INDIA'S ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENTAL SETBACKS AS A RESULT OF WAR BETWEEN IRAN-ISRAEL AND RUSSIA-UKRAINE: A PUBLIC PERCEPTION SURVEY

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Abstract

Russia–Ukraine and Iran–Israel conflicts have generated significant economic repercussions across the globe, influencing energy markets, trade flows, inflationary trends, and economic stability. As a major emerging economy integrated into the global market, India has experienced both direct and indirect effects of these geopolitical tensions. This study aims to know public perceptions regarding the economic and developmental setbacks faced by India as a result of these international conflicts. A structured questionnaire was administered to 350 respondents representing different demographic groups. The study employed descriptive statistics and Chi-Square analysis to evaluate respondents' perceptions of the impact of global conflicts on fuel prices, inflation, trade, stock markets, supply chains, employment opportunities, transportation, and overall economic stability. The findings reveal that a majority of respondents perceive international wars as having substantial adverse effects on India's economy. Significant agreement was observed regarding increased fuel prices, inflation, higher living costs, disruptions in trade and supply chains, and long-term economic instability. The study highlights the growing awareness among the public about the interconnected nature of global geopolitical events and domestic economic outcomes. Hence the outcome provides the crucial perspectives to policymakers to enhance the global and domestic economic resilience and to eradicate and to develop strategies to better economic resilience and mitigate the effects of future international conflicts.

IndexTerms - Russia–Ukraine War, Iran–Israel Conflict, Economic Impact, Public Perception, Trade Disruptions, India

1. Introduction

In an increasingly interconnected global economy, international conflicts have far-reaching consequences that extend beyond the borders of the nations directly involved. The Russia–Ukraine war and

Iran–Israel conflict have significantly disrupted global economic activities, affecting energy security, commodity prices, international trade, and financial markets. These conflicts have intensified uncertainty in the global economic environment, posing challenges for both developed and developing economies.

India, as one of the world's fastest-growing economies, is closely linked to international markets through trade, energy imports, and investment flows. Consequently, geopolitical tensions and armed conflicts in other regions can have considerable implications for India's economic performance and developmental prospects. The Russia–Ukraine war contributed to volatility in crude oil prices, disruptions in fertilizer supplies, and fluctuations in global commodity markets. Similarly, tensions in the Middle East have raised concerns regarding energy security, shipping routes, and global trade stability.

The economic consequences of such conflicts are often reflected in rising inflation, increased transportation costs, disruptions in supply chains, reduced trade opportunities and uncertainty in employment generation. These challenges can affect both businesses and households, leading to higher living expenses and reduced economic confidence. Moreover, media coverage of international conflicts plays a crucial role in shaping public understanding and perceptions of their economic implications.

Given the importance of public opinion in understanding societal responses to global events, this study investigates how Indian citizens perceive the economic and developmental impacts of the Russia–Ukraine and Iran–Israel wars. By examining public perceptions across various economic dimensions, the study seeks to contribute to the growing body of literature on the domestic implications of international geopolitical conflicts.

2. Review of Literature

The Russia-Ukraine crisis poses serious global and regional food security challenges (1). The war has as well some indirect and cascading consequences (2). As the war continues, the potential scope of physical and economic disruptions to food and energy systems raises (3). The US-Israel-Iran war has triggered a severe energy and economic crisis in India, exposing the nation's deep structural dependence on the Gulf region (4). Tensions between Ukraine and Russia stem from a complex interplay of historical, political, and cultural factors (5). Russia-Ukraine war significantly impacted electricity prices in the Day Ahead Market (6). First Corona and then, Russia-Ukraine conflict have accelerated an ongoing shift in rebalancing of the power (7). The Russia Ukraine war has had profound and far-reaching consequences on the global economy (8).

3. Objectives of the Study

1. To examine public awareness regarding the Russia–Ukraine and Iran–Israel wars.
2. To analyze the perceived economic impact of international wars on India.
3. To study the effect of global conflicts on fuel prices, inflation, and trade.
4. To evaluate public opinion regarding India's economic situation during global conflicts.

3. HYPOTHESIS

H01: International wars do not significantly affect India's economy.

H02: The Russia–Ukraine and Iran–Israel wars have not significantly increased fuel prices in India.

H03: International conflicts have not significantly increased inflation in India.

H04: The wars have not significantly increased the daily living expenses of Indian citizens.

H05: Global conflicts do not significantly affect India's import and export trade.

H06: International wars do not significantly influence the Indian stock market.

H07: Supply chain disruptions caused by wars do not significantly affect the availability of goods in India.

H08: Global conflicts do not significantly affect the transportation sector in India.

H09: International wars do not significantly affect agricultural activities in India.

H10: International conflicts do not create significant uncertainty in employment opportunities in India.

H11: Media coverage does not significantly influence public opinion about wars.

H12: Global conflicts do not have significant long-term effects on India's economic stability

4. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research Design

The present study adopts a descriptive research design to investigate public perceptions regarding the economic and developmental setbacks experienced by India due to the Russia–Ukraine and Iran–Israel conflicts.

Data Collection

Primary data were collected using a structured questionnaire designed to measure respondents' perceptions of the economic consequences of international wars. The questionnaire included statements related to fuel prices, inflation, trade, stock markets, supply chains, transportation, employment opportunities, and economic stability.

Sample Size

A total of 350 respondents participated in the survey. The respondents represented diverse demographic backgrounds in terms of gender, age, education, and occupation.

Sampling Technique

Convenience sampling was employed to collect data from respondents who were willing and available to participate in the survey.

5. ANALYSIS

Demographic profile of the respondents

Table:1 Demographic profile of the respondents

Demographic Factors		**Number of respondents**	**%**
Gender	Male	206	58.86
	Female	144	41.14
	Total	350	100.00
Age Group	Below 20	5	1.43
	21-35	182	52.00
	36-50	140	40.00
	Above 50	23	6.57
	Total	350	100.00
Education Level	Under graduation	36	10.29
	Graduation	242	69.14
	Post-graduation and above	72	20.57
	Total	350	100.00
Occupational Field	Student	26	7.43
	Employee	52	14.86
	Business	180	51.43
	Farmer	45	12.86
	Homemaker	35	10.00
	Other	12	3.43
	Total	350	100.00

Out of the 350 respondents surveyed, 206 (58.86%) were male and 144 (41.14%) were female. The findings indicate a higher representation of male respondents in the study. However, the participation of both genders provides a balanced perspective on public perceptions regarding the economic impacts of international conflicts.

The majority of respondents (52.00%) belonged to the 21–35 years age group, followed by 40.00% in the 36–50 years category. Respondents above 50 years accounted for 6.57%, while only 1.43% were below 20 years of age. This suggests that the study predominantly captures the views of economically active and socially aware individuals.

A significant majority of respondents (69.14%) were graduates, while 20.57% possessed postgraduate qualifications or higher. Undergraduate respondents constituted 10.29% of the sample. The educational profile indicates that most respondents possess sufficient educational background to understand and evaluate the economic consequences of global geopolitical conflicts.

More than half of the respondents (51.43%) were engaged in business activities, followed by employees (14.86%), farmers (12.86%), homemakers (10.00%), students (7.43%), and others (3.43%). The dominance of business respondents suggests that many participants may have direct exposure to market fluctuations, trade disruptions, and economic uncertainties resulting from international wars.

Table: 2 Respondents Perception

	Factors	SA	A	N	DA	SD	Total
1	International wars significantly affect India’s economy.	255	85	5	3	2	350
2	The Russia–Ukraine & Iran–Israel war has increased fuel prices in India.	245	95	5	3	2	350
3	International conflicts have increased inflation in India.	220	85	24	12	9	350
4	My daily living expenses have increased because of these wars.	226	65	31	15	13	350
5	Global conflicts negatively affect India’s import and export trade.	265	66	16	2	1	350
6	International wars influence the Indian stock market.	250	70	12	15	3	350
7	Supply chain disruptions due to wars affect availability of goods in India.	185	126	15	17	7	350
8	The transportation sector in India is affected by global conflicts.	204	94	25	14	13	350
9	Agricultural activities in India are indirectly affected by international wars.	86	104	85	41	34	350
10	International conflicts create uncertainty in employment opportunities in India.	86	104	85	40	35	350
11	Media coverage strongly influences public opinion about wars.	305	36	5	2	2	350
12	Global conflicts have long-term effects on India’s economic stability.	76	140	19	65	50	350

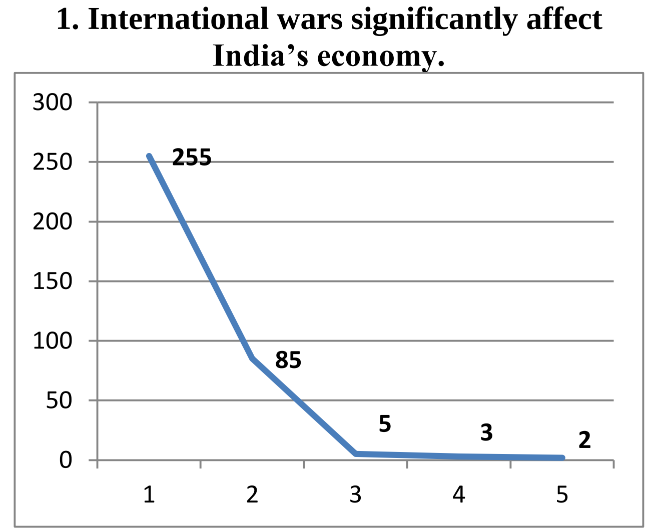

Figure: 1

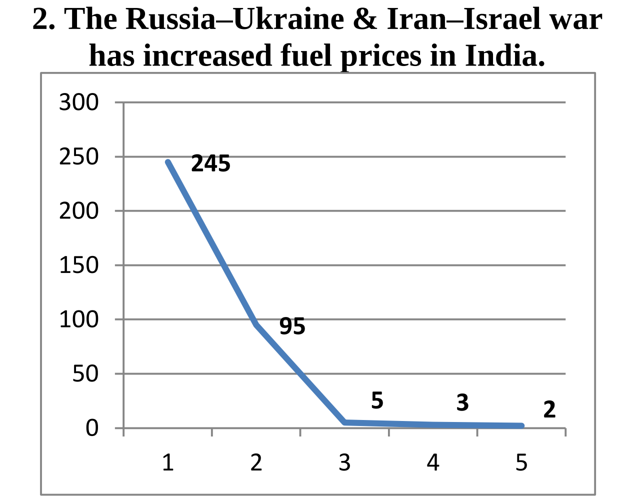

Figure: 2

3. International conflicts have increased inflation in India.

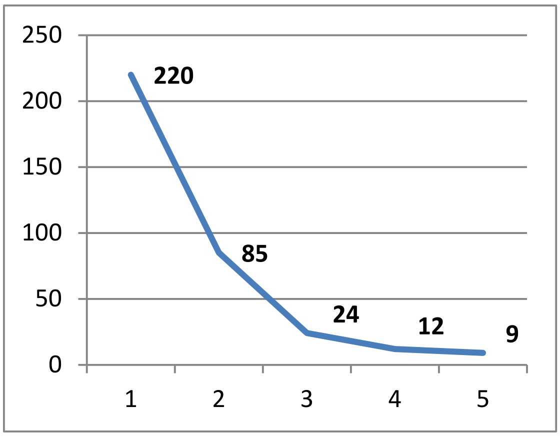

Figure: 3

4. My daily living expenses have increased because of these wars.

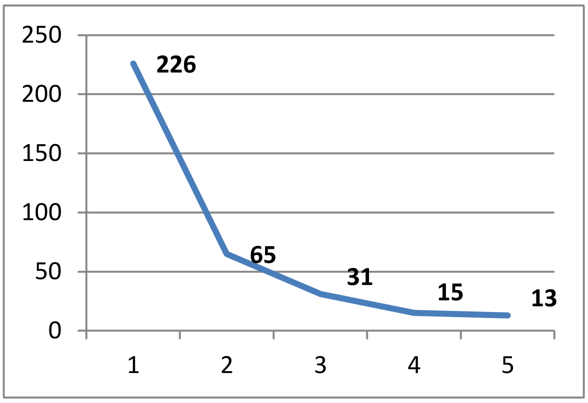

Figure: 4

5. Global conflicts negatively affect India's import and export trade.

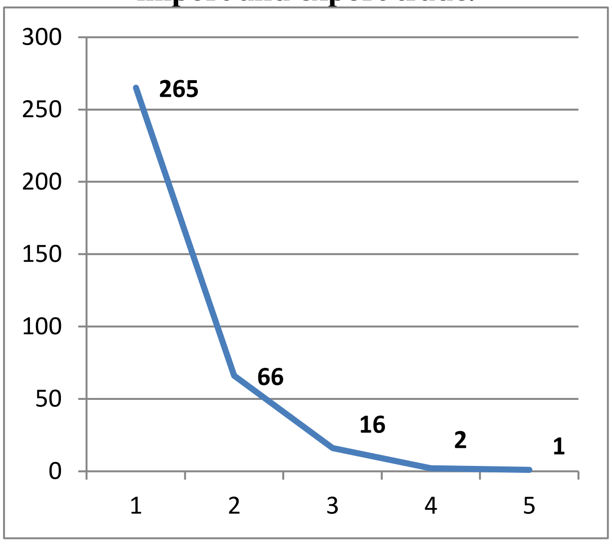

Figure: 5

6. International wars influence the Indian stock market.

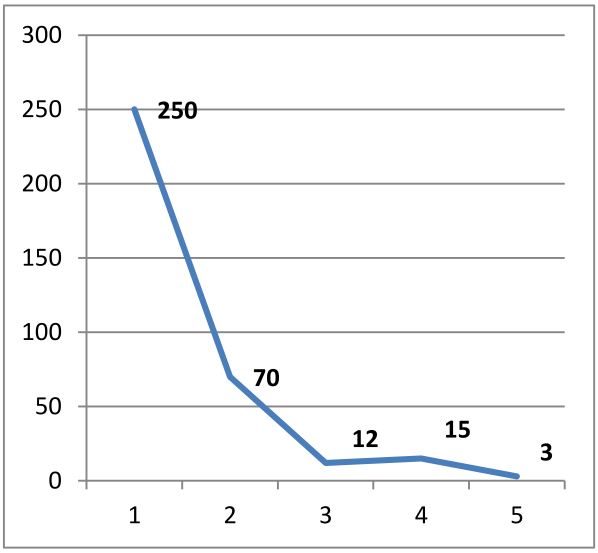

Figure: 6

7. Supply chain disruptions due to wars affect availability of goods in India.

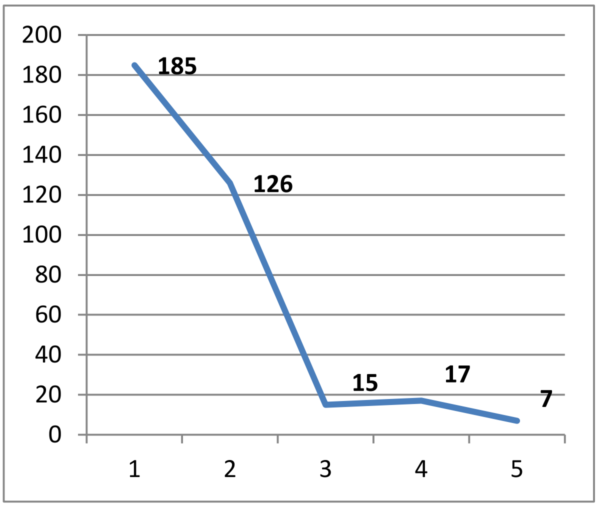

Figure: 7

8. The transportation sector in India is affected by global conflicts.

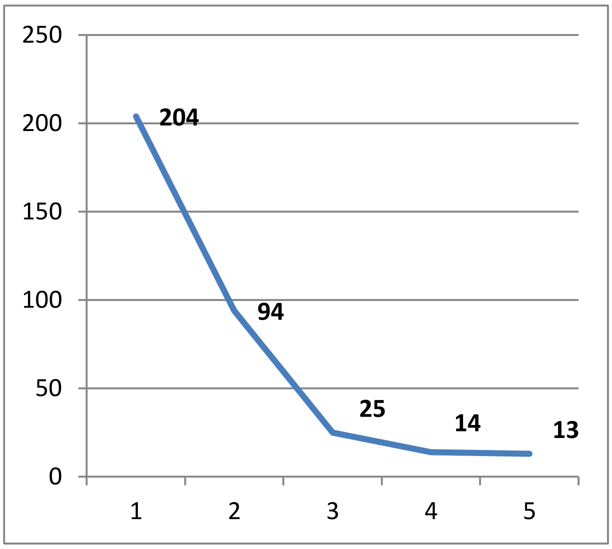

Figure: 8

9. Agricultural activities in India are indirectly affected by international wars.

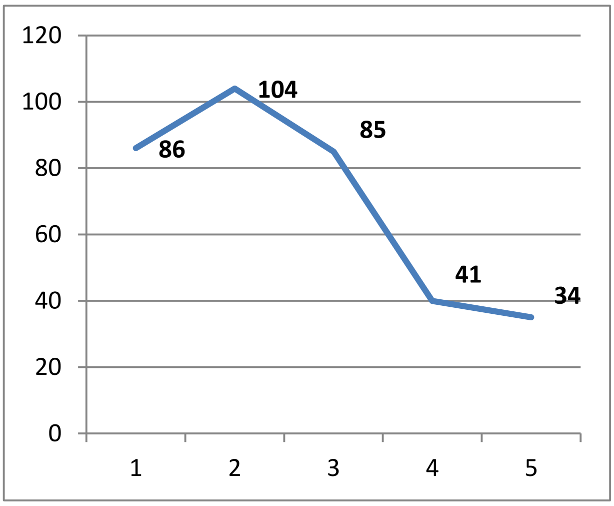

Figure: 9

10. International conflicts create uncertainty in employment opportunities in India.

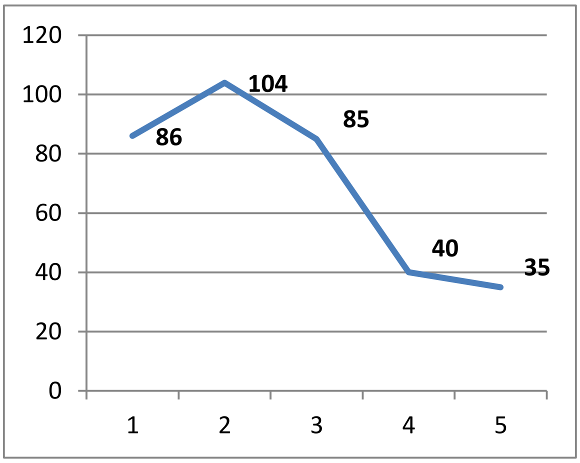

Figure: 10

11. Media coverage strongly influences public opinion about wars.

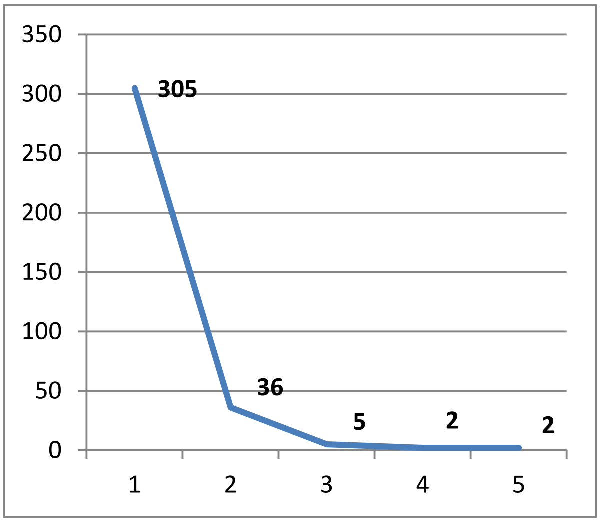

Figure: 11

12. Global conflicts have long-term effects on India's economic stability.

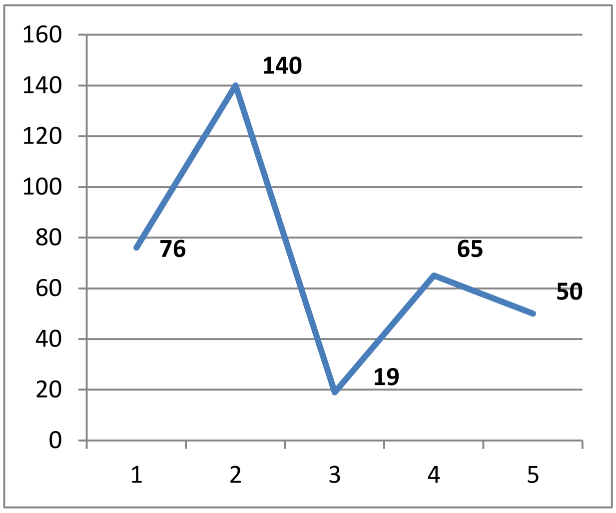

Figure: 12

Table: 3 Chi-Square Analysis Results

S.No	Statement	χ^2 Value	df	p-value	Result
1	International wars significantly affect India's economy	682.69	4	<0.001	Significant
2	Russia–Ukraine & Iran–Israel wars increased fuel prices in India	636.97	4	<0.001	Significant
3	International conflicts have increased inflation in India	456.09	4	<0.001	Significant
4	Daily living expenses increased because of these wars	459.37	4	<0.001	Significant
5	Global conflicts negatively affect India's import and export trade	719.17	4	<0.001	Significant
6	International wars influence the Indian stock market	618.26	4	<0.001	Significant
7	Supply chain disruptions due to wars affect availability of goods	373.77	4	<0.001	Significant
8	Transportation sector in India is affected by global conflicts	384.89	4	<0.001	Significant
9	Agricultural activities in India are indirectly affected by international wars	54.72	4	<0.001	Significant
10	International conflicts create uncertainty in	53.74	4	<0.001	Significant

	employment opportunities				
11	Media coverage strongly influences public opinion about wars	997.91	4	<0.001	Significant
12	Global conflicts have long-term effects on India's economic stability	113.74	4	<0.001	Significant

Interpretation

The Chi-Square Goodness-of-Fit test revealed that the distribution of responses for all twelve statements differed significantly from an equal distribution ($p < 0.001$). Therefore, the null hypothesis was rejected for all statements.

The findings indicate that respondents overwhelmingly perceive the Russia–Ukraine and Iran–Israel conflicts as having substantial economic implications for India. Strong agreement was observed regarding:

- Impact on India's economy
- Increase in fuel prices
- Rise in inflation
- Higher household expenses
- Disruptions to trade and supply chains
- Influence on stock markets
- Effects on transportation

Respondents also acknowledged indirect effects on agriculture and employment opportunities. Furthermore, a significant majority believed that media coverage shapes public opinion about international wars and that such conflicts have long-term consequences for India's economic stability.

Academic Reporting Format

A Chi-Square Goodness-of-Fit test was conducted to examine whether respondents' perceptions regarding the economic and developmental impacts of the Russia–Ukraine and Iran–Israel wars on India were uniformly distributed across response categories. The results revealed statistically significant differences for all statements (χ^2 ranging from 53.74 to 997.91, $p < 0.001$). Hence, the null hypothesis was rejected in all cases, indicating that respondents predominantly agreed that international wars adversely affect India's economy through increased fuel prices, inflation, trade disruptions, supply chain challenges, and long-term economic instability.

CONCLUSION

The findings of the study indicate that the public strongly perceives the Russia–Ukraine and Iran–Israel conflicts as having significant economic consequences for India. The majority of respondents agreed that these wars have contributed to rising fuel prices, inflation, increased living expenses, disruptions in trade and supply chains, and uncertainty in various economic sectors. The Chi-Square analysis revealed statistically significant differences in response distributions across all measured variables, confirming that respondents overwhelmingly recognize the adverse effects of international conflicts on India's economy.

The study also highlights concerns regarding the long-term impact of geopolitical tensions on economic stability and development. Furthermore, media coverage was found to play a substantial role in shaping public opinion about international conflicts and their consequences. These findings emphasize the need for policymakers to strengthen economic resilience, diversify energy sources, improve supply chain management, and formulate effective strategies to minimize the effects of global geopolitical disruptions. Overall, the study demonstrates that international conflicts are not merely foreign policy issues but also important economic challenges with direct implications for India's growth and development.

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