International Relations · GS - II

Examine the geopolitical significance of Yemen's conflict for security in West Asia and the strategic maritime trade routes connecting the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 09/11/2026	GS - II	International Relations

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Houthi movement, Saudi-Yemen conflict, regional rivalries, drone and missile warfare, Bab-el-Mandeb Strait, Red Sea shipping, energy security, maritime trade, diplomatic engagement.

Model Answer

Introduction

The conflict in Yemen has evolved into a major regional security challenge. Houthi military activities and regional rivalries have affected security calculations across West Asia.

Geopolitical Significance

1. **Regional rivalries:** The conflict involves competing regional interests and affects Saudi Arabia's security environment.
2. **Maritime security:** Threats to commercial shipping near the Bab-el-Mandeb Strait can disrupt international trade.
3. **Energy security:** Instability around the Red Sea increases risks to global energy transportation.
4. **Changing warfare:** Drone and missile attacks demonstrate the growing importance of asymmetric warfare.
5. **Diplomatic realignments:** Changing relations among regional countries can influence conflict management and security cooperation.

Implications for India

The Red Sea route is important for India's trade with Europe and West Asia. Instability can increase shipping costs, insurance premiums and transit times. India therefore has an interest in maritime security and regional stability.

Way Forward

Diplomatic engagement, protection of commercial shipping, humanitarian assistance and inclusive negotiations are essential.

Conclusion

Peace in Yemen is important not only for West Asian stability but also for the security of global maritime trade networks.

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