

Protest





Pakistan Tactical: Milli Yakjehti Council announces nationwide rallies on June 27; maintain vigilance

Current Situation:

- The Milli Yakjehti Council, a coalition of 27 Islamist parties, announced it will organize nationwide rallies on June 27. The exact timing and locations of the rally remain unspecified as of writing.
- The demonstrations are intended to observe what the group terms "Victory Day," in reference to its perception of Iran's success over Israel following the recent ceasefire between the two countries in the Middle East.

Source: <u>ARY News</u>

Assessments & Forecast:

 The turnout for the rallies is anticipated to range in the low to mid hundreds in urban centres like Islamabad, Karachi, Lahore, and Rawalpindi, and in the mid to high dozens in rural areas, considering the group's mobilization capabilities. Participation is likely to be bolstered by support from pro-Palestinian groups such as the Palestine Foundation Pakistan (PLF), considering their participation in pro-Iran gatherings. The authorities are expected to bolster security measures in the vicinity of prominent public spaces like government buildings and monuments as part of standard security protocol. These measures will likely include the deployment of police personnel and the setting up of barricades to manage the crowd.

2. A latent risk of scuffles between police and participants exists, particularly if the latter are perceived as engaging in disruptive behaviours, such as blocking roads or attempting to breach security measures. In such scenarios, the authorities are liable to employ crowd-control tactics, including baton charges, to restore order. However, the likelihood of excessive force being used against the crowd remains low due to broader pro-Iran sentiment in Pakistan. Disruptions to vehicular traffic are anticipated in the vicinity of rally locations due to the expected turnout and associated security measures on June 27.

Recommendations:

Those operating or residing in Pakistan on June 27 are advised to maintain vigilance in the vicinity of aforementioned locations due to the slated rally and potential for scuffles while allotting for travel disruptions.