
Govt wants to invoke law rarely used to get port projects moving

New Delhi: The shipping ministry wants to invoke a rarely used constitutional provision, allowing it to seek exemptions from various laws to get port projects, caught in complicated processes, off the ground.

The ministry has referred the provision under Article 364 of the Constitution to the law ministry, seeking its clarification of how the government can issue a notification, which will help the projects stay out of the ambit of “any law”, sources told TOI.

Article 364 of the Constitution empowers the President issue a public notice specifying, “Any law made by Parliament or by the state legislature of a state shall not apply to any major port or aerodrome or shall apply thereto subject to such exceptions or modifications as may be specified in the notification.”

During a meeting with junior minister for law P P Chaudhury on Thursday, shipping and transport minister Nitin Gadkari pointed out that several port projects were caught in red tape, especially those related to the environment ministry. There are 12 major ports across the country, which are under the shipping ministry with around 10 projects involving investment of Rs 10,000 crore are caught in red tape.
