

REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, BREAKING UP, ETC.

Ship's Name SS/MR "BHARATVEER"

Gross tons 7274

Date of Build 6-1943

Casualty notice

Owners

sent to Owners

18.12.63. Reply

23.12.63. Owners

Bharat Line Ltd.

Details of classification

+100A1	+LMC 5,61
with freeboard	BS M5,62
7,62	sp 4,61
ss 5,61	ts 12,59 CL

Details of casualty

Suffered heavy damage when driven ashore off Madras in cyclone; subsequently gutted by fire and to be sold for breaking up.

The owners concur.

Date of casualty 21st October, 1963.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

1022/10/63
BHARATVEER. — Madras, Oct. 21. — Indian steamer Bharatveer, with coal from Calcutta, aground moon, Oct. 21, five miles north of Madras in cyclonic storm. (Later) Bharatveer being abandoned five miles north of Madras.

1023/10/63
BHARATVEER. — Madras, Oct. 22. — Steamer Bharatveer abandoned; rescue operations completed at 9 45 a.m., Oct. 22. (See issue of Oct. 22.)

1024/10/63
BHARATVEER. — Madras, Oct. 23. — Steamer Bharatveer on fire at 7 p.m., Oct. 22. Fire uncontrollable, considered total loss likely. (See issue of Oct. 23.)
— Madras, Oct. 23. — Indian steamer Bharatveer, which ran aground last Monday (Oct. 21) five miles north of Madras harbour, was completely gutted yesterday evening. Fire-fighting units could not get across a stretch of 100 yards of turbulent sea to reach the ship, which had a cargo of 400 tons of crude oil and 4,000 tons of coal. The ship's officers and crew were brought ashore soon after she ran aground on Monday. — Reuter.

1025/10/63
BHARATVEER. — Madras, Oct. 23. — Steamer Bharatveer presently on fire and listed. Unable to combat fire from shore or sea and consider total loss likely. — Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association. (See issue of Oct. 24.)

— Madras, Oct. 24. — Steamer Bharatveer still on fire, which unable to control. — Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association.

1026/10/63
BHARATVEER. — Madras, Oct. 25. — Steamer Bharatveer: Fire under control. — Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association. (See issue of Oct. 25.)

1028/10/63
BHARATVEER. — Madras, Oct. 25. — Steamer Bharatveer still smouldering. Owners advise Receiver of Wreck refuses to allow them and ourselves to board. — Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association. (See issue of Oct. 26.)

1029/10/63
BHARATVEER. — Bombay, Oct. 23. — According to a Press report, dated Madras, Oct. 22, steamer Bharatveer was on voyage from Calcutta to Cuddalore with a cargo of coal for the Southern Railway when she grounded near Tiruvottiyur, five miles from Madras. The vessel was diverting to Madras owing to cyclonic weather. (See issues of Oct. 22 and 28.)

1030/10/63
BHARATVEER. — Madras, Oct. 28. — Steamer Bharatveer: Fire apparently extinguished. Firemen still on board. Owners still endeavouring to obtain permission to board and advised authorities prepared to bear costs involved as ship not abandoned. — Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association. (See issues of Oct. 28 and 29.)

1031/11/63
BHARATVEER. — Madras, Oct. 31. — Fire officially extinguished at 2 p.m., Oct. 30. Receiver of Wreck empowered by Merchant Shipping Act to take over also charge costs to owners. Receiver of Wreck anticipates return ship to owners Nov. 2, when will arrange survey. — Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association. (See issue of Oct. 30.)

1031/11/63
BHARATVEER. — Madras, Nov. 2. — Steamer Bharatveer: Briefly inspected with representative of original underwriters. Port side parallel to beach approximately 100 yards off shore, listed to starboard 15 deg., low water draught forward 15 ft., aft 14 ft. 6 in., sounding centre port two feet, apparently firm, approximately 13 ft. sand. Deck equipment charred and/or badly rusted, port shell plates outside No. 3 hatch badly buckled and rusted and holed near top, part deckrails port and starboard missing or broken, all hatches engine- and boiler-rooms contain oil and/or water, estimated depth 12 to 15 ft. Cargo apparently sound. Starboard aft bollard broken, hatch No. 3 'tween deck and bulkhead plates, ladders and equipment very badly buckled, bulkhead between engine-room and hatch No. 3 charred and buckled, contents of officers' galley, quarters, master's, wireless and battery rooms completely destroyed by fire and surrounding deck cracked and brittle. Nucleus of fire apparently officers' galley, moved forward up to aft hatch No. 2. Engine- and boiler-rooms apparently not damaged by fire. Engineers' quarters and crew's galley and quarters not damaged but apparently forced open and part of contents probably pilfered. Rudder and propeller reported damaged. One lifeboat ashore, apparently sound, other submerged near shore. Owners state log and movement books lost during rescue operations. Local police requested to trace. — Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association. (See issue of Nov. 2.)

1031/11/63
BHARATVEER. — Madras, Nov. 4. — Steamer Bharatveer returned to owners on Nov. 2. — Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association. (See issue of Nov. 5.)

1031/11/63
BHARATVEER. — Madras, Nov. 11. — Steamer Bharatveer: Draughts prior to grounding 16 ft. forward and 19 ft. aft, with 4,316 tons of coal throughout all holds and 400 tons of oil fuel in double bottom tanks. Understand coal Indian Government cargo, not insured. After smashing mooring bollard aft and breaking all moorings in Madras due to cyclonic storm, vessel proceeded to sea to anchor, thereafter dragged and driven ashore, where pounded heavily. Now aground on flat soft sand on open shore five miles north of Madras, heading north with port side parallel to shore and about 30 yards from high-water line. Listed 9 deg. to starboard, with high water neap tide up to 16-ft. draught forward and 17-ft. aft, with tide range 2 ft., and starboard bilge about 8 ft. into sand, giving average depth of water along seaward side 12 ft. Stern post set to port and apparently stern frame badly damaged, propeller badly damaged, one lifeboat lost and two boats ashore, starboard hawsepipe smashed and plating in way torn. After crew left vessel, fire broke out amidships and burned for three days. Damage indicates severe fire throughout boiler-room and No. 3 hold immediately forward, also spread to after end No. 2 hold and along 'tween deck of this hold, badly damaging both decks, also all bulkheads, also port side shell down five strakes in way of area of fire and starboard shell in way of No. 3 hold, also destroyed galley and casings over stokehold and destroyed complete bridge house structure situated towards after end of No. 2 hold, including domestic refrigerators in 'tween deck. Nos. 2 and 3 holds, boiler-room and engine-room now common due to fire-damaged bulkheads and flooded to about sea level, with thick layer of oil fuel on water. Nos. 1, 4 and 5 holds flooded, with sea-water to about sea level. Water throughout vessel not tidal. Soundings to date indicate all double bottom tanks flooded. Main engine up to bottom of cylinders and all auxiliaries flooded, also boilers three-quarters flooded. About 10 per cent. of coal destroyed and 30 per cent. contaminated oil. As no dry dock or major facilities at Madras, temporary repairs and towage would be involved. Vessel lies outside port limits and is not near shipping channel. Position discussed with representatives of original underwriters. Owners maintaining watch on vessel. — Salvage Association's Special Officer. (See issues of Nov. 5 and 6.)

Suggested record "V"

Date of Committee

Minute

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Suggested record "WRECKED 10,63"

Date of Committee

Minute

1,000,12,61 (MADE AND PRINTED IN ENGLAND)

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Noted By Publications

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