



Republic of the Philippines  
Supreme Court  
Manila

FIRST DIVISION

NOTICE

Sirs/Mesdames:

*Please take notice that the Court, First Division, issued a Resolution dated February 1, 2023 which reads as follows:*

**“G.R. Nos. 255979-80 (*Prakash R. Dhanani, v. People of the Philippines*).** – The petitioner’s Motion for Extension of thirty (30) days within which to file a petition for review on certiorari is **GRANTED**, counted from the expiration of the reglementary period.

Prakash R. Dhanani (petitioner) filed a Petition for Review on *Certiorari*<sup>1</sup> assailing the 27 August 2020 Joint Decision<sup>2</sup> and 11 March 2021 Resolution<sup>3</sup> of the Court of Appeals (CA) in CA-G.R. CR Nos. 43141 and 44049. The CA dismissed for lack of merit the consolidated petitions for review which questioned the 18 January 2019 Decision<sup>4</sup> of Branch 196, Regional Trial Court of Parañaque City (RTC Br. 196) in Crim. Case Nos. 2018-2627 to 36 and the 12 April 2019 Decision<sup>5</sup> of Branch 274, Regional Trial Court of Parañaque City (RTC Br. 274) in Crim. Case Nos. 2018-2680 to 2684. RTC Br. 196 affirmed the 14 September 2018 Decision<sup>6</sup> of Branch 88, Metropolitan Trial Court of Parañaque City (MeTC Br. 88) in Crim. Case Nos. 18-0450 to 59, while RTC Br. 274 affirmed the 10 September 2018 Decision<sup>7</sup> of Branch 89, Metropolitan Trial Court of Parañaque City (MeTC Br. 89) in Crim. Case Nos. 18-0049 to 53. Both MeTCs convicted petitioner of multiple counts of violation of Batas Pambansa Blg. 22 (BP 22) and sentenced him to pay fines and the face value of the checks.

The petition should be denied. The CA committed no reversible error in affirming petitioner’s conviction. Factual findings of the trial court, when

<sup>1</sup> *Rollo*, pp. 12-27. Under Rule 45 of the Rules of Court.

<sup>2</sup> *Id.* at 28-40. Penned by Associate Justice Mariflor P. Punzalan Castillo and concurred in by Associate Justices Pedro B. Corales and Alfredo D. Ampuan.

<sup>3</sup> *Id.* at 41-42. Penned by Associate Justice Mariflor P. Punzalan Castillo and concurred in by Associate Justices Pedro B. Corales and Alfredo D. Ampuan.

<sup>4</sup> *Id.* at 103-113. Penned by Judge Brigido Artemon M. Luna II.

<sup>5</sup> *Id.* at 152-154. Penned by Acting Presiding Judge Betlee-Ian J. Barraquias.

<sup>6</sup> *Id.* at 89-99. Penned by Presiding Judge Belen G. Salespara-Carasig

<sup>7</sup> *Id.* at 136-148. Penned by Presiding Judge Harold Cesar C. Huliganga

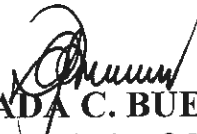
adopted and confirmed by the CA, are binding and conclusive on this Court, and will generally not be reviewed on appeal. The present case did not show why the recognized exceptions should apply. The prosecution has successfully proved the elements to hold petitioner guilty for violation of BP 22.

We affirm the ruling of the CA but modify the same in the imposition of legal interest imposed pursuant to our ruling in *Nacar v. Gallery Frames*.<sup>8</sup> Pursuant to our ruling in *Nacar*, the sum of ₱1,830,000.00 due to complainant shall earn legal interest at the rate of 6% per *annum* from 10 November 2016 until finality of this Resolution. The total amount shall further earn legal interest at the rate of 6% per *annum* from finality of this Resolution until full payment.

**WHEREFORE**, the petition is **DENIED** for lack of merit. The assailed Joint Decision dated 27 August 2020 and the Resolution dated 11 March 2021 of the Court of Appeals in CA-G.R. CR Nos. 43141 and 44049 are **AFFIRMED** with the **MODIFICATION** in that the total amount owing to complainant Prabhat N. Agrawal shall earn legal interest at the rate of six percent (6%) per *annum* from 10 November 2016 until finality of this Resolution. The total amount shall further earn legal interest at the rate of 6% per *annum* from finality of this Resolution until full payment.

**SO ORDERED.”**

**By authority of the Court:**

  
**LIBRADA C. BUENA**  
Division Clerk of Court

by:

**MARIA TERESA B. SIBULO**  
Deputy Division Clerk of Court

**184**  
**MAR 02 2023**

ICAONAPO LITONG & ASSOCIATES  
LAW OFFICE  
Counsel for Petitioner  
Suites 402-403 Doña Amparo Building  
España, 1008 Manila

Court of Appeals (x)  
Manila  
(CA-G.R. CR Nos. 43141 & 44049)

The Solicitor General  
134 Amorsolo Street, Legaspi Village  
1229 Makati City

<sup>8</sup> 716 Phil. 267, 281-283 (2013).

The Hon. Presiding Judge  
Regional Trial Court, Branch 196  
1700 Parañaque City  
(Crim. Case Nos. 2018-2627 to 36)

The Hon. Presiding Judge  
Regional Trial Court, Branch 274  
1700 Parañaque City  
(Crim. Case Nos. 2018-2680 to 84)

The Hon. Presiding Judge  
Metropolitan Trial Court, Branch 88  
1700 Parañaque City  
(Crim. Case Nos. 18-0450 to 59)

The Hon. Presiding Judge  
Metropolitan Trial Court, Branch 89  
1700 Parañaque City  
(Crim. Case Nos. 18-0049 to 53)

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