



A protest against Kabul Chawla’s company, BPTP, one of the largest residential developers in the New Delhi area.

Amid Complaints in India, a Condo Deal in Manhattan

By STEPHANIE SAUL and LOUISE STORY

Last Sept. 28, a group of retired military officers demonstrated at Jantar Mantar, a historic site in New Delhi. “Though we are old veterans, we still have the strength to challenge your atrocity,” read the placard of one protester, who was leaning on a cane.

Their animus was directed at one of the New Delhi area’s biggest residential builders, Kabul Chawla. In 2008, nearly 200 military officers had put down deposits on apartments at Park Serene, a high-rise apartment complex Mr. Chawla was developing. In addition to a swimming pool, a community center and special prices for members of India’s military, a big drawing card was the prospect that the officers could live together in retirement.

More than six years later, the protesters say that Mr. Chawla’s company has collected almost 100 percent of the price of the Park Serene apartments from 400 buyers, payments the protesters estimate at more than \$35 million. But the company has not completed the units. “They put

TOWERS OF SECRECY
Third of five articles.



their life savings in it,” said Brajesh Kumar, a retired Army major general and spokesman for the protesting officers, who have taken their grievances to a national consumer commission. “They thought that after their retirement they would move in. It’s not a happy situation for a large number of consumers.”

As complaints mount against Mr. Chawla, developer of two dozen other major residential complexes near New Delhi, many of the veterans are struggling to find a place to live.

Mr. Chawla does not appear to have that problem. Even when he is more than 7,000

miles away in New York, he enjoys the comforts of a 4,050-square-foot condominium in the Time Warner Center that has five bedrooms, a media/playroom, soaring ceilings and Central Park views.

Although Mr. Chawla denies owning the apartment, saying that he stays there but that it belongs to his cousin, The New York Times has unearthed correspondence among real estate brokers involved in the apartment’s purchase, as well as other sources, tying the condo to Mr. Chawla.

The ownership of the unit on the 68th floor of the Time Warner Center’s south tower is obscured by a corporate veil: a Delaware company with a Singapore address and a name, NYC Real Estate Opportunities, evoking the ambitions of an international buyer.

The secrecy surrounding 68AF is not unusual. Of the 192 condos at the Time Warner Center, nearly two-thirds are owned through shell companies, a Times investigation has found. Often the names of the people behind those shell companies are shrouded in secrecy. And 68AF is among the most carefully cloaked.

When the apartment was bought out-

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Gay Marriage in Alabama Begins, but Only in Parts

Confusion Splits Counties After U.S. Ruling Is Defied by State’s Chief Justice

By ALAN BLINDER and RICHARD PÉREZ-PEÑA

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Despite a federal judge’s rulings legalizing same-sex marriage, most probate judges in Alabama on Monday refused to issue marriage licenses to gay and lesbian couples, escalating a legal showdown that echoed the battles over desegregation here in the 1960s.

Although court officials in some of the state’s largest cities — including Birmingham, Huntsville and Montgomery — quickly issued marriage licenses to same-sex couples, up to 52 of Alabama’s 67 counties, according to the gay rights group Human Rights Campaign, declined to process the required paperwork.

It was unclear how many of the judges were acting out of overt defiance and how many were simply weighing how to navigate a freshly jumbled legal landscape after Chief Justice Roy S. Moore of the Alabama Supreme Court on Sunday ordered the judges not to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples.

“We’ve got Alabama’s chief justice issuing an order, and we’ve got an order out from a federal judge,” said Judge Greg Norris of Monroe County, who is also president of the Alabama Probate Judges Association. “It’s just a very difficult situation.”

The day of escalating events began when the United States Supreme Court said it would not block the ruling by Judge Callie V. S. Granade of Federal District Court, who last month declared Alabama’s marriage restrictions to be unconstitutional.

To some, including Justice Clarence Thomas, who offered a spirited dissent, the failure to order a stay was the strongest signal to date that the court is likely to establish a nationwide right to same-sex marriage. “The court looks the other way as yet another federal district judge casts aside state laws without making any effort to preserve the status quo pending the court’s resolution of a constitutional question it

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BRYNN ANDERSON/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Shanté Wolfe, left, and Tori Sisson waited on Monday in Montgomery, Ala., for their marriage license to be processed.

Climate Is Big Issue for Hispanics, and Personal

By CORAL DAVENPORT

WASHINGTON — Alfredo Padilla grew up in Texas as a migrant farmworker who followed the harvest with his parents to pick sugar beets in Minnesota each summer. He has not forgotten the aches of labor or how much the weather — too little rain, or too much — affected the family livelihood.

Now an insurance lawyer in Carriazo Springs, Tex., he said he was concerned about global warming.

“It’s obviously happening, the flooding, the record droughts,” said Mr. Padilla, who agrees with the science that human activities are the leading cause of climate change. “And all this affects poor people harder. The jobs are more based on weather. And when there are hurricanes, when there is flooding, who gets hit the worst? The people on the poor side of town.”

Mr. Padilla’s concern is echoed by other Hispanics across the country, according to a poll conducted last month by The New York Times, Stanford University



MONICA ALMEIDA/THE NEW YORK TIMES

A refinery in Wilmington, a mostly Latino area of Los Angeles.

and the nonpartisan environmental research group Resources for the Future. The survey, in which Mr. Padilla was a respondent, found that Hispanics are more likely than non-Hispanic whites to view global warming as a problem that affects them personally. It also found that they are more likely to support pol-

icies, such as taxes and regulations on greenhouse gas pollution, aimed at curbing it.

The findings in the poll could have significant implications for the 2016 presidential campaign as both parties seek to win votes from Hispanics, particularly in

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Illinois Governor Acts to Curb Power of Public Sector Unions

By MONICA DAVEY and MITCH SMITH

CHICAGO — Gov. Bruce Rauner, the newly elected Republican who has often criticized public sector unions, took his first step toward curbing their power on Monday by announcing an executive order that would bar unions from requiring all state workers to pay the equivalent of dues.

Mr. Rauner, who faces a Democratic-controlled legislature with strong ties to labor, took the unilateral step saying that he believed those fees violate the United States Constitution.

“Forced union dues are a critical cog in the corrupt bargain that is crushing taxpayers,” Mr. Rauner said. “An employee who is forced to pay unfair share dues is being forced to fund political activity with which they disagree. That is a clear violation of First Amendment rights — and something that, as governor, I am duty bound to correct.”

Mr. Rauner, a former private equity manager who became the state’s first Republican governor

in more than a decade, is following other Republican governors in the Midwest who have aggressively taken on public sector unions in recent years.

Those include Mitch Daniels of Indiana, who ended collective bargaining by state workers by executive order; Scott Walker of Wisconsin, who led efforts to cut collective bargaining rights for most public employees; and Rick Snyder of Michigan, who signed legislation ending the requirement that all workers in unionized workplaces pay union dues.

The governor’s executive order affects about 6,500 of the state employees who are not in unions but currently pay fees in lieu of union dues. The American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees said that about 42,000 state employees are represented by unions.

But labor leaders say Mr. Rauner’s intent is far broader, aimed at shrinking union mem-

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U.S. Is Seeking Felony Pleas By Big Banks

By BEN PROTESS and JESSICA SILVER-GREENBERG

The Justice Department is pushing some of the biggest banks on Wall Street — including, for the first time in decades, American institutions — to plead guilty to criminal charges that they manipulated the prices of foreign currencies.

In the final stages of a long-running investigation into corruption in the world’s largest financial market, federal prosecutors have recently informed Barclays, JPMorgan Chase, the Royal Bank of Scotland and Citigroup that they must enter guilty pleas to settle the cases, according to lawyers briefed on the matter. The pleas would be likely to carry a symbolic stigma, if limited actual fallout, in handing felony convictions to some of the world’s biggest banks.

Yet even as those cases head toward negotiations over poten-

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Obama Weighs Arming Kiev



ists. Above, a pro-Russian fighter in the Debaltsevo region. PAGE A9

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Reckoning With Racist History

A group based in Alabama has compiled an inventory of 3,959 victims of “racial terror lynchings” in 12 Southern states from 1877 to 1950, and hopes to mark the sites. PAGE A11

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Recalling ‘Something Terrible’

Pedro Hernandez’s ex-wife testified that he spoke of being a killer shortly after Etan Patz disappeared in 1979. PAGE A15

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Wealth

The young field of financial therapy tries to identify disorders in how people view money, to better advise them on investments. Also, even as sports teams cultivate wealthy fans, they are adding club and amenity options to keep the cheapest seats filled. SECTION F

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Innovator of NFL Films Dies

Ed Sabol, whose cinematic vision of the game played a big role in making pro football America’s No. 1 spectator sport, was 98. PAGE B8

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Ski Airbag’s Hurdle? Skiers



Many ski racers are reluctant to use an airbag safety device recently approved for use, saying its bulk might hurt their performance. PAGE B11

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A Fragile Ocean Landscape

A council that sets rules for fishing off the mid-Atlantic coast will consider protections for little known and fragile ecosystems of deep sea corals in and around 15 ocean sites. Environmental groups and sport fishermen want to protect the areas from squid fishing. PAGE D2

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Vigilantes With Badges

In Richard Price’s new novel, “The Whites,” detectives are on Ahab-like hunts for unpunished criminals. PAGE C1

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David Brooks

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