMS, affecting salaries, research, and facilities.

### 2. Affiliated Hospitals and Infrastructure Needs

MMC has multiple affiliated hospitals, including:

- **Institute of Obstetrics and Gynecology (IOG), Egmore**
- **Institute of Child Health (ICH), Egmore**
- **Regional Institute of Ophthalmology (RIO), Egmore**
- **Institute of Mental Health (IMH), Ayanavaram**

Despite these, **lack of proper facilities, insufficient medical equipment**, and **shortage of hostel accommodations** remain major issues.

### 3. Salary Disparities and Delayed Hike Implementation

- Tamil Nadu doctors receive **lower salaries** than their AIIMS counterparts.
- The **National Medical Commission (NMC)** recommended salary parity with AIIMS, but **Tamil Nadu government has not implemented it**.
- The **pending salary revision** under **Government Order (GO) 354** should have been implemented **every four years**, but has been delayed for **12 years**.

## Government Actions Needed for MMC's Improvement

### 1. Increase Faculty Strength:

- Appoint **sufficient professors, associate professors, and assistant professors** for all specialties.
- Ensure **adequate nursing staff and medical assistants**.

### 2. Improve Doctor-Patient and Teacher-Student Ratios:

- Recruit **more medical faculty and resident doctors**.
- **Reduce deputation of MMC doctors** to other hospitals.

### 3. Enhance Research Infrastructure:

- Allocate **dedicated research faculty** to focus on advanced studies.
- Provide **adequate funding** for research projects.

#### 4. **Increase Government Funding:**

- Allocate **₹300 crore annually** to match AIIMS standards.
- Increase **financial aid for infrastructure and medical equipment**.

#### 5. **Better Facilities for Doctors and Students:**

- Build **additional hostels and residential quarters** for doctors and postgraduate students.
- Improve **sanitation and restroom facilities** in hospitals.

#### 6. **Salary Revision and Incentives:**

- Implement **salary hikes as per GO 354**.
- Provide **recognition and incentives for high-performing doctors**, similar to **athletes receiving state rewards**.

## **Conclusion**

Chennai Medical College (MMC) is a historic and vital institution, but it lags in **global rankings due to insufficient faculty, research opportunities, funding, and infrastructure**. If the **Tamil Nadu government** increases **budget allocation, recruits adequate staff, and implements salary reforms**, MMC can **compete with AIIMS and other global institutions** in medical education and research.