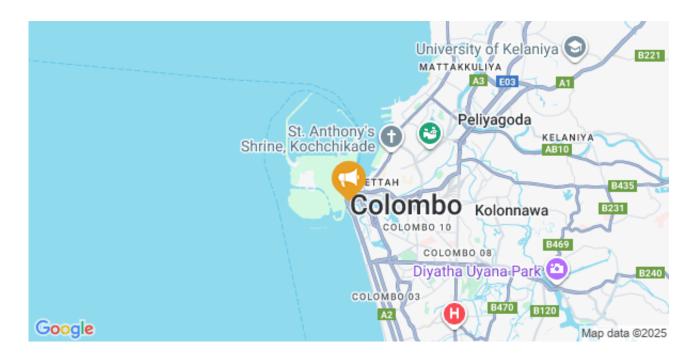


## **Protest**



19 SEP 5:28 UTC Sri Lanka Tactical: Demonstration slated outside Presidential Secretariat in Colombo at 14:00 (local time) on September 19; maintain vigilance

## **Current Situation:**

- A demonstration is slated outside the Presidential Secretariat, located at Galle Face in Colombo at 14:00 (local time) on September 19.
- The gathering will condemn mineral sandmining and wind farm projects on Mannar Island, which are perceived to be damaging the environment and ecology of the island.



Source: Facebook

## **Assessments & Forecast:**

- 1. The demonstration is anticipated to garner a turnout in the range of mid-to-high dozens, considering the resonance of the issue, coupled with estimates from similar gatherings. The authorities are expected to bolster security measures in the vicinity of the Presidential Secretariat, given the sensitivity of the location. Such measures will include the additional deployment of police personnel and the placement of barricades to monitor the crowd.
- 2. There remains a latent risk of scuffles between demonstrators and the police. The police are liable to employ crowd dispersal measures, such as baton charges and temporary detentions, in case the protesters engage in disruptive activities by breaching security protocols. Disruptions to travel are anticipated in the vicinity of the Presidential Secretariat, due to the slated demonstration and associated security measures on September 19.

## **Recommendations:**

Those operating or residing in Colombo on September 19 are advised to maintain vigilance in the vicinity of the Presidential Secretariat due to the slated demonstration and associated risk of scuffles while allotting for travel disruptions.