

## Protest



03

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5:05 UTC

## Bangladesh Tactical: Bangladesh National Hindu Grand Alliance to hold nationwide protests on July 4; maintain heightened vigilance

### Current Situation:

- The Bangladesh National Hindu Grand Alliance (BNHGA) announced a nationwide protest in all districts and upazila headquarters on July 4. The exact timing of the protest remains undisclosed, as of writing.
- The protest will be held in response to a reported surge in attacks against Hindu individuals, temples, and properties along with grievances regarding political underrepresentation. The group will call for the reinstatement of a separate electoral system for minority communities.

Source: [Facebook](#)

### Assessments & Forecast:

1. The turnout is expected to vary by location. Participation will likely be in the high dozens to low hundreds in urban locations like Dhaka, Chittagong, and Sylhet, based on the organizing capabilities of BNHGA. Meanwhile in other smaller towns and rural areas, attendance will reach the mid-to-high dozens. This is particularly in the country's north and southwest regions, where Hindu populations are larger. The authorities are likely to implement heightened security measures in

the vicinity of all districts and upazila headquarters as a standard security protocol to monitor the crowd. Such measures are expected to include the deployment of additional police personnel and installation of barricades in larger cities.

2. There remains a latent risk of clashes between the protesters and the police, particularly should the former engage in perceived disruptive behavior such as breaching security protocols or blocking major thoroughfares. Additionally, there remains a latent potential for communal clashes between the Hindu and Muslim communities, given the overall communal sensitivities in the country. This follows high profile incidents of inter-communal clashes recorded in May and June. In such cases of escalated unrest, the authorities are likely to employ crowd control measures including baton charges and temporary detentions.
3. Significant disruptions to vehicular travel are expected in the vicinity of the potential protest locations due to the slated nationwide protests and associated security measures during the protest hours on July 4.

## **Recommendations:**

Those operating in Bangladesh on July 4 are advised to maintain heightened vigilance in the vicinity of the aforementioned locations due to the slated protest and associated risk of clashes while allotting for disruptions.