

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
ADMIRALTY AND VICE ADMIRALTY JURISDICTION**

COMMERCIAL ADMIRALTY SUIT (L) NO. 13315 OF 2026

Peninsula Petroleum Limited	...Plaintiff
V/s.	
MV Zhong Chang 258, IMO 9610482	...Defendant

**WITH
JUDGE'S ORDER (L) NO. 13375 OF 2026**

Ms. Naira Jeejeebhoy with Mr. Ruchit Goenka and Mr. Abhinav Bhushan i/b Bose & Mitra and Co. for the Plaintiff.

CORAM : ABHAY AHUJA, J.
DATE : 16th APRIL, 2026

PC. :

1. This matter had been mentioned this morning for being listed on the production board at 4.30 p.m., submitting that the Defendant-Vessel MV Zhong Chang 258, IMO 9610482 (the "Defendant-Vessel") is at Mumbai anchorage within the admiralty jurisdiction of this Court and that the Plaintiff has not been paid for supply of bunker to the Defendant-Vessel on the 13th September, 2025. Accordingly, the matter has been listed on the Production Board at serial no. 501 at 4.30 p.m.
2. Ms. Jeejeebhoy, learned Counsel appearing for the Plaintiff has submitted that pursuant to the request by one M/s C & R Shipping Limited, on behalf of the Defendant-Vessel and/or the master and/or its owners for supply of upto 850 MT VLSFO RMG 380 at the rate of USD

493 per M.T. to the Defendant-Vessel at port of Hong Kong between 12th to 18th September, 2025, the Plaintiff issued a sales order confirmation No. 10759720 on 9th September, 2025 and also simultaneously got the physical supplier to confirm the same on the same date.

3. Ms. Jeejeebhoy submits that, thereafter, on the 13th September, 2025, 808.200 MT of VLSFO RMG came to be supplied to the Defendant-Vessel at Hong Kong, which is evidenced by an acknowledgment of the Chief Engineer of the Defendant-Vessel on the bunker delivery note at Exhibit – E at page 89. Ms. Jeejeebhoy submits that, thereafter, invoice dated 13th September, 2025 was raised for payment upon M/s C & R Shipping Limited to be paid on the due date, after the credit period of 30 days. Ms. Jeejeebhoy submits that, however, since no payment came after the due date on 24th October, 2025, a final notice before legal action was addressed to M/s C & R Shipping Limited as well as to the owners and the P & I Club, however, since there had been no response nor any payment to the said notice, a reminder was sent on 28th October, 2025 to which also there has been no response from M/s C & R Shipping Limited or from the owner.

4. Ms. Jeejeebhoy submits that the claim of the Plaintiff is a maritime claim under Section 4(1)(l) of the Admiralty (Jurisdiction and Settlement of Maritime Claims) Act, 2017 (the “Admiralty Act”).

5. Ms. Jeejeebhoy submits that there is no caveat against the arrest of the Defendant-Vessel, which is also noted by the Certificate dated 16th April, 2026 of the Section Officer of the Execution Department as at 4.20 p.m..

6. Ms. Jeejeebhoy has taken this Court through various exhibits annexed to the Plaint and submits that until and unless this Court in exercise of its powers under the admiralty jurisdiction, directs arrest of the Defendant-Vessel, no security or payment with respect to the maritime claim would be received.

7. Having heard the learned Counsel and having considered her submissions and also having perused the Plaint as well as the various documents annexed to the Plaint, with the assistance of the learned Counsel and noting that the Defendant-Vessel is within the jurisdiction of this Court at Mumbai anchorage, I am convinced that a *prima facie* case for arrest of the Defendant-Vessel is made out.

8. Accordingly, in view of Section 3 and Section 5(1)(a) of the Admiralty Act, I pass the following order:-

ORDER

- (i) I order the arrest of the Defendant-Vessel named MV Zhong Chang 258, IMO 9610482, lying and being within the Admiralty Jurisdiction of this Court along with hull, engines, gears, tackles, machinery, apparels and paraphernalia lying and being presently at Mumbai or wherever in the territorial waters of India.
- (ii) Warrant of arrest is dispensed with.
- (iii) If the Defendant-Vessel is found abandoned or unmanned, the office of the Sheriff shall present a report for auctioning the Vessel upon request of the Plaintiff.
- (iv) The Plaintiff is also at liberty to file an application for sale of the Defendant-Vessel provided no application for vacating the order of arrest is made.
- (v) The Judge's Order is accepted and signed separately.
- (vi) The Plaintiff's undertaking dated 15th April, 2026 is accepted.
- (vii) The Plaintiff is at liberty to communicate this order to the Sheriff of Mumbai, the Master of the Defendant-Vessel as well as to the relevant Port and Custom authorities by email/hand delivery.

(viii) All concerned to act on a copy of this order, duly authenticated by the Associate of this Court.

(ABHAY AHUJA, J.)