



Protest



12

FEB
6:11 UTC

Pakistan Tactical: SUCP to hold nationwide protest on February 13 against ISPP-claimed attack in Islamabad; maintain vigilance

Current Situation:

- Members of the Shia Ulema Council Pakistan (SUCP) will hold a nationwide protest on February 13.
- The exact timings and locations of the demonstrations were not disclosed at the time of writing.
- The protesters will call for immediate justice for those killed in the Islamic State Pakistan Province (ISPP)-claimed suicide bombing at Khadijah al-Kubra Mosque in Islamabad on February 6.

Source: [X/Twitter](#), [Jafariapress](#)

Assessments & Forecast:

1. Turnout at the protest will vary with location. In locations such as Islamabad, Karachi, Lahore, and Rawalpindi, the participation will likely range from the high dozens to the low hundreds, depending on the issue's resonance among the Shia community. Meanwhile, in other locations, the turnout will likely reach the mid-to-high dozens. As a precautionary measure, the authorities will bolster security measures in the vicinity of potential protest locations such as mosques, religious sites, and other protest hotspots. These measures are likely to include the placement of barricades and

the deployment of police personnel to monitor proceedings.

2. There remains a latent risk of scuffles between the police and the protesters, given heightened security posture following the Islamabad attack. In case the protesters engage in actions such as blocking major roads or breaching the security barricades, the authorities will likely resort to actions like forced removal of demonstrators from the location and temporary detentions to quell potential unrest. However, a heavy-handed measure is not expected given elevated sensitivities surrounding the Shia community following the attack on February 6. Travel disruptions are anticipated in the vicinity of the potential protest locations on February 13.

Recommendations:

Those operating or residing in Pakistan on February 13 are advised to maintain vigilance in the vicinity of the potential protest locations due to the nationwide protest and the associated risk of scuffles while allotting for travel disruptions.