

- **Constitutional discretionary powers**

1. **Article 167-** The Governor can seek information from the chief minister about state administrative and legislative matters
2. **Article 200-** The Governor can reserve a Bill for President's consideration
3. **Article 356-** The Governor can recommend the President to impose President's rule on failure of constitutional machinery
4. The Governor is not bound to act on the aid and advice of CM and council of ministers while performing his duties as the administrator of a neighbouring union territory (in case of additional charge).
5. **Sixth schedule-** The Governor may determine the amount payable to an autonomous Tribal District Council as royalty from mineral exploration licences by the governments of Sixth Schedule areas (Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Mizoram)

- **Situational discretionary powers**

1. **During Hung Assembly-** The Governor can appoint chief minister when no party has a clear-cut majority
2. **No-confidence-** The Governor can dismiss the council of ministers when it cannot prove the confidence of the state legislative assembly
3. The Governor can dissolve the state legislative assembly when the council of ministers lose their majority
4. **Appointment of caretaker government-** The Governor can appoint the care taker government for a temporary period until a regular government is elected or formed.
5. **Special provisions with respect to States-** The President may provide special responsibility for the Governor to form separate development boards for Vidarbha, Marathwada, Saurashtra and Kutch, as per Article 371.

What are the current tussles between the Governor and Chief Minister?

- **West Bengal-** The Governor Dhankhar has been accused of summoning the Chief Secretary and the Director General of Police on a regular basis
- When they do not turn up, he takes up the matter to Twitter often tagging the Chief Minister.
- Mr. Dhankhar also had a run-in with Assembly Speaker Biman Banerjee recently, on the premises of the State Assembly.
- He has withheld assent to the Howrah Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Bill 2021, delaying polls to the civic body.
- He has made allegations of impropriety in welfare schemes and has questioned the Government claims about investments in the State.
- **Maharashtra-** Governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari has stalled the election of Speaker since the post fell vacant in February 2021.
- The Governor's view that the State Assembly cannot decide its own rules is unacceptable to the ruling coalition.
- He had refused to accept the recommendation of the Council of Ministers on the nomination of 12 members to the Legislative Council, until the matter reached the High Court.
- **Tamil Nadu-** Governor R.N. Ravi has not acted upon the T.N. Admission to Undergraduate Medical Degree Courses Bill, adopted by the Assembly in September 2021.
- The Governor is required to either send it to the President of India for approval or return it for reconsideration by the Assembly, but the indefinite delay in taking a decision is undermining the legislature.

Has any efforts been taken to solve the tussle game?

The Administrative Reforms Commission (1968)

- **President's rule-** It recommended that the report of the governor regarding the President's rule has to be objective and also the governor should exercise his own judgment in this regard.

Rajamannar Committee (1971)