

Daily Mains Practice Answer 29-10-2026

Q. Explain the challenges associated with decarbonising hard-to-abate sectors such as steel and cement in India. How can policy interventions facilitate their green transition? (150 words, 10 marks)

Direction: Intro-----Challenges + Policy interventions-----Conclusion.

Introduction:

Describe hard-to-abate sectors.

Hard-to-abate sectors are industries where reducing carbon emissions is difficult because of energy-intensive production processes, process-related emissions, technological limitations and high transition costs. Eg., Steel & cement sector.

Main Body

Challenges associated with decarbonising hard-to-abate sectors

- Limited commercial viability of technologies
- High capital investment and operating costs
- Limited green finance
- Inadequate scrap availability
- Low-grade iron ore
- Dependence on coal
- MSME vulnerability
- Global competition

How can policy interventions facilitate the green transition?

- Improve access to affordable finance
- Promote green hydrogen-based steelmaking
- Scale up Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage (CCUS) technologies
- Encourage scrap-based steel production
- Provide targeted incentives via production-linked incentives
- Promote green procurement
- Strengthen energy-efficiency standards
- Carbon accounting.

Conclusion:

Give a balanced, futuristic and positive conclusion.

India must pursue green industrialisation rather than deindustrialisation, ensuring that economic growth, employment generation and environmental sustainability progress together.

