

LL 25/6/66

GALAXIAS.—Visakhapatnam, June 24.—Steamer Galaxias (Calcutta for Colombo): Engine-room caught fire on June 24; extinguished by port fire-fighting service.

London, June 24.—The London agents of steamer Galaxias have received the following message from the master at Visakhapatnam, timed 10 a.m. to-day: (Translation) Bad fire broke out in engine-room at 3 a.m., local time, June 24, and was extinguished at 7 a.m., local time. No crew casualties.

—Visakhapatnam, June 24.—Steamer Galaxias: Extensive damage in engine-room; ship completely immobilised.

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GALAXIAS. — Visakhapatnam, June 25.—Steamer Galaxias: Extensive fire damage in engine-room, especially on starboard side. Preliminary examination shows main engine, auxiliaries and switchboard badly damaged; to be further examined after pumping out water and foam. Possibility of repairs here to be investigated. — Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association.

LL 30/6/66

—Visakhapatnam, June 28.—Steamer Galaxias: Apparently bilge fire as boilers shut down for cleaning and no repairers on board. Switchboard, generators, battery-charging board gutted and all electric cables in engine- and boiler-rooms badly damaged. All spare bearings white metal run out. Forced-draught fan generator engines, main engine shaftings bearings still boxed up, therefore unable to assess damage. Main engine counter lubricator and pipings badly damaged. Ventilators fan motors and starters in engine-room and boiler-rooms damaged. Engine-room telegraph gutted, floor plates and runways buckled. Dam-

age likely on three pumps starboard side. Frames starboard side slightly buckled as far as can be seen. About 50 per cent. of beams and beam knees under engineers' flat buckled, girder under badly buckled, all second deck beams and deck buckled. Approximately half of all engine-room casing at second and upper deck buckled. Many other items of less serious nature. Tank top to be examined after cleaning. Hindustan Shipyard, Ltd., can effect repairs to main engines, auxiliaries and steelwork to hull, but generators and switchboard beyond repair and have to be renewed.—Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association.

LL 11/7/66

GALAXIAS. — Visakhapatnam, July 6. — Steamer Galaxias: Heavy fire damage engine- and boiler-rooms resulting in partial destruction of auxiliary machinery and pipework, also severe buckling of steelwork in machinery spaces. Electrical installation destroyed. Scorching damage to main engines also boiler fittings also various equipment and accommodation. Probable cause overturned paraffin lamp during the night of June 23, when vessel, without power, undergoing boiler repairs here as port of refuge on loaded voyage from Calcutta to Antwerp with manganese ore cargo. Prior to entering here, vessel grounded on May 25 but refloated after three hours using main engines and without assistance. Indications of slight leakage No. 2 starboard tank associated with this casualty. Vessel now immobilised as a result of fire damage. Local Hindustan Shipyard, Ltd., fully capable of effecting part permanent machinery repairs to enable vessel to proceed to terminal port and effect steel repairs after cargo discharge on Continent. This proposal involves importing various machinery items, including generators, from Europe and repair period roughly two to three months here. Alternative proposal discharge cargo and invite tenders for all repairs Singapore, Calcutta and Colombo since drydocking also required for fire damage, for which facilities non-existent here. This proposal involves towage. No facilities here for discharging cargo and nearest suitable discharge port probably Madras. Consider deferment of steel repairs not deleterious to vessel proceeding and classification prepared to grant seaworthy certificate on those lines. Main engine crankshaft bearings found wiped, will involve lift shaft and remetal bearings, also boilers require partial retubing. This claimed as grounding, with

alternative crew negligence, but direct evidence shows this condition existed at change of ownership, on Apr. 9, and owners so informed. These repairs also necessary and allowed for in above proposals. Vessel now moored in harbour, crew largely discharged.—Salvage Association's Surveyors.

FRIDAY 17 MAR 1967

Provided Surveyor is satisfied, certificate may be issued in following terms:

So far as the structural efficiency is concerned the ship is fit to be loaded (with class suspended). As far as structural efficiency is concerned the ship is fit to be loaded. The extent of the marine growth on the bottom could however render towage impracticable.