

A public perception on immediate and long-term corrective measures for India's economic and developmental failures due to war between Iran and Israel, Russia and Ukraine

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Abstract

International conflicts significantly influence global economic stability, particularly in developing economies that depend on international trade, energy imports, and global supply chains. The Russia–Ukraine and Iran–Israel conflicts have created economic uncertainties, resulting in rising fuel prices, inflationary pressures, supply chain disruptions, and developmental challenges. This study examines public perception regarding immediate and long-term corrective measures required to mitigate the adverse economic and developmental impacts of these conflicts on India. Primary data were collected from 350 respondents through a structured questionnaire. Descriptive statistics and Chi-Square analysis were employed to evaluate respondents' opinions on various remedial measures. The findings indicate strong public support for government economic relief, strategic petroleum reserve utilization, fuel tax reduction, subsidies for fertilizers and LPG, energy independence, defense self-reliance, and strengthening India as a global manufacturing hub. The Chi-Square results reveal statistically significant support for all proposed corrective measures. The study concludes that a combination of short-term economic interventions and long-term strategic planning is essential to strengthen India's resilience against future geopolitical disruptions.

Keywords: Public Perception; Economic Impact; International Conflict; Russia–Ukraine War; Iran–Israel Conflict; Economic Resilience, India

1. Introduction

Globalization has increased the interdependence of nations, making economies highly susceptible to international geopolitical conflicts. Wars and military confrontations often disrupt global supply chains, increase commodity prices, create energy insecurity, and negatively affect economic growth. The ongoing Russia–Ukraine war and the recent tensions between Iran and Israel have generated substantial economic uncertainty worldwide.

India, being one of the fastest-growing economies, faces indirect consequences from such conflicts through increased crude oil prices, inflationary pressures, disruptions in fertilizer supplies, and volatility in international trade. These challenges can slow developmental activities, reduce industrial productivity, and affect the overall standard of living.

To minimize these adverse effects, governments must adopt immediate remedial measures to stabilize the economy while simultaneously implementing long-term strategies to strengthen economic resilience. Understanding public opinion regarding such corrective measures is important for developing effective policy interventions. Therefore, this study examines public perceptions of both immediate and long-term actions necessary to address India's economic and developmental challenges arising from international conflicts.

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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).

Objectives of the study

- To examine public perception regarding the economic and developmental impact of international conflicts on India.
- To identify immediate remedial measures preferred by the public during war-induced economic crises.
- To evaluate public support for long-term corrective measures aimed at strengthening India's economic resilience.
- To analyze the statistical significance of public opinion regarding various policy interventions.
- To suggest strategies for minimizing the impact of future geopolitical conflicts on India's development.

Hypotheses

Short-Term Remedial Actions

- **H₀₁:** There is no significant agreement among respondents that counselling services should be available for people affected by war-related stress.
- **H₀₂:** There is no significant agreement among respondents that awareness campaigns can reduce fear and misinformation during wars.
- **H₀₃:** There is no significant agreement among respondents that the government should provide economic relief during war-related crises.
- **H₀₄:** There is no significant agreement among respondents that India should increase Russian crude imports at discounted rates.
- **H₀₅:** There is no significant agreement among respondents that India should use strategic petroleum reserves during war-related crises.
- **H₀₆:** There is no significant agreement among respondents that fuel taxes should be reduced temporarily during war-related crises.
- **H₀₇:** There is no significant agreement among respondents that public transport and electric vehicle usage should be encouraged.
- **H₀₈:** There is no significant agreement among respondents that fertilizers and LPG should be subsidized during war-related crises.
- **H₀₉:** There is no significant agreement among respondents that international cooperation is essential to minimize the impact of war on India.

Long-Term Remedial Actions

- **H₀₁₀:** There is no significant agreement among respondents that the Indian government should take stronger measures to reduce the impact of international conflicts.
- **H₀₁₁:** There is no significant agreement among respondents that India should be developed as an alternative global manufacturing hub.
- **H₀₁₂:** There is no significant agreement among respondents that achieving energy independence is necessary to reduce the impact of international conflicts.
- **H₀₁₃:** There is no significant agreement among respondents that defence self-reliance is necessary to reduce the impact of international conflicts.

3. Research methodology

3.1. Research Design

The study adopts a descriptive research design to understand public perception regarding corrective measures for mitigating the economic and developmental effects of international conflicts.

3.2. Data Collection

Primary data were collected using a structured questionnaire distributed among respondents from various demographic backgrounds.

3.3. Sample Size

- A total of 350 valid responses were collected and analyzed.
- Sampling Technique
- Convenience sampling method was employed for data collection.
- Statistical Tools Used
- Percentage Analysis
- Chi-Square Goodness-of-Fit Test
- Descriptive Analysis

4. Analysis

4.1. Section A: Demographic Profile

Table 1 Demographic profile of the respondents

Demographic Factors		Number of respondents	%
Gender	Male	226	64.57
	Female	124	35.43
	Total	350	100.00
Age Group	Below 20	7	2.00
	21-35	196	56.00
	36-50	114	32.57
	Above 50	33	9.43
	Total	350	100.00
Education Level	Under graduation	41	11.71
	Graduation	204	58.29
	Post-graduation and above	105	30.00
	Total	350	100.00
Occupational Field	Student	32	9.14
	Employee	92	26.29
	Business	165	47.14
	Farmer	31	8.86
	Homemaker	25	7.14
	Other	5	1.43
	Total	350	100.00

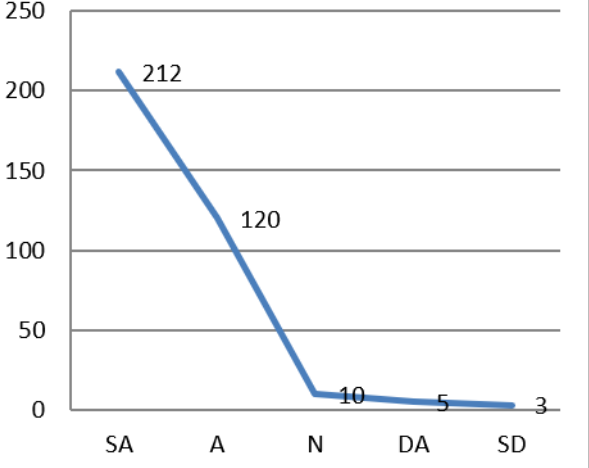
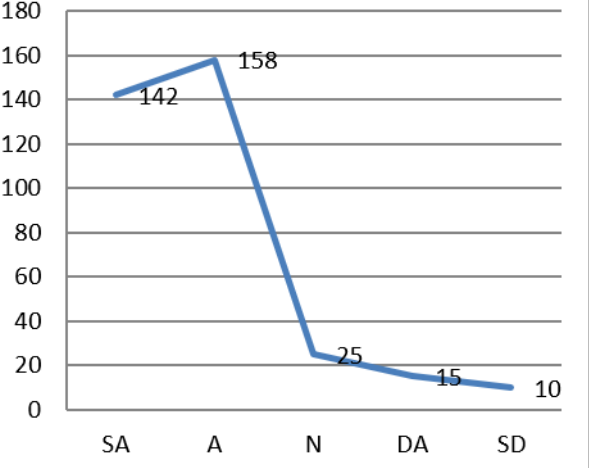
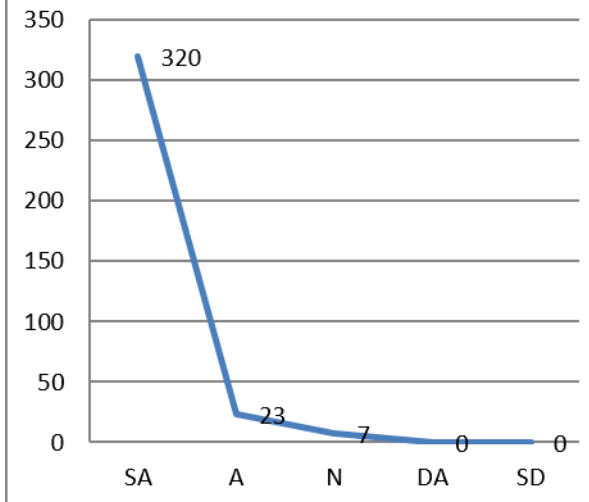
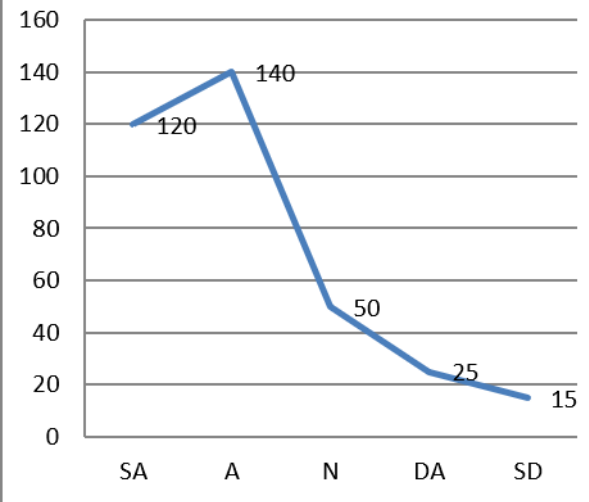
4.2. Interpretation of Demographic Profile of the Respondents

The demographic profile of the 350 respondents indicates that the majority were male (64.57%), while females constituted 35.43% of the sample. Most respondents belonged to the 21–35 years age group (56%), followed by those aged 36–50 years (32.57%), suggesting that the study primarily reflects the views of economically active and productive individuals. In terms of educational qualification, graduates formed the largest group (58.29%), followed by postgraduates and above (30%), indicating that the respondents were generally well-educated and capable of providing informed opinions on economic and developmental issues. Regarding occupation, businesspersons represented the highest proportion of respondents (47.14%), followed by employees (26.29%), students (9.14%), farmers (8.86%), homemakers (7.14%), and others (1.43%). Overall, the demographic characteristics reveal that the study sample was predominantly composed of educated, economically active individuals with substantial exposure to economic activities, making their perceptions highly relevant for understanding public opinion on immediate and long-term corrective measures to address India's economic and developmental challenges arising from the Iran–Israel and Russia–Ukraine conflicts.

Table 2 Respondents Perception

	Short term-remedial actions	SA	A	N	DA	SD	Total
1	Counselling services should be available for people affected by war-related stress.	212	120	10	5	3	350
2	Awareness campaigns can reduce fear and misinformation during wars.	142	158	25	15	10	350
3	The government should provide economic relief during war-related crises.	320	23	7	0	0	350
4	Increase Russian crude imports at discounted rates	120	140	50	25	15	350
5	Use strategic petroleum reserves	340	8	2	0	0	350
6	Reduce fuel taxes temporarily	312	20	10	4	4	350
7	Encourage public transport and EV usage	340	7	2	1	0	350
8	Subsidize fertilizers and LPG	345	5	0	0	0	350
9	International cooperation is essential to minimize the impact of war on India.	125	130	65	17	13	350
	Long term- remedial actions						
1	The Indian government should take stronger measures to reduce the impact of international conflicts.	348	2	0	0	0	350
2	Build India as alternative manufacturing hub	205	99	25	13	8	350
3	Energy independence,	336	9	5	0	0	350
4	Defence self-reliance,	328	20	2	0	0	350

4.3. Short term-remedial actions

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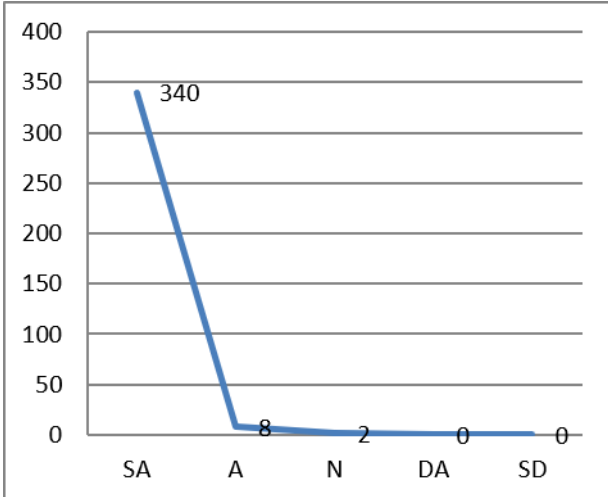


Figure 5 Use strategic petroleum reserves

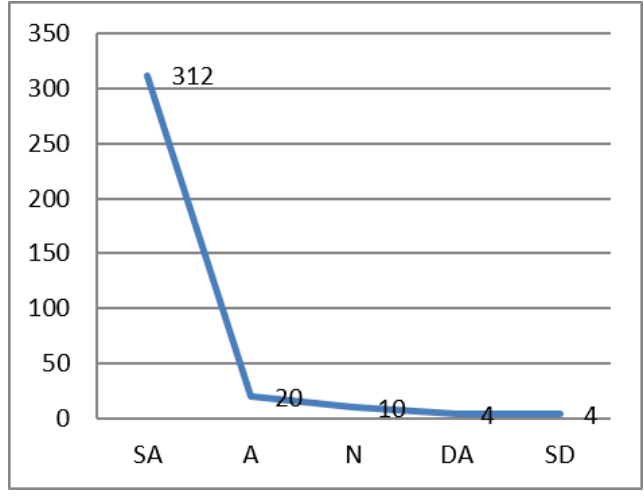


Figure 6 Reduce fuel taxes temporarily

Encourage public transport and EV usage

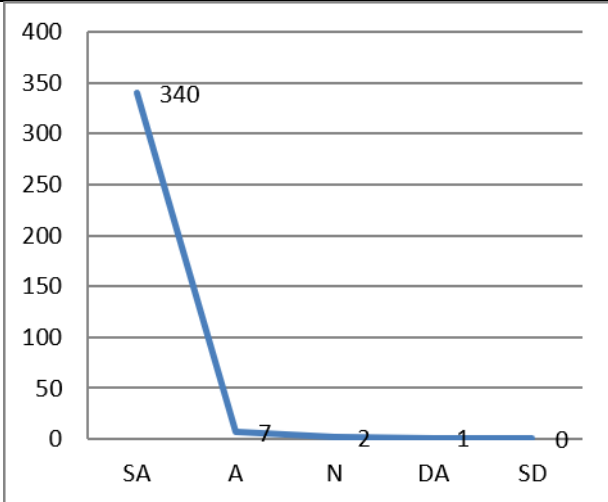


Figure 7 Encourage public transport and EV usage

Subsidize fertilizers and LPG

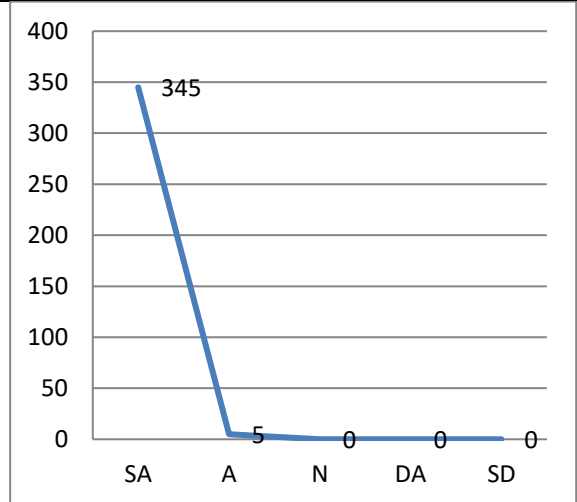


Figure 8 Subsidize fertilizers and LPG

International cooperation is essential to minimize the impact of war on India

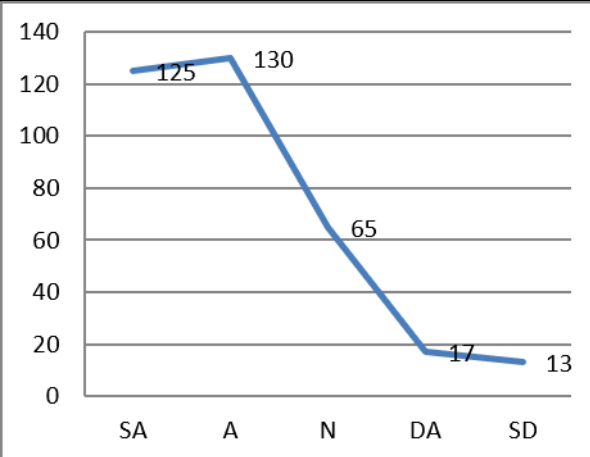


Figure 9 International cooperation is essential to minimize the impact of war on India

4.4. Long term- remedial actions

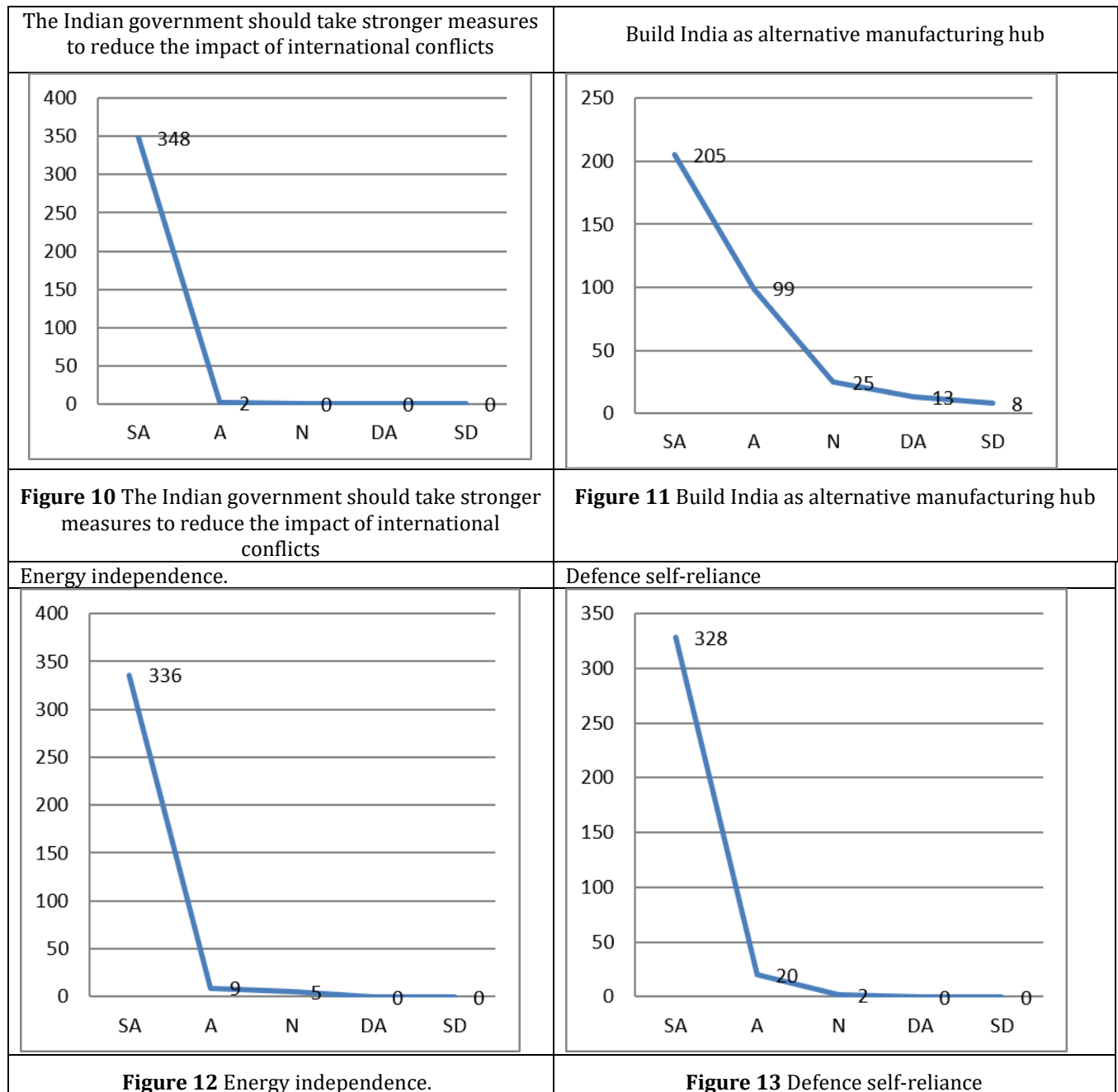


Table3 Chi-Square Analysis

S.No	Statement	χ^2 Value	df	P-value	Result
	SHORT TERM- REMEDIAL ACTIONS				
1	Counselling services should be available for people affected by war-related stress	499.69	4	<0.001	Significant
2	Awareness campaigns can reduce fear and misinformation during wars	308.26	4	<0.001	Significant
3	Government should provide economic relief during war-related crises	1121.11	4	<0.001	Significant

4	Increase Russian crude imports at discounted rates	183.57	4	<0.001	Significant
5	Use strategic petroleum reserves	1302.40	4	<0.001	Significant
6	Reduce fuel taxes temporarily	1048.23	4	<0.001	Significant
7	Encourage public transport and EV usage	1302.20	4	<0.001	Significant
8	Subsidize fertilizers and LPG	1350.71	4	<0.001	Significant
	LONG TERM- REMEDIAL ACTIONS				
9	International cooperation is essential to minimize the impact of war on India	181.54	4	<0.001	Significant
10	Government should take stronger measures to reduce the impact of international conflicts	1380.11	4	<0.001	Significant
11	Build India as an alternative manufacturing hub	402.63	4	<0.001	Significant
12	Energy independence	1264.31	4	<0.001	Significant
13	Defence self-reliance	1192.69	4	<0.001	Significant

5. Interpretation

5.1. Short-Term Remedial Measures

The analysis reveals overwhelming public support for immediate government intervention during periods of international conflict. More than 90% of respondents either strongly agreed or agreed that:

- Economic relief should be provided during war-related crises.
- Strategic petroleum reserves should be utilized.
- Fuel taxes should be reduced temporarily.
- Public transportation and electric vehicle usage should be encouraged.
- Fertilizers and LPG should be subsidized.

Respondents also recognized the importance of awareness campaigns and counselling services to address psychological stress and misinformation caused by war-related developments.

5.2. Long-Term Remedial Measures

The findings demonstrate strong public support for long-term strategic initiatives, including:

Stronger government measures to reduce international conflict impacts.

- Energy independence.
- Defence self-reliance.
- Building India as an alternative global manufacturing hub.

These measures were perceived as essential for enhancing India's economic resilience and reducing dependence on external markets.

5.3. Chi-Square Analysis

The Chi-Square test results for all thirteen statements were statistically significant at the 5% level. The calculated Chi-Square values exceeded the critical value of 9.488, leading to the rejection of the null hypothesis.

This indicates that respondents expressed strong and statistically significant agreement toward the proposed immediate and long-term corrective measures.

Since the calculated χ^2 values for all statements are greater than the table value (9.488) and $p < 0.001$, the null hypothesis is rejected in all cases. Therefore, respondents exhibit a statistically significant preference toward the proposed short-term and long-term remedial measures.

6. Conclusion

The study highlights the significant concern among Indian citizens regarding the economic and developmental consequences of international conflicts such as the Russia–Ukraine war and the Iran–Israel conflict. The findings demonstrate overwhelming public support for both immediate and long-term corrective measures designed to mitigate these impacts.

Immediate actions such as economic relief packages, strategic petroleum reserve utilization, fuel tax reductions, and subsidies for essential commodities are viewed as crucial for protecting citizens from economic hardship. Simultaneously, respondents strongly endorse long-term initiatives such as energy independence, defence self-reliance, and transforming India into a global manufacturing hub.

The statistically significant Chi-Square results confirm a strong consensus among respondents regarding the necessity of these interventions. Therefore, policymakers should adopt a comprehensive strategy that combines short-term economic stabilization with long-term structural reforms to strengthen India's resilience against future geopolitical uncertainties and ensure sustainable economic development.

Compliance with ethical standards

Acknowledgement

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We extend our sincere thanks to all the respondents who participated in the study and generously provided their valuable time, opinions, and information. Their cooperation was essential to the completion of this research.

Declaration of Conflicting Interests

The author(s) declared no potential conflicts of interest with respect to the research, authorship, and/or publication of this article.

Statement of ethical standards

The study was conducted in accordance with generally accepted ethical principles for research involving human participants. Participation was voluntary, and respondents were informed about the purpose of the study. Informed consent was obtained from all participants before data collection. The confidentiality and anonymity of the respondents were maintained, and the collected data were used solely for academic and research purposes.

Statement of Informed Consent

Informed consent was obtained from all participants involved in the study. Participants were informed about the purpose and nature of the research, and their participation was entirely voluntary. They were assured that their responses would be kept confidential and used solely for academic and research purposes. Participants were also informed of their right to withdraw from the study at any time without any consequences.

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