

# OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

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Daily MCQs: 27-01-2025

**1. Which of the following regions is often referred to as the world's "Third Pole"?**

- A. Central Siberian Plateau
- B. Columbia Icefield
- C. Himalaya, Karakoram and Hindu Kush Mountain ranges
- D. Perito Moreno glacier

**2. Consider the following statements with regard to Whip in the Parliament:**

- 1. Every political party, whether ruling or opposition, has its own whip in the Parliament.
- 2. A whip is responsible for ensuring discipline among the party members in the Parliament.

**Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?**

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

**3. Consider the following statements about the National Investigation Agency (NIA).**

- 1. The agency was established under the NIA Act, 2008.
- 2. The NIA has been constituted mainly for investigation of crimes of corruption, economic offences and serious and organized crimes other than terrorism.
- 3. The law under which NIA operates extends to persons who commit a scheduled offence beyond India against the Indian citizen or affecting the interest of India.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- A. 1 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

**4. Oxytocin is a natural hormone involved in which of the following?**

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- A) Regulating blood sugar levels
- B) Stimulating uterine contraction in childbirth
- C) Increasing alertness
- D) Regulating body temperature

**5. Consider the following statements about the Asian Development Bank (ADB).**

1. ADB has more than 60 member nations.
2. India is the largest shareholder of ADB.
3. ADB does not have members outside Asia.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

- A. Only one
- B. Only two
- C. All three
- D. None

**Solutions:**

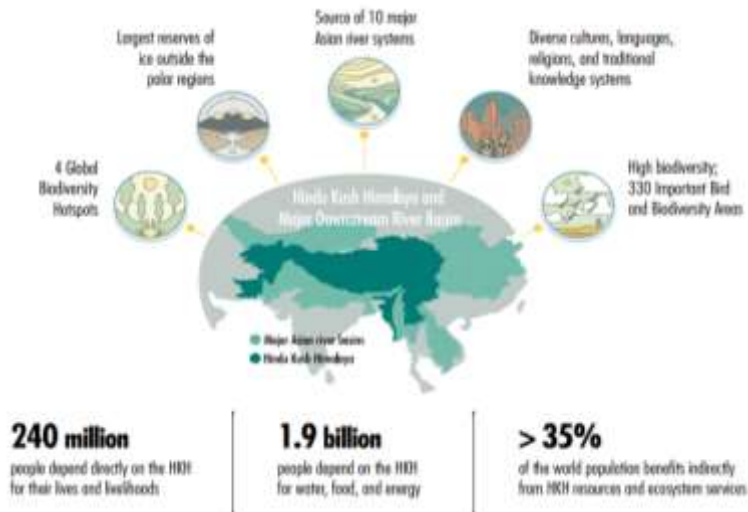
**1. Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

- The Himalaya, Karakoram and Hindu Kush (HKHK) mountain ranges span 2,400 kilometers across **six nations (Afghanistan, Bhutan, China, India, Nepal, and Pakistan).**
- There are almost 55,000 glaciers in the HKHK mountains, and they **store more freshwater than any other region outside the North and South Poles.**
- The HKHK region is referred to as the **world's "Third Pole"** because it contains so much glacial ice.

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- The glaciers contain estimated ice reserves of 163 cubic kilometres, of which almost **80% feeds the Indus, the Ganges and the Brahmaputra**. Snow and glacier melt from the HKHK play an important role in the timing and magnitude of water availability within the region.

2. Answer: C

Explanation:

- Every political party, whether ruling or opposition, has its own whip in the Parliament. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The functions of the whip include ensuring discipline among the party members in the Parliament. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

3. Answer: B

Explanation:

What is the NIA?

- The National Investigation Agency (NIA) is functioning as the **Central Counter Terrorism Law Enforcement Agency** in the country.

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- It is mandated to investigate all the **offences**:
  - **affecting the sovereignty, security and integrity of India, friendly relations with foreign states, and**
  - **the offences under the statutory laws enacted to implement international treaties, agreements, conventions and resolutions of the United Nations, its agencies and other international organisations.**
- These include **terror acts and their possible links with crimes** like smuggling of arms, drugs and fake Indian currency and infiltration from across the borders.
- The agency has the power to search, seize, arrest and prosecute those involved in such offences.
- Headquartered in **Delhi**, the NIA has its branches in several parts of the country.

### When did the NIA come into being?

- In the wake of the **26/11 Mumbai terror attack in November 2008**, which shocked the entire world, the central government decided to establish the NIA.
- **Statement 1 is correct**: The agency came into existence on **December 31, 2008 under the NIA Act, 2008**, and started its functioning in **2009**.
- NIA was created mainly to specialize in investigations into **incidents of terrorist attacks and bomb blasts** in various parts of the country. Majority of such incidents were found to have **complex inter-state and international linkages** while at the same time being **linked to drug and arms smuggling** among other activities.
- The NIA Act was amended in the year **2019** to **enlarge the mandate** of the NIA by inclusion of **offences related to human trafficking, manufacture/sale of prohibited arms, cyber-terrorism and offences under the Explosive Substances Act, 1908** and **expanded its jurisdiction beyond India**.

### How wide is the NIA's jurisdiction?

- The law under which the agency operates extends to:
  - **whole of India and also applies to Indian citizens outside the country;**
  - **persons in the service of the government** wherever they are posted;
  - **persons on ships and aircraft registered in India** wherever they may be;
  - **persons who commit a scheduled offence beyond India against the Indian citizen or affecting the interest of India. Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

### Difference between the nature of cases investigated by NIA and CBI:

- **Statement 2 is incorrect**: The NIA has been constituted after the Mumbai terror attack in November 2008 mainly for investigation of incidents of terrorist attacks, funding of

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terrorism and other terror related crime, whereas CBI investigates crime of corruption, economic offences and serious and organized crime other than terrorism.

### 4. Answer: B

#### Explanation

- Oxytocin is a **natural hormone** that stimulates **uterine contractions in childbirth and lactation after childbirth**. It also affects aspects of human behavior and the male and female reproductive systems.
  - Hormones are **chemicals that coordinate different functions** in our body by carrying messages through blood to the organs, muscles and other tissues. These signals tell our body what to do and when to do it
- It is **secreted by the hypothalamus** but **stored and released into our bloodstream by the posterior pituitary gland**.

### 5. Answer: A

#### Explanation

- Founded in 1966, the Asian Development Bank's (ADB) headquarters are in Manila, Philippines. The Asian Development Bank's primary mission is to foster growth and cooperation among countries in the Asia-Pacific Region.
- **Statement 1 is correct and statement 3 is incorrect:** At present, ADB comprises 68 members (including **India**)- of which 49 are from within Asia and the Pacific and **19 outside**.
- The ADB was modeled closely on the World Bank, and has a similar weighted voting system where votes are distributed in proportion with members' capital subscriptions.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The two largest shareholders of the ADB are **the US and Japan**.
- ADB is an official United Nations Observer.