

## **Regarding discharge of duties under Article 355 of the Constitution-laid**

**SUSHRI S. JOTHIMANI (KARUR):** The Governor of Tamil Nadu has been withholding assent to several crucial bills passed by the Assembly including the bill to ban the online gambling which had cost around 45 lives in Tamil Nadu. The Tamil Nadu government has observed the Governor's actions and has expressed concern about this. The government has also petitioned the Supreme Court to seek clarification on the Governor's role. The Supreme Court has now intervened in the matter, noting that the Governor does not have the discretion to withhold assent to bills that have been re-passed by the Assembly. The Court has also emphasized that Governors must act on the advice of the Council of Ministers, except in exceptional circumstances. The Supreme Court's intervention in the matter is a significant development, as it has reaffirmed the principle that Governors must act within the constitutional boundaries of their powers. Therefore, I urge the Union Government under Article 355 to ensure that governors function according to the Constitution.