MUMBAI: The BSE Sensex

- surged almost 276 points to end above the key 35,000-mark today even as the RBI hiked the policy rate by 0.25 per cent on inflation concerns.
- However, the RBI retained the GDP growth forecast for 2018-19 at 7.4 per cent on hopes of further boost to investments and higher consumption.
- The central bank hiked the benchmark lending rate for the first time in four-and-half-years on inflation concerns arising from a surge in international oil prices.
- The repo rate now stands at 6.25 per cent.
- The BSE Sensex, which opened strong at 34,932.49, fell after RBI's policy announcement but soon recovered to touch the day's high of 35,230.54.
- It finally ended at 35,178.88, up 275.67 points, or 0.79 per cent.
- The gauge had lost 419.17 points in the previous three sessions.
- On similar lines, the <u>NSE Nifty</u>, after shuttling between 10,698.35 and 10,587.50, finished the session 91.50 points, or 0.86 per cent higher at 10,684.65.
- Meanwhile, domestic institutional investors (DIIs) bought shares worth a net Rs 474.33 crore, while foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) sold shares worth Rs 157.51 crore yesterday, as per provisional data.