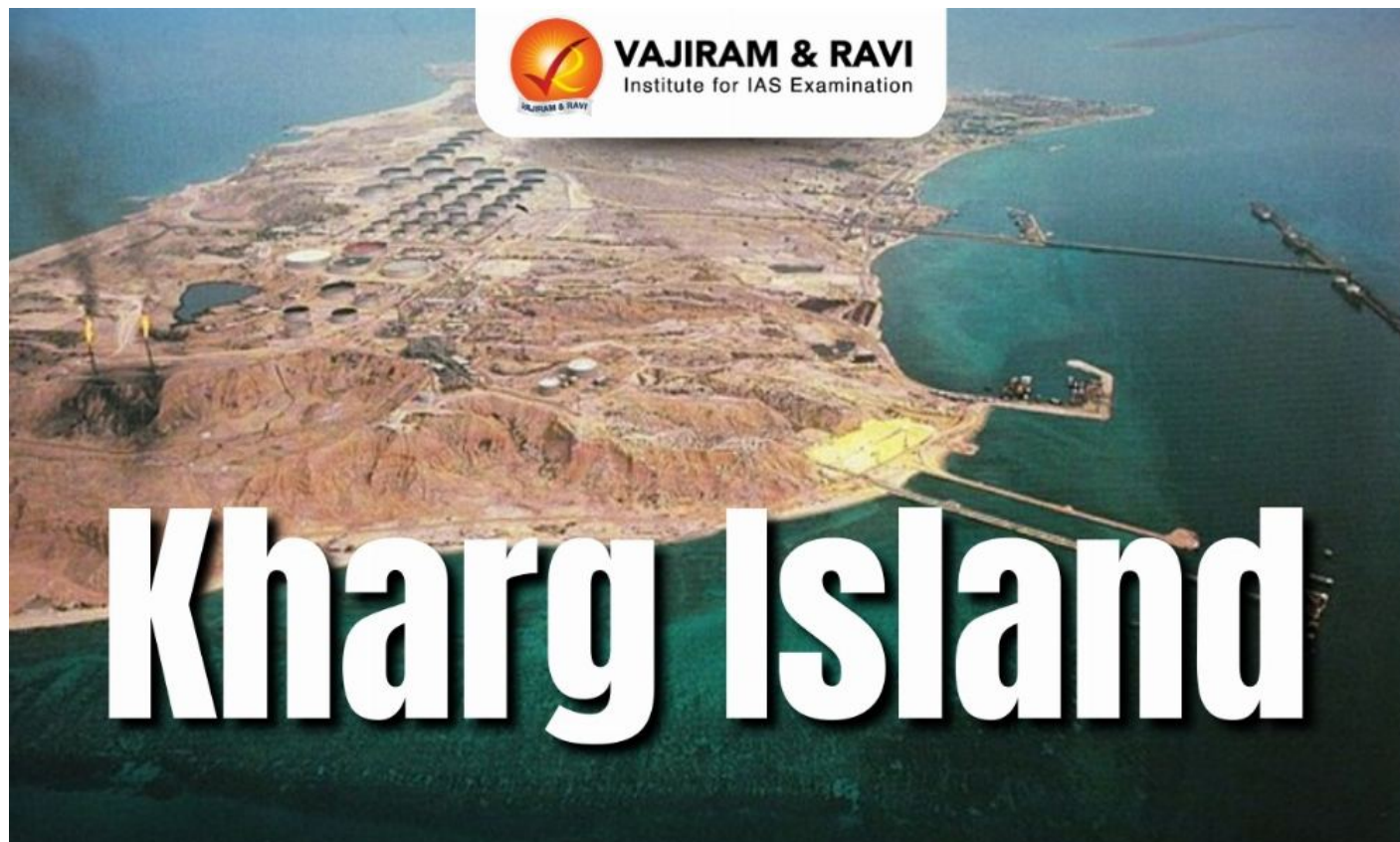


Kharg Island

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Kharg Island Latest News

Kharg Island is in the news after the United States launched airstrikes on military targets there amid escalating tensions with Iran, raising concerns about disruptions to global oil supply.

About Kharg Island

- It is a small **coral island in Iran** in the **northern Persian Gulf**.
- It lies about **30 Km from the Iranian mainland**.
- Its area is 25 sq.km., its length is 8 km, and its width is 4.5 km.
- This **rocky limestone island** is unique because it is **one of the few islands in the Persian Gulf with freshwater**, which has collected within the porous limestone.
- The island experiences hot and humid summers, and its highest point, **Mount Didehban**, stands at 87 meters above sea level.

- The **discovery of an offshore oil field** in the waters around Kharg in the early **1960s** stimulated the development of the island as a **site for major petroleum and petrochemical installations**.
- **Connection by pipelines to the underwater oil fields**, as well as **to the oil fields in Khuzistan province**, transformed Kharg into **Iran's largest oil-loading terminal** by the early 1970s.
- During the **Iran-Iraq war (1980-1988)**, Kharg repeatedly was **bombed**, and its oil facilities suffered extensive damage, but they were **reconstructed in the early 1990s**.
- It facilitates as much as **90 percent of the country's oil exports** and is vital for Iran's economy.
- It boasts a massive storage capacity of 28 million barrels and loading infrastructure capable of handling VLCCs and ULCCs.
- It has a **loading capacity** of about **7 million barrels per day**. It can load eight to nine supertankers simultaneously.
- Its strategic significance lies in its **proximity to the Strait of Hormuz**, a crucial global oil passage.

Source: TELE

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