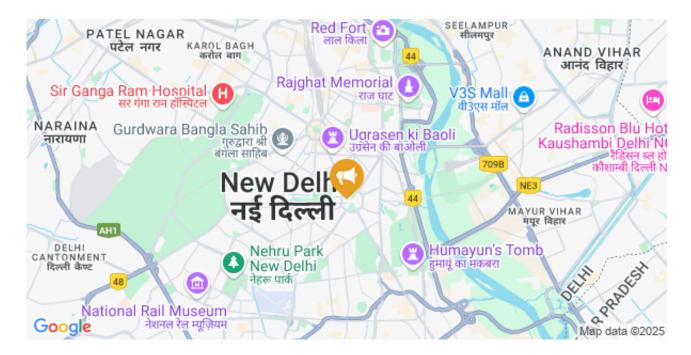


## **Protest**



13 MAY 5:40 UTC India Tactical: BJP announces nationwide victory rallies, demonstrations after Operation Sindoor between May 13-23; maintain vigilance

## **Current Situation:**

- The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) announced 10-day nationwide rallies and demonstrations as part of the Tiranga Yatra programme from 16:00 (local time) on May 13 until May 23.
- The campaign is reportedly being launched to celebrate the success and raise awareness of the significance of the Indian military's Operation Sindoor, which reportedly targeted militant sites in Pakistan and Pakistan-administered Kashmir in the previous week.
- Details on the exact schedule and locations of the rallies and demonstrations remain undisclosed at the time of writing.

Source: The Economic Times, NDTV

## Assessments & Forecast:

1. The anticipated turnout at the rallies and demonstrations at the slated campaign will vary according to the location. Turnout is expected to reach the mid to high hundreds in the initial days and on weekends, in urban cities like Bangalore, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Mumbai, and Pune, given the heightened nationalist sentiments surrounding the ongoing India-Pakistan

- tensions. The turnout is expected to range from mid-to-high dozens in other areas.
- 2. Potential gatherings are likely at central locations in state capitals, including Freedom Park in Bangalore, Jantar Mantar in Delhi, Azad Maidan in Mumbai, Pakistan's diplomatic missions, and local BJP offices, among others. The authorities are liable to bolster security in the vicinity of the potential gathering sites, particularly around the Pakistan High Commission in Delhi, given previous gatherings outside the office in April. These measures will include the deployment of additional police personnel and the placement of barricades to monitor the crowd and ensure smooth traffic passage.
- 3. A latent risk of unrest remains if the participants are perceived to be engaging in disruptive behavior by breaching security protocols. Road blockages, inflammatory sloganeering, and attacks on businesses linked or perceived to be linked with Pakistan remain possible during the rallies. In such instances, the police are liable to deploy crowd control measures such as temporary detentions. However, this remains a low possibility given that the authorities are unlikely to employ a heavy-handed approach, given the wide resonance of the campaign. Disruptions to travel are anticipated in the vicinity of the aforementioned locations from May 13- 23.

## **Recommendations:**

Those operating or residing in India from May 13-23 are advised to maintain vigilance in the vicinity of the aforementioned locations due to the slated nationwide rallies and associated risk of unrest while allotting for travel disruptions.