

Protest



16 SEP 5:31 UTC Indonesia Tactical: Ojol taxi association slated to protest outside DPR RI building in Jakarta on September 17; avoid vicinity of protest

Current Situation:

- Online motorcycle taxi (ojol) drivers associated with the Garda Indonesia Association are slated to protest under the banner of "179 Ojol" outside the House of Representatives (DPR RI) building in Jakarta at 10:00 (local time) on September 17.
- The protest seeks government action on the association's seven demands, issued after the death of a courier driver during the August 28 anti-government protests.
- Per reports, approximately 2,000 motorcycle taxi drivers are scheduled to participate in the protest.



Source: tempo.co, tirto.id, kontan

Assessments & Forecast:

- 1. The turnout in the protest is anticipated to range between low-to-mid thousands, given the stated participation numbers coupled with the organizing group's mobilization capacity and the precedent. Participation is expected to be further bolstered if additional like-minded labor organizations, civil society groups, or student unions, such as the Student Executive Body Alliance of Indonesia (BEM SI), BEM UI (University of Indonesia Student Executive Board) decide to join the demonstration. As part of the standard security protocol, the authorities are expected to bolster security measures in the vicinity of the DPR RI building, given the sensitivity of the location, coupled with the precedent of unrest. These measures will likely include the deployment of riot police, armoured vehicles and the setting up of barricades to monitor the proceedings.
- 2. There remains a high risk of clashes between protesters and the security personnel, given the precedent of unrest recorded since August 28 and the explicit warning issued by the chairman of the taxi association on September 16 regarding potential "greater and greater escalation" if demands remain unaddressed. Considering that, should protesters engage in perceived disruptive acts such as arson, vandalism, pelting stones, breaching security protocols, or employing pyrotechnics, the authorities are expected to respond with strict crowd control measures, including the detention, use of water cannons, and tear gas. Use of rubber bullets cannot be ruled out in extreme cases of unrest. Significant disruptions to vehicular and pedestrian travel are expected in the vicinity of the DPR RI building due to the anticipated high turnout and associated security measures, and risk of unrest during the protest hours on September 17.

Recommendations:

Those operating or residing in Jakarta on September 17 are advised to avoid the vicinity of the DPR RI building due to the slated protest and associated high risk of clashes, while allotting for travel disruptions.