

INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION (Now the Financial Crimes Commission)

 \mathbf{v}

1. Indrawtee RAMDIN

2. Vandana RAMDIN

Mrs. Indrawtee Ramdin and Ms. Vandana Ramdin were both prosecuted by the Financial Crimes Commission ("FCC") for the offence of money laundering in breach of sections 3(1)(a), 3(1)(b), 6(3) and 8 of the Financial Intelligence and Anti-Money Laundering Act 2002. They were accused of having either engaged in transactions, been in possession, received or transferred monies which were the proceeds of a crime.

Mrs. I. Ramdin and Ms. V. Ramdin are respectively the spouse and daughter of Mr. Homanchal Kumar Ramdin. In the year 2013, Mr. H.K. Ramdin, whilst being incarcerated at the Central Prison for the offence of larceny, met the convicted drug dealer Mr. Peroomal Veeren. In the years 2016 and 2017, after serving his sentence, Mr. H.K. Ramdin, through his company Brilliant Resources Company Limited, started the importation of goods from South Africa, with the collaboration of one Mr. Navind Kistnah. The latter deposed in court stating that all importations which were carried out by Brilliant Resources Company Limited were done under the instructions of Mr. Peroomal Veeren. In March 2017, the Anti-Drug and Smuggling Unit of the Police intercepted an importation of Brilliant Resources Company Limited in which 135kg of heroin was found.

Whilst the whereabouts of Mr. H.K Ramdin is still unknown to this day, the FCC brought evidence that during the period 2013 to 2016, there were several transactions, including cash deposits in the bank accounts of both accused, which were not commensurate with their income. The FCC also established that Mr. H. K. Ramdin made a call to his wife, Mrs. I. Ramdin concerning the remittance of a bag to her. In the course of the investigation, the latter confessed that a few days later, an unknown person actually handed over a bag containing Rs 500,000 in cash to her. Both Mrs. I. Ramdin and Ms. V. Ramdin made several transactions, including transfers to their daughter and sister respectively, and for which no reasonable explanation could be provided.

They were accordingly prosecuted under different counts with money totalling Rs. 1,273,380 and Rs. 390,000 for Mrs. I. Ramdin and Ms. V. Ramdin respectively.

The Learned Magistrate, after having considered the evidence, found both Accused parties guilty of money laundering under 16 of the 27 counts.

The matter will now be fixed for sentence before the Financial Crimes Division of the Intermediate Court.

Financial Crimes Commission 20 February 2025