

Over-reach of the TN Governor

What is the issue?

\n\n

\n

- Tamil Nadu Governor recently had a meeting with government officials in Coimbatore to directly review various programs.

\n

- This is perceived as an interventionist over-reach.

\n

\n\n

What are the conventional provisions?

\n\n

\n

- The Governor of a State isn't expected to review the work of government officials personally, when an elected regime is in place.

\n

- **Article 167** of the Constitution says that - CM's has to keep the Governor updated on all major government decisions in both executive & legislative domain.

\n

- Additionally, CM is also required to furnish any specific administration related information if the Governor demands.

\n

- There may be occasions when the Governor may ask a top bureaucrat or a police officer for a report.

\n

- But such an action should be rarely resorted to and it should be for some specific purpose of importance.

\n

\n\n

What fuels suspicions?

\n\n

\n

- The political context in which the governor is exhibiting his zeal to familiarise himself with the administration is significant.
\n
- The government's majority in the Assembly is in doubt, after the disqualification of 18 dissident MLAs.
\n
- Notably, an impression that the state government is currently being armtwisted by the center is prevalent.
\n
- The prospect of the State coming under a spell of President's Rule is also very real.
\n

\n\n

What is the way forward?

\n\n

- The Governor can indeed work independently within the boundaries of his constitutional mandate.
\n
- But he needs to ensure that his functioning should be within the bounds of established norms and conventions.
\n

\n\n

\n\n

Source: The Hindu

\n

