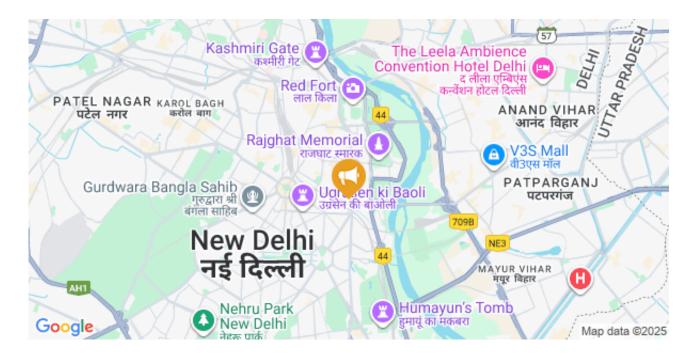


Protest



26 AUG 3:39 UTC India Tactical: SFI to hold nationwide protest march outside UGC offices, regional centers on August 27; maintain vigilance

Current Situation:

- Members of the Students' Federation of India (SFI) are slated to hold nationwide protest marches outside the University Grants Commission (UGC) offices and regional centers on August 27.
- The demonstration is a part of an ongoing three-day protest action between August 25-27 against the UGC-released Learning Outcomes-based Curriculum Framework (LOCF) for nine undergraduate subjects.

Source: Facebook

Assessments & Forecast:

1. Attendance at the nationwide protest marches is likely to vary by location. Participation in large urban centers such as Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Mumbai, and Kolkata is likely to reach high dozens based on the resonance of the issue as well as SFI's mobilization capabilities in these centers. In other locations, participation is likely to be lower, ranging in the low-to-mid dozens. The participation is likely to be elevated if the like-minded student and teachers' organizations decide to join the nationwide protest marches. Anticipating this, the authorities are expected to bolster

- security measures in the vicinity of the UGC offices and regional centers across the country, particularly in major urban centers, and along the march routes, as part of standard security protocol. These measures will likely include the deployment of additional police personnel and the setting up of barricades.
- 2. There remains a latent risk of scuffles between protesters and police, should the former be perceived as engaging in disruptive behavior, such as blocking major thoroughfares or breaching security barricades. In such cases, the authorities are likely to use crowd dispersal methods such as temporary detentions and/or baton charges. Localized disruptions to pedestrian and vehicular travel are anticipated in the vicinity of the aforementioned location due to the anticipated turnout and associated security measures on August 27.

Recommendations:

Those operating or residing in India on August 27 are advised to maintain vigilance in the vicinity of the UGC offices and regional centers across the country and along the march routes due to the slated protest and associated latent risk of scuffles, while allotting for travel disruptions.