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RBI HOLDS FIRE

Ignoring cues from the government and India Inc, the RBI on Wednesday decided to keep the policy repo rate unchanged at 6 per cent, citing inflationary pressures

4.3-4.7%

Inflation expected to shoot up to during the second half of the fiscal

6.7%

GDP expected to grow this fiscal

FACTORS THAT WILL INFLUENCE INFLATION

- Rising food and fuel prices
- Input costs
- Loan waivers
- Changing global factors
- Partial roll-back of excise duty on petroleum products
- Revenue dent due to GST
- Rising crude oil prices

HRA HIKE TO STRIKE A BLOW

Impact of HRA increase by Centre will peak in Dec, pushing up inflation by 25 basis points

Staggered impact of HRA hikes by various states may push up housing inflation in 2018, with attendant second order effects

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TROUBLE BREWING

INC de-recognises all nursing colleges in state, second time this year

RASHMI BELUR @ Bengaluru

NURSING colleges in the state are again in trouble as the Indian Nursing Council (INC) has removed names of all colleges functioning in Karnataka from its official list. This is the second instance where the INC has removed the names from its website this year.

The INC move technically amounts to it de-recognising the colleges, thus jeopardising the future of over 2 lakh nursing students in the state. In other words, the degrees of students who have studied in Karnataka will not be valid outside the state.

The INC move has come as a huge shock to managements of nursing colleges in the state in the midst of the academic year and just a day ahead of a court hearing on the issue.

Speaking to *Express*, a college representative said, "Things were normal since October. After a series of meetings and representations at the government level, the INC added names of Karnataka colleges to its list in October. But, we were shocked to



I got to know about the issue through some colleges and will verify the same

Dr Ramesh,
In-charge V-C of RGUHS

see no college name on the INC website on Tuesday evening."

However, the INC has not given any reason for removal of names. "They removed even genuine colleges from the list. While doing so, the authorities must inform the colleges along with a valid reason," said another college principal.

The tussle began way back in December 2016 when the Karnataka government issued an order that said government and private nursing colleges do not require the INC's approval as they are approved by RGUHS and the Karnataka Nursing Council.

In July, the INC struck off all colleges in state from its list. Soon the matter came up in court and college names were reinstated on INC website, following court order and government intervention.

STUDENTS WORRIED: P6

Worried nursing students approach college authorities

ENS @ Bengaluru

Nursing colleges in the state are again in trouble as the Indian Nursing Council (INC) has removed names of all colleges functioning in Karnataka from its official list. Worried students have started approaching college authorities. "We are not in a position to explain to students be-

cause we ourselves are not aware why this has happened," said a nursing college principal from the city.

There are over 400 nursing colleges in the state of which 257 are approved by INC. Classes for the current academic year started in September. Dilip Kumar, chairperson of INC, was unavailable for comments.