

The role of the Governor in India has undergone significant changes, sparking debates about their powers and responsibilities. Originally envisioned as a ceremonial head, the Governor's position has evolved, with increasing instances of discretionary actions and controversies.

Key Aspects of the Governor's Role:

- **Constitutional Head:** The Governor serves as the state's constitutional head, exercising powers under Articles 153-162 of the Constitution.
- **Centre-State Link:** They act as a link between the Centre and states, facilitating coordination and communication.
- **Discretionary Powers:** Governors have discretionary powers in specific situations, such as appointing a Chief Minister in a hung assembly or recommending President's Rule under Article 356.
- ***mAssent to Bills:** They have the power to grant assent to bills, reserve them for the President's consideration, or return them for reconsideration .

Controversies and Challenges:

- **Political Interference:** Governors have been accused of acting as agents of the Centre, interfering in state politics, and destabilizing governments.
- **Delays in Assent:** Governors have delayed granting assent to bills, leading to legislative paralysis and judicial intervention.
- ***mDiscretionary Powers:** The misuse of discretionary

powers has raised concerns about accountability and transparency

Reforms and Recommendations:

- Punchhi Commission: Recommended codifying gubernatorial powers, establishing timelines for assent, and ensuring neutrality in appointments.
- Supreme Court Rulings: The court has emphasized the need for Governors to act within constitutional limits and respect federal principles.
- Parliamentary Oversight: Introducing an impeachment process or annual reporting to Parliament could enhance accountability

The changing role of the Governor highlights the need for reforms to ensure their position remains impartial and accountable.