International Relations · GS - II

Discuss the challenges faced by developing countries in balancing their right to industrialise with climate commitments. Also examine the significance of freedom of navigation for India's maritime interests.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 31/10/2026	GS - II	International Relations

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Climate justice; CBDR-RC; sustainable industrialisation; technology transfer; climate finance; Red Sea crisis; Bab-el-Mandeb Strait; UNCLOS; maritime security

Model Answer

Introduction

Developing countries seek to achieve economic growth and industrialisation while meeting global climate commitments. Simultaneously, secure maritime trade routes are essential for their economic stability.

Right to Industrialise and Climate Commitments

1. **Developmental equity:** Developing countries require affordable energy, infrastructure and industrial capacity to address poverty and employment challenges.
2. **Climate justice:** CBDR-RC recognises differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities in addressing climate change.
3. **Enabling support:** Climate finance, technology transfer and capacity-building are essential for a just transition.
4. **Sustainable growth:** Cleaner technologies and renewable energy can reconcile industrial development with environmental protection.

Importance of Maritime Security

1. **Trade connectivity:** The Red Sea and Bab-el-Mandeb Strait are vital routes connecting Asian and European markets.
2. **Economic security:** Attacks on civilian vessels increase insurance and freight costs and disrupt supply chains.
3. **Freedom of navigation:** Respect for international maritime law, including UNCLOS, is essential for safe commercial shipping.

Conclusion

India must advocate equitable climate action while strengthening maritime cooperation and protecting secure, rules-based international trade routes.