1. ISIS launches large attacks against Peshmerga near Mosul. ISIS attacked Peshmerga on March 4 in the areas of Kiski, Mount Badush, and Iski Mosul, west of Mosul. Conflicting reports indicated that the attack involved three vehicle-borne improvised explosive devices (VBIEDs) or six "suicide attackers," and the number of attackers remains unclear. Later in the day, ISIS attacked Peshmerga positions in Tel al-Rim village, southeast of Mosul, but were repelled.

2. Militia-led operation clears Salah al-Din desert areas. Joint Operations Command (JOC) announced the launch of a large named operation on March 1 to clear Jazerat Samarra. The JOC stated that the operation included forces from the Iraqi Army (IA), Counter-Terrorism Service (CTS), and Federal Police (FP), with support from Iraqi and Coalition air strikes, though Popular Mobilization spokesperson Ahmed al-Asadi insisted on March 6 that there were no vehicle-borne air strikes during the operation. The Popular Mobilization was heavily involved, including the Sadrist Saraya al-Salam, as well as major Iranian proxy militias, including Kata’ib Hezbollah and Asa’ib Ahl al-Haq, and Popular Mobilization Command deputy chairman Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis was reportedly leading the operations. Security forces repelled ISIS attacks involving up to three VBIEDs and three suicide vests (SVESTs) during the initial operation, though at least one VBIED successfully detonated. Muhandis announced the success of the operation on March 3 as PM Abadi visited Khat al-Lein area west of Samarra, and IA Aviation claimed to destroy 17 VBIEDs.

3. ISIS SVBIED attacks target Haditha. Four ISIS SVBIED attackers dressed in army uniforms targeted a headquarters of the Jazerra and Badia Operations Command (JBOC) near the Haditha Dam, north of Haditha, on March 1, killing the JBOC Chief of Staff, the commander of a support company, and four other soldiers while wounding seven.

4. Anbar Operations Command launches clearing operations north of Ramadi. The Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) sent reinforcements north of Ramadi on March 4 and 5 to assist the 10th IA Division in clearing Jazerat Ramadi, Albu Obeid, and Albu Bali areas, reportedly including CTS and FP elements. On March 6, the 8th and 10th IA Divisions with tribal fighters, artillery, and Coalition air strikes began clearing operations.

5. National Alliance leaders meet, disagree over reform program. PM Abadi met in Karbalaa on March 6 with State of Law Alliance senior member Ali al-Alaq, Sadrist Trend leader Muqtada al-Sadr, Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq leader Ammar al-Hakim, National Reform Trend leader Ibrahim al-Jafar, Education Minister Hussein al-Shahristani, and Badr Organization deputy leader Abdul-Karim al-Ansari. The meeting resulted in a statement expressing support for reforms and the need for demonstrations to remain peaceful. However, Sadr denounced the final statement, stating that it was made when Sadr and Hakim were not present.

6. Demonstrators block major road in Diyala in protest over security situation. Thousands of Bani Tamim tribe members blocked the road connecting Diyala with Iraqi Kurdistan and Iran in Muqdadiyah, northeast of Baquba, demanding an investigation into the February 29 SVBIED attack in Muqdadiyah and the removal of leading security and provincial government officials.

7. ISIS continues explosive attacks against Abu Ghraib area. An ISIS attacker detonated a VBIED on March 1 at a joint Iraqi Army-Popular Mobilization checkpoint in Subayhat area, west of Abu Ghraib, killing five joint forces members and injuring 10 others.

8. U.S.-expeditionary targeting force begins operations in Iraq. A U.S. Army official stated on February 29 that the U.S. Army Delta Force as part of the "expeditionary targeting force" started operations to target, capture or kill ISIS leaders in Iraq after "several weeks" of covert preparation and coordination with Iraqi and Peshmerga units. The force captured its first suspected ISIS operative on March 2 and will eventually turn the operative over to Iraqi officials.

9. ISIS SVBIED strikes entrance to provincial capital of Babil province. An ISIS attacker detonated a fuel tanker SVBIED at a checkpoint entrance to the old city of Babil, north of Hilla in Babil Province on March 6, after security forces detected the explosives by sonar. The explosion killed more than 60 people and wounded at least 70 others.

10. Protests in support of reforms proposed by Muqtada al-Sadr continue. Thousands of Sadrist supporters demonstrated on March 4 in front of local government buildings in the provinces of Babil, Baqara, Dhi Qar, Diwaniyah, Diyal, Kirkuk, Muthanna, Najaf, and Wasit while thousands of Sadrist supporters demonstrated in front of the Green Zone in central Baghdad. State of Law Alliance leader Nouri al-Maliki strongly denounced the Sadrist protests as "chaotic" and infiltrated by Baathists. Other popular demonstrations also continued separate from the Sadrist demonstrations across southern Iraq.