

1. **tussle** (noun) – scuffle, fight, struggle.
2. **bat** (verb) – support, defend interests.
3. **setback** (noun) – problem, difficulty, issue.
4. **incumbent** (adjective) – current, existing, present.
5. **lock in** (phrasal verb) – involve in a competitive/tough situation.
6. **prolonged** (adjective) – continuous, constant, persistent.
7. **disregard** (verb) – ignore, overlook, pay no attention to.
8. **lay down** (phrasal verb) – formulate, stipulate, set down.
9. **binding** (adjective) – irrevocable, unalterable/unbreakable; mandatory/necessary.
10. **morality** (noun) – ethics, rights and wrongs, correctness/moral standards.
11. **dignitary** (noun) – important person, VIP.
12. **lest** (conjunction) – in case, just in case, for fear that.
13. **republicanism** (noun) – the political ideology of being a citizen in a state as a republic under which the people hold popular sovereignty.
14. **aid and advice** (phrase) – Real authority to take decisions lie in the elected government. This is the meaning of 'aid and advice.' Titular head (LG) has to act in accordance to aid and advice.
15. **bound by** (verb) – limit, restrict, restrain.
16. **enact** (verb) – make law, authorize, approve.
17. **conscious** (noun) – aware of, awake/alert to, mindful of.
18. **sui generis** (adjective) – Latin, literally 'of its own kind'; individual, special, unique.
19. **statutory** (adjective) – legitimate, permissible, admissible.
20. **provision** (noun) – term, clause, requirement/condition.
21. **sought** past and past participle of **seek** (verb) – aim, try/strive, attempt/desire to achieve something.
22. **credence** (noun) – acceptance, belief/truth, confidence.
23. **representative government** (noun)- a government where citizens elect people to represent them and make laws on their behalf, instead of always voting directly on laws and other *government* actions.
24. **set aside** (phrasal verb) – annul, overrule, nullify/cancel.
25. **in view of** (phrase) – because of, as a result of, taking into consideration, bearing in mind.
26. **uphold** (verb) – justify, vindicate, validate.
27. **take up** (phrasal verb) – accept, adopt, agree to.
28. **indeed** (adverb) – certainly, surely, precisely/exactly.

Power shift: on **tussle** (लड़ाई) between Puducherry Lt. Governor and Chief Minister

Inspired by the ruling (आदेश) on Delhi, the Madras HC bats(support) in favour of elected regime(शासन-पद्धति) in Puducherry

The Madras High Court **verdict**(फैसला) that the **Lieutenant Governor of Puducherry should not interfere in the day-to-day administration of the Union Territory** is a serious **setback** (रुकावट) to the **incumbent** (पदाधिकारी current, existing, present)Administrator, Kiran Bedi. She has been **locked in** (involve in a competitive/tough situation) a **prolonged** (दीर्घकालीन)dispute over the **extent**(हद) of her powers with Chief Minister V. Narayanasamy, who says she has been **disregarding**(ignore नजरंदाज़ करते हुए) the elected regime and seeking to run the Union Territory on her own. The court has **laid down**

(बनाना) that “the decision taken by the Council of Ministers and the Chief Minister is *binding* (बाँधने वाला) on the Secretaries and other officials.” Inspired by the [Supreme Court’s appeal to constitutional morality](#) and trust among high *dignitaries* (पदाधिकारी), the High Court has also reminded the Centre and the Administrator that they should be true to the concept of democratic principles, lest the constitutional scheme based on democracy and *republicanism* (प्रजातंत्र राज्य, the political ideology of being a citizen in a state as a republic under which the people hold popular sovereignty) be defeated. The judgment is based mainly on the principles that were laid down in last year’s Constitution Bench decision on the conflict between the elected regime in the National Capital Territory (NCT) and its Lt.Governor. The five-judge Bench had ruled that the L-G has to either act on the ‘*aid and advice*’ (*Real authority to take decisions lie in the elected government. This is the meaning of ‘aid and advice.’ Titular head (LG) has to act in accordance to aid and advice*) of the Council of Ministers, or refer to the President for a decision any matter on which there is a difference with the Ministry, but has no independent decision-making powers. The High Court also says the Administrator is bound by the ‘aid and advice’ clause in matters over which the Assembly is *competent* (उचित) to *enact* (to make law) laws. The L-G’s power to refer any matter to the President to *resolve* (समाधान करना) differences should not mean “every matter”, the court has cautioned.

Justice R. Mahadevan, who delivered the Madras High Court judgment, is *conscious* ([aware](#) of) of the difference in status between Delhi and Puducherry. The Puducherry legislature is the creation of a parliamentary law, based on an enabling provision in Article 239A of the Constitution, whereas the NCT legislature has been created by the Constitution itself under Article 239AA. The Supreme Court had described the NCT as *sui generis* (of its own kind’; individual, special, unique). At the same time, the NCT Assembly is limited in the extent of its legislative powers, as it is *barred* (बाधित) from dealing with the subjects of public order, police and land. However, looking at the Business Rules as well as other *statutory* (संवैधानिक) *provisions* (प्रावधान) on Puducherry, the judge has sought to give greater *credence* (विश्वास) to the concept of a representative government. He has set aside two clarifications issued by the Centre in 2017 to the effect that the L-G enjoys more power than the Governor of a State and can act without *aid and advice*. *In view of* (Because of) the Constitution Bench judgment on Delhi, he has differed with another Madras High Court decision of 2018 in which the LG’s power to act *irrespective* (का विचार किए बिना) of the Cabinet’s advice was *upheld* (justified). In the event that the latest judgment is *taken up* (accept, agree to) on appeal, a key question may be how far the decision of the five-judge Bench on the limits of the Delhi L-G’s powers would indeed apply to Puducherry.