

<http://www.roosnet.nl/nc/roos/volgende/6/nieuws/karuturi-in-aalsmeer-failliet/>

Rosenet.nl | 2 October 2014 | loose translation by GRAIN

Karuturi BV is bankrupt

On 30 September 2014, Karuturi BV, the flowers wholesaler based in Aalsmeer, Netherlands, was declared bankrupt by the court of Haarlem. This was reported by [FaillissementsDossier.nl](#). The company in the Netherlands had not received any flowers from its flower farms in Africa since long.

With the bankruptcy of the Dutch entity a new chapter has been added to the decline of Karuturi Global. The company, led by Ramakrishna Karuturi of India, already saw its flower farm in Kenya go bankrupt. That company is now being run by a trustee.

One of Karuturi's two companies in Ethiopia has been sold to a company in Dubai. The other was going to be sold by auction, but mistakes were made in the process. According to local sources, it is now back in the hands by Karuturi. However, no rose production is taking place there.

<http://www.vakbladvoordebloemisterij.nl/nieuws/2326-commercieel-directeur-vroeg-faillissement-karuturi-aan>

Vakblad voor Bloemisterij | 6 October 2014 | loose translation by GRAIN

Commercial director filed for Karuturi's bankruptcy

Karuturi Commercial Director Henri Müller is the one who applied for bankruptcy of Karuturi at the court in Haarlem.

Müller has holiday pay and salary due since April from Karuturi. According to him there are other creditors, too, curator Roland van Wijk of Lexington lawyers says. Van Wijk does not know who these creditors are. No one has come to him with a claim.

Müller was not available for comment. His telephone number is no longer in service and he does not respond to emails.

Van Wijk has an interview with the fired Müller on Tuesday [7 Oct] and then there should be more clarity. He fears that creditors and the trustee will not get paid. According to Van Wijk there are no assets of Karuturi in or around the office building of Karuturi at the auction site FloraHolland Aalsmeer - except for a car in a parking lot somewhere in Aalsmeer. The property was rented.

"And the owner of Karuturi Aalsmeer is in India," says van Wijk. According to him, the Karuturi family is the sole owner of Karuturi Aalsmeer.

Since May this year, no more roses have come from the farms of Karuturi in Ethiopia and Kenya to the Netherlands. Through the office in Aalsmeer the roses were traded or auctioned.

Müller was the only employee of Karuturi Aalsmeer.

<http://www.vakbladvoordebloemisterij.nl/nieuws/2334-karuturi-aalsmeer-laat-230-000-schuld-achter>

Vakblad voor Bloemisterij | 8 October 2014 | loose translation by GRAIN

Karuturi Aalsmeer left behind a € 230,000 debt

The bankrupt Karuturi Aalsmeer leaves behind a debt of € 230,000. According to curator Roland van Wijk, the creditors can whistle for their money.

Van Wijk, Lexington lawyers, has written to the Karuturi family owners in India but does not expect to get a reply. Van Wijk said: *"The two employees of Karuturi Aalsmeer have not been answering questions since long already. They have been left completely in the lurch."*

Van Wijk therefore does not expect that the creditors will get their money. *"The only assets left is a ten-year old car."*

Apart from the two employees, the creditors of Karuturi Aalsmeer include a leasing company and an accounting firm. But the largest creditor is the Dutch tax authority, which is owed € 130,000. FloraHolland is not among the creditors.

Commercial director Henri Müller who filed for bankruptcy in the court of Haarlem has not received salary nor holiday entitlement as of April. The other employee was not paid since August. If Karuturi India does not comply with its obligations, the two employees will get some of their missing pay covered by the Dutch social security system.

Except for Müller, the creditors have not yet reported in to Van Wijk.

Van Wijk expects that bankruptcy will be lifted shortly.

No flowers

No business was taking place at Karuturi in Aalsmeer since many months. This was because no flowers were arriving since months from the nurseries in Kenya and Ethiopia.

Due to declining revenues in Kenya, employees were made redundant. This caused problems with the government and the unions. Due to lack of money, no water or fertilizer was available. The bank stopped funding and took over the farm.

In Ethiopia, the production also declined. Van Wijk said this was because of a levee breach in November 2011, after which the water supply was inadequate and the land dried out. Moreover, Karuturi shifted its emphasis from horticulture to agriculture.

According to Van Wijk, who talked yesterday with Müller, bad weather for Valentine's Day in 2011 also cut into sales.

According to the website of Karuturi Global, at one point the company produced 555 million roses a year in India (10 ha), Kenya (154 ha) and Ethiopia (75 ha) and was the largest rose grower in the world.