International Relations · GS - II

Examine the strategic significance of the Strait of Hormuz for global energy security. How can military escalation in this region affect the global economy and international relations?

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 04/11/2026	GS - II	International Relations

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

energy transit chokepoint; oil and LNG supplies; price volatility; maritime security; regional escalation; diplomatic mediation; diversification of energy sources

Model Answer

Introduction

The Strait of Hormuz is a strategic maritime chokepoint connecting the Persian Gulf with the Gulf of Oman. Its security is closely linked to global energy supplies and economic stability.

Strategic Significance

A substantial share of internationally traded petroleum passes through the strait. Major energy exporters in the Persian Gulf depend on this route to access global markets. Any disruption can increase shipping costs, insurance premiums and energy prices.

Global Implications

Military escalation involving the United States and Iran could disrupt maritime traffic, heighten regional insecurity and increase uncertainty in global energy markets. Higher oil prices may fuel inflation, widen import bills for energy-importing countries such as India and place pressure on current-account balances. Prolonged instability could also affect trade, investment and diplomatic relations.

Way Forward

Countries should support diplomatic de-escalation, protect civilian maritime navigation in accordance with international law and strengthen regional communication mechanisms. Energy-importing economies should diversify suppliers, maintain appropriate strategic reserves and improve energy efficiency.

Conclusion

The Strait of Hormuz demonstrates how a geographically narrow passage can have worldwide economic consequences. Diplomacy, maritime security and energy diversification are essential to reducing these risks.

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