Defence & Security · GS - III

Examine the role of the Indian Navy in combating maritime piracy and safeguarding freedom of navigation in the Indian Ocean Region.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 03/11/2026	GS - III	Defence & Security

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Maritime security; anti-piracy operations; protection of seafarers and merchant vessels; freedom of navigation; international cooperation; regional stability

Model Answer

Introduction

Maritime piracy threatens the safety of seafarers, commercial shipping and international trade. The Indian Navy plays an important role in protecting maritime routes and strengthening security in the Indian Ocean Region.

Role of the Indian Navy

Anti-piracy patrols and rescue operations help protect merchant vessels and crew members from attacks and hostage-taking. The reported rescue of 20 crew members from an Iranian vessel in the Arabian Sea illustrates the importance of rapid maritime response and coordinated operations.

Strategic Significance

Secure sea lanes are essential for India's energy imports, exports and economic connectivity. Anti-piracy operations also strengthen confidence among maritime stakeholders and reinforce India's role as a regional security provider.

Challenges and Way Forward

Piracy, vast maritime areas, intelligence gaps and transnational criminal networks require sustained surveillance and cooperation. India should strengthen maritime domain awareness, information-sharing, naval coordination and collaboration with regional and international partners.

Conclusion

By combining operational readiness with international cooperation, the Indian Navy can help ensure safer sea lanes, protect human life and uphold freedom of navigation in the Indian Ocean Region.

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