



KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY
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US Launches “Operation Economic Outcast” Against Iran

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targeted Iran's oil trade, financial institutions, shipping networks and entities accused of supporting its military and regional activities.

The development comes amid the ongoing US–Iran conflict and tensions in the Persian Gulf, including concerns surrounding the Strait of Hormuz, one of the world's most important oil-transit routes.

Global Economic Impact:

Iran is a major oil producer, while the Strait of Hormuz is a crucial route for global energy supplies. Any disruption could affect crude oil prices, inflation, shipping costs and global supply chains.

For India, prolonged disruption in the region could have implications for crude oil imports, energy security, inflation and the current account.

Significance:

Economic warfare: Demonstrates the use of financial sanctions as a geopolitical tool.

Energy security: Iran's oil exports and the Strait of Hormuz have global significance.

Financial system: Highlights the influence of the US dollar-based international financial system.

Geopolitical tensions: Could further intensify US–Iran and wider West Asian tensions.

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Exam Focus Points:

Operation: Economic Outcast

Country Targeted: Iran

Initiated By: United States

US President: Donald Trump

US Treasury Secretary: Scott Bessent

Date: 24 August 2026

Key Targets: Oil, shipping, aviation, technology, gold and digital assets

Major Strategic Route: Strait of Hormuz

Policy: Maximum Pressure

Key Tool: Economic sanctions and secondary sanctions