

 [Global]

 [Economy]

 [Polity]

 [Security]

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# The Hindu SimplEfiled

Daily Current Affairs Highlights & Key Notes

*Separating the 'Signal' from the  
'Noise' for your exams and daily prep.*

# The Big Picture: How Global Tensions Connect to India

Card 1

## 1. The Trigger

### Israel-Iran Conflict Escalates

Israel attacks Iran's South Pars gas field; Iran retaliates on Gulf energy hubs.

Card 2 (Center-Left)

## 2. Global Impact

### Energy & Shipping Choked

Global Brent crude oil spikes to \$114/barrel. Strait of Hormuz bottleneck traps ships.

Card 3 (Center-Right)

## 3. Market Shock

### Indian Markets Crash

High oil + US Fed signalling higher inflation causes Sensex/Nifty to plunge over 3%.

Card 4 (Right)

## 4. Policy Delay

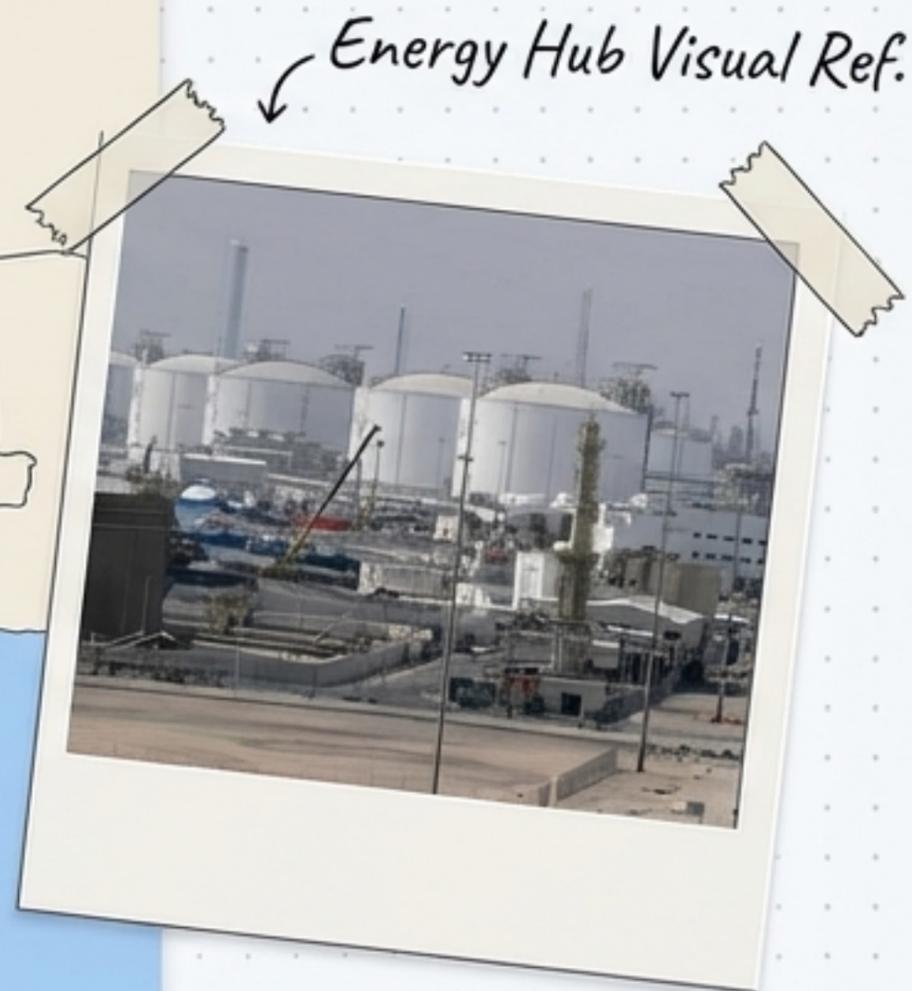
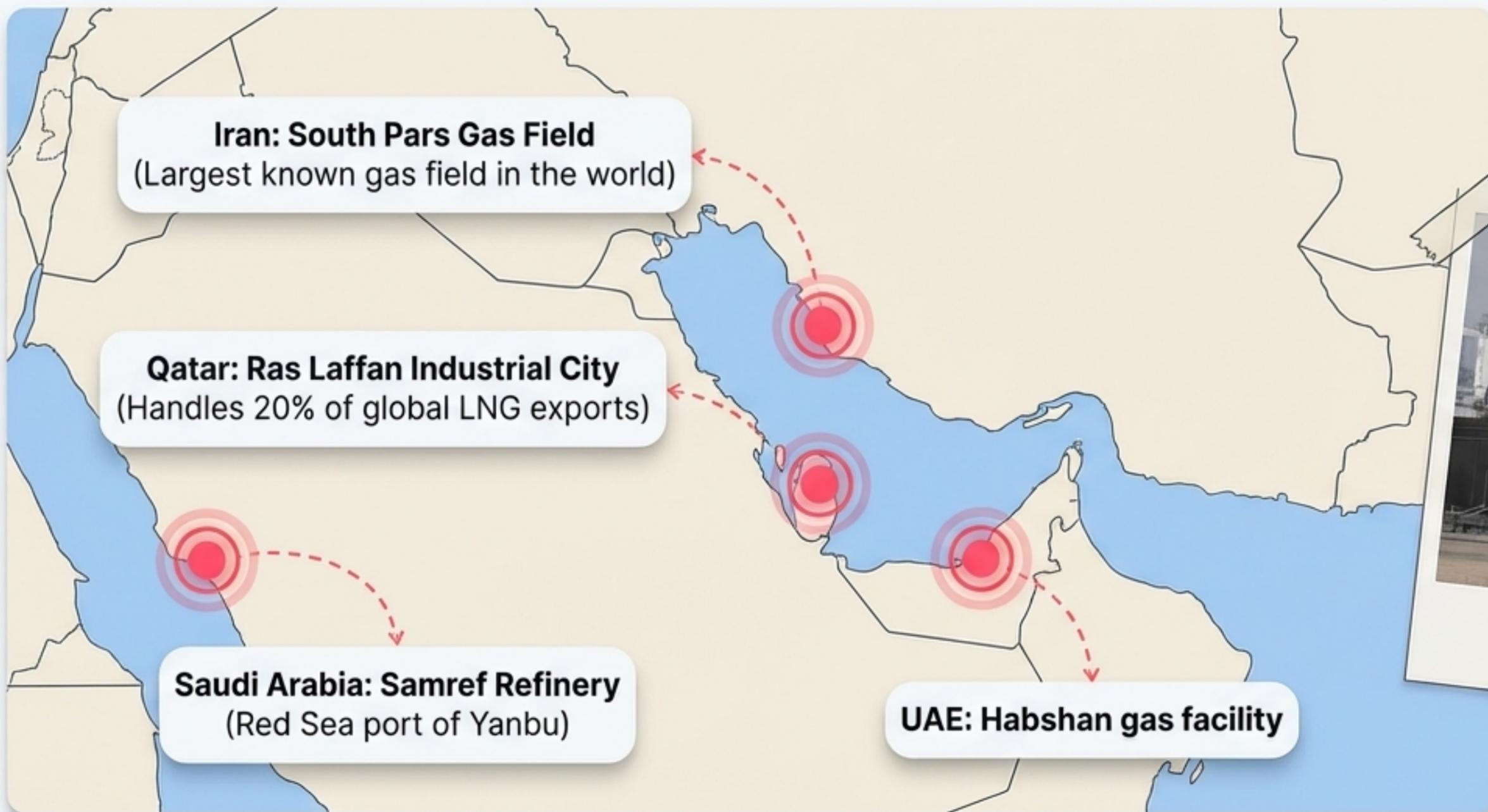
### Trade Deals Paused

India's Free Trade Agreement (FTA) talks with Middle Eastern partners (GCC & Israel) are delayed.

### Exam Tip:

Notice how a single geopolitical event directly impacts domestic inflation and stock markets!

# Global Highlights: The Energy War



**The US Stance:** US President Trump distanced America from the South Pars strike, warning Iran against further attacks on Qatari facilities.

# Global Highlights: The Strait of Hormuz Bottleneck

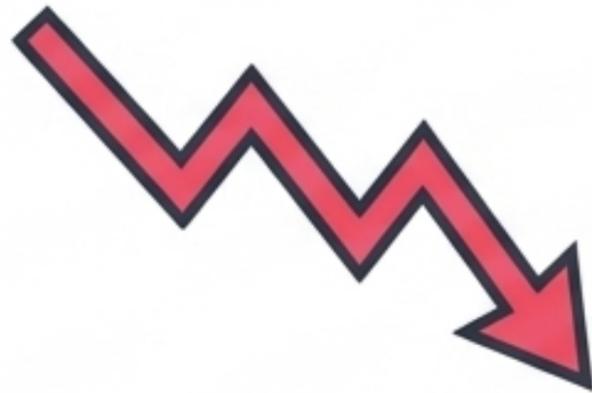


*Global Chokepoint:  
33km wide at  
narrowest point.*

- **The Situation:** Iran is setting up an “approval process” for safe passage through the Strait.
- **Indian Impact:** 22 India-bound vessels are currently stuck and asked to ‘stay put.’ 20 of these are critical to India's energy security.
- **Exception:** India's LPG carrier **Shivalik** took an unusual route through Iranian territorial waters to exit the strait.

# Economy Updates: Market Crash & Trade Deals

## The Crash



**Sensex & Nifty crash ~3%** (Worst day since June 2024).

**Brent Crude hits \$114/barrel** + US Fed holds interest rates at 3.5%-3.75% (signaling sustained inflation).

## Trade Deal Tracker



**Delayed:** GCC (Gulf Cooperation Council) & Israel FTAs (paused due to ongoing war).



**On Track:** UK FTA (Expected implementation by May 1).



**Pending:** EU Trade Agreement (Awaiting November ratification).

# National Security Notes: Drone Goals vs. Border Realities

BIG PICTURE

GLOBAL  
TRIGGERGLOBAL  
IMPACTMARKET  
SHOCKPOLICY  
DELAY

EXAM TIPS

## The Vision (2030)



**Goal:** Defence Minister Rajnath Singh pushes to make India a global hub for indigenous drone manufacturing by 2030.

**Focus:** Self-reliance and domestic component manufacturing.

**VS**

## The Reality Check



**Incident:** 7 foreigners (6 Ukrainians, 1 US citizen) arrested crossing via Mizoram.

**The Threat:** Accused of smuggling European drones to train ethnic armed groups in Myanmar.

**Vulnerability:** Only 43 km of the 1,643 km Indo-Myanmar border is currently fenced.

# Polity & Law Highlights: Bills, Courts & Protests



## New Bill

Viksit Bharat Shiksha Adhishthan Bill, 2025.

- **Issue:** Aims to restructure higher education regulation.
- **Controversy:** Opposition calls it "constitutional overreach," claiming it bureaucratizes education without consulting State governments.



## Supreme Court

Redefining 'Industry'.

- **Issue:** A 9-judge Constitution Bench has reserved judgment on the Industrial Disputes Act.
- **The Question:** Do educational institutions, hospitals, and sovereign government functions count as an 'industry'?



## Protests

Ladakh Statehood.

- **Update:** Climate activist Sonam Wangchuk released after 170 days in detention.
- **The Demand:** Statehood for Ladakh and inclusion in the Constitution's Sixth Schedule (tribal status & autonomy over land).

# Tech & Rights Updates: Regulation & Censorship

BIG  
PICTURE

GLOBAL  
TRIGGER

GLOBAL  
IMPACT

MARKET  
SHOCK

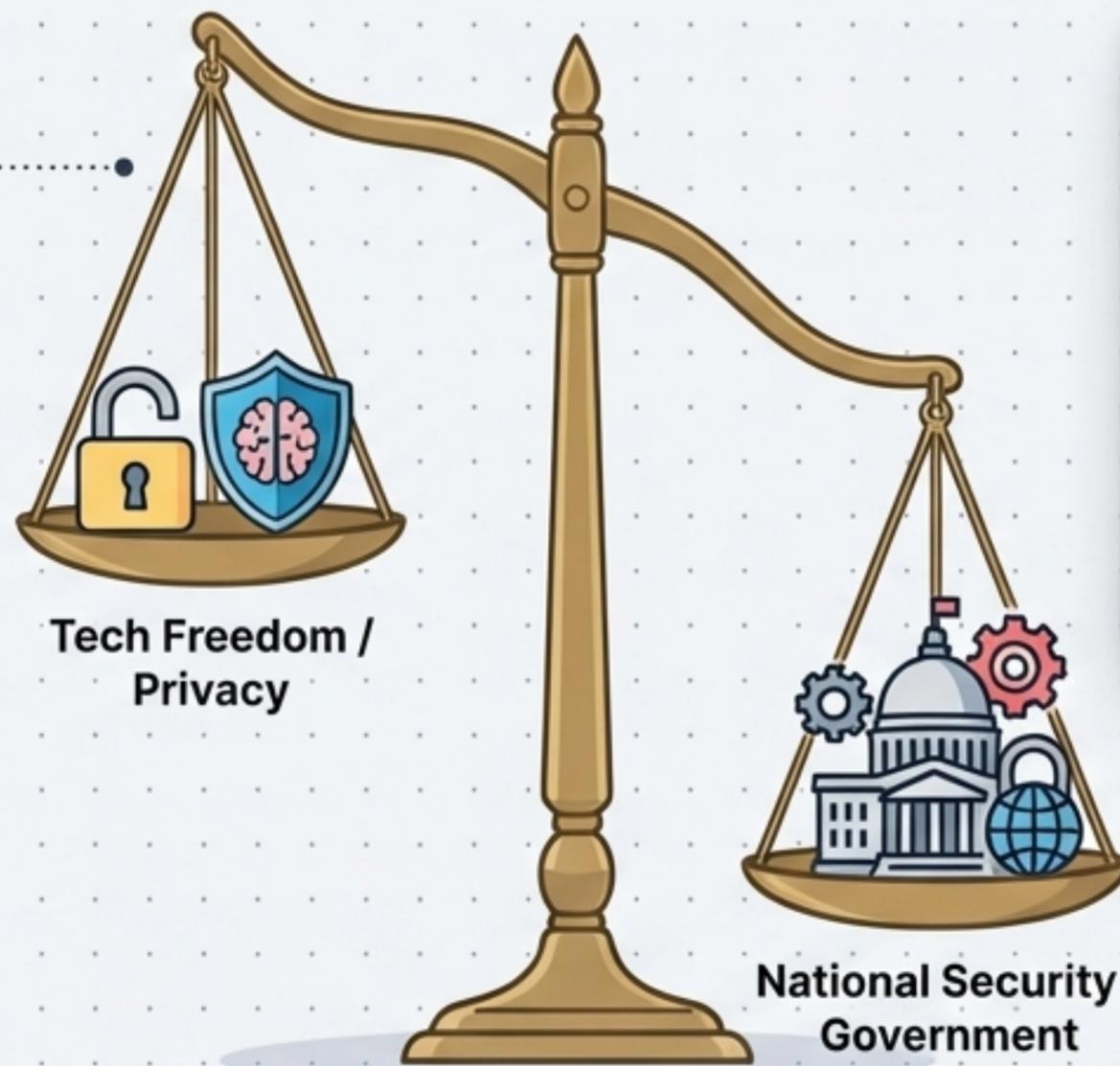
POLICY  
DELAY

EXAM TIPS

## India - X/Twitter Censorship

Multiple X accounts critical of the government were "withheld" in India.

Executed under **Section 69A** of the Information Technology Act (allows government to take down online content).



## Global - AI & The Military



**The Dispute:** The Pentagon vs. AI company Anthropic.

Anthropic refused to remove AI safeguards preventing mass surveillance and autonomous weapon usage.

# Quick Bites: Short Notes to Remember



BIG  
PICTURE



GLOBAL  
TRIGGER



GLOBAL  
IMPACT



MARKET  
SHOCK



POLICY  
DELAY



EXAM  
TIPS

## Resources/Agri

Fertilizer Push: India is in talks to boost fertilizer imports (urea, DAP) from Russia, Belarus, and Morocco ahead of summer planting, aiming to bypass Middle East shipping risks.

## Diplomacy

New Ambassador: Vikram K. Doraiswami (current UK High Commissioner) has been appointed as India's next Ambassador to China.

## Govt Schemes

Rural Jobs: 24 States and UTs have earmarked funds for the new VB-GRAM (Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission) rural employment scheme.

## Sports

Champions League: Barcelona stormed into the quarter-finals with a massive 7-0 victory over Newcastle United.

# The Revision Matrix: Today's Master Notes

Category	Topic	Key Exam Keyword	Why it Matters
<b>Geopolitics</b>	Middle East Conflict	South Pars & Ras Laffan	Energy hubs attacked; spiked oil to \$114 causing market crashes.
<b>Geography</b>	Global Shipping	Strait of Hormuz	33km-wide chokepoint currently trapping 22 Indian energy vessels.
<b>Economy</b>	Trade Pacts	GCC FTA	Free Trade Agreement talks with Gulf nations delayed by war.
<b>Polity</b>	Ladakh Protests	Sixth Schedule	Demand for tribal status and land autonomy in Ladakh.
<b>Tech/Law</b>	Social Media	Section 69A (IT Act)	Legal mechanism used by Govt to withhold X accounts.
<b>Security</b>	Myanmar Border	Mizoram Fencing	Only 43km of 1643km fenced; used for illegal drone smuggling.



**Screenshot** this page for your daily revision!

BIG PICTURE

GLOBAL TRIGGER

GLOBAL IMPACT

MARKET SHOCK

POLICY DELAY

EXAM TIPS