

**United States Consulate General Chennai, India**  
**Security Message for U.S. Citizens:**  
**Demonstrations and Protests in Karnataka**  
**September 12, 2016**

Tensions in Karnataka, including the city of Bengaluru (Bangalore) continue to run high following a Supreme Court order that Karnataka release Cauvery water to Tamil Nadu. Sections of the Bangalore-Mysore highway are closed due to protests. There have been reports of Tamil Nadu-plated trucks being stoned and burned. Section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code, which prohibits the gatherings of ten or more people, has been imposed in Bangalore city. As a result, many businesses and companies throughout Bangalore are closed. Local law enforcement has advised that they are tracking the situation and are prepared to respond appropriately.

U.S. citizens are reminded that even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and escalate into violence. You should avoid areas of demonstrations, and exercise caution if in the vicinity of any large gatherings, protests, or demonstrations.

Review your personal security plans; remain aware of your surroundings, including local events; and monitor local news stations for updates. Maintain a high level of vigilance and take appropriate steps to enhance your personal security.

For further information about security in India:

- See the State Department's [travel website](#) for the Worldwide Caution, Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and India Country Specific Information.
- Enroll in the [Smart Traveler-Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#) to receive security messages and make it easier to locate you in an emergency.
- Contact the U.S. Consulate General Chennai in India located at 220 Anna Salai, Chennai, India at +91-44-2857-4000 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. After-hours emergency number for U.S. citizens is +91-44-2857-4000.
- Call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).

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**Security Message for U.S. Citizens:**

**Demonstrations and Protests in Karnataka**

**September 8, 2016**

Due to a Supreme Court order to release Cauvery water to Tamil Nadu, there have been multiple reports by major Indian newspapers of protests and demonstrations throughout Karnataka, including the city of Bengaluru (Bangalore). In the past, similar demonstrations have been associated with stone-throwing and localized violence as well as traffic congestion. Local authorities report that public transportation may not be operating. Numerous companies have reported they intend to be closed on Friday, September 9. Local law enforcement has advised that they are tracking the situation and are prepared to respond appropriately.

U.S. citizens are reminded that even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and escalate into violence. You should avoid areas of demonstrations, and exercise caution if in the vicinity of any large gatherings, protests, or demonstrations.

Employees at the U.S. Foreign Commercial Service offices in Bangalore will be telecommuting on Friday, September 9, as a precaution.

Review your personal security plans; remain aware of your surroundings, including local events; and monitor local news stations for updates. Maintain a high level of vigilance and take appropriate steps to enhance your personal security.

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