

Publication: The Times of India	Date: 15.06.2020
Edition: Kolkata	Page: 11

## Meet on force majeure

**Kolkata:** Vinit Kumar, chairman, Dr Syama Prasad Mukherjee Port Trust (erstwhile Kolkata Port Trust), discussed *force majeure* conditions in shipping contracts and maritime trade and effects of the pandemic on shipping companies and the export trade, at a webinar organised by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce & Industry (BCC&I).

Kumar explained the various steps taken in ensuring 80% work in both Haldia and Kolkata ports. Justice Soumen Sen elaborated the principles of force majeure law and the extent of shipping contract from shipbuilding to ship breaking/scrapping. “Previously, the wording of contract was sacrosanct but now relaxations are made to encompass influence of pandemic-related violations where, performance becomes impossible due to lockdown,” he said. TNN

