Environment & Ecology · GS - III

Discuss India's demand for predictable and non-debt-creating climate finance at COP31. How do equity and the principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities shape India's climate diplomacy?

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 04/11/2026	GS - III	Environment & Ecology

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Climate finance, Article 9.1 of the Paris Agreement, CBDR-RC, historical emissions, Global South, technology transfer, adaptation needs, climate justice, national development priorities.

Model Answer

Introduction

Climate finance is essential for enabling developing countries to reduce emissions and adapt to climate change. Ahead of COP31 in Antalya, Türkiye, India has prioritised predictable finance that does not increase developing countries' debt burdens.

Why Climate Finance Matters

Developing countries face rising costs from extreme weather, agricultural disruption, coastal vulnerability and the transition to cleaner energy. Dependence on loans can increase debt pressures and restrict spending on essential development needs. India therefore advocates greater public and concessional finance, alongside technology transfer and capacity-building.

Equity and CBDR-RC

The principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities recognises that countries share responsibility for addressing climate change but differ in historical contributions and capacity to act. Article 9.1 of the Paris Agreement establishes an obligation for developed countries to provide financial resources to assist developing countries with mitigation and adaptation.

Challenges and Way Forward

Climate finance commitments must translate into accessible, predictable funding. International cooperation should reduce technology barriers, strengthen adaptation support and respect nationally determined climate pathways. India can work with coalitions such as G-77 and China, LMDC and BASIC to advance the concerns of developing countries.

Conclusion

Equitable climate action requires ambition to be matched by adequate finance, technology and capacity-building. COP31 provides an opportunity to strengthen trust and move from commitments towards implementation.

BECOME IAS
AI POWERED UPSC PREP