

## **Protest**



18 NOV 5:28 UTC Bangladesh Tactical: PUSAB slated to hold gatherings outside multiple universities across Dhaka on November 18; avoid vicinity of all rallies

## **Current Situation:**

- The Private University Students Alliance of Bangladesh (PUSAB) is slated to hold multiple gatherings in Dhaka on November 18.
- A gathering is slated to be held outside the main gate of BRAC University in Dhaka during morning hours (local time) on November 18.
- A rally is being held at Daffodil International University (DIU) in Dhaka at 16:00 on the day.
- Similarly, another rally is slated at Gate No. 8 of North South University (NSU) in Dhaka at 20:00 on the day.
- The gatherings are being held to celebrate and publicly endorse the 17 November verdict of the International Crimes Tribunal (ICT), which sentenced the ousted Prime Minister, Sheikh Hasina, to death on charges of crimes against humanity.



Source: Facebook, Facebook

## **Assessments & Forecast:**

- 1. The turnout at the slated gatherings is expected to range in the low-to-mid hundreds, given PUSAB's strong mobilizing capacity and the symbolic significance of expressing support for the verdict against ousted PM Hasina. The authorities are likely to adopt heightened security measures around BRAC University, DIU, and NSU, including the deployment of police personnel, riot control units, Rapid Action Battalion (RAB), and the installation of barricades to regulate movement and prevent escalations. Similar bolstered measures are anticipated outside the key government buildings and prominent locations, including the Bangabandhu Memorial Museum, considering the <u>localized clashes</u> witnessed between the police and anti-AL protesters in Dhanmondi 32 on November 17.
- 2. There remains a high likelihood of <u>confrontations</u>, particularly if participants engage in disruptive behavior such as marching onto adjacent roads or staging impromptu processions. Any perceived breach of security protocols is likely to prompt a firm response from the police, including crowd-control dispersals, baton charges, and temporary detentions. The authorities are highly likely to use forcible measures such as tear gas, water cannons, sound grenades, and baton charges should the participants resort to violent activities. The use of fire can be anticipated in case of extreme unrest. Significant traffic disruptions are expected around the aforementioned campuses during the respective gatherings due to the anticipated turnout and associated heavy security deployments on November 18.

## **Recommendations:**

Those operating in Dhaka on November 18 are advised to avoid the vicinity of all gatherings and rallies due to the slated events and associated high risk of unrest, while allotting for travel disruptions.