

Bank deposit mo, protektado!

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

PR-038-22

Date of Release: January 26, 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Former officers of Rural Bank of Goa indicted for unsafe, unsound banking

The Department of Justice (DOJ) Task Force on Financial Fraud indicted the former Chairperson/President and Branch Manager of the closed Rural Bank of Goa (Camarines Sur), Inc. for commission of irregularities and/or conducting business in an unsafe and unsound manner, a criminal violation under Republic Act No. 3591, as amended, or the PDIC Charter.

In a Resolution issued in January 2021, the DOJ found that the former Chairman/President and the former Pili Branch Manager of the Rural Bank of Goa conducted business in an unsafe and unsound manner by creating and maintaining 838 questionable or spurious loan accounts aggregating £99.9 million in the bank's books without credit folders or documentation. Under the PDIC Charter, conducting business in an unsafe and unsound manner is punishable by imprisonment of six to 12 years, or a fine of £50,000 to £10 million, or both, at the discretion of the court.

The case stemmed from a complaint filed by the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation (PDIC), statutory Receiver of the Rural Bank of Goa, against the respondents. When PDIC took over the bank in March 2017, it discovered the absence of loan documentations (e.g., promissory notes and application forms) and invalid addresses of borrowers for 838 loan accounts totaling £99.9 million. This comprised 60% of the total loan portfolio of the bank's Pili Branch.

Rural Bank of Goa was ordered closed by the Monetary Board on March 16, 2017 through Monetary Board Resolution No. 428.A. The same Resolution designated the PDIC as Receiver of the bank and directed it to proceed with the takeover and liquidation of the bank. Rural Bank of Goa is a two-unit rural bank with Head Office located in San Jose (Poblacion), Goa, Camarines Sur. Its lone branch is located in San Vicente, Pili (Capital), Camarines Sur.

The PDIC remains relentless in its pursuit of justice against erring bank owners, officers, and unscrupulous parties who take advantage of the deposit insurance system for their gain. The Corporation's vigorous legal actions are crucial for protecting the interests of depositors, safeguarding the Deposit Insurance Fund, and deterring bank officials and individuals from abusing the deposit insurance system.

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The Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation (PDIC) was established on June 22, 1963, by Republic Act 3591 to provide depositor protection and help maintain stability in the financial system by providing deposit insurance. Effective June 1, 2009, the maximum deposit insurance coverage is P500,000 per depositor. All deposit accounts by a depositor in a closed bank maintained in the same right and capacity shall be added together. A joint account shall be insured separately from any individually-owned deposit account.

PDIC news/press releases and other information are available at the website, www.pdic.gov.ph.

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