International Relations · GS - II

Examine the strategic importance of the Strait of Hormuz in global energy security. Discuss the possible economic and geopolitical consequences of disruptions to maritime traffic in the region.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 08/11/2026	GS - II	International Relations

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~ 150 words

Answer Hint

Chokepoint geography, global oil trade, energy security, supply-chain disruptions, crude oil prices, maritime security, regional tensions, diplomatic cooperation.

Model Answer

Introduction

The Strait of Hormuz is a narrow maritime chokepoint connecting the Persian Gulf with the Gulf of Oman. It is vital for international energy transportation.

Strategic Importance

- It facilitates the movement of substantial volumes of crude oil and liquefied natural gas from Gulf producers to global markets.
- Its location makes it strategically important for energy-importing economies, including India.
- It influences the security of international shipping routes and regional trade.

Consequences of Disruption

- **Economic:** Reduced oil supplies can increase crude prices, inflation and import bills.
- **Supply chains:** Shipping delays and higher insurance costs can disrupt international trade.

- **Geopolitical:** Maritime incidents may intensify regional tensions and increase the risk of military confrontation.
- **Energy security:** Import-dependent countries may face supply uncertainty.

Way Forward

Countries should diversify energy sources and routes, strengthen maritime surveillance, maintain strategic reserves and pursue diplomatic dialogue.

Conclusion

Ensuring freedom of navigation through the Strait of Hormuz is essential for stable energy markets and global economic security.

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