

20 JUNE 2025

Context: A collision near the Strait of Hormuz resulted in two oil tankers, Adalynn and Front Eagle, catching fire, raising alarms regarding energy security and trade stability.



About the Strait of Hormuz:

Location: The Strait of Hormuz serves as a crucial maritime chokepoint that connects the Persian Gulf with the Gulf of Oman and the Arabian Sea. Although it measures only 33 km at its narrowest point, it is recognized as the busiest energy transit route globally.

- Bordering Nations: Iran, UAE, and Musandam (Oman)
- Connected water bodies: Persian Gulf (to the west) and Gulf of Oman (to the east)

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Geographical Features

- **Geographical Width:** Ranges from 33 km to 95 km, featuring 3 km-wide shipping lanes in both directions along with buffer zones.
- **Length:** Roughly 167 kilometers in total.
- **Islands Present:** Comprises Qishm, Hormuz, and Hengam islands, which hold military and navigational importance.

Importance of the Strait of Hormuz:

Global Energy Lifeline:

- Accounts for approximately 20% of the global oil trade, equating to 20 million barrels per day.
- Facilitates around 30% of the global LNG trade, predominantly from Qatar.
- **Strategic Chokepoint:** Prone to military blockades, cyber threats, and navigational mishaps.

Relevance to India

- 85% of India's crude oil and about 50% of its LNG are imported through this route.
- Qatar alone meets 80% of India's LNG requirements.

Naval Security Efforts: India undertakes Operation Sankalp to escort Indian vessels through the Strait of Hormuz, ensuring maritime safety in the face of geopolitical challenges.