International Relations · GS - II

Examine the geopolitical and economic significance of the Strait of Hormuz for global energy security and India. How can diplomatic negotiations contribute to stability in the Persian Gulf region?

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 31/10/2026	GS - II	International Relations

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Strait of Hormuz; Persian Gulf; energy security; Iran nuclear programme; IAEA safeguards; economic sanctions; maritime security; diplomatic engagement

Model Answer

Introduction

The Strait of Hormuz is a strategic maritime chokepoint connecting the Persian Gulf with the Gulf of Oman. Its stability is essential for global energy supplies and international trade.

Geopolitical and Economic Significance

1. **Global energy flows:** A substantial proportion of internationally traded petroleum passes through this narrow waterway.
2. **India's energy security:** Disruptions can increase crude oil prices, import expenditure and inflationary pressures in India.
3. **Trade and connectivity:** Instability affects shipping costs, insurance premiums and supply chains.
4. **Nuclear diplomacy:** Negotiations concerning Iran's enriched uranium stockpiles, sanctions and international safeguards have implications for regional stability.

Role of Diplomacy

Dialogue, confidence-building measures and IAEA verification can help address nuclear concerns. Respect for freedom of navigation and international maritime law is essential to prevent escalation.

Way Forward

India should diversify energy sources, strengthen strategic petroleum reserves and support peaceful diplomatic engagement among regional and global powers.

Conclusion

Stability in the Persian Gulf requires sustained diplomacy, verifiable commitments and secure maritime routes. Any reported US–Iran proposal should be treated as unconfirmed until officially verified.

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