

(4) Where any person or the estate of any person is alleged to be under any liability in respect of such loss or damage as is mentioned in sub-section (1) of this section, and several claims are made or apprehended in respect of that liability, the said person or his personal representative, as the case may be, may make application to the High Court, and thereupon the court—

- (a) may determine the amount of the liability and, subject to the provisions of the next following sub-section, distribute that amount rateably among the several claimants;
- (b) may stay any proceedings pending in any other court in relation to the same matter; and
- (c) may give such directions as the court thinks proper for the joining of persons interested as parties to the proceedings, for the exclusion of claims which are not brought before the court within a certain time, and for requiring security from the person by whom the application to the court was made.

(5) If, by virtue of this section, the amount of the liability is less than the total amount of the damages which the several claimants would, but for this section, be entitled to recover, the first-mentioned amount shall, as to one-half thereof, be appropriated in the first instance to meeting any claims in respect of loss of life or personal injury, and any part of that amount not so appropriated shall be distributed among the several claimants in proportion to their claims, including any claims in respect of loss of life or personal injury if and so far as they exceed the said appropriation.

(6) Nothing in this section shall be construed as affecting the amount of any compensation payable under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1934 (No. 9 of 1934).

(7) Nothing in this section shall affect the operation of Part III of this Act or any contract for the carriage of passengers or goods by air in so far as the contract provides for determining or limiting the liability of the carrier thereunder.

(8) The Minister may make regulations prescribing the manner in which the weight of an aircraft fully loaded is to be ascertained for the purposes of this section, and directing that, in the case of an aircraft of any particular class, such document (being a document which purports to show the weight of the aircraft fully loaded) as may be specified in the regulations shall be evidence of that weight.