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Daily MCQs: 08-07-2024

1. Which of the following statements about Nipah virus is incorrect?

- A) It is a zoonotic virus, meaning it is transmitted from animals to humans.
- B) The fruit bat is a natural reservoir of the virus.
- C) There is currently a licensed vaccine or specific treatment available for Nipah virus infection.
- D) None of the above

2. The primary objective of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) is to

- a) Completely eliminate conventional weapons
- b) Regulate and reduce the use of certain conventional weapons that are considered excessively injurious or have indiscriminate effects
- c) Promote the development of advanced conventional weapons technology among the member states.
- d) None of the above

3. Consider the following statements about the National Center for Disease Control (NCDC)

- 1) It primarily aims to conduct agricultural research.
- 2) It is under the administrative control of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

4. Mongolia is a landlocked country bordered by:

- A) Russia and Kazakhstan
- B) Russia and China
- C) China and North Korea
- D) China and Kazakhstan

5. Which of the following CAPFs is/are responsible for guarding India's international borders?

- 1) Border Security Force (BSF)
- 2) Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)
- 3) Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)
- 4) Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB)

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

- A) 1, 3 and 4 only
- B) 1 and 2 only
- C) 1 and 3 only

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D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Solutions:

1. Answer: C

Explanation

About Nipah infection

- It is a **viral infection** caused by the **Nipah virus (NiV)**.
- **Fruit bats of the Pteropodidae family** are the natural host of Nipah virus. Hence **statement B is correct**.
- The disease was first identified in **1998** during an outbreak in **Malaysia**. Later, Nipah outbreaks have been reported in **Singapore, Bangladesh and India**.

Transmission

- It is a **zoonotic virus** (transmitted from animals to humans) which can also be transmitted through **contaminated food or directly between people**. Hence **statement A is correct**.
- **Consumption of fruits or fruit products** (such as raw date palm juice) **contaminated with urine or saliva from infected fruit bats** is the most likely source of infection.
- In **infected people**, it causes a **range of illnesses** from asymptomatic infection to **acute respiratory infection** (mild, severe), and **fatal encephalitis** (inflammation in the brain).
- The virus can also cause **severe disease in animals** such as pigs, resulting in significant economic losses for farmers.

Treatment

- **Statement C is incorrect:** There are currently **no drugs or vaccines** specific for Nipah virus infection.
- The primary treatment for humans is **supportive care**.
- Preventing the Nipah virus involves **infection control measures** like using protective equipment, disinfecting surfaces, and avoiding sick animals or areas with known Nipah virus outbreaks.

2. Answer: B

Explanation

- The UN Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons entered into force in 1983.
- Its purpose is to **prohibit or restrict the use of certain conventional weapons**, which may be deemed to be excessively injurious or to have indiscriminate effects in declared wars and other armed conflicts.
- The Convention is composed of a **framework instrument** and **five individual protocols** that regulate specific categories of weapons.
- The Convention has a total of 126 States Parties (including **India**).

3. Answer: D

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Explanation

Both the statements are incorrect.

- The National Center for Disease Control (NCDC) is under **administrative control** of the **Director General of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**.
- NCDC started as a malaria institute in 1909. Later, the institute expanded its focus to other diseases with a larger mandate of controlling emerging and re-emerging diseases.
- The Institute takes a leading role in undertaking **investigations of disease outbreaks** all over the country employing epidemiological and diagnostic tools.
- The headquarters of NCDC is located in **New Delhi**.

4. Answer: B

Explanation

- Mongolia is a landlocked country in East Asia, bordered by Russia to the north and China to the south.
- Capital: **Ulaanbaatar**.
- The **Altai Mountain range** passes through Mongolia.
- **Orkhon is Mongolia's longest river and it drains into Lake Baikal.**
 - *Situated in south-east Siberia, Lake Baikal is the oldest and deepest (1,700 m) lake in the world. It contains 20% of the world's total unfrozen freshwater reserve.*

5. Answer: A

Explanation

- The Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) refers to the uniform nomenclature of seven security forces in India which function under the **administrative control** of the **Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)**. They are
 - **Assam Rifles (AR)**
 - **Border Security Force (BSF)**
 - **Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)**
 - **Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)**
 - **Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)**
 - **National Security Guard (NSG) and**
 - **Seema Suraksha Bal (SSB).**
- Of the CAPFs, the **AR, BSF, ITBP and SSB are Border Guarding Forces**. The **NSG is a commando trained force Organisation** in India and is used for **special operations**. The **CISF provides security and protection to industrial undertakings and vital installations**. The **CRPF is deployed in aid of civil power** in matters relating to maintenance of law and order, internal security and counter-insurgency.
- The CAPF's are headed by **DGP rank officers**.