

REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &c. 9389

No. 27/26 in R. B. Wreck Book, p. 99/37 Date of writing this report 15th November 1937

Vessel's Name *Steel M/S "Kathiawar"* of *Glasgow* Tons (Net 2538 Gross 4150)

Built at *Govan* When 1924 - 2 Casualty notice sent to Owner 11/11/37 Owner's reply 12/11/37

Owner's Name *Bank Line, Ltd. (A. Neir & Co., Mgrs)*

Address *Baltic Exchange Buildings, 21 Bury Street, London, E.C.3.*

Case previously before _____ Date _____
 Passing Committee _____ Last Minute _____
 of Casualty *30th October, 1937.*
 of particulars of Casualty _____

Particulars of Classification.
 s.s. Cal. N° 3-436
 +100 A1
 W. H. Bd. +LMC 12.35
 6.37 DBS 4.37
 Oil Engine
 Carrying vegetable oil in deck tank.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION.

KATHIAWAR.—Mozambique, Oct. 31.—British motor vessel Kathiawar stranded Oct 30 at 8 pm, yesterday. Steamer Tanganyika standing by since last night. Master hopes to get off at high water.

KATHIAWAR.—London, Nov. 1.—The owners of the motor vessel Kathiawar advise vessel went ashore 8 pm, Oct. 30, Goa Island Reef, outside Mozambique. Master considers position very serious. Steamer Tanganyika and motor vessel Gujarat made unsuccessful attempts refloat. Vessel lying broadside on reef, 10 ft. water No. 1 hold, not making water aft. Owners' Durban superintendent and Smit's tug Schelde due to-day (Monday). Later message states Lloyd's Agent on board and cargo now being discharged into lighters.

Beira, Nov. 1.—British motor vessel Kathiawar grounded on Goa Reef, Mozambique, on night of Oct. 30; attempts to refloat not yet successful. Vessel has water in No. 1 hold. British motor vessel Gujarat standing by.

Mozambique, Nov. 1.—British motor vessel Kathiawar: British motor vessel Gujarat now standing by trying to pull off, starting send lighters to try to discharge cargo, however swell nearly making discharge impossible. Discharging aft to lighten stern, Nos. 1 and 2 hatches having ten twelve feet water.

Mozambique, Nov. 1.—British motor vessel Kathiawar: Hope discharging until high water to-night 500 tons. Weather favourable. British motor vessel Gujarat standing by trying pull off again to-night. Owners' Marine Superintendent, Durban, expected to-day. Besides lighters master not yet asked for intervention for tows next Majunga or Beira tugboat—Lloyd's Agent.

Beira, Nov. 1.—British motor vessel Kathiawar: Understand 18 ft. of water in No. 1 hold, prospects of refloating very remote. Lloyd's Agent.

KATHIAWAR.—Beira, Nov. 2.—Motor vessel Kathiawar: Owners' superintendent arriving Mozambique to-day. Our agent telegraphed yesterday afternoon expected discharge 500 tons of cargo yesterday. Motor vessel Gujarat standing by making attempts to refloat last night.—Lloyd's Agent per Salvage Association.

Mozambique, Nov. 2.—Motor vessel Kathiawar still aground. Continuing discharge, weather favourable, motor vessel Gujarat standing by trying every high water pulling off. Cannot say whether to-morrow with highest water successful. Leave further decision marine superintendent arriving this morning.—Lloyd's Agent per Salvage Association.

This vessel was reported to have stranded on Goa Island Reef, Mozambique, on the 30th October. Salvage operations were undertaken, but all attempts at refloating have proved unsuccessful.

The Owners' Superintendent reported, on the 8th November, that she was a further 60 fathoms on the reef. Skilful salvage might succeed, but the costs must be, plus reconditioning of the vessel, much in excess of total loss.

Messrs L. Smit & Co. abandoned their salvage contract on the 6th November, as the vessel was considered to be a total loss.

In reply to a casualty notice, the Owners request that action in regard to the vessel's class may be deferred, pending their receipt of more definite information concerning the case.

30th November, 1937

The Owners now state, in a further letter dated 29th November, that this vessel is considered to be a wreck.

(Contd over)

Suggested Record

Date of Committee *TUE 16 NOV 1937*

Committee's Minute *Deferred*

Wrecked 70.37

TUE 30 NOV 1937



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W506-0004(112)

KATHIAWAR.—London, Nov. 3. — The owners of the motor vessel Kathiawar have received the following messages from their Durban agents:—

4/11/37

Dated Nov. 2: Shotton (owners' superintendent) arrived this morning (Nov. 2) Mozambique telegraphs approximately 750 tons of cargo landed, fine weather continues; if good weather can hold out expected to discharge 500 tons to-morrow (Nov. 3). Confident can save most cargo while on reef, saving vessel later will depend upon if vessel can hold leakage No. 1 hold. Tug Schelde due to-morrow (Nov. 3).

Dated Nov. 3: Shotton telegraphs from Kathiawar 5 a.m. to-day (Nov. 3): During night heavy swell carried away motor vessel GUJARAT hawsers, dragged available ground tackle and drifted with stern close to lighthouse. Fear chance saving Kathiawar remote. No. 1 hold 21 feet water, No. 2 9 feet, deep tanks leaking, all double-bottomed tanks cofferdam open to sea, afterpeak 17 feet. Can only work cargo between tides owing severe bumping, probably 1500 tons discharged.

Mozambique, Nov. 3.— Motor vessel Kathiawar: Co-operating with owners' superintendent. Before doing anything further discharging ship quickest, have mobilised all available craft Mozambique. Dutch tug Schelde arriving this afternoon. Owners' superintendent recommends empty ship entirely before pulling again.—Lloyd's Agent per Salvage Association.

Mozambique, Nov. 3.— Motor vessel Kathiawar still discharging. Tug Schelde expected to-night at 8 p.m. Have contracted lighterage at 20s. manifest ton for putting cargo ashore. Ordinary sorting expenses extra. Hope land until evening 2000 tons.—Lloyd's Agent per Salvage Association.

KATHIAWAR.—London, Nov. 4.—The owners of the motor vessel Kathiawar have received the following cable from their agents at Durban, dated Nov. 3: Kathiawar: Strong south wind, lighters unable reach ship, very poor work to-day, pounds heavily upon reef each tide time.

5/11

KATHIAWAR.—Mozambique, Nov. 4.— Motor vessel Kathiawar: Continuing discharge of cargo.—Lloyd's Agent per Salvage Association.

6/11

London, Nov. 5.—The owners of the motor vessel Kathiawar have received the following wireless messages from their superintendent on board the vessel:—

Dated Nov. 4: After heavy sea all night now shows draught low water 6 ft. aft, 11 ft. forward. No. 1 hold high water 21 ft., No. 2 hold 10 ft., No. 4 10 ft., forepeak 20 ft., afterpeak 12 ft., all double bottom tanks full, only engine-room, No. 5 so far dry. Working cargo every opportunity. Tug Schelde arrived, master examining position. My opinion no hope saving hull unless salvage plant and three vessels fully equipped with pumps available now. Even if vessel towed off reef do not think could reach Mozambique without plant keeping leakage under control.

Dated Nov. 4: Position worse than previously reported; vessel now fully exposed to heavy seas throwing spray all over vessel.—Salvage Association.

Mozambique, Nov. 5.— Motor vessel Kathiawar: According to opinion of master of tug Schelde and owners' superintendent vessel cannot be saved. Meanwhile continuing discharge when weather permits.—Lloyd's Agent per Salvage Association.

KATHIAWAR.—Mozambique, Nov. 6.— Motor vessel Kathiawar: Continuing discharge dry cargo fit for reshipping. All cargo stowed Mozambique Custom House, but all marks and ports mixed, can reship gradually only, otherwise impossible sorting.—Lloyd's Agent per Salvage Association.

9/11

London, Nov. 8.—The Salvage Association have received through the owners of the motor vessel Kathiawar the following wireless message from their superintendent on board, dated Nov. 8: My calculations show if vessel would float now draught would be 28 ft. forward and 13 ft. aft, if the water, which is flowing freely No. 1 21 ft., No. 2 less freely 16 ft., No. 3 with all cargo discharged 14 ft., No. 4 steady 10 ft., these being records respectively at high water, could be stopped, then, when waterlogged cargo jettisoned, salvors would have to haul Kathiawar 500 ft. over flat boulder reef upon which ground tackle does not hold, drawing 15 ft. aft and 12 ft. forward. From lowest outside soundings 6 ft. aft and 8 ft. forward with spring rise 13 ft. Motor vessel Gujarat made seven unsuccessful attempts from position draught 22 ft. breaking all available wires and ropes 220 fathoms distant. Kathiawar now further 60 fathoms on reef. Skilful salvage might succeed, but costs must be, plus reconditioning Kathiawar, much in excess of total loss. Kathiawar has stern close to dry land, which makes continuous rolling surf dangerous even for light draught lighters working. Only four days have been suitable for working cargo since stranding.

KATHIAWAR.—Rotterdam, Nov. 8.— Tug Schelde proceeded from Majunga to the assistance of the British motor vessel Kathiawar, stranded near Mozambique, on Nov. 2 and arrived on the spot on Nov. 3. On Nov. 6 abandoned salvage contract owing to the vessel being considered a total loss.—L. Smit & Co.

10/11



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