

Analysis of MEB COVID Survey 2

MEB Team

20 December 2021

Notes

1. This document contains aggregate graphs for all survey questions weighted by share of IAS officers in each state.
2. Questions 13 which asked “Dealing with any pandemic of this scale is a collective responsibility and everyone has a part to play. However, in the final analysis, who do you think must shoulder a greater share of responsibility for any shortcomings?” has been excluded from the analysis because we received only partial responses.
3. Questions 4,5 and 6 can be depicted at the time of design using a map of India with colour markers indicating the percentage of responses that each state received
4. Sample: Number of responses from serving officers = 452, Number of responses from former officers = 96

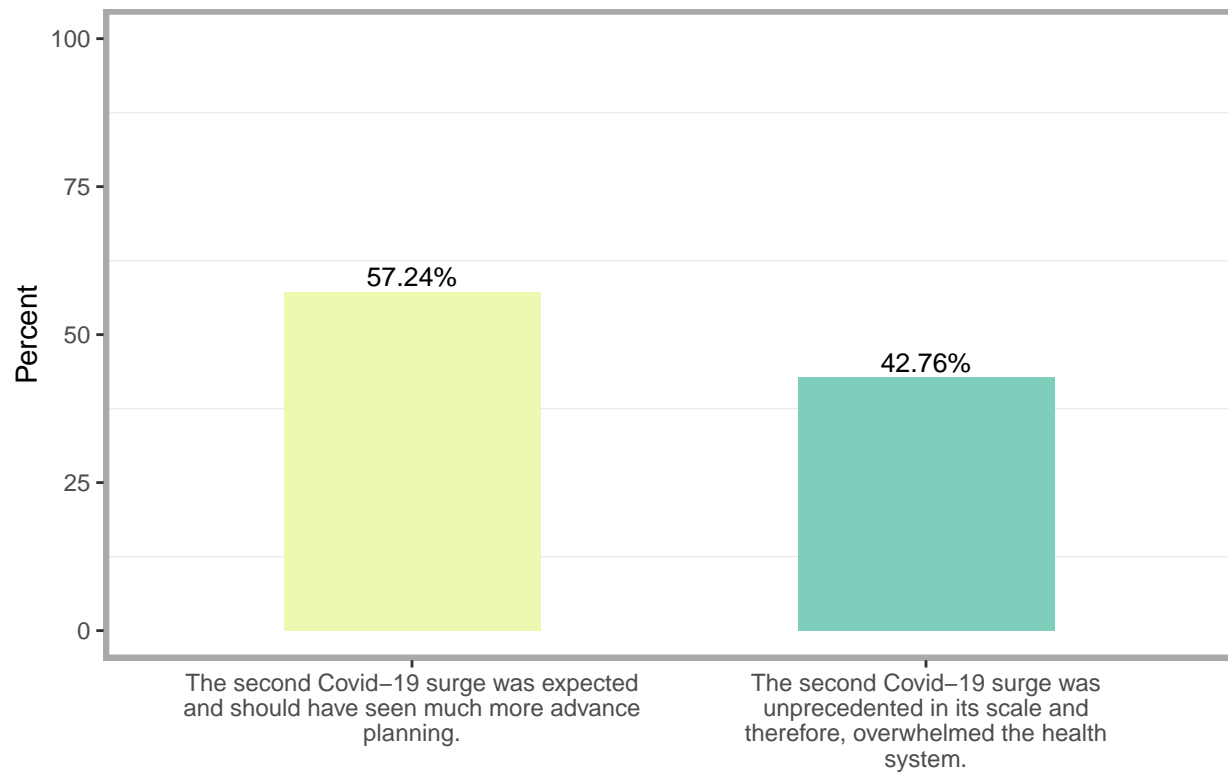
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Question 1: Aggregate Graph

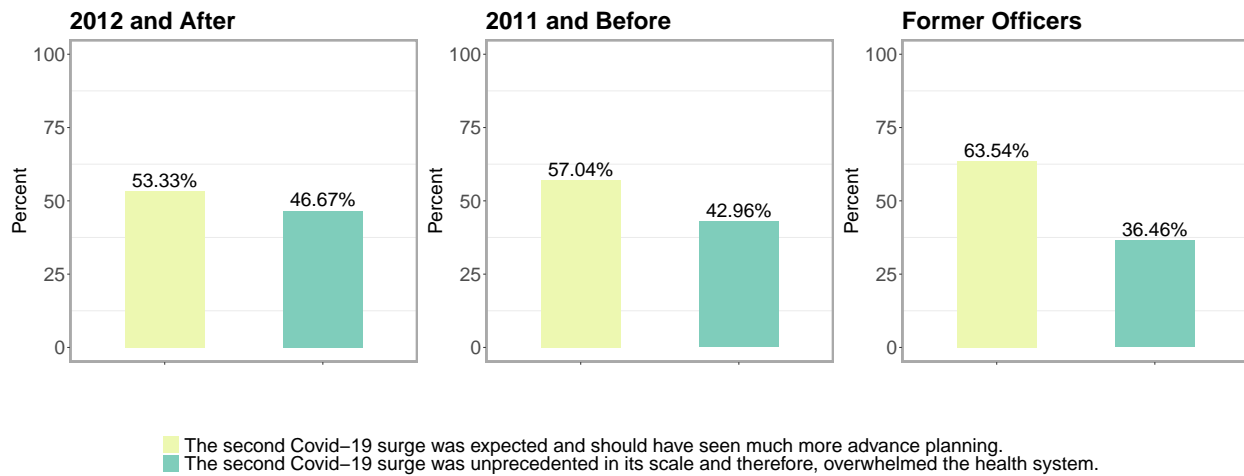
Most countries in the world experienced a second wave of Covid-19 characterised by higher infection prevalence and rapid viral spread. Which of these statements would you agree with more, in the context of the second wave in India?



Question 1, Weighted

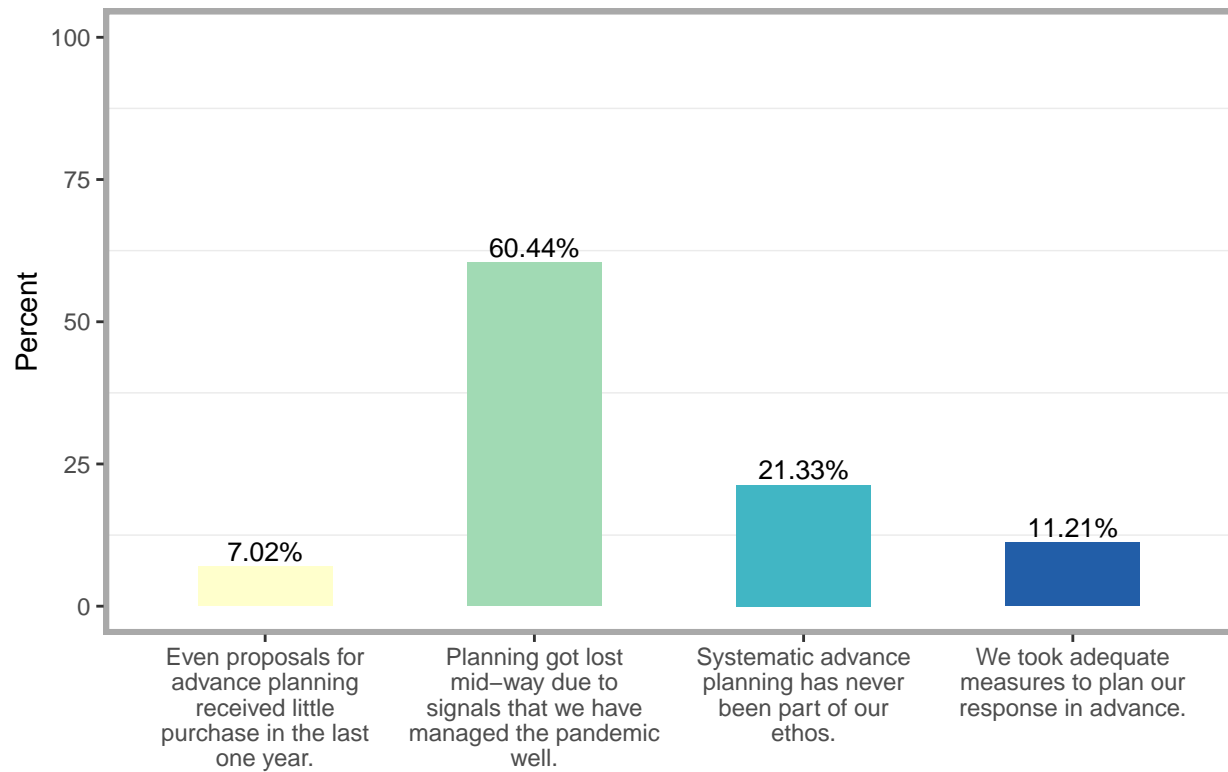
Question 1: Dis-aggregated by Age

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Question 2: Aggregate Graph

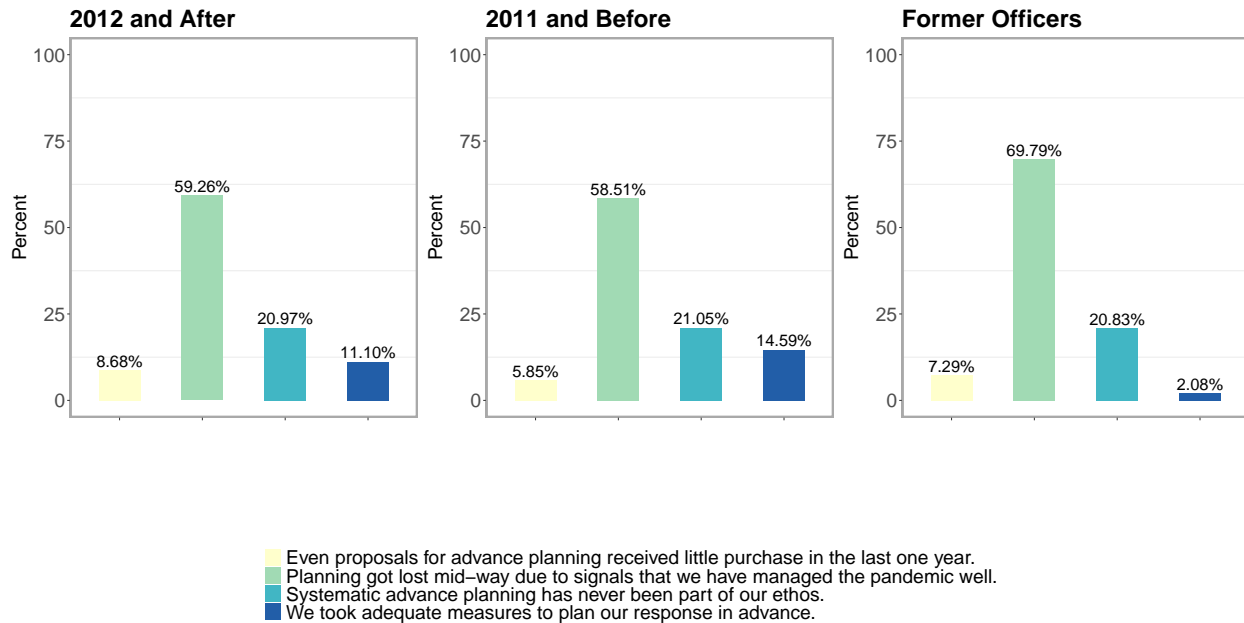
With regard to our planning and preparation for the second wave, which of these statements would you agree with most?



Question 2, Weighted

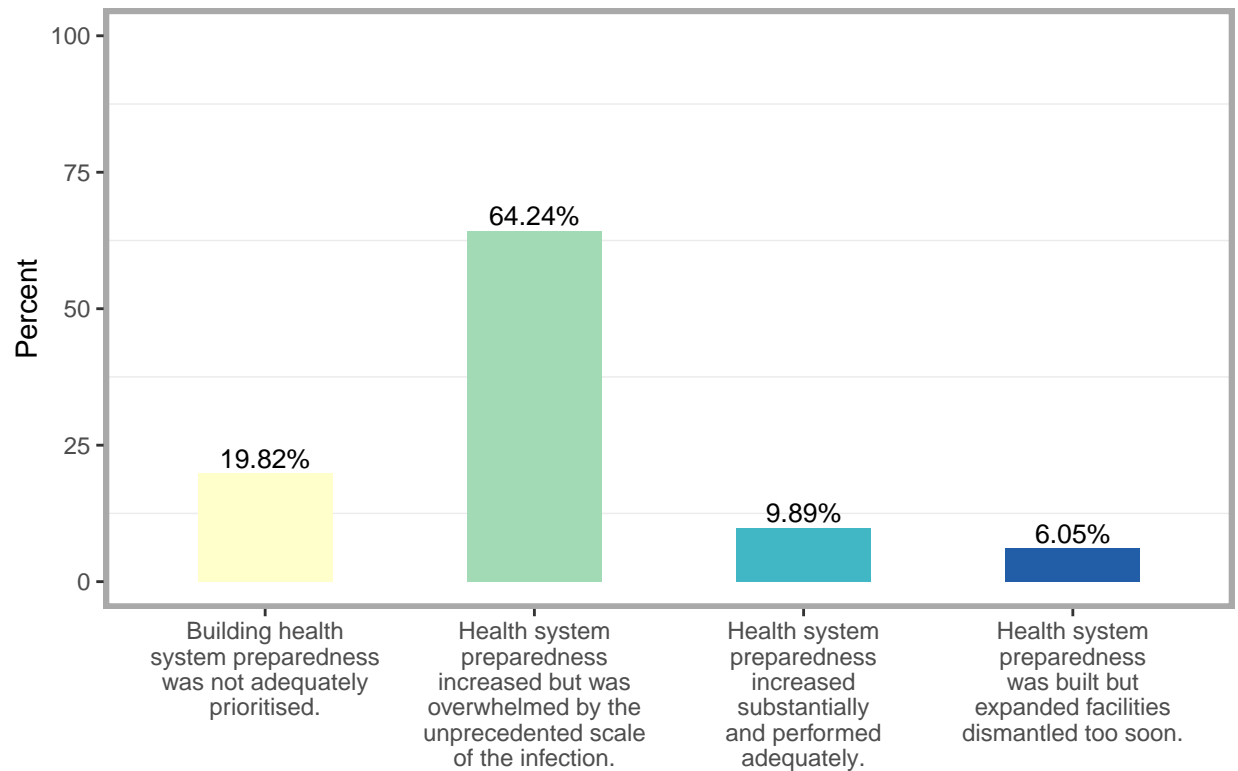
Question 2: Dis-aggregated by Age

With regard to our planning and preparation for the second wave, which of these statements would you agree with most?



Question 3: Aggregate Graph

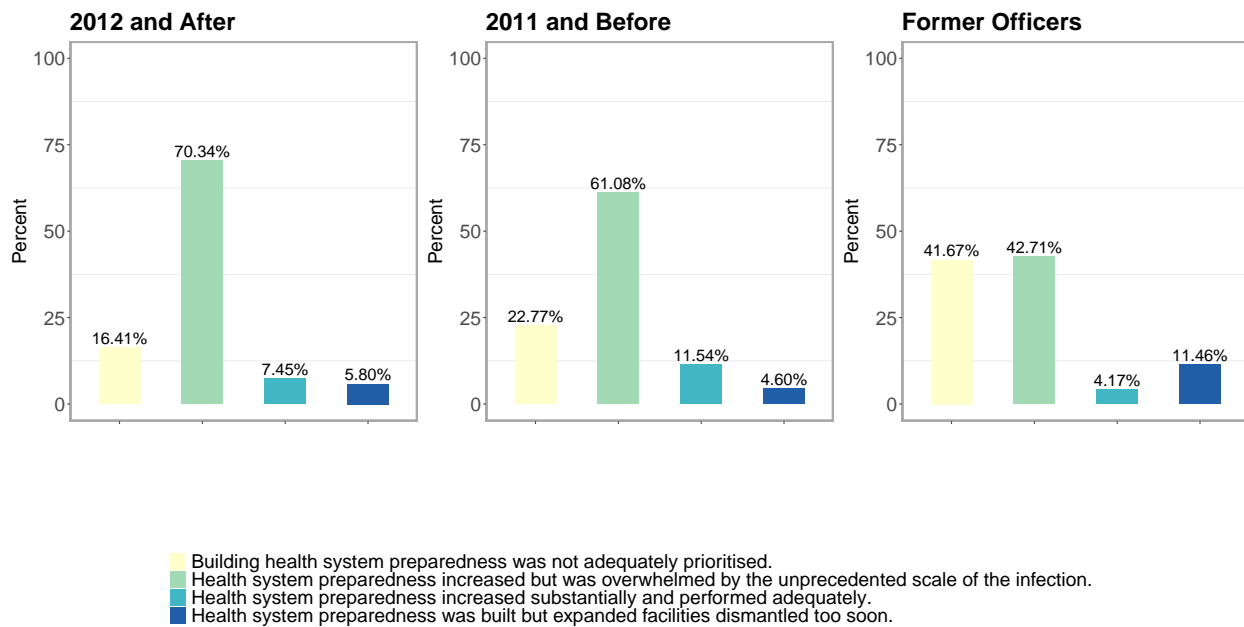
In our survey of IAS officers during the first wave of the pandemic, almost 70% of officers felt that there was a reasonable to substantial increase in health system preparedness post the nationwide lockdown. Which of these statements best reflects health system preparedness for the second wave?



Question 3, Weighted

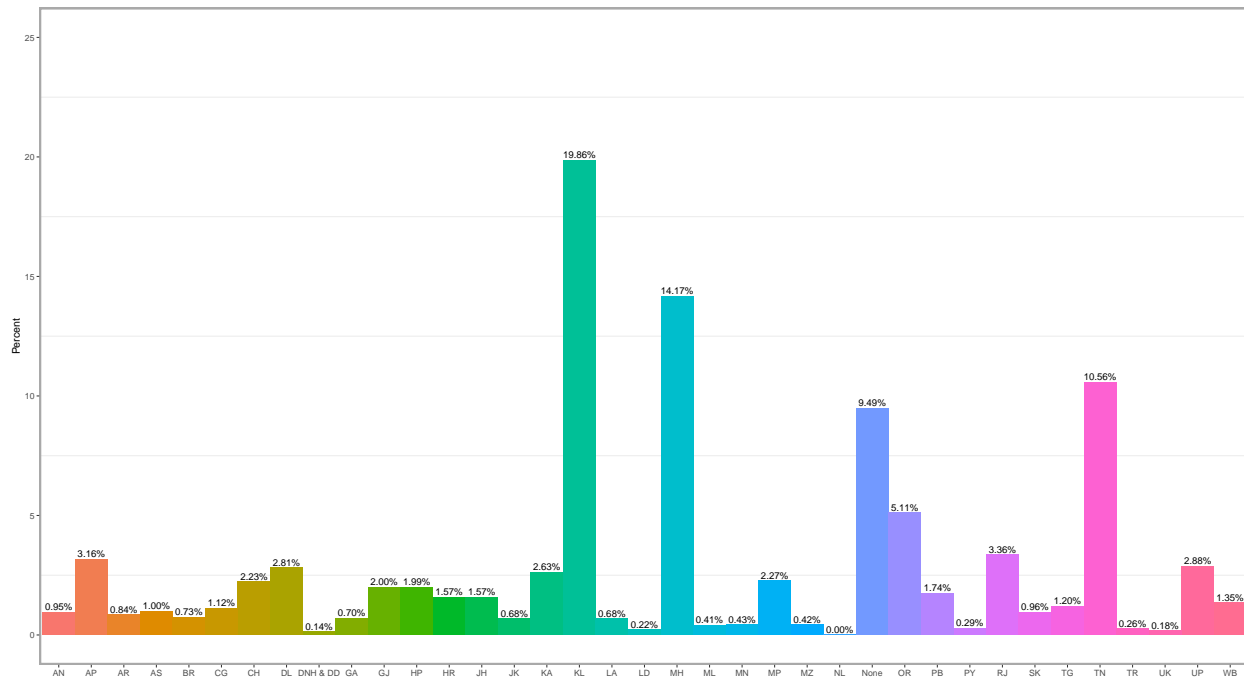
Question 3: Dis-aggregated by Age

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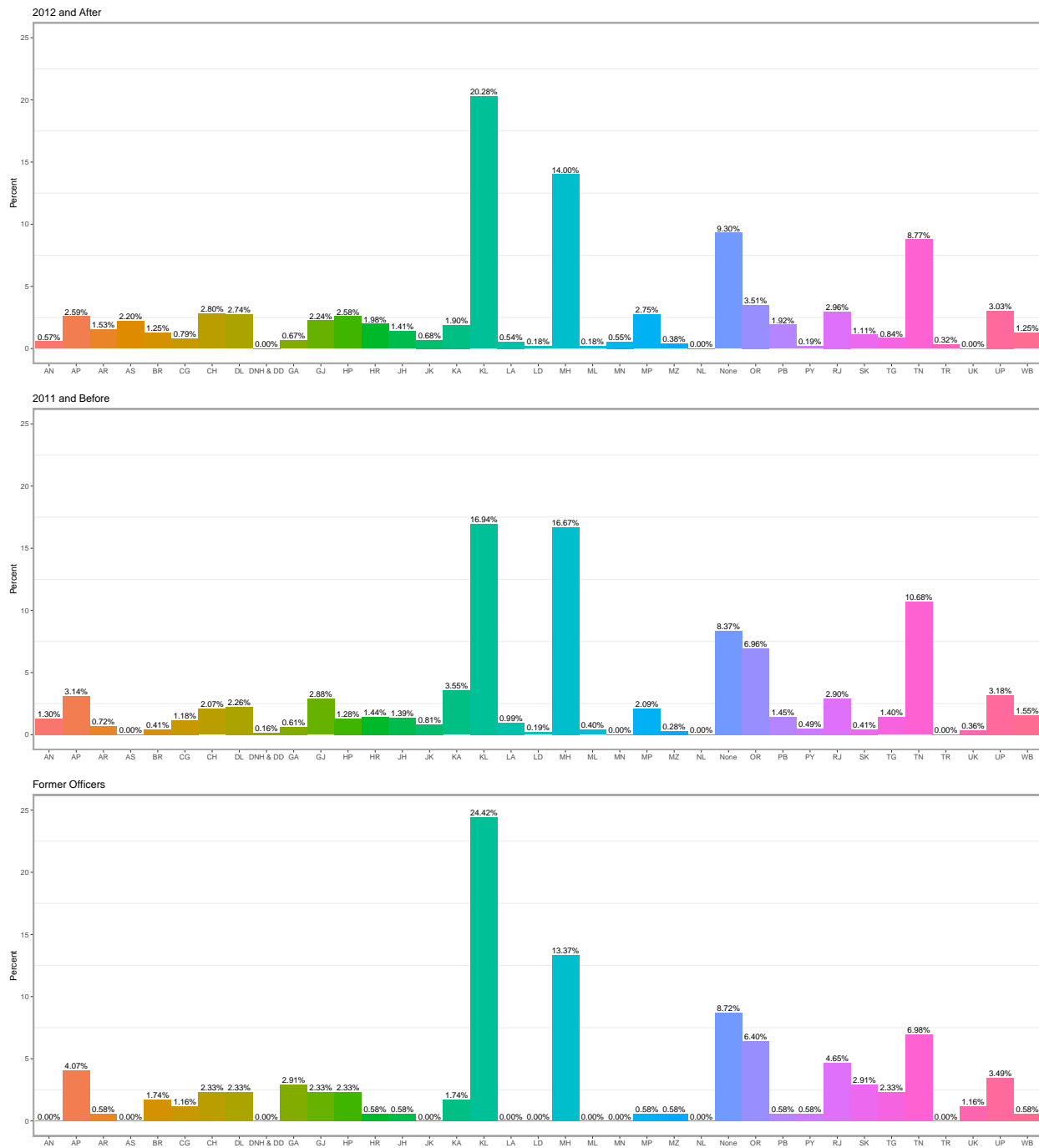
Question 4: Aggregate Graph

Please select upto two States that you think have best fulfilled their pandemic management responsibilities.



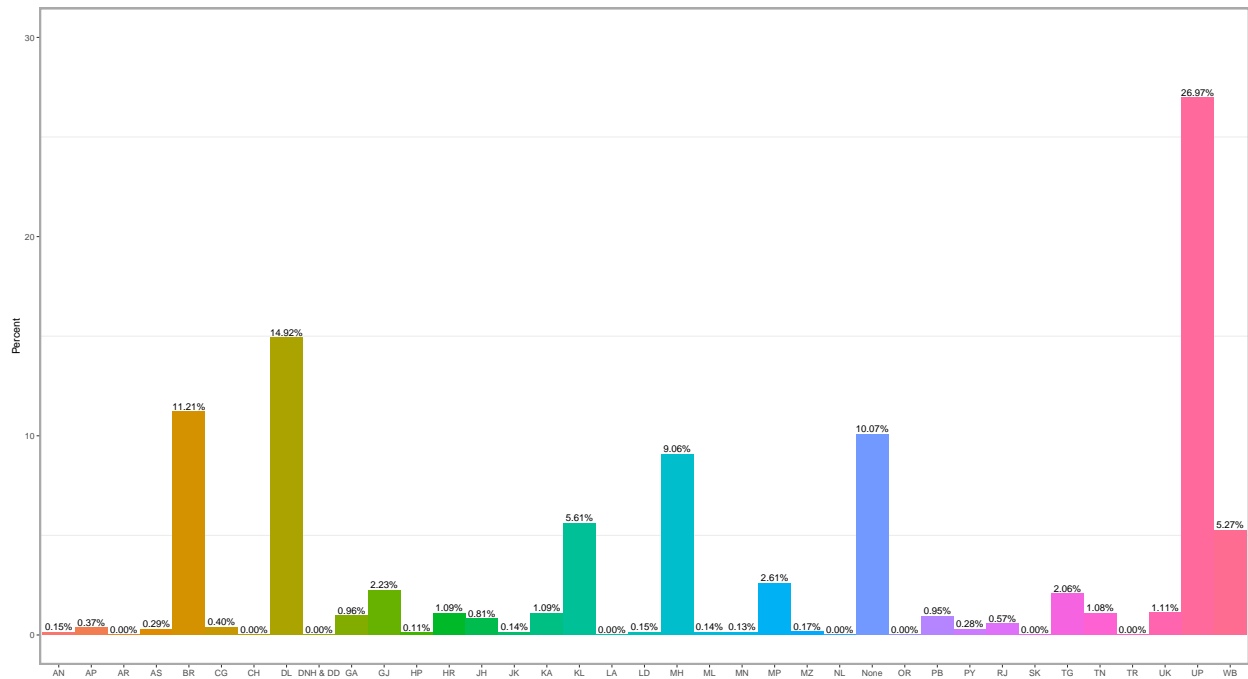
Question 4: Dis-aggregated by Age

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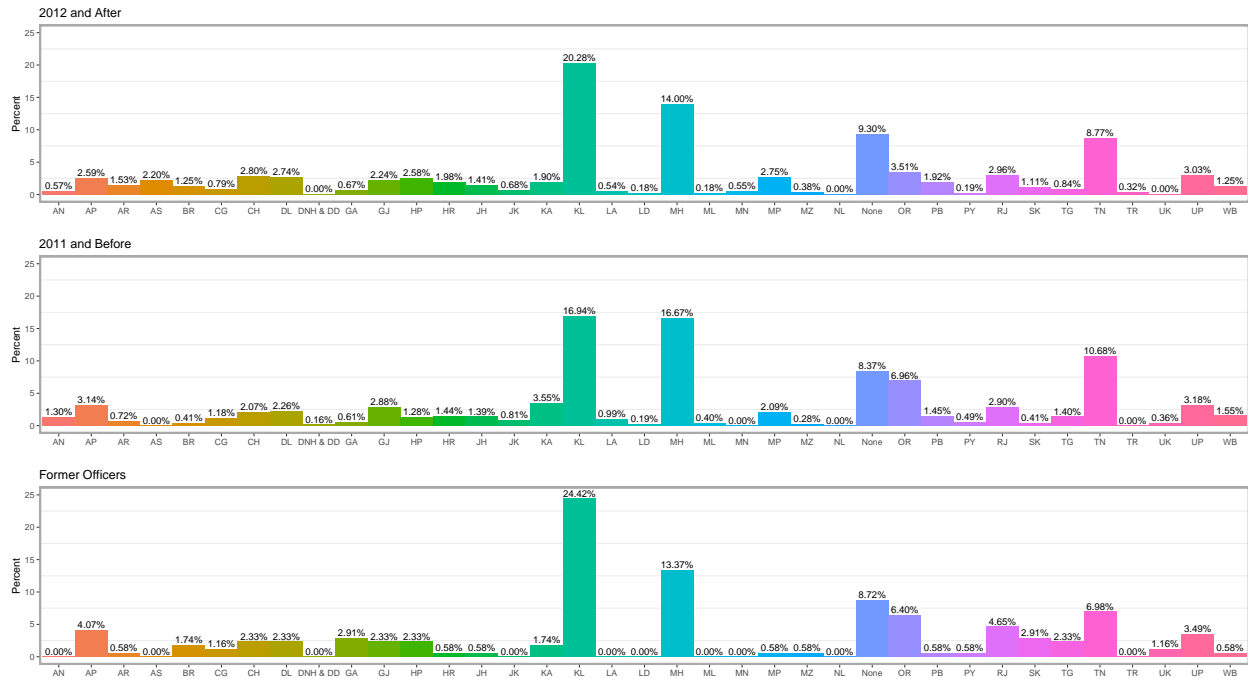
Question 5: Aggregate Graph

Please select upto two States that you think have performed their pandemic management responsibilities most poorly.



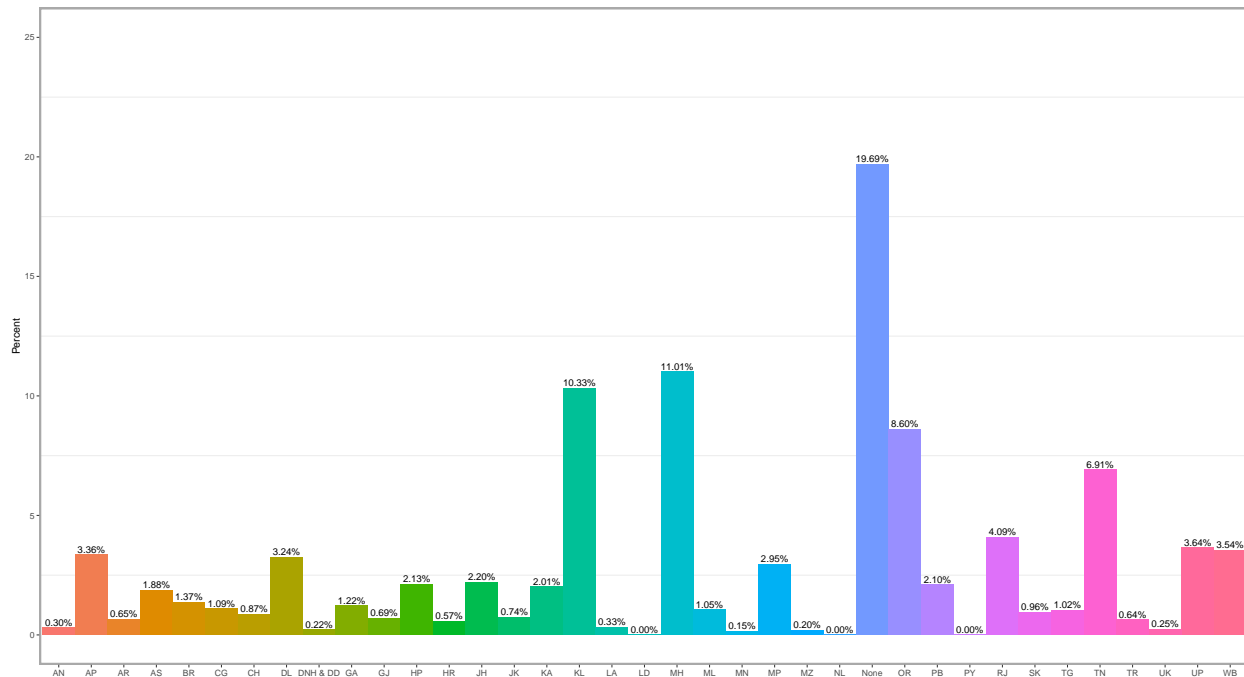
Question 5: Dis-aggregated by Age

Please select up to two States that you think have performed their pandemic management responsibilities most poorly.



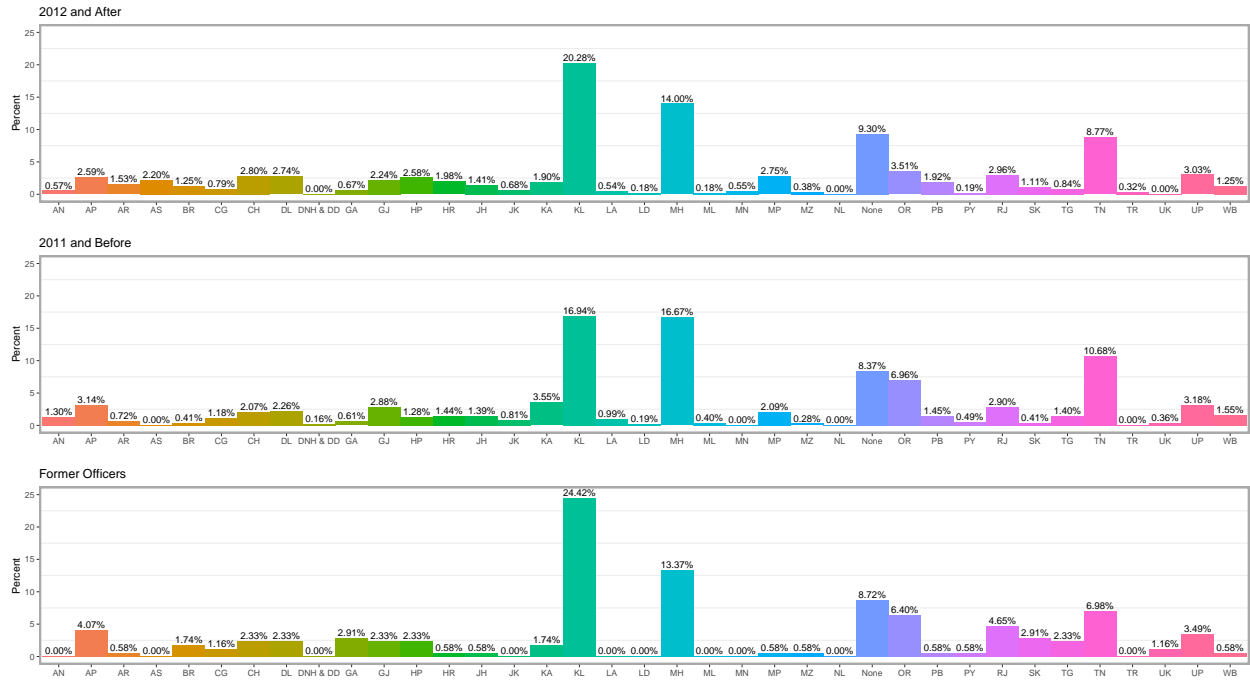
Question 6: Aggregate Graph

Please select one State that you think has been under-appreciated for its success in pandemic management. (States selected in previous answers can be repeated)



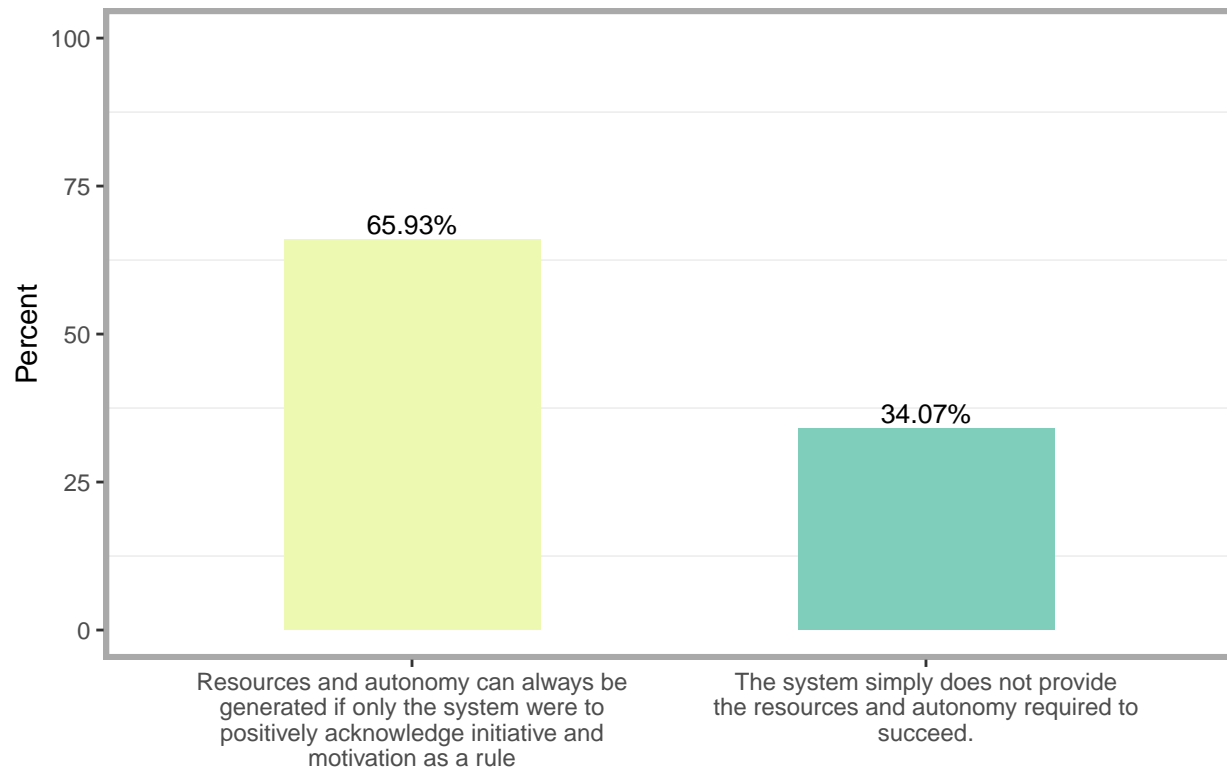
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Question 7: Aggregate Graph

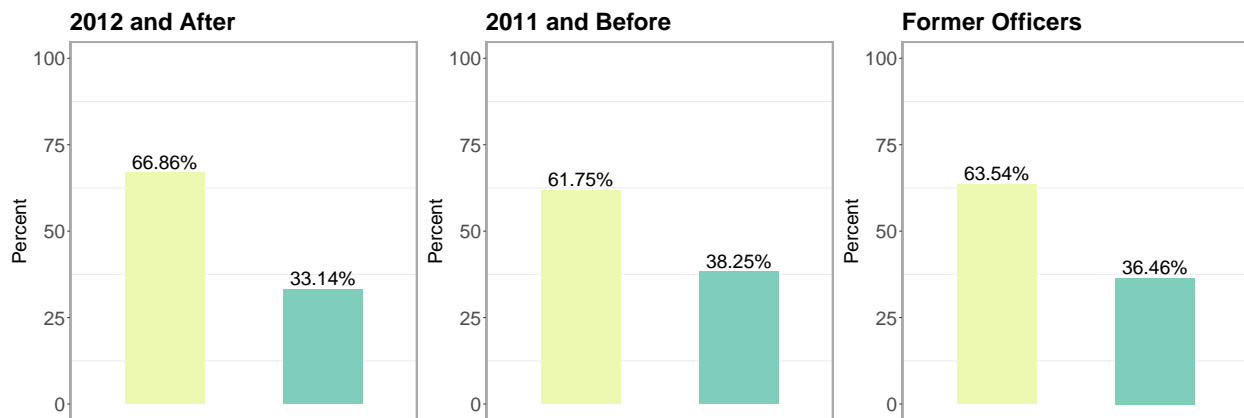
Some examples of successful management of the challenges posed by the pandemic show that civil servants can perform even under very difficult circumstances. Why is this situation not the norm? Choose the option that you consider more important.



Question 7, Weighted

Question 7: Dis-aggregated by Age

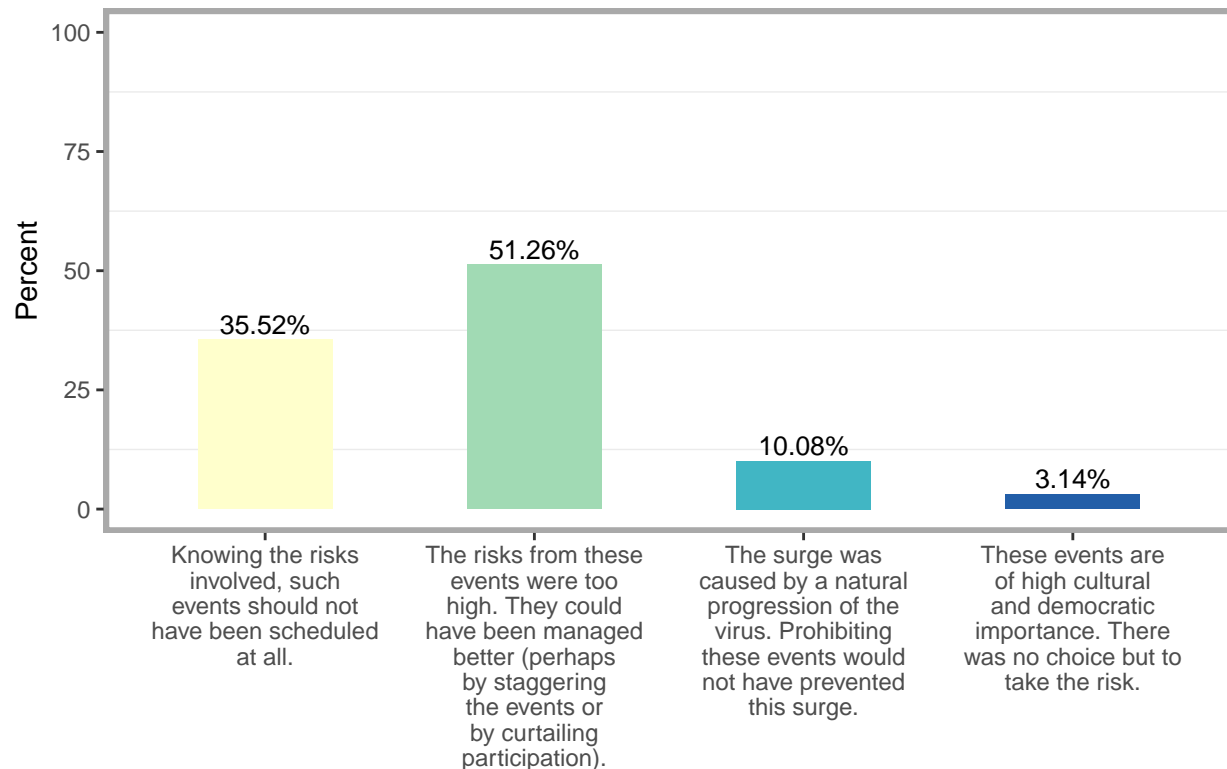
Some examples of successful management of the challenges posed by the pandemic show that civil servants can perform even under very difficult circumstances. Why is this situation not the norm? Choose the option that you consider more important.



Resources and autonomy can always be generated if only the system were to positively acknowledge initiative and motivation as a rule
The system simply does not provide the resources and autonomy required to succeed.

Question 8: Aggregate Graph

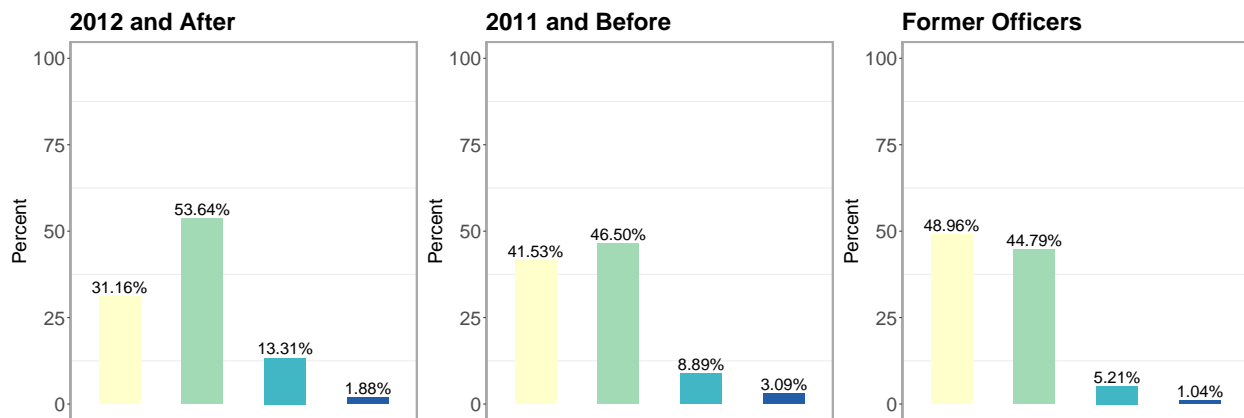
The government has been criticised for permitting large gatherings (during election campaigning and religious/cultural events like the kumbh mela) that may have accelerated the surge. Which of the following statements would you agree with most?



Question 8, Weighted

Question 8: Dis-aggregated by Age

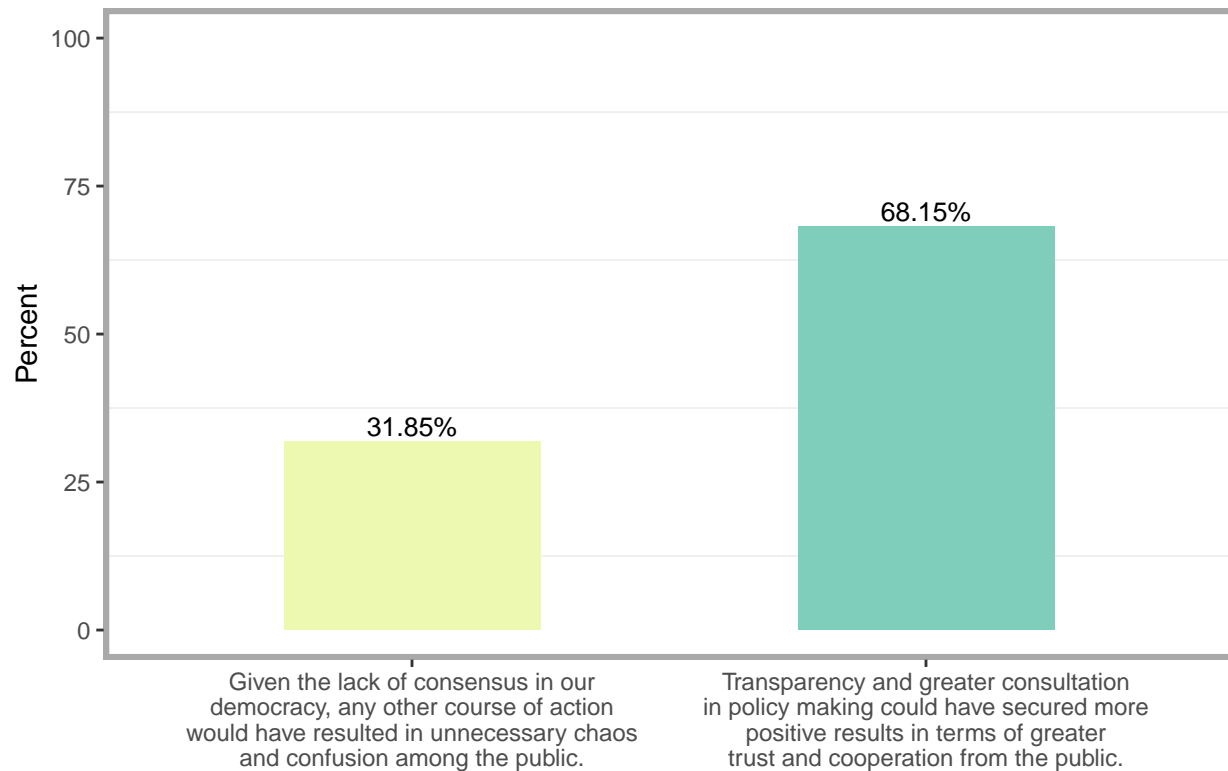
The government has been criticised for permitting large gatherings (during election campaigning and religious/cultural events like the kumbh mela) that may have accelerated the surge. Which of the following statements would you agree with most?



- Knowing the risks involved, such events should not have been scheduled at all.
- The risks from these events were too high. They could have been managed better (perhaps by staggering the events or by curtailing participation).
- The surge was caused by a natural progression of the virus. Prohibiting these events would not have prevented this surge.
- These events are of high cultural and democratic importance. There was no choice but to take the risk.

Question 9: Aggregate Graph

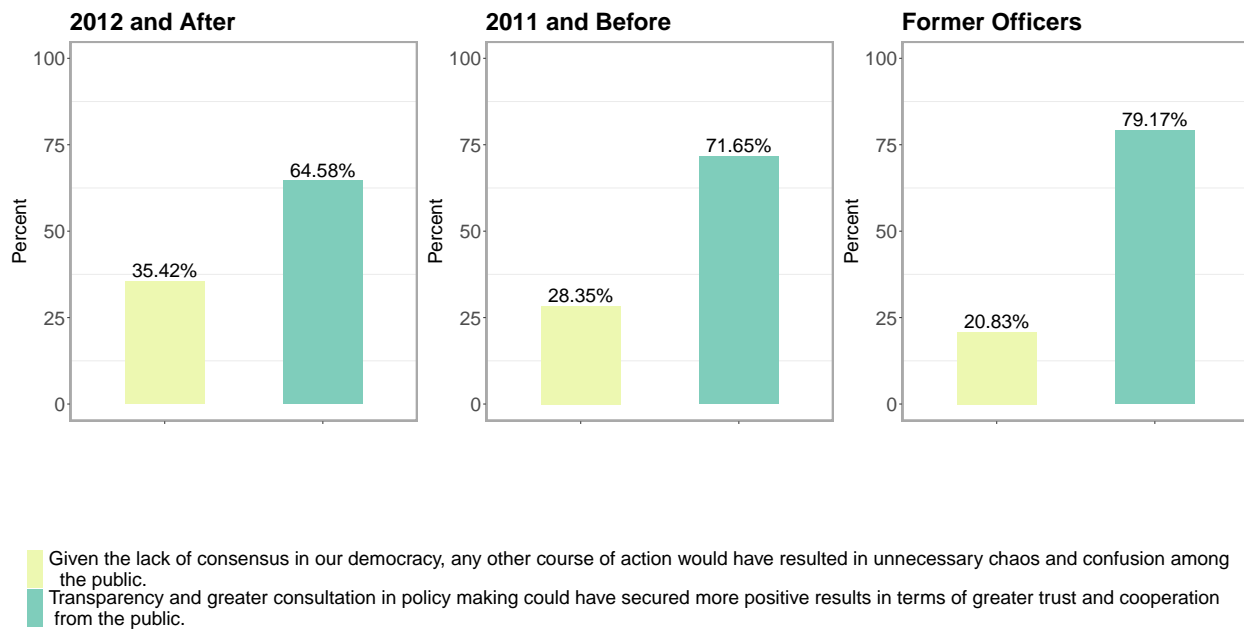
The unprecedented nature of this pandemic has meant that policy has had to constantly evolve and change to confront the challenges. Explanations for changes have rarely been given to the public. In this context, which statement would you agree with more?



Question 9, Weighted

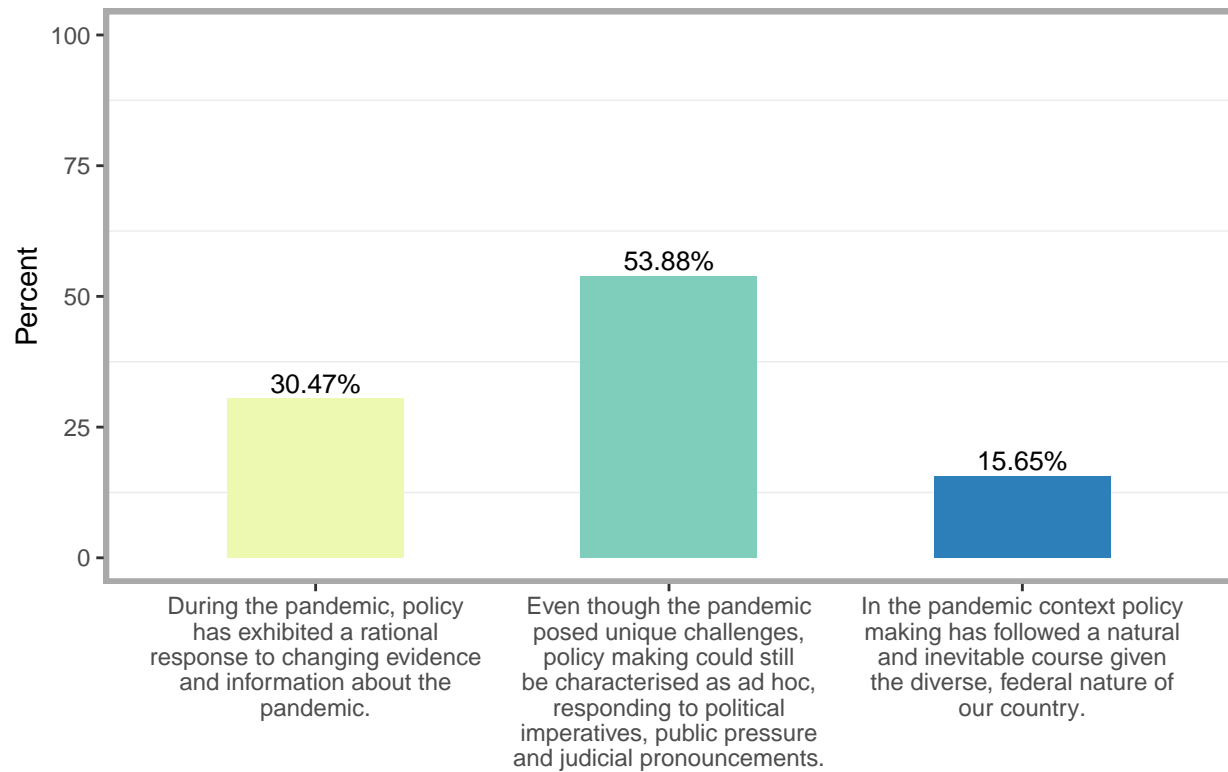
Question 9: Dis-Aggregated by Age

The unprecedented nature of this pandemic has meant that policy has had to constantly evolve and change to confront the challenges. Explanations for changes have rarely been given to the public. In this context, which statement would you agree with more?



Question 10: Aggregate Graph

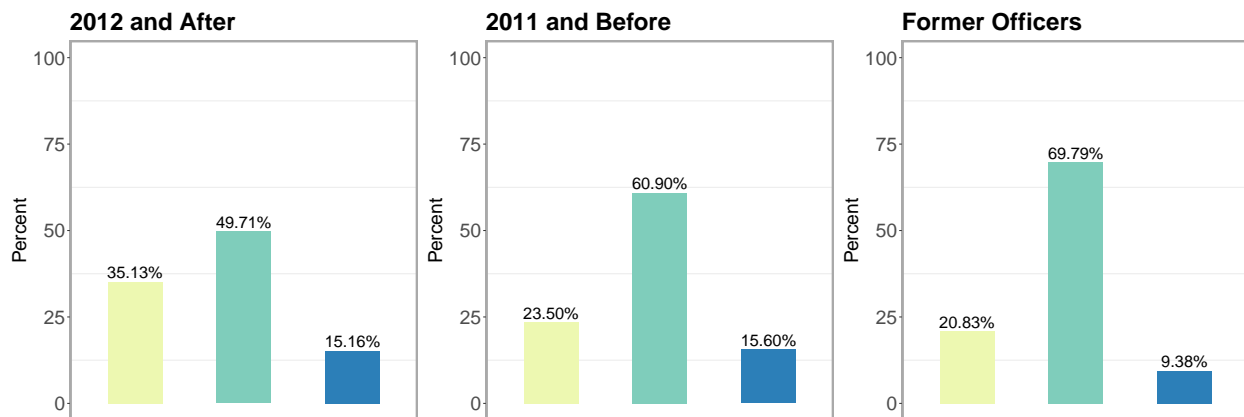
India's vaccine procurement policy has undergone multiple changes in a short span of time. What, in your opinion, best explains these frequent changes?



Question 10, Weighted

Question 10: Dis-aggregated by Age

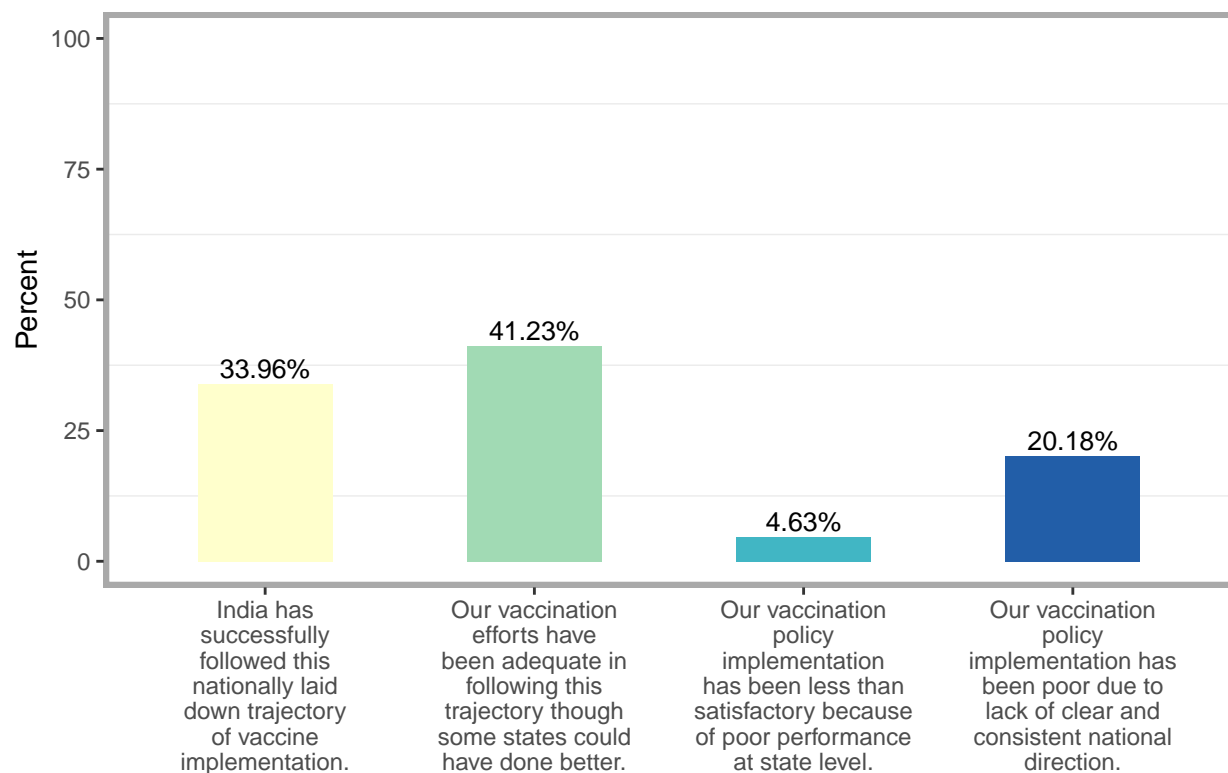
India's vaccine procurement policy has undergone multiple changes in a short span of time. What, in your opinion, best explains these frequent changes?



- During the pandemic, policy has exhibited a rational response to changing evidence and information about the pandemic.
- Even though the pandemic posed unique challenges, policy making could still be characterised as ad hoc, responding to political imperatives, public pressure and judicial pronouncements.
- In the pandemic context policy making has followed a natural and inevitable course given the diverse, federal nature of our country.

Question 11: Aggregate Graph

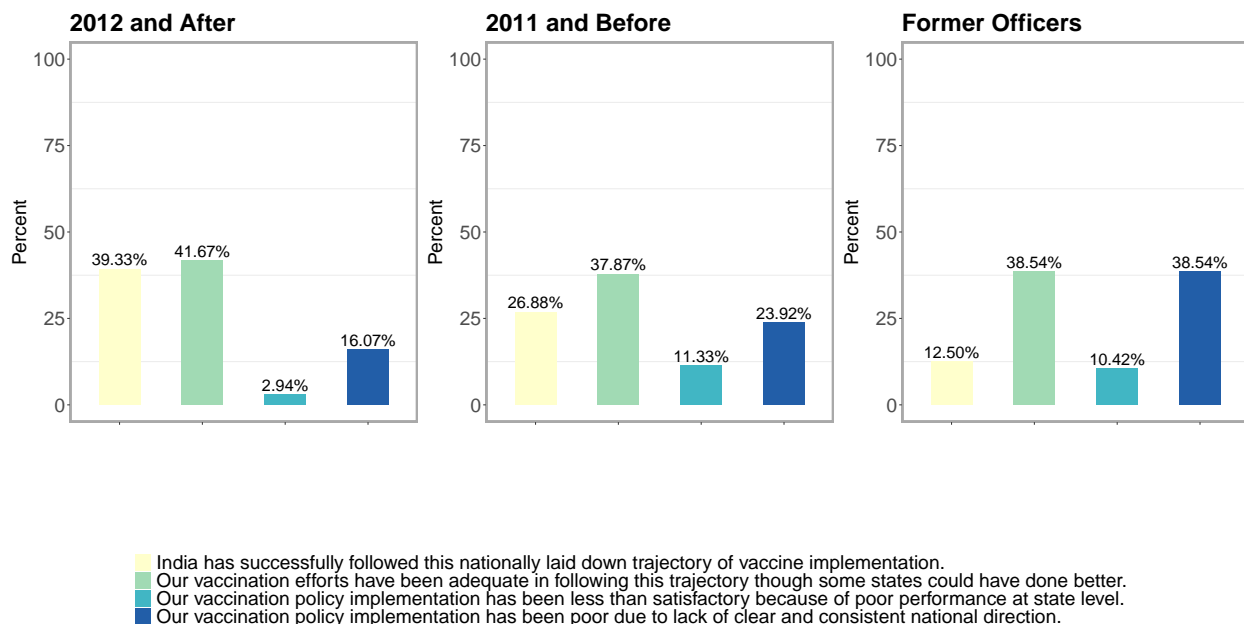
Successful vaccination policy across most of the world has prioritised high risk segments (such as the aged, those with comorbidities, and frontline workers) followed by a rapid coverage of a minimum threshold number in the general population. Which statement in your opinion best characterises India's implementation of such a vaccination policy?



Question 11, Weighted

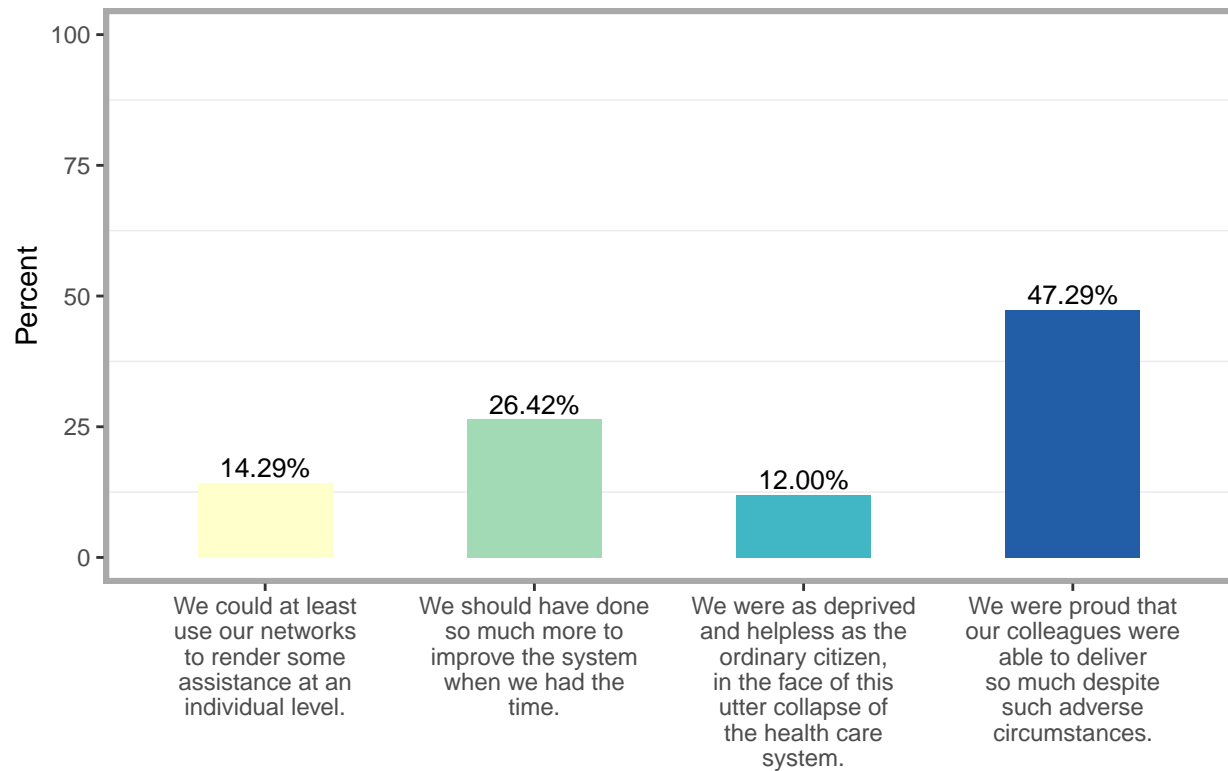
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Question 12: Aggregate Graph

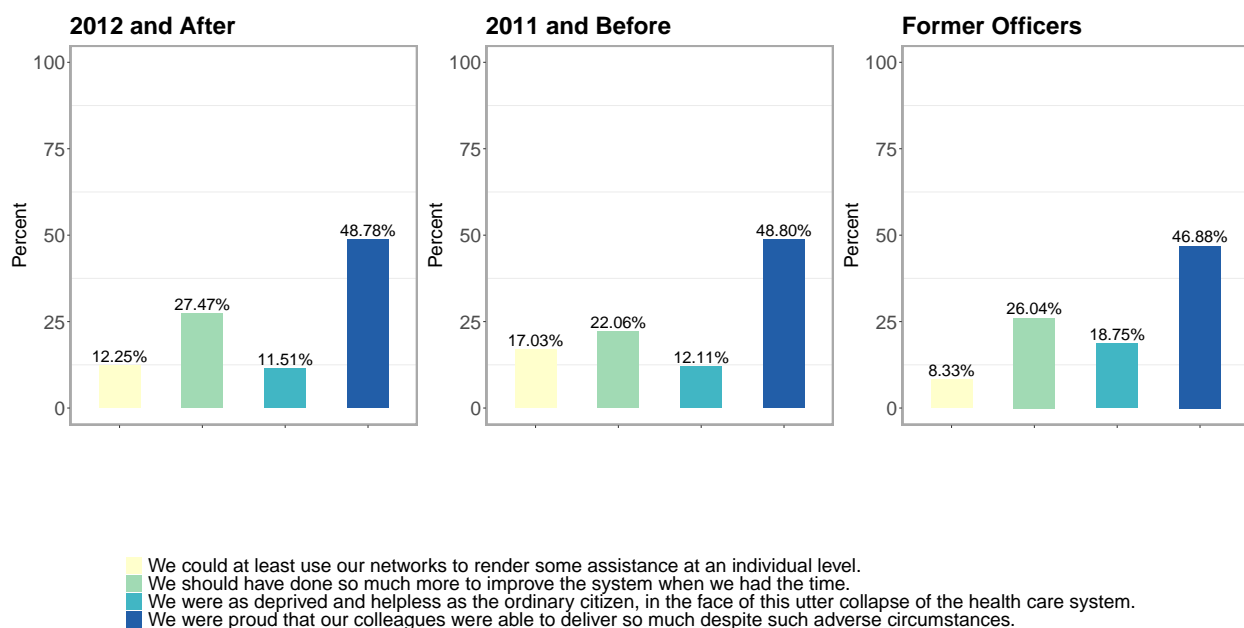
Choose the option that best describes the overriding feeling among IAS officers during the peak of the second wave when the scale and human consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic across many parts of the country were palpable to all.



Question 12, Weighted

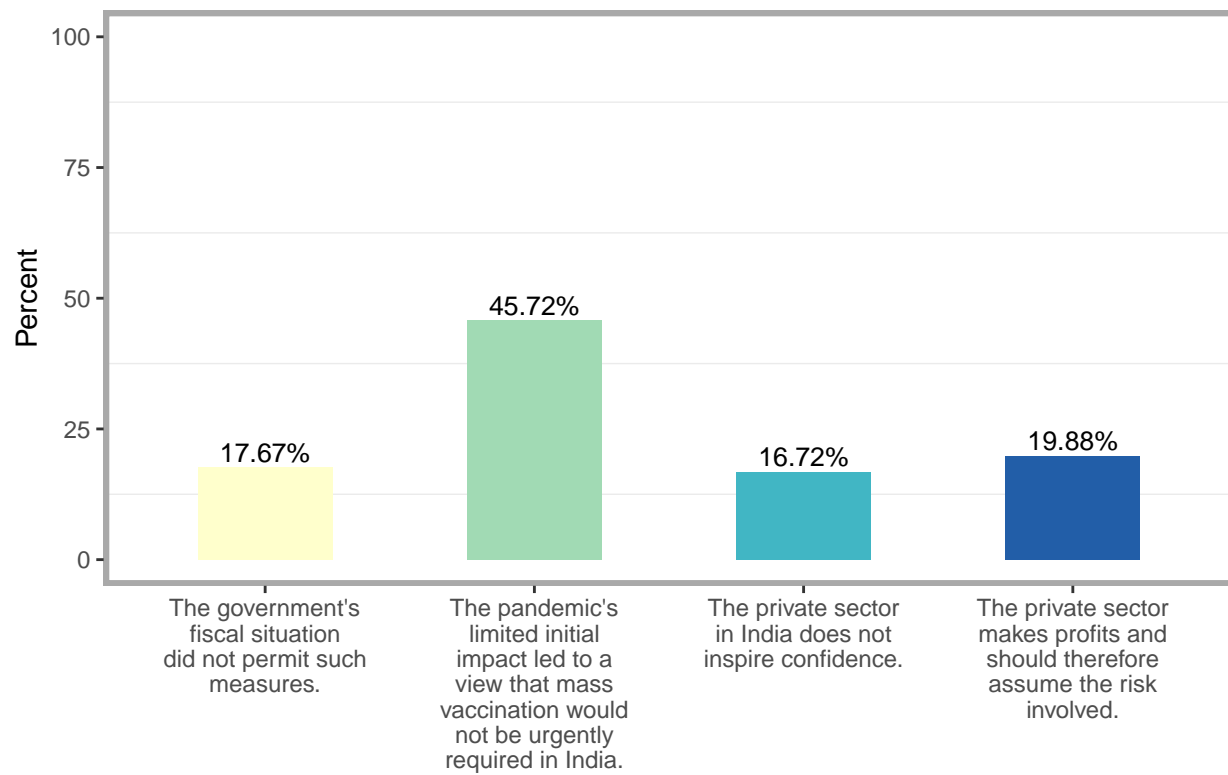
Question 12: Dis-aggregated by Age

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Question 14: Aggregate Graph

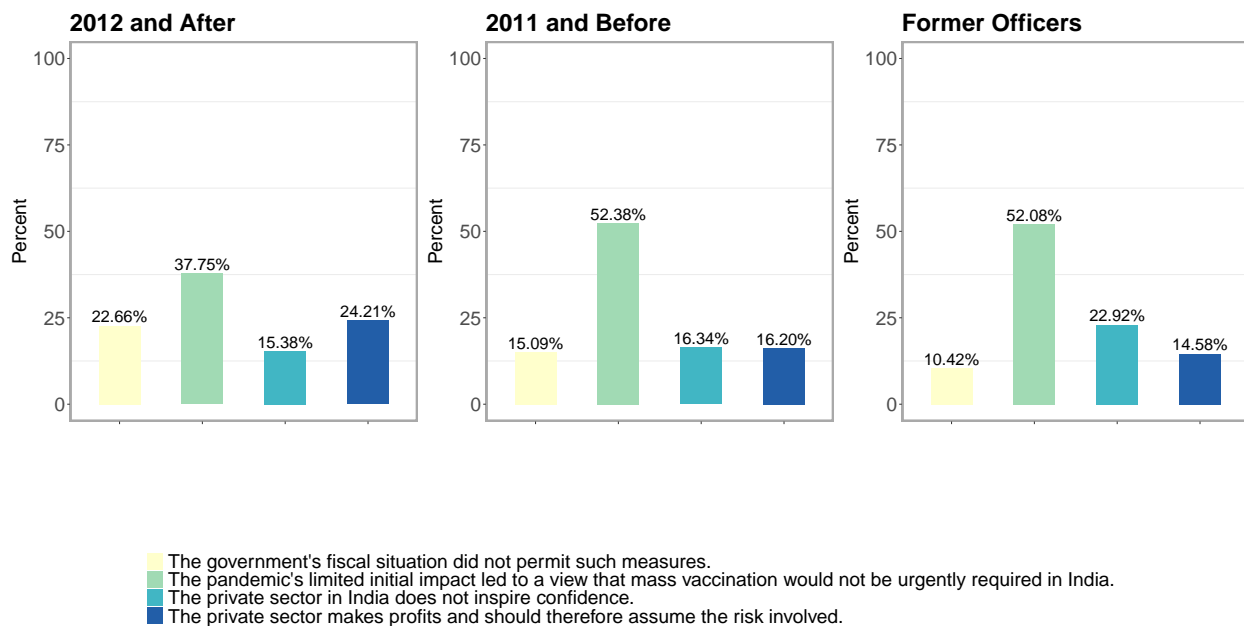
The government support for India's huge vaccine production capacity appears to have been limited compared to many other countries. Pick the option that you think is the most important reason.



Question 14, Weighted

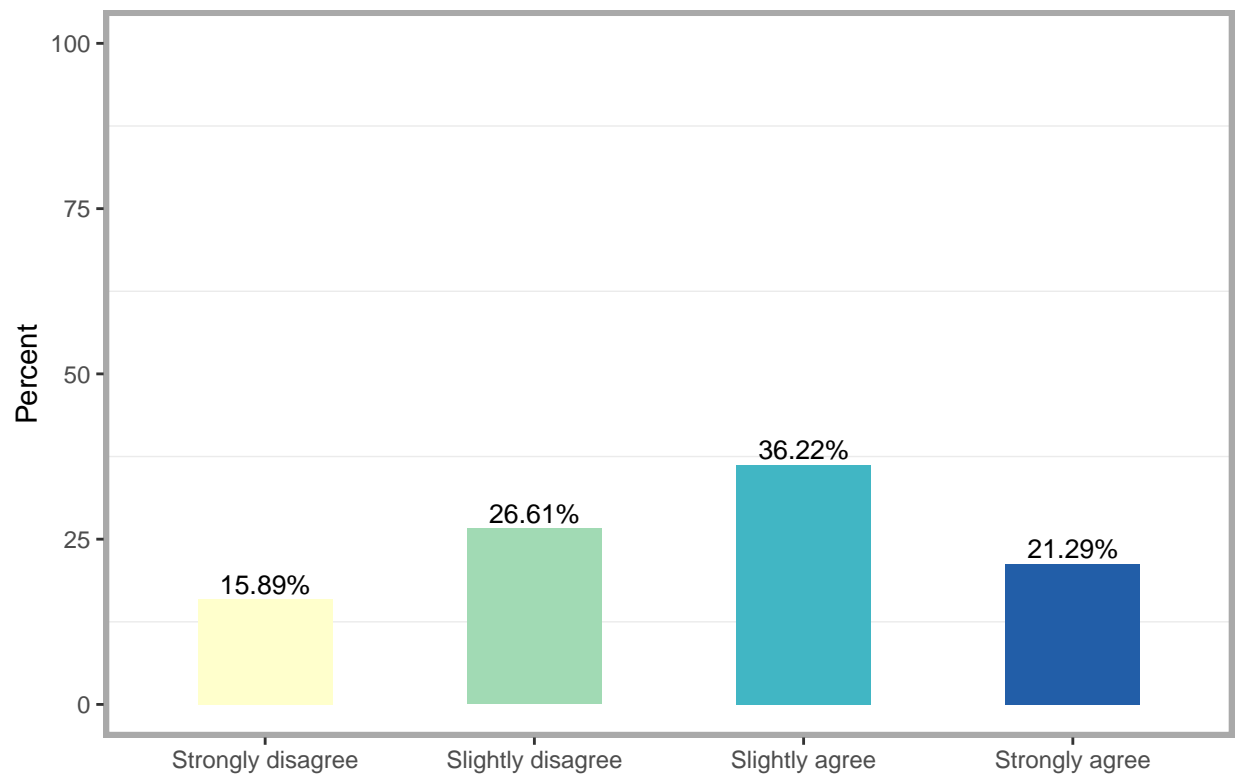
Question 14: Dis-aggregated by Age

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Question 15: Aggregate Graph

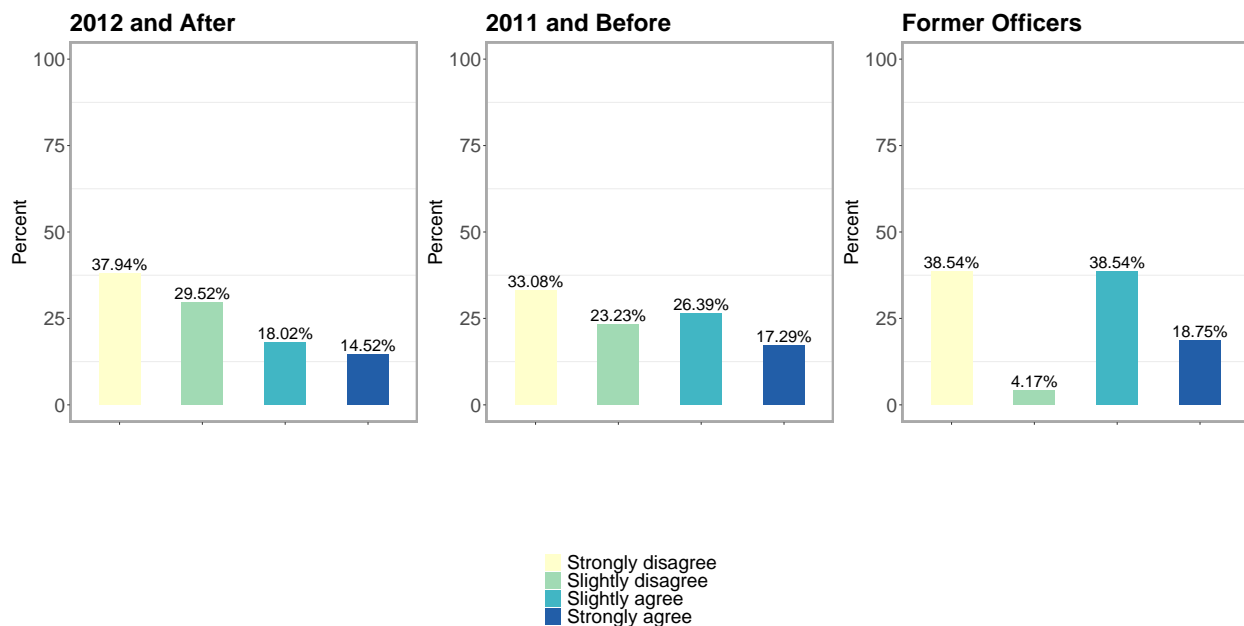
To what extent would you agree with the following statement? “NGOs and civil society rendered critical assistance to pandemic management in 2020. While they played an important role in the second wave (particularly for oxygen, hospital beds and food relief), increased regulation of their fundraising and activities has come in the way of their playing an even bigger role.”



Question 15, Weighted

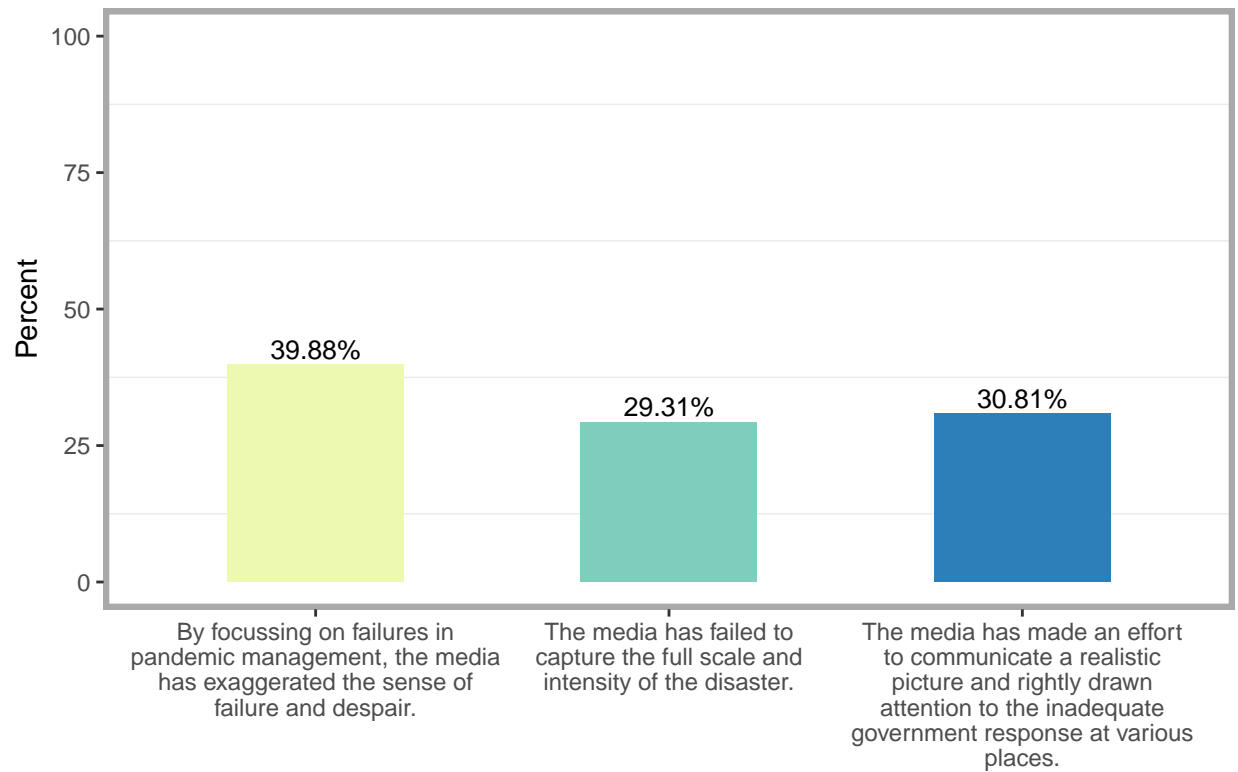
Question 15: Dis-aggregated by Age

To what extent would you agree with the following statement? “NGOs and civil society rendered critical assistance to pandemic management in 2020. While they played an important role in the second wave (particularly for oxygen, hospital beds and food relief), increased regulation of their fundraising and activities has come in the way of their playing an even bigger role.”



Question 16: Aggregate Graph

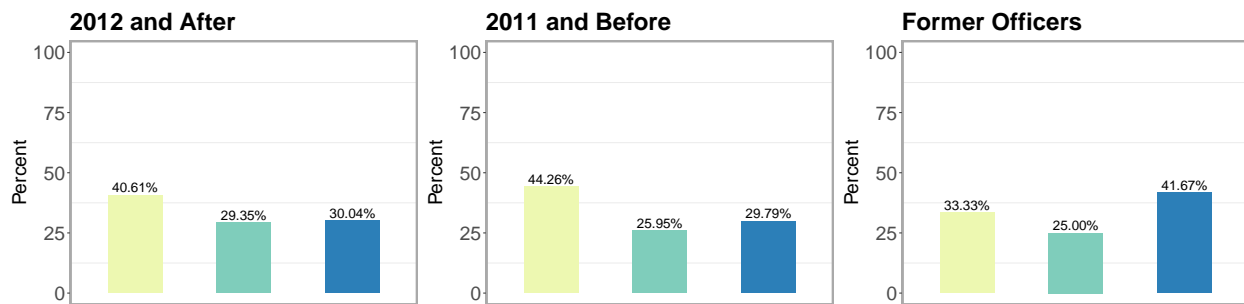
Which of the following statements best describes the media's coverage of the pandemic?



Question 16, Weighted

Question 16: Dis-ggregated by Age

Which of the following statements best describes the media's coverage of the pandemic?



- By focussing on failures in pandemic management, the media has exaggerated the sense of failure and despair.
- The media has failed to capture the full scale and intensity of the disaster.
- The media has made an effort to communicate a realistic picture and rightly drawn attention to the inadequate government response at various places.