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No infra in colleges, K'taka to lose 2,410 UG medical seats

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Bengaluru: In a major blow to students who want to study medicine, the state is all set to lose at least 1,210 undergraduate medical seats for academic year 2018-19 after the Medical Council of India refused renewal sanctions to eight medical colleges, as per documents released by the Union health ministry.

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However, experts said the loss of medical seats in the state is even higher — at least 2,410 seats — since MCI has also denied sanction to eight new colleges. Seven of these new colleges are state-run and the lone private one would have added another 1,200 seats to the state's kitty.

State-run Koppal Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS), which has 150 UG medical seats, is one of the eight colleges denied permission. Of the other seven, four are private medical colleges from Bengaluru — including St John's Medical College & Hospital — and one each from Vijayapu-

KEY POSTS VACANT

- MCI slams eight existing colleges and eight new medical colleges for lack of infrastructure
- Officials say election code of conduct came in the way of appointing staff at the Koppal Institute
- Officials admit they knew the new state-run colleges would be denied approval since little work was done due to budgetary issues
- Some colleges say they may move court, while others are hopeful of securing permissions by August
- Staff shortage, inadequate clinic material, lack of infrastructure and vacant key posts were some of the issues raised by the MCI panel

ra, Kolar and Tumakuru.

Sources said lack of sufficient staff, deficiency in clinic material, infrastructure and key posts being vacant were some issues raised by MCI during its inspection of colleges earlier this year. But, some colleges, including St John's, say they may move court while others are hopeful of securing permission by August.

Fee hike of up to 8% for professional courses

Regulatory panel sets the ceiling

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

The fee regulatory committee, appointed by the government, has recommended a fee hike of up to 8% from the previous year for professional courses. This will be applicable for all medical, dental and engineering colleges for the 2018-19 academic year.

D.V. Shylendra Kumar, committee chairman and former High Court judge, said that he conducted a meeting with private professional institutions from March 12 to March 19. "The fee fixed by the committee will act as an upper limit and ceiling," he said, adding that private institutions have the option to charge a fee lower than that fixed by the committee. In the proceedings to the colleges, the committee has allowed reasonable surplus required for the growth and the development of the institutions.

The committee has determined the fees only for institutional quota seats. He also pointed out that the seat matrix and the seat-sharing arrangement of private colleges with the government will, however, not change.

Although some colleges had projected a higher increase in expenditure, the committee was not inclined to accept the proposed fee, on the grounds that the pro-

 Even if the government signs the consensual agreement, it will have to fix the fee based on the ceiling recommended by the fee regulatory committee.

D.V. SHYLENDRA KUMAR
Fee regulatory committee chairman

posals are not "sustainable".

The committee has also raised objection to the manner in which consensual agreement has been entered into with private professional institutions, and noted that the fixing of fees was the function of the fee regulatory committee. "Even if the government signs the consensual agreement, it will have to fix the fee based on the ceiling recommended by the fee regulatory committee," he said. He added that government and private colleges have no choice but to implement this fee structure. "It was binding on the government to comply with it," he said.

NRI fee

The committee this year has also fixed the NRI students' fee which is 10 times the fee fixed for local students. Earlier, the State government had not fixed any cap for fees collected from NRI students.

ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಕೈತಪ್ಪಲಿದೆ 1200 ವೈದ್ಯ ಸೀಟು

■ **ವಿಕ ಸುದ್ದಿಲೋಕ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು**

ವೈದ್ಯ ಕೋರ್ಸ್ ಪ್ರವೇಶ ನಿರೀಕ್ಷೆಯಲ್ಲಿರುವ ರಾಜ್ಯದ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಆಫಾತ ಎದುರಾಗಿದೆ. ಭಾರತೀಯ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಮಂಡಳಿ (ಎಂಸಿಐ) ಮಾನ್ಯತೆ ನೀಡದಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ಪ್ರಸಕ್ತ ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ವರ್ಷದಲ್ಲಿ ರಾಜ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಈ ವರ್ಷ 1200 ಪದವಿ ಕೋರ್ಸ್ ವೈದ್ಯ ಸೀಟುಗಳು ಕೈತಪ್ಪುವ ಸಂಭವವಿದೆ.

ಎಂಸಿಐ ಮೂಲಗಳ ಪ್ರಕಾರ, ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಎಂಟು ಹೊಸ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಕಾಲೇಜುಗಳಿಗೆ (ಒಂದು ಖಾಸಗಿ ಕಾಲೇಜು ಸೇರಿ) ಮಂಡಳಿ ಮಾನ್ಯತೆ ನೀಡಿಲ್ಲ. ಅಲ್ಲದೆ, ಇನ್ನೂ ಎಂಟು ಹಳೇ ಕಾಲೇಜುಗಳಿಗೆ ಮಾನ್ಯತೆ ನವೀಕರಿಸಿಲ್ಲ. ಈ ಕಾರಣದಿಂದ ಇಷ್ಟು ಸೀಟುಗಳು ಕೈತಪ್ಪಲಿವೆ ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ.

ಕೊಪ್ಪಳ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗೂ ಮಂಡಳಿ ಮಾನ್ಯತೆ ನವೀಕರಿಸಿಲ್ಲ. ಮೂಲ ಸೌಕರ್ಯಗಳ ಕೊರತೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಪ್ರಾಧ್ಯಾಪಕರ ನೇಮಕ ವಿಳಂಬದಿಂದ ಈ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗೆ ಮಾನ್ಯತೆ ಸಿಗದಿರಲು ಕಾರಣ ಎಂದು ಮೂಲಗಳು ತಿಳಿಸಿವೆ. ಈ ನಡುವೆ ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು ವೈದ್ಯ ಕಾಲೇಜು, ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ, ಚಿತ್ರದುರ್ಗ, ಹಾವೇರಿ, ಯಾದಗಿರಿ, ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ ಹಾಗೂ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನ ಬೌರಿಂಗ್ ಮತ್ತು ಲೇಡಿ ಕರ್ಜನ್ ವೈದ್ಯ ಕಾಲೇಜಿಗೆ ಮಾನ್ಯತೆ ನೀಡಬೇಕೆಂಬ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರಕಾರದ ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾವನೆಗೆ ಅನುಮತಿ ಸಿಕ್ಕಿಲ್ಲ. ಇವು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗೆ ಹೊಂದಿಕೊಂಡಂತೆ ಸ್ಥಾಪಿಸಿರುವ

ಸರಕಾರಿ ವೈದ್ಯ ಕಾಲೇಜುಗಳಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಈ ಕಾಲೇಜುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ತಲಾ 150 ಸೀಟುಗಳು ಲಭ್ಯವಾಗಲಿವೆ ಎಂಬ ನಿರೀಕ್ಷೆ ಇತ್ತು. ಖಾಸಗಿ ಸೇರಿ ಈ ವರ್ಷ ಎಂಟು ಹೊಸ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಕಾಲೇಜುಗಳಿಗೆ ಮಾನ್ಯತೆ ನೀಡದ ಎಂಸಿಐನ ಕ್ರಮವನ್ನು ಪ್ರಶ್ನಿಸಿ ಹೈಕೋರ್ಟ್‌ನ ಮೆಟ್ಟಿಲೇರುವುದಾಗಿ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರಕಾರ ತಿಳಿಸಿದೆ.

ಕೊಪ್ಪಳ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗೆ ಈ ಬಾರಿ 150 ಸೀಟುಗಳ ಪ್ರವೇಶಾವಕಾಶ ಕೈತಪ್ಪಲಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ಪ್ರತಿಭಾನ್ವಿತ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಅನ್ಯಾಯವಾಗಲಿದ್ದು, ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರಕಾರ ಕೂಡಲೇ ಇತ್ತ ಗಮನಹರಿಸಬೇಕು ಎಂದು ಯುಜಿ ವೈದ್ಯ ಕೋರ್ಸ್‌ನ ನಿರೀಕ್ಷೆಯಲ್ಲಿರುವ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಆಗ್ರಹಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಭಾರತೀಯ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಮಂಡಳಿ ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಮೊದಲೇ ಎಚ್ಚರಿಸಿದ್ದರೂ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ ಪರಿಹಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನಿಸದಿರುವ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ಕ್ರಮಕ್ಕೆ ಸರಕಾರ ಕೂಡ ತೀವ್ರ ಅಸಮಾಧಾನ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಪಡಿಸಿದೆ. ವೈದ್ಯ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಹಿರಿಯ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿ ಎಚ್.ಡಿ.ಕುಮಾರಸ್ವಾಮಿ ಈ ಸಂಬಂಧ ತರಾಟೆಗೆ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಸಕಾಲದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಸರಿಯಾದ ತೀರ್ಮಾನ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳದಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ರಾಜ್ಯದ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ನಷ್ಟ ಆಗಲಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಗರಂ ಆಗಿದ್ದಾರೆ ಎಂದು ಗೊತ್ತಾಗಿದೆ.