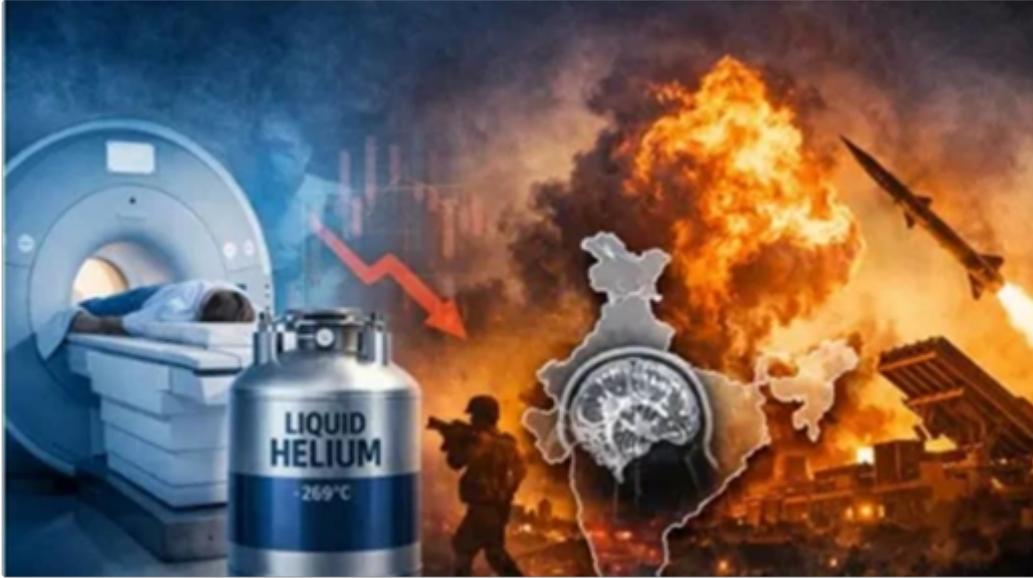




KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY
Only IAS Academy by Grandson of "Per. unthalaivar Kamarajar"

Helium Crisis: Why Iran War May Delay MRI Scans

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War disrupting helium supply

The US–Israel conflict with Iran has disrupted global helium supply.

Around one-third of the world’s helium comes from the Gulf region, especially Qatar.

Strait of Hormuz disruption

The conflict has affected shipping through the Strait of Hormuz, a key global trade route.

Many ships are delayed or restricted, reducing helium exports.

Why helium is important

Helium is used to cool MRI machines so they can function properly.

Without helium, MRI scanners cannot operate efficiently.

Impact on healthcare (main concern)

Shortage of helium can lead to:

Delays in MRI scans

Reduced availability of diagnostic services

Kamaraj IAS Academy

Plot A P.127, AF block, 6 th street, 11th Main Rd, Shanthi Colony, Anna Nagar, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600040

Phone: **044 4353 9988 / 98403 94477 / Whatsapp : 09710729833**

Healthcare is highly dependent on helium and has fewer alternatives.

Wider impact

Helium is also used in:

Semiconductor (chip) manufacturing

Technology industries

So the shortage can affect multiple sectors, not just healthcare.

Final Understanding:

The Iran war is not just a military issue—it is disrupting global supply chains, especially helium. Since helium is critical for MRI machines, this can directly lead to delays in medical diagnosis worldwide.