

ISRAEL-IRAN CONFLICT

Detailed Explanation



Context:



- The **Israeli Defence Forces (IDF)** on **June 13** conducted extensive **overnight strikes on numerous military targets within Iran**, including a significant attack on the **Organization of Defensive Innovation and Research (SPND)**, an institution allegedly involved in **Iran's nuclear weapons development program**.

1. What is the history of Israel- Iran relations?

IRAN AND ISRAEL: A LONG HISTORY OF SHADOW WARS

1979: Iran's pro-Israel leader Mohammed Reza Shah swept from power in Islamic Revolution, new regime considers Israel an enemy.

1982: Israel invades Lebanon, Iran's Revolutionary Guards set up Hezbollah.

1983: Hezbollah uses suicide bombings to expel Western, Israeli forces. Israel later withdraws from much of Lebanon.

2002: Israel urges tough action against Tehran after revelation that Iran has secret uranium enrichment programme.

2006: Israel fights Hezbollah in a month-long war in Lebanon, unable to crush them.

2009: Iran Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei calls Israel 'a dangerous and fatal cancer'.

2018: Benjamin Netanyahu hails US President Donald Trump's withdrawal from Iran's nuclear deal.

2020: Israel welcomes US assassination of General Qassem Soleimani.

2022: US President Joe




(Above) The Iron Dome system in action in central Israel; (and) celebrations in Tehran after Iran's airstrike. *AP, Reuters*

Biden and Israeli Prime Minister Yair Lapid sign a joint pledge to deny Iran nuclear arms.

2024: Suspected Israeli air strike on Iranian embassy in Damascus kills two IRGC commanders.

- **Iran and Israel** have had **no diplomatic relations** since **1979**, and modern relations are **hostile**.
- The relationship was **cordial** for most of the **Cold War**, but worsened following the **Iranian Revolution** and has been **openly hostile** since the end of the **Gulf War** in **1991**.

Dimension	Analysis
Friendship of Iran and Israel	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Back in 1948, most Muslim-majority countries in West Asia refused to recognise the new country of Israel.• The big exception was Shia-majority Iran and Turkey, Islamic states that recognised the sovereign state of Israel.• During the reign of the last Pahlavi, which spanned from 1941 to 1979, relations between Iran and the Zionist entity focused particularly on agriculture, oil, and military and intelligence matters.• Iran was one of the 11 members of the special United Nations committee that was formed in 1947 to devise a solution for Palestine after British control of the territory ended.• It was one of three to vote against the UN's partition plan for Palestine, centred on concerns that it would escalate violence in the region for generations to come.• Iran and Israel benefit from economic cooperation, including arms sales, and intelligence sharing, particularly between Israel's Mossad and Iran's SAVAK.• Iran also supplied Israel with crude oil after the Six Day War resulted in Arab nations boycotting the latter.• The connection was the US.

**Israel- Iran
relation became
hostile**

- The **Islamic Revolution** swept through **Iran** in **1979** and there was a **fundamental shift** in **Iran-Israel relations**, a change underpinned by the **overthrow of the Shah** and the establishment of the **Islamic Republic** under **Ayatollah Ruhollah Khamenei**.



- This led to **sharp break** in **Israel - Iran relations**.
- **Iran refused to accept Israeli passports**, for example, and **Iranian passport holders were banned from travelling to "occupied Palestine"**.
- In the **1980s and 90s Iran** emerged as a **sponsor** of armed groups such as **Hezbollah in Lebanon** in **1982 after Israel's invasion** of that country and then others, like the **Houthis in Yemen** and **Hamas in Gaza**.

2. What is the timeline of tensions and hostilities between Israel and Iran?

- **1979 – Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi flees Iran; Ayatollah Khomeini comes to power. Iran identifies Israel as a primary enemy.**

- **2002** – Iran’s secret **Natanz nuclear facility** is revealed.
- **2003** – Iran agrees to **suspend uranium enrichment** during negotiations with Europe.
- **2006** – Iran **resumes uranium enrichment**; negotiations collapse.
- **2010** – **Stuxnet virus**, reportedly by the U.S. and Israel, disrupts Iranian centrifuges.
- **2015** – Iran **signs nuclear deal** with world powers (JCPOA), limiting enrichment in exchange for sanctions relief.
- **2018** – Israel **exposes Iran’s hidden nuclear archive**; U.S. withdraws from the nuclear deal.
- **2020** – Iranian nuclear **scientist** Mohsen Fakhrizadeh is **assassinated**; Iran blames Israel.
- **2021** – **Cyberattack** hits Natanz nuclear facility; Iran begins enriching uranium to 60%.
- **Oct 7, 2023** – **Hamas attacks** Israel, triggering war; Iran supports Hamas.
- **Apr 1, 2024** – **Israeli airstrike** destroys Iranian consulate in Damascus, killing top generals.
- **Apr 14, 2024** – **Iran launches** an unprecedented **missile and drone** attack on Israel.
- **Oct 1, 2024** – Iran conducts **second direct missile** strike on Israel.
- **Oct 26, 2024** – Israel openly strikes targets inside Iran for the first time.
- **June 13–15, 2025** – Israel conducts sustained **multi-day strikes** on Iran’s nuclear and military sites, Iran retaliates with missile and drone attacks.

3. Enlist key events in ongoing Israel-Iran conflict?



Israel-Iran Conflict

Day 1

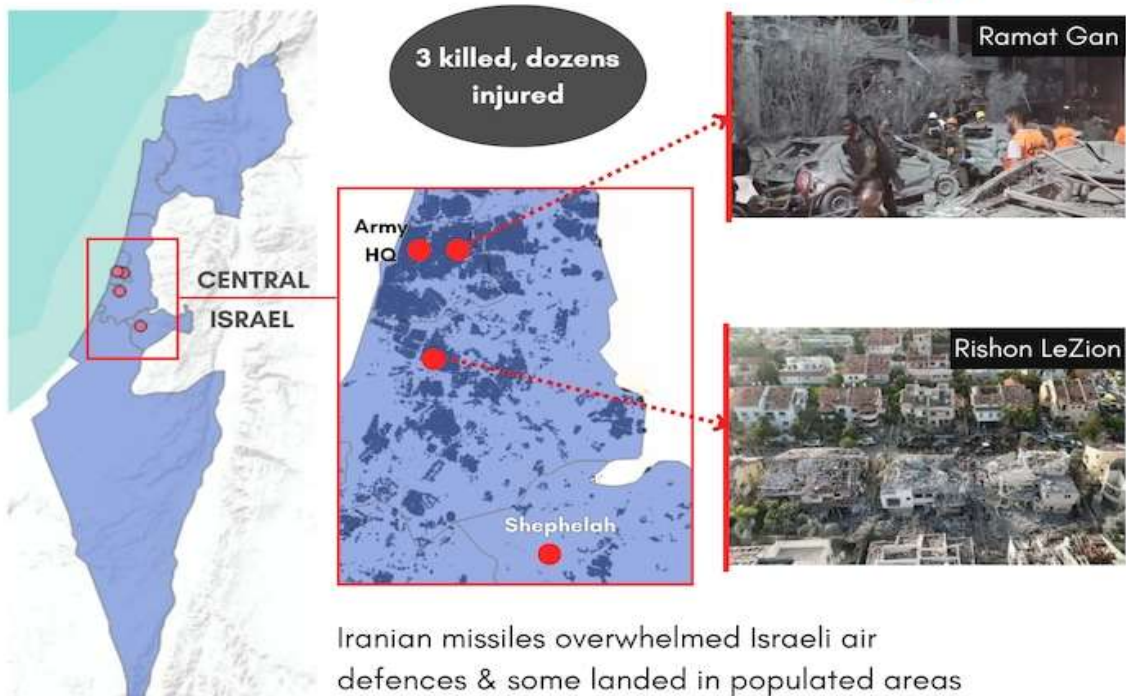
Iran Launches Drones



Israel-Iran Conflict

Day 2

Iran Fires Ballistic Missiles

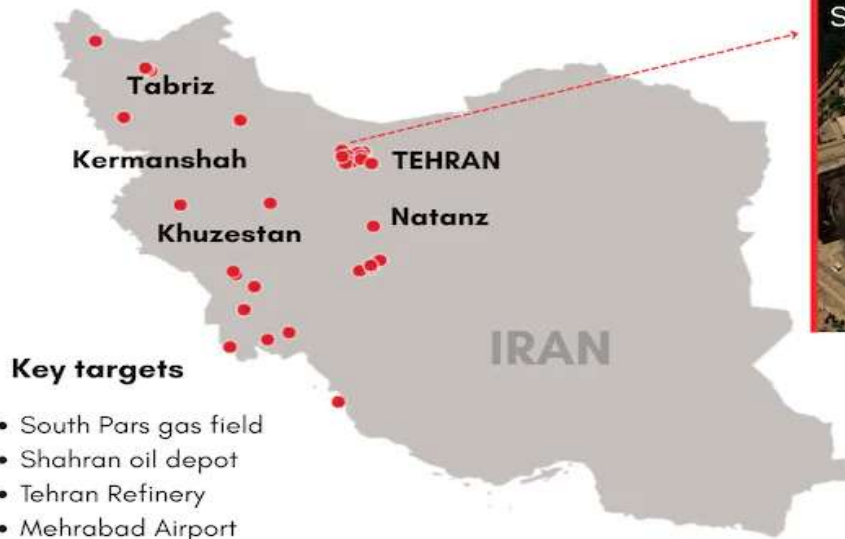


Israel-Iran Conflict

Day 2

Israel Expands Attack

Hits gas field, oil facility, airport & missile sites



Israel-Iran Conflict

Day 3

Israel Targets Govt Buildings

Gas field, oil facility, airport & missile sites targeted too



Israel-Iran Conflict

Day 3

Iran Fires More Missiles, Drones



Israel-Iran Conflict

Day 4

Iran Attacks Oil Facility in Haifa



Israel-Iran Conflict

CASUALTIES

Between June 13 & June 16



4. What is Operation Rising Lion?

- On **June 13, 2025** the **Islamic Republic of Iran** experienced a strategic collapse that **altered the balance of power in the Middle East**.
- **Israel** eliminated key **Iranian** military and scientific personnel, degraded the country's **missile infrastructure**, and **neutralized its early-warning systems**.
- **Israel's** strike named **Operation Rising Lion**—shattered the **Iranian** regime's confidence in its own security apparatus.

OPERATION RISING LION

"The people rise like a lion"

+0

H-Hour (00:03 IST, 13 June 2025)

40 "Rampage-M" loitering munitions, reportedly cached inside Iran earlier, neutralised air-defence radar bubbles near Natanz and Fordow.



**+20
mins**

Israeli F-35I Adir fighter jets launched Rampage-ALMs at nuclear enrichment facilities. Satellite image confirms roof collapses and widespread internal damage.



**+2
hours**

Mossad-supported special ops units sabotaged gas infrastructure in Sout Pars, causing cascading blackouts across southwestern Iran.



**+5
hours**

The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) dubbed the mission "Operation Rising Lion," citing the biblical reference: "The people rise like a lion" (Numbers 23:24).

5. Where does the name 'Rising Lion' come from?

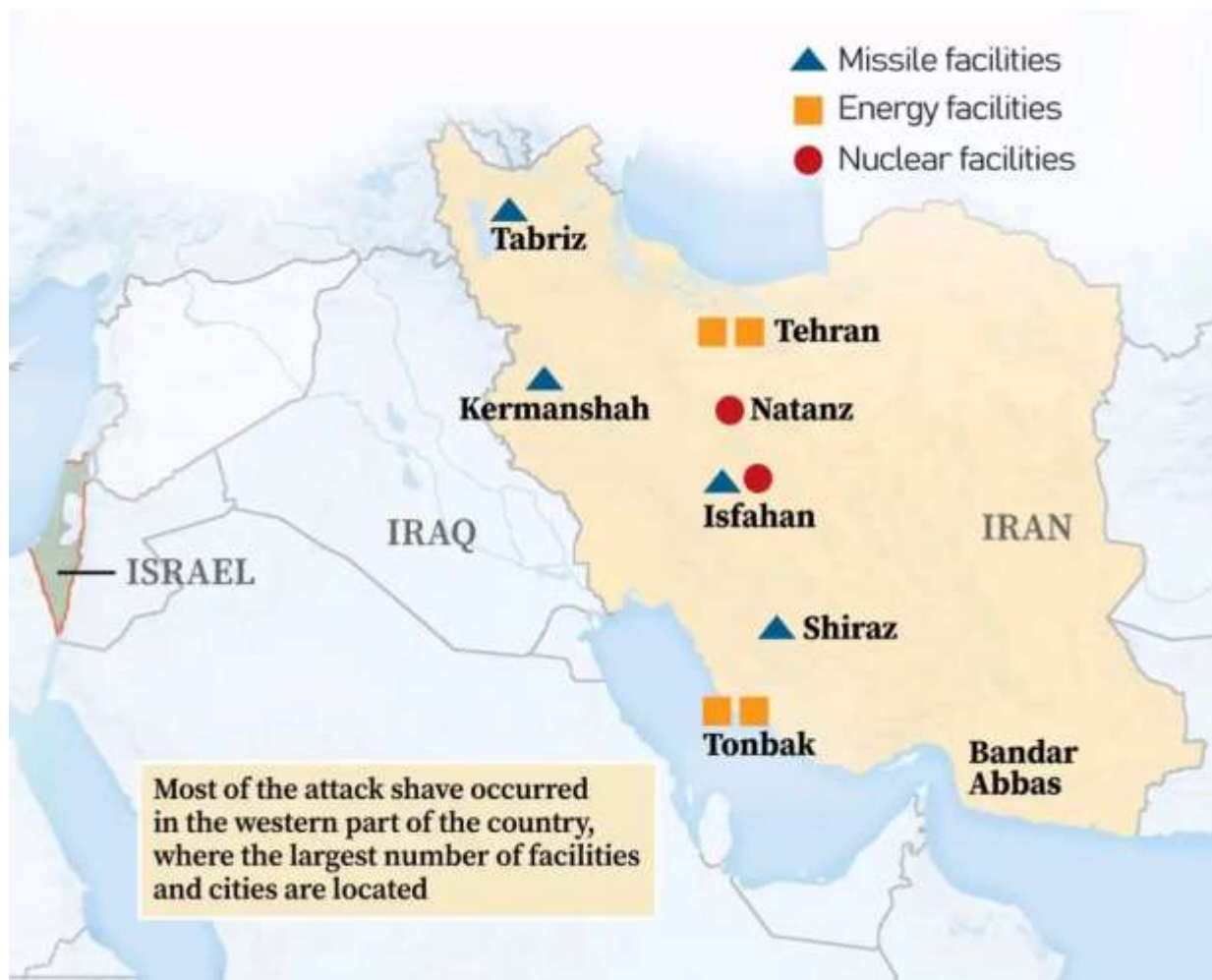
- Israel's military strikes on Iran, which were named **Operation "Rising Lion"**, were not just a **random code name** but could mean that the **country was making a statement**, as per a report.
- According to the report, **Israel has named its military operation** against Iran **"Rising Lion"** as it took the name from a **biblical verse** that vows for a **victorious future for a powerful Israel**.
- Netanyahu's photograph of him putting a **handwritten note into a crack of Jerusalem's Western Wall, Judaism's holiest prayer site**, might have been an indication to the looming **strikes on Iran**, as analysed by Reuters.
- The **"Rising Lion"** expression is taken from **verse 23:24 of the Book of Numbers in the Bible**, reported Reuters.
- The verse says, *"Behold, the people shall rise up as a great lion, and lift up himself as a young lion: he shall not lie down until he eats of the prey, and drinks the blood of the slain,"* as per the Reuters report.

6. Highlight the areas targeted by Israel under Operation Rising Lion?



Map.1: Israel's Strikes in Tehran During Operation Rising Lion

- **Strikes under the Operation Rising Lion** have been confirmed in the following locations:
 - The **capital, Tehran**, and military sites in the surrounding area.
 - The **city of Natanz**, where explosions were reported at the main uranium enrichment facility.
 - The **city of Tabriz**, where explosions have been reported near a nuclear research centre and two military bases.
 - The **city of Isfahan**, south of Tehran.
 - The **city of Arak**, southwest of Tehran.
 - The **city of Kermanshah**, west of Tehran, where an **underground facility storing ballistic missiles** was hit near the Iraqi border.



7. What key events or factors led to the current escalation in the Iran-Israel conflict?



Factors	Analysis
“Nuclear threat” to Israel.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prime Minister of Israel, Benjamin Netanyahu framed the biggest attack on Iran in decades as an attempt to remove the “nuclear threat” to Israel.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addressing the people of Iran in a video message, he said the time had come for them to stand up for their freedom from an “evil and oppressive regime”, which has “never been weaker”. • Notably, the great strategic concern in Israel is Iran possessing nuclear weapons, and to that end, it has previously launched attacks on scientists (although more targeted and tactical ones). • Iran says it is not looking to develop weapons, and has simply invested in nuclear power over the decades.
IAEA’s Board of Governors censured Iran	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friday’s attacks came one day after the International Atomic Energy Agency’s (IAEA) Board of Governors censured Iran for the first time in 20 years for not working with its inspectors. • On Thursday (June 12) IAEA passed a resolution declaring Iran as being non-compliant with its non-proliferation obligations. • The resolution came on the back of a recent IAEA investigation that found Iran was conducting “secret nuclear activities” at three locations.

8. Did Iran pose an imminent nuclear threat to Israel?

- **Israel’s military superiority in the Middle East** comes not just through its **conventional arsenal** or the **backing of the US**, but from the **advantage it has that no other country in the region does have a nuclear weapon**.

- **Israel is widely acknowledged to have nuclear weapons** although it has never publicly admitted it.
- An **Iranian nuclear weapon** would take away that **advantage and is, therefore, a red line for Israel.**
- For years, **Israel and particularly Netanyahu** has insisted that **Iran is on the verge of acquiring nuclear weapons**, even as Tehran has insisted that **its nuclear programme is for peaceful purposes.**
- Justifying the **Israeli attack**, **Netanyahu said Iran** could have produced **“a nuclear weapon in a very short time, maybe it could be a year, or it could be a few months”.**
- An unnamed Israeli military official was also quoted as saying **Iran had “enough fission material for 15 nuclear bombs within days”.**

9. Was there a domestic political component to Israel's strikes on Iran?

- Many in **Israel** accuse **Netanyahu of making military decisions** including in the **war on Gaza**, on the **basis of his own political considerations.**
- In the eyes of his critics, **Netanyahu has become dependent upon conflict, both with Iran and in Gaza, to maintain his coalition.**
- The **alternative is to risk the collapse of his government and a public reckoning with his own failings ahead of the October 7, 2023**, Hamas-led attacks on Israel, which **killed 1,139 people**, as well as a potential prison sentence as a result of the multiple corruption charges he faces.
- Most **politicians in Israel** have rallied around the military since **the strikes on Iran.**
- On Thursday June 12, **Netanyahu's coalition had only survived a vote to dissolve the parliament and trigger elections** after reaching an **11th-hour compromise over** the contentious exemption of ultra-Orthodox youth from the draft.

- But now, **Israeli opposition leader Yair Lapid** has praised the **attacks on Iran**, and left-wing politician **Yair Golan** has also backed the strikes.

10. What is the danger of hitting nuclear facilities?

MIDDLE EAST

Iran's nuclear and military facilities



- **Attacking nuclear facilities** can cause several consequences of **unpredictable scope, including radioactive leaks, explosions and long-term contamination.**
- **Rafael Grossi**, head of the **International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)**, says the **UN body** is **closely monitoring** the situation in Iran.
- He said that the **IAEA can confirm that the Natanz site** was among the targets hit by Israel.
- “**The Agency is in contact with Iranian authorities regarding radiation levels. We are also in contact with our inspectors in the country.**”

11. How dose Iran misread the coming storm from Israel?

- **Iran’s failure** to anticipate **Operation Rising Lion** demonstrates a pattern of **strategic miscalculations** rooted in flawed assumptions about **Israel, the United States, and the nature of contemporary conflict.**

Aspect	Analysis
Misreading US-Israel dynamics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Iran interpreted American criticism of Israel’s Gaza operations as a sign of strategic divergence. • Believing Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s government was isolated, Tehran likely calculated that Washington would block or dissuade a major Israeli escalation. • It misjudged both the depth of US-Israel coordination and the capability of Israel’s forces.

Underestimating Israeli reach.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the aftermath of October 7, Iran assumed that Israel's intelligence services were overstretched and more focused on domestic issues. • Tehran discounted the idea that Israel could conduct a complex, multi domain operation deep inside Iranian territory, even after the Haniyeh strike.
Ignoring strategic patterns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rather than recognizing that these assassinations were part of a broader Israeli strategy of infiltration and preemption, Iran treated them as isolated cases. It failed to see operations such as the decapitation of Hezbollah's military elite as the opening moves of an evolving campaign.
Misjudging time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tehran viewed President Donald Trump's 60-day ultimatum as a political signal, not a real deadline. • Believing it had room to maneuver, Iran continued enrichment.
Underestimating the Trump administration and the international environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When the Trump administration resumed nuclear negotiations, Iran mistook engagement for concession. • Iranian officials believed Washington's return to talks signaled weakness and assumed they could extract sanctions relief without making meaningful concessions on uranium enrichment.

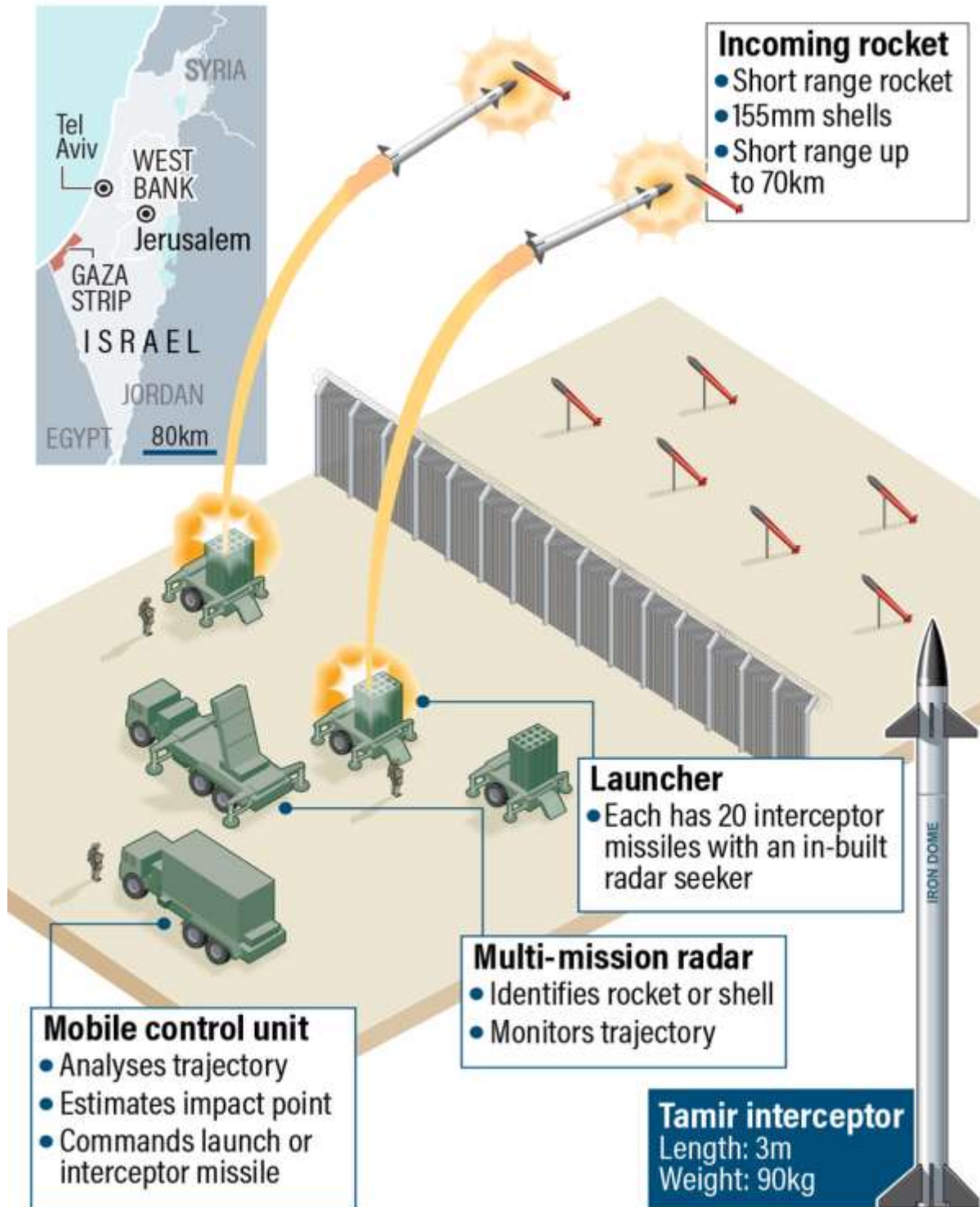
<p>Neglecting Israel's domino effect in the region</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The collapse of Bashar al-Assad's regime, triggered by Israeli strikes and internal defections shattered Iran's assumptions about stability and escalation management. • For over a decade, Tehran had relied on Assad as a linchpin of its regional strategy, projecting strength through a network of state and non-state actors anchored in Damascus. • That foundation is now gone, which has disrupted IRGC supply lines and undermined Iran's regional deterrence. Instead of adjusting its posture, Iran clung to outdated assumptions. • Israel exploited this lag in adaptation, launching a fast-moving, multi domain campaign that Tehran was neither expected nor prepared for.
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12. What is the Iron dome system?

- The **Iron Dome** is Israel's indigenous short-range air defense system.
- According to the manufacturer **Rafel**, it was first employed in **combat interception in April 2011.**
- It is the **only multi-mission system in the world that provides a combat-proven solution to defeat Very Short Range (VSHORAD)**, as well as **rocket, artillery and mortar (C-RAM) threats, aircraft, helicopters, UAVs, PGMs, and cruise missiles**, for land and naval air defense, operating 24/7, in **all weather conditions.**

ISRAEL'S IRON DOME DEFENCE SYSTEM

Mobile system to intercept rockets with range of 4-70km



13. How has Iran managed to pierce through Israel's air defence systems?



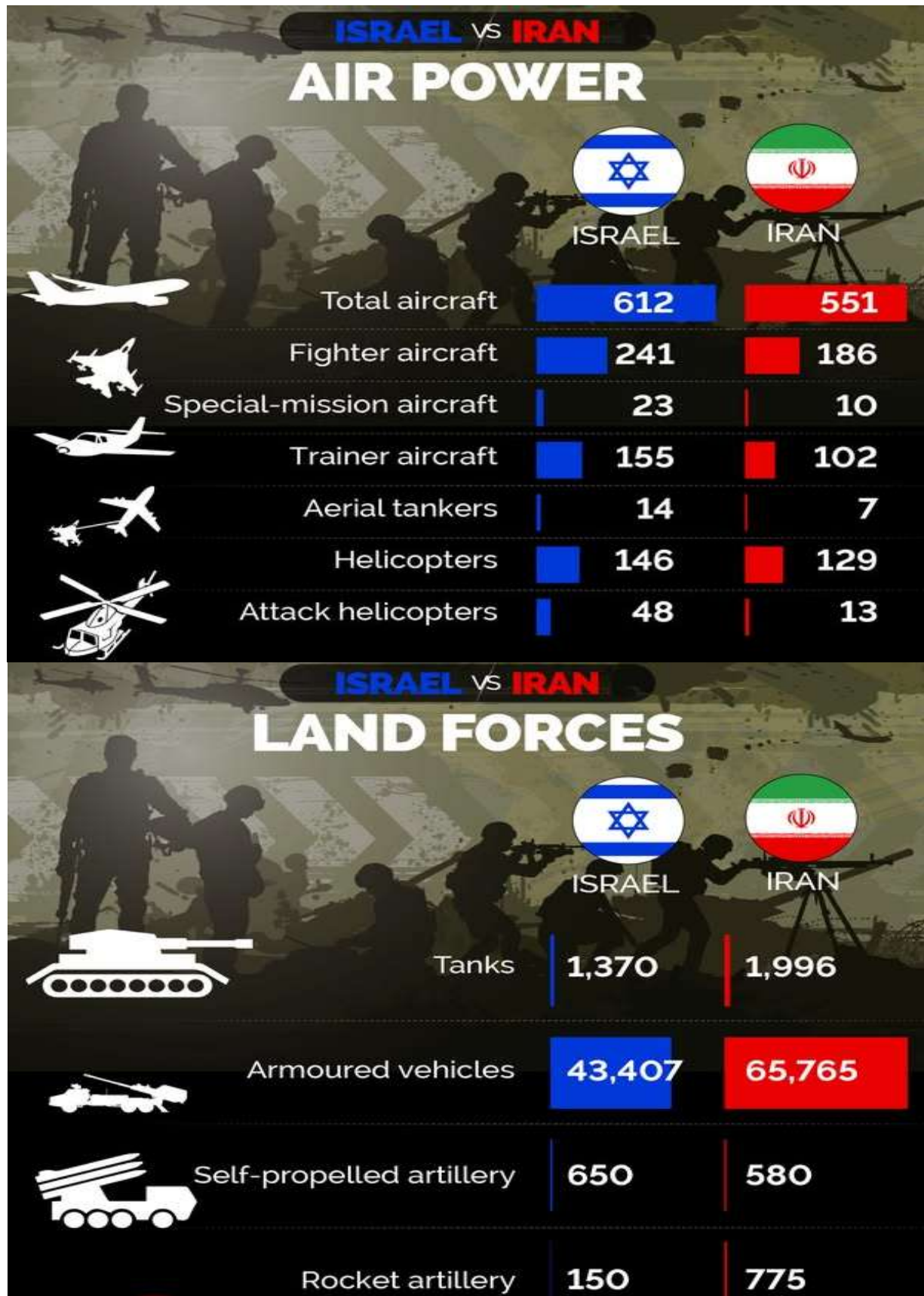
- While it is not exactly clear how **some Iranian missiles** made it past **Israeli air defence systems**, there are a **few possible ways** Iranian **drones and missiles** managed to **avoid interception**.

Possible Reasons	Analysis
Exhausting interceptor missiles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One way Iran possibly evaded Israeli air defences is by exhausting Israel's interceptor missiles. • Israel is running low on defensive "Arrow" missile interceptors, The Wall Street Journal reported, citing an unnamed US official.
Hypersonic missiles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Iran has hypersonic missiles, a direct reaction to evolving and maturing ballistic missile defences.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• One way to evade an air defence system is to use missiles that fly faster, giving the air defence system less time to react.• Some hypersonic missiles are also equipped with a hypersonic glide vehicle (HGV), a warhead attached to a missile that can manoeuvre and glide at speeds five times faster than the speed of sound.• In Iran, the Fattah-2 uses the HGV.• Besides travelling faster, HGVs also zigzag and do not move on a predictive path like regular ballistic missiles.
Cruise missiles	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cruise missiles can also change their trajectory and become difficult to intercept.• Iran has cruise missiles in its arsenal, such as the Hoveyzeh missile, and has used such missiles against Israel.• While these missiles are slower than ballistic missiles, they fly like pilotless planes, low and steady, sneaking past air defences.

14. Enlist military comparison between Iran and Israel?







15. Who are Iran's allies if war with the US and Israel breaks out?

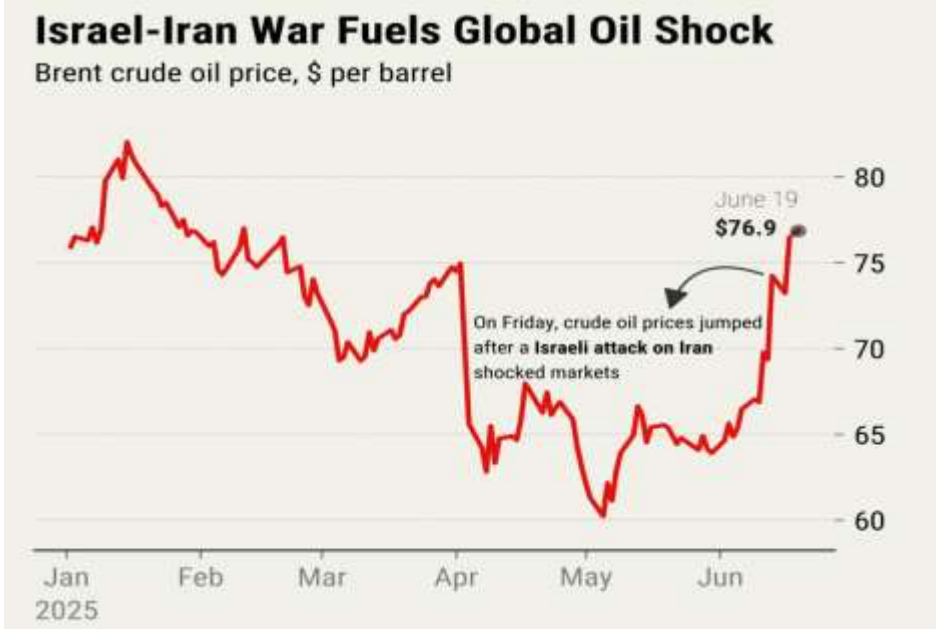


- As Israel continues its attacks on Iran, US President Donald Trump and other global leaders are hardening their stance against the Islamic Republic.
- Iran has long relied on a **network of allied paramilitary groups across the Middle East** as part of its **deterrence strategy**.
- This approach has **largely shielded it from direct military strikes by the US or Israel**, despite constant threats and pressure.
- This so-called "**axis of resistance**" includes groups such as **Hezbollah in Lebanon**, the **Popular Mobilisation Forces (PMF) in Iraq**, the **Houthi militants in Yemen**, as well as **Hamas in Gaza**, which has long been under **Iran's influence to varying degrees**.

16. What are the potential consequences of the ongoing Iran-Israel conflict?



- The **Israel-Iran conflict triggered serious concern** among major stakeholders in the **region, including India**.
- Some of the **potential implications of escalated Iran-Israel conflict** are:

Implication	Analysis
Fears of surging oil prices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Since the war began on June 13, global Brent crude prices have risen by around 11 per cent from levels of \$67.34 per barrel on June 12 to around \$74.6 per barrel on June 17. This is a significant spike and several global financial firms are projecting that oil could cross \$100 per barrel in case the crisis continues and worsens.  <p>Israel-Iran War Fuels Global Oil Shock Brent crude oil price, \$ per barrel</p> <p>On Friday, crude oil prices jumped after a Israeli attack on Iran shocked markets</p> <p>June 19 \$76.9</p> <p>Jan 2025 Feb Mar Apr May Jun</p>
Share market	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On Friday, June 13, the S&P 500 and Nasdaq Composite indices shed 1.1 and 1.3 percent, respectively. In the Middle East, Egypt's benchmark EGX 30 index fell 7.7 percent on June 15 while the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange 35 Index dropped 1.5 percent. European equities also drifted down on the news of Israel's attacks.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Germany's DAX and France's CAC 40 fell a little more than 1.1 percent at the end of last week while the UK's FTSE 100 ended 0.5 percent lower on June 13.
Risk of wider energy disruption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experts warn that Iran may respond by closing the strategic Strait of Hormuz , a key passage through which 20–25 percent of global oil supply transits, as well as a critical corridor for LNG shipments from Qatar and the UAE. • Qatar, notably, is among the top LNG suppliers to India. • Iran possesses approximately 2.2 million b/d of crude refining capacity and an additional 600,000 b/d of condensate splitter capacity. In May, it produced about 4 million b/d of crude and condensate. • According to S&P Global, Iran's crude exports could fall below 1.5 million b/d this month.
Global inflation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When oil prices rise, the cost of production also goes up. • This is eventually passed on to consumers, especially for energy-intensive goods like food, clothing and chemicals. • Oil-importing countries around the world could experience higher inflation and slower economic growth if the conflict persists.

17. What is the impact on the aviation sector with airspace closures?



- **Several airlines have suspended or cancelled flights in the Middle East, and some countries have shut their airspace.**
- **Here is a list of some suspended and rerouted flights:**
 - **Emirates, the Middle East’s largest airline, said it has suspended flights to and from Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Iran until June 30 with flights to Lebanon halted.**
 - **Etihad Airways has cancelled all flights between Abu Dhabi and Tel Aviv until Sunday.**
 - **The airline is also rerouting several other services and has advised customers to await updates regarding their flight status.**
 - **Qatar Airways has temporarily cancelled flights to Iran, Iraq and Syria due to ongoing tensions with passengers advised to check the status of their flights before travel.**
 - **Jordan’s civil aviation authority said it had “temporarily” closed Jordanian airspace “in anticipation of any dangers resulting from the escalation happening in the region”.**

- **Flight safety** becomes a paramount **concern during times of war**. **Civilian aircraft** can **inadvertently become targets** or be caught in the crossfire between warring factions.
- The **infamous downing of Malaysia Airlines Flight MH17** over eastern **Ukraine in 2014** is a stark reminder of the **vulnerabilities** that **commercial aircraft** face in **conflict zones**.

18. How has the US responded to the Israel-Iran conflict?



- **Iran and the United States** are currently **involved in talks on Iran's nuclear programme**, aiming to **reach an agreement** that would limit the **programme in return for sanctions relief for Iran**.
- In an interview with **Fox News**, **US President Donald Trump** said Washington was not involved in the **Israeli strikes**.



- While considering a **US attack on Iran's** nuclear sites, **Trump has threatened Iran's supreme leader**, claiming to know his location and **calling him "an easy target"**.
- He has demanded **"unconditional surrender" from Iran**.

Most Israelis back Operation Rising Lion

Israeli citizens responding to the question: "Do you support or oppose Israel's decision to launch an attack on Iran?" (%)



19. What can be the impact of the Iran-Israel conflict on India?

What Does India Trade with Iran?

Export		Import	
Cereals	₹5012	₹1355	Mineral fuels & oils
Waste from the food industries & animal fodder	₹1094	₹1335	Organic chemicals
Edible fruit and nuts	₹420	₹994	Edible fruit & nuts
Coffee, tea, mate, and spices	₹315	₹197	Inorganic chemicals
Organic chemicals	₹242	₹181	Salt, sulphur, earths and stone
Oil seeds & oleaginous fruits, etc*	₹217	₹42	Lac, gums, resins, & other vegetable saps
Nuclear reactors, boilers, etc*	₹194	₹26	Coffee, tea, mate, and spices
Miscellaneous edible preparations	₹111	₹20	Plastic and articles thereof*

*Read the Note
Note: Data is from Apr 2023 - Jan 2024

₹ in Crore

- The **Israel-Iran conflict** triggered serious concern among major stakeholders in the region, including India.
- **Indian Ministry of External Affairs** spokesperson **Randhir Jaiswal** on Friday urged **both Israel and Iran** “to avoid any **escalatory steps**,” saying India has “**close and friendly**” relations with the two nations.

Impact	Analysis
Energy Security Under Watch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About 40% of India’s crude oil imports and 54% of its liquefied natural gas (LNG) supplies pass through the Strait of Hormuz, making it a critical artery for India’s energy needs. • While the government currently maintains that there is no immediate negative impact on oil prices or supplies, and asserts that India’s reserves are sufficient, the situation remains fluid.
Rising Freight and Shipping Costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exporters are already feeling the strain. • Air freight rates have surged by 10-15% in recent days, driven by escalating tensions and resulting airspace closures over Pakistan, Iran, and Israel. • Shipping costs are also expected to rise, with companies anticipating war surcharges, higher insurance premiums, and increased fuel costs.
Export Demand and Trade Challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indian exporters are bracing for reduced demand from Iran, a key market for commodities like basmati rice, soybean, and tea. • Discussions between exporters and the government are underway to evaluate the situation and strategize ways to mitigate adverse effects.

<p>Setback for Strategic Chabahar Port Project</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One of the most significant repercussions may be on the development and operations of the Chabahar port in Iran, a critical hub in India's regional connectivity strategy. • The port serves as a vital link to Afghanistan, Central Asia, and the Middle East, bypassing Pakistan. • The conflict has disrupted progress on the port's expansion and the associated railway line project intended to connect India with Central Asia and beyond. • Sources indicate that these setbacks could delay India's broader ambitions of enhancing trade and influence in the region. <div data-bbox="516 976 1385 1543"> <p>The strategic and economic importance of Iran's Chabahar port will be greatly enhanced by its integration with the planned INSTC corridor (in red).</p> </div>
<p>Humanitarian Concerns</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India also maintains strong people-to-people ties with Iran, with an estimated 10,000 Indians residing there, including around 4,000 students.

- The government has **been actively evacuating its nationals to safer locations**, and many students have already been brought back home.
- **Ongoing hostilities have led to the postponement of examinations** and heightened concerns for the welfare of Indian citizens in the region.
- The **Israel-Iran conflict**, thus, is **impacting India on multiple fronts** from **energy security and trade disruptions** to **strategic infrastructure projects and humanitarian challenges**.
- While the government is **optimistic about managing short-term risks**, the evolving situation calls for **sustained vigilance and adaptive strategies** in the weeks ahead.

20. What is Operation Sindhu?



Under 'Operation Sindhu', India to Help Those It Relocated Within Iran Leave the Country

- **Operation Sindhu** is a **humanitarian evacuation mission** launched by **India's Ministry of External Affairs** on **June 18, 2025**, to rescue Indian nationals, especially students, **stranded in conflict-hit Iran** amid the **Israel–Iran War**.
- The first flight, **carrying 110 Indian students**, departed from **Yerevan, Armenia**, and arrived in **Delhi** on **June 19**.
- The mission **aims to ensure citizen safety, offer swift evacuation routes, and uphold India's commitment to diaspora protection**, reaffirming its global crisis-response capability and diplomatic strength.



- A **24×7 Control Room** has been established at the **Embassy of India in Tel Aviv**.
- Indian citizens are requested to contact the Embassy at **+972 54-7520711** and **+972 54-3278392**, or email at **cons1.telaviv@mea.gov.in**.

21. What could be the possible solutions to De-escalate the Iran - Israel Conflict?

Solutions	Analysis
Resort to Two-State Solution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The two-state solution to the Israeli–Palestinian conflict proposes to resolve the conflict by establishing two nation states in former Mandatory Palestine. • The implementation of a two-state solution would involve the establishment of an independent State of Palestine alongside the State of Israel.
Dialogue and Diplomacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct engagement between Iran and Israel, with the support of neutral international mediators like the European Union or the United Nations, could pave the way for trust-building and meaningful negotiations to identify common ground.
Role of Global super power.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global superpowers like USA, RUSSIA, CHINA, EU, rather than fueling the tensions, should play decisive roles in brokering a peace talk between the two warring factions.
United Nations Role	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The United Nations and particularly UNSC must make efforts to bring peace in the region.

22. What is the relevance of the topic for UPSC CSE?

- **For Prelims:** Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, Strait of Hormuz, India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC), Red Sea, Two-state Solution, European Union, United Nations, Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

- **For Mains:** Historical background for reasons of conflict between Iran and Israel, Impact of Iran- Israel conflict on India and suggested measures to de-escalate tensions.

Some previous years prelims questions.

Q.1 The term “two-state solution” is sometimes mentioned in the news in the context of the affairs of (2018)

- (a) China
- (b) Israel
- (c) Iraq
- (d) Yemen

Ans: (b)

Some previous years mains questions.

Q1. “India’s relations with Israel have, of late, acquired a depth and diversity, which cannot be rolled back.” Discuss. (2018)

Some questions from this year and previous years interview transcripts.

Board Sanjay Verma sir (2024):

- Give an overview of the Israel Iran conflict. Its implications?

Board Bidyut Bihari Swain sir (2024):

- After world war 2, there has been no such war but in recent times some war situations in the world. Can you list it out?
- What is the situation in the Israel-Hamas conflict and impact on India?
- What is India's stand in it?
- Which countries have suspended aid to Palestine and why
- Tell about Houthi attacks and its impact on India.

Board Suman Sharma mam (2024):

- Tell me something about Hamas?
- Why did Israel fail in the Hamas attack?

Some questions for QUIZ.

Q1. Consider the following Countries:

1. Iraq
2. Turkey
3. Armenia
4. Tajikistan
5. Pakistan

How many of the above countries share borders with Iran?

- (a) Only two
- (b) Only three
- (c) Only four
- (d) All five

Ans: (c)

Some questions for POLL.

Q1. Do you think that the USA will directly participate in the Israel-Iran conflict?

- (a) YES
- (b) NO
- (c) Can't say.

Q2. Do you agree with India's stance on the Israel-Iran conflict?

- (a) YES
- (b) NO
- (c) Can't say.

