

Strait of Hormuz

Syllabus

Prelims - Current event of International importance

Mains - GS I - Geography

Why in News?

Iran has showcased new missile systems on 3 strategic islands (Greater Tunb, Lesser Tunb, and Abu Musa) near the Gulf's Strait of Hormuz, claiming the ability to strike enemy bases, vessels, and assets.

- It is a tiny strip of water located between the **United Arab Emirates, Oman and Iran.**
- It is in the territorial waters of **Iran and Oman.**
- It is 33 km wide at its **narrowest point**, with the shipping lane just 3 km wide in either direction.
- It flows into the **Gulf of Oman**, where ships can then travel to the rest of the world.
- It connects Gulf countries like Iraq, Qatar, Bahrain, UAE, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia to the Arabian sea beyond.



- **Strategic Importance** - The Strait of Hormuz transmits about 30% of global liquefied gas and 25% of oil.
- OPEC members Saudi Arabia, Iran, the UAE, Kuwait and Iraq export most of their crude via the Strait.
- Qatar, the world's biggest liquefied natural gas (LNG) exporter, sends almost all of its LNG through the Strait.

Reference

[The Defense Post | Strait of Hormuz](#)