

1/11

TO : All FSP's  
FR : OUMWA  
RE : **ATN Case- Arrest of Filipinos, in Mumbai Airport  
Alleged Gold Smuggling**  
DT : 22 July 2014  
CN : CIR - 1560 - OUMWA - 2014

This refers to New Delhi PE's ZND-551-2014, ZND-553-2014 and ZND-567-2014 dated 07 July 2014, 08 July 2014 and 11 July 2014 respectively, concerning the arrest of four (4) Filipino Nationals at Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport, Mumbai due to alleged gold smuggling under the Indian Customs Act of 1962, Chapter XIII, Section 101 and 102, as elaborated:

**SECTION 101. Power to search suspected persons in certain other cases.**

(1) If an officer of customs empowered in this behalf by general or special order of the Commissioner of Customs, has reason to believe that any person has secreted about this person any goods of the description specified in sub-section;

(2) Which are liable to confiscation, or documents relating thereto, he may search that person.

(2) The goods referred to in sub-section (1) are the following:-

- (a) gold;
- (b) diamonds;
- (c) manufacturers of gold or diamonds;
- (d) watches;
- (e) any other class of goods which the Central Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, specify.

**SECTION 102. Persons to be searched may require to be taken before gazette officer of customs or magistrate.**

(1) When any officer of customs is about to search any person under the provisions of section 101, the officer shall, if such person so requires, take him without unnecessary delay to the nearest gazette officer of customs or magistrate.

(2) If such requisition is made, the officer of customs may detain the person making it until he can bring him before the gazette officer of customs or the magistrate.

(3) The gazette officer of customs or the magistrate before whom any such person is brought shall, if he sees no reasonable ground for search, forthwith discharge the person but otherwise shall direct that search be made.

(4) Before making a search under the provisions of section 100 or section 101, the officer of customs shall call upon two or more persons to attend and witness the search and may issue an order in writing to them or any of them so to do; and the search shall be made in the presence of such persons and a list of all things seized

in the course of such search shall be prepared by such officer or other person and signed by such witnesses.

(5) No female shall be searched by any one excepting a female.

The names and particulars of the said four (4) Filipinos are indicated hereunder:

NAMES	PASSPORT NUMBER	ITEMS / SEIZED
Albert Manahan Merin	EB0961932	2 gold bars (1kg. each)
Rasul Maulana Domado	EC0526762	2 gold bangles, 2 wrist watches, 2 finger rings and 2 waist belt buckles
Jamilah Andang Domado	EB9157968	2 gold bangles, 2 wrist watches, 5 finger rings and 2 waist belt buckles
Intanbay Gunting Disimban	EB3601878	1kg. gold bar

The arrest of these Filipino Nationals is quite alarming as such reports indicate a new trend for Filipinos being recruited as mules for illegal gold imports for the Indian gold trade. In recent months, the Indian government has limited the import of gold to India with the weakening of the Indian rupee. Several months ago, a Counselor of the UAE Embassy was apprehended by Indian Customs for bringing into India millions of rupees of gold jewelry in connivance with Indian gold traders. The said Embassy official has since been recalled due to the incident. It therefore appears that the successive apprehension of Filipinos bringing in unusual quantities of gold (ingot and jewelry) indicate a new tact for Indian gold smuggles to bring in the precious metal from abroad.

In this regard, OUMWA recommends that all FSP's especially those in the Middle East/Gulf countries disseminate the information to Filipinos under their respective jurisdictions and the restrictions / laws of India concerning precious metals as well as precious and semi-precious stones.

For FSP's information and prompt action.

Very truly yours,

**AMMAN PE  
RECEIVED**  
24 July 2014

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**BY :** M. Solano

*[Signature]*  
**JESUS I. YABES**  
Undersecretary

**RECEIVED**  
JUL 24 2014  
*[Signature]*  
**CORATEL (600)**

ORIGINAL TO	
<b>OUMWA</b>	
ACTION OFFICE	
CC	<small>RECEIVED</small> Received by Date & Time

1/3

To: SFA  
 Fr: New Delhi, P.E  
 Rt: OUMWA  
 CC: PHCG Mumbai  
 Re: **ATN Case- Arrest of Filipino national, Intanbay Gunting Disimban  
 in Mumbai Airport- Alleged gold smuggling**  
 Dt: 11 July 2014  
 Cn: ZND-567 -2014

In relation to our ZND-551-2014 dated 07 July 2014 and ZND-553-2014 dated 08 July 2014 (copies attached), Post wishes to inform the Department that it has received Note Verbale No. T.4415/76/2014 dated 04 July 2014 (copy attached) from the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) informing Post of the arrest of another Filipino national, Intanbay Gunting Disimban, holder of passport No. EB3601878. The said Filipino national was arrested at Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport, Mumbai after the Mumbai Customs Officials seized one (1) kg. of gold bar valued at Rs. 2,567,870.00 from her.

There is currently a total of four (4) Filipino nationals (including Ms. Disimban) reported by MEA as having been arrested under the Indian Customs Act of 1962, Chapter XIII, Section 101 and 102, as elaborated in our previous communication per ZND-551-2014.

The names and particulars of the said four (4) Filipinos are indicated hereunder:

NAME	PASSPORT NUMBER	ITEM/S SEIZED
Albert Manahan Merin	EB0961932	2 gold bars (1 kg. each)
Rasul Maulana Domado	EC0526762	2 gold bangles, 2 wrist watches, 2 finger rings and 2 waist belt buckles
Jamilah Andang Domado	EB9157968	2 gold bangles, 2 wrist watches, 2 finger rings and 2 waist belt buckles
Intanbay Gunting Disimban	EB3601878	1 kg. gold bar


According to PHCG Mumbai they are now directly coordinating with Customs-Mumbai to be able to know the whereabouts of these Filipino nationals and to obtain additional information regarding their cases. The PHCG assured that they will inform Post as soon as they receive the reply from Mumbai Customs by next week.

The arrest of these Filipino nationals is quite alarming as such reports indicate a new trend for Filipinos being recruited as mules for illegal gold imports for the Indian gold trade. In recent months, the Indian government has limited the import of gold to India with the weakening of the Indian rupee. Several months ago, a Counselor of the UAE Embassy was apprehended by Indian Customs for bringing into India millions of rupees of gold jewelry in connivance with Indian gold traders. The said Embassy official has since been recalled due to the incident. It therefore appears that the successive apprehension of Filipinos bringing in unusual quantities of

gold (ingot and jewelry) indicate a new tact for Indian gold smuggles to bring in the precious metal from abroad. 2

It is therefore recommended that OUMWA inform all FSPs especially those in the Middle East/Gulf countries about this new trend and to request them to disseminate the information to Filipinos under their respective jurisdictions and the restrictions /laws of India concerning precious metals as well as precious and semi-precious stones.

For the Department's information and prompt action.

  
Benito B. Valeriano  
Ambassador



*Philippine Embassy  
New Delhi  
12 July 2014  
TRANSMITTED*



3/3  
विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
NEW DELHI

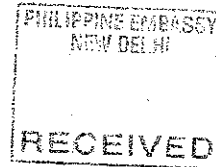
T.4415/76/2014

July 4, 2014

The Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India presents its compliments to the Embassy of the Philippines in New Delhi and has the honour to inform the arrest of Mrs. Intanbay Gunting Disimban, holder of passport No. EB3601878, on 6.5.2014 at C.S.I. Airport, Mumbai and one Kg. gold bar valued at Rs. 25,67,870/- valued at Rs. 25,67,870/- was recovered from his possession..

The Ministry of External Affairs avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Embassy of the Philippines the assurances of its highest consideration.

The Embassy of the Philippines  
50-N, Nyaya Marg, Chanakyapuri,  
New Delhi-110021.



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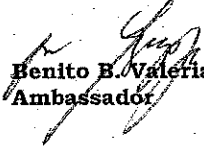
To: SFA  
 Fr: New Delhi, P.E  
 Rt: OUMWA  
 CC: PHCG Mumbai  
 Re: **ATN Case- Arrest of One Filipino national in Mumbai Airport**  
 Dt: 08 July 2014  
 Cn: ZND-553 -2014

In connection to our ZND-551-2014 dated 07 July 2014 (copy attached), Post wishes to inform the Department that it has received another Note Verbale (No. T.4415/76/2014 dated 24 June 2014) from the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) informing Post that another Filipino national named Albert Manahan Merin, holder of passport no. EB0961932 was arrested at Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport, Mumbai after the Mumbai Customs seized two (2) gold bars of 1 kg. each and valued at Rs. 5,245,270.00 which were allegedly concealed inside his under-garments.

According to the MEA, Mr. Albert Manahan Merin was also arrested under Indian Customs Act of 1962, Chapter XIII, Section 101 and 102 as stated in our attached previous communication ZND-551-2014. The subject's case has been registered by the Customs authority of the Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport, Mumbai.

Post will be coordinating with PHCG Mumbai to obtain additional information regarding the matter.

For the Department's information.

  
**Benito B. Valeriano**  
 Ambassador

Philippine Embassy  
 New Delhi  
 08 July 2014  
 TRANSMITTED



सत्यमेव जयते

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विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
NEW DELHI

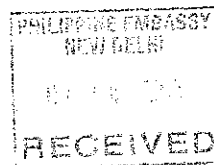
T.4415/76/2014

June 24, 2014

The Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India presents its compliments to the Embassy of the Philippines in New Delhi and has the honour to inform the arrest of Mr. Albert Manahan Merin, holder of passport No. EB0961932 on 04.05.2014 at C.S.I. Airport, Mumbai and 2 gold bars of 1 Kg each, valued at Rs. 52,45,270/- were seized which were concealed inside his under-garments. The case has been registered by the Customs authority of the C.S.I. Airport, Mumbai.

The Ministry of External Affairs avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Embassy of the Philippines the assurances of its highest consideration.

The Embassy of the Philippines  
50-N, Nyaya Marg, Chanakyapuri,  
New Delhi-110021.



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To: SFA  
Fr: New Delhi, P.E  
Rt: OUMWA  
CC: PHCG Mumbai  
Re: **ATN Case- Two Filipino Nationals arrested in Mumbai Airport**  
Dt: 07 July 2014  
Cn: ZND-551 -2014

Post wishes to inform the Department that it has received a Note Verbale (No. T.4415/76/2014 dated 23 June 2014) from the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), today, 07 July 2014 informing Post of the arrest of certain Filipino nationals named Rasul Maulana Domado, holder of Philippine passport no. EC0526762 and Jamilah Andang Domado, holder of Philippine passport no. EB9157968. According to the MEA, the two (2) Filipino nationals were arrested at Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport, Mumbai on 05 June 2014, after the Mumbai Customs seized two (2) gold bangles, two (2) wrist watches, two (2) finger rings and two (2) waist belt buckles with a total weight of 2798 grams and valued at Rs. 6,860,920.00.

In the above mentioned Note Verbale, it is also mentioned that the subject Filipino nationals were arrested and subsequently released on bail under Indian Customs Act of 1962, Chapter XIII, Section 101 and 102 which are stated hereunder:

**SECTION 101. Power to search suspected persons in certain other cases.** - (1) If an officer of customs empowered in this behalf by general or special order of the Commissioner of Customs, has reason to believe that any person has secreted about his person any goods of the description specified in sub-section (2) which are liable to confiscation, or documents relating thereto, he may search that person.

- (2) The goods referred to in sub-section (1) are the following : -
- (a) gold;
  - (b) diamonds;
  - (c) manufactures of gold or diamonds;
  - (d) watches;
  - (e) any other class of goods which the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, specify.

**SECTION 102. Persons to be searched may require to be taken before gazetted officer of customs or magistrate.** - (1) When any officer of customs is about to search any person under the provisions of section 101, the officer of customs shall, if such person so requires, take him without unnecessary delay to the nearest gazetted officer of customs or magistrate.

(2) If such requisition is made, the officer of customs may detain the person making it until he can bring him before the gazetted officer of customs or the magistrate.

(3) The gazetted officer of customs or the magistrate before whom any such person is brought shall, if he sees no reasonable



ground for search, forthwith discharge the person but otherwise shall direct that search be made.

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(4) Before making a search under the provisions of section 100 or section 101, the officer of customs shall call upon two or more persons to attend and witness the search and may issue an order in writing to them or any of them so to do; and the search shall be made in the presence of such persons and a list of all things seized in the course of such search shall be prepared by such officer or other person and signed by such witnesses.

(5) No female shall be searched by any one excepting a female.

Post will be coordinating with PHCG Mumbai to obtain additional information regarding the matter.

For the Department's information.

  
Benito B. Valeriano  
Ambassador





विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
NEW DELHI

T.4415/76/2014

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June 23, 2014

The Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India presents its compliments to the Embassy of the Philippines in New Delhi and has the honour to inform the arrest of Mr. Rasul Maulana Domado, holder of passport No. EC0526762 and Mrs. Jamilah Andang Domado, holder of passport No. EB9157968, on 5.6.2014 at C.S.I. Airport, Mumbai and 2 gold bangles, 2 wrist watches, 2 finger rings and 2 waist belt buckles, totally weighing 2798 grams, valued at Rs. 68,60,920/- were seized.

The Ministry of External Affairs avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Embassy of the Philippines the assurances of its highest consideration.

The Embassy of the Philippines  
50-N, Nyaya Marg, Chanakyapuri,  
New Delhi-110021.



PHILIPPINE EMBASSY  
NEW DELHI



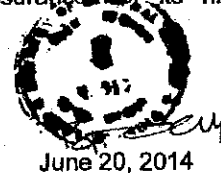
सत्यमेव जयते

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
NEW DELHI

Note No. 8/415/03/2012

The Ministry of External Affairs presents its compliments to the Embassy of the Philippines in New Delhi and has the honour to convey that two Philippines nationals, Mr. Rasul Maulana Domado (holder of Passport No. EC0526762) and Mrs. Jamilah Andang Domado (holder of Passport No. EB9157968) had been arrested in Mumbai by the Mumbai Customs on June 05, 2014 and subsequently released on bail under Customs Act, 1962.

Ministry of External Affairs avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Embassy of the Philippines in New Delhi the assurance of its highest consideration.



June 20, 2014

**Embassy of the Philippines**  
50-N, Nyaya Marg  
Chanakyapuri  
New Delhi-110021