1. The area of Sariska Tiger reserve is part of which of the following mountain ranges?
   (a) Vindhyan Ranges  
   (b) Aravalli Ranges  
   (c) Satpura Range  
   (d) Shiwalik Ranges  

Solution: b)  
Refer to Insights 2017 Test 1, Question 2 Solution  
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aravalli_Range

2. A technique used in molecular biology research to study gene expression by detection of RNA (or isolated mRNA) in a sample is known as  
   (a) Southern Blotting  
   (b) Northern Blotting  
   (c) RNA interference  
   (d) Nucleography  

Solution: b)  
Refer to Question 26, Insights Prelims 2017 Test 1  
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northern_blot

3. Which following group of planets in our solar system have rings around them?  
   (a) Saturn, Jupiter, Uranus and Neptune only  
   (b) Saturn, Uranus and Neptune only  
   (c) Saturn Only  
   (d) Saturn and Uranus only  

Solution: a)  
Refer to Question 30, Insights Prelims 2017 Test 1  

4. Which of the following locations are the sources of highest amount of freshwater on earth?  
   (a) The Great Lakes, North America  
   (b) Greenland  
   (c) Antarctica  
   (d) Lake Baikal  

Solution: c  
Antarctica has nearly 70% all the freshwater stored in it.  
Solution: Refer to Question 53, Insights Prelims 2017 Test 1  
http://blog.desolenator.com/five-worlds-largest-natural-freshwater-sources/

5. Which of the following amendments made to the Indian Constitution prescribes that the total number of Ministers, including the Prime Minister, in the Council of Ministers shall not exceed 15 per cent of the number of members of the House of the People?  
   (a) 91st Amendment Act  
   (b) 90th Amendment Act  
   (c) 93rd Amendment Act  
   (d) 92nd Amendment Act  

Solution: a)  
It was inserted through 91st amendment.  
Refer to Question 68, Insights Prelims 2017 Test 1  
http://www.prsindia.org/theprsblog/?tag=article-164
6. Which of the following provides a transparent legal framework for the effective implementation of one of the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD): the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources?

(a) Cartagena Protocol
(b) Nagoya Protocol
(c) Geneva Protocol
(d) Montreal Protocol

Solution: b)

Refer to Question 5, Insights Prelims 2017 Test 2 (you should read about CBD from ecology topic perspective if it finds mention in solution)


7. The Financial Sector Regulatory Appointment Search Committee (FSRASC) has been set up to recommend names for top posts at regulatory bodies such as the RBI, SEBI, IRDA etc. Who heads FSRASC?

(a) The Prime Minister
(b) The Finance Minister
(c) The Cabinet Secretary
(d) The Secretary of Finance, Govt of India

Solution: c

Refer to Question 23, Insights Prelims 2017 Test 2

http://smartinvestor.business-standard.com/market/Marketnews-389668-Marketnewsdet-No_clarity_yet_on_selection_panel_role_in_RBI_chief_appointment.htm#.WQsF_omGNR0

8. RBI decided to shift from base rate to marginal cost of funds-based lending rate (MCLR) because

(a) The rates based on marginal cost of funds are more sensitive to changes in the policy rates
(b) To bring transparency in the methodology followed by banks for determining interest rates on advances
(c) To enable banks to become more competitive and enhance their long run value and contribution to economic growth
(d) All of the above

Solution: d)

Refer to Question 47, Insights Prelims 2017 Test 2


9. Which of the following tenets is not related to Dvaita vedanta philosophy?

(a) The world has no separate existence apart from Brahman
(b) God and the individual souls exist as independent realities
(c) God takes on a personal role and is seen as a real eternal entity that governs and controls the universe
(d) The individual souls are depicted as reflections, images or shadows of the divine, but never in any way identical with the divine

Solution: a)

First statement is related to Advaita philosophy which says that the soul (true Self, Atman) is the same as the highest metaphysical Reality (Brahman)

Refer to Question 90, Insights Prelims 2017 Test 2


10. The ‘Kisan Harit Rajmarg Yojana’ is launched by

(a) The ministry of rural development
(b) The agriculture ministry

Solution: a)

The ministry of rural development
(c) The ministry of forests and environment
(d) None of the above

Solution: d)
It’s launched by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.

Page 5 of Insights Environment module
http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=146720

11. With reference to Ken-Betwa River linking project, consider the following statements:
1. It aims to transfer surplus water from the Betwa River to the Ken basin
2. It seeks to irrigate India’s worst drought-prone Bagelkhand region.
Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Solution: d)
Page 7 of Insights Environment module

12. In which of the following states would you find Pakhui Tiger Reserve?
(a) Assam
(b) Arunachal Pradesh
(c) Sikkim
(d) Nagaland

Solution: b)
It is also known as Pakke Tiger reserve. It’s in Arunachal Pradesh

Page 10 of Insights Environment module
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pakke_Tiger_Reserve

13. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) has notified the Graded Response Action Plan to
(a) Address the problem of poaching in protected wildlife regions
(b) Combat air pollution in Delhi
(c) Clean River Ganga by 2020
(d) Prevent forest fires across India on war foot basis

Solution: b)
Page 11 of Insights Environment module

14. With reference to Gangetic Dolphins, consider the following statements:
1. They are generally blind and use ultrasonic sound to catch their prey.
2. Ganges River dolphin has been officially declared as National Aquatic Animal of India
Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Solution: c)
Page 14 of Insights Environment module

15. Consider the following statements:
1. Under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been empowered to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders
2. Legal protection has been provided to wild animals under the provisions of
18. Why rainforests are characterized by high diversity of species?
   1. Round the year supply of abundant energy in a consistent manner
   2. The canopy structure of rainforests
   3. High rainfall and temperature
   Select the correct answer using codes below:
   (a) 1 and 2 only
   (b) 1 and 3 only
   (c) 1 only
   (d) 1, 2 and 3

   Solution: d)
   Chapter 7, NCERT Class VII Science
   http://kids.mongabay.com/elementary/201.html

19. In which part of India Hope Island is located?
   (a) Lakshadweep Islands
   (b) Nicobar Islands
   (c) Godavari Delta
   (d) Ganga - brahmaputra Delta

   Solution: c)
   Page 17 of Insights Environment module

20. Russia’s new Project 22220 nuclear-powered vessel dubbed “Arktika” is designed to
   (a) Excavate minerals from deep waters of the Arctic region
   (b) Break large ice in the Arctic region
   (c) Extract oil in the Arctic region
   (d) To guard Russia’s oil facilities in its northern parts

   Solution: b)
   Insights current affairs, June 2016 (Page 126)
21. The treaty which controls supply of uranium from key mineral hubs of Africa to the rest of the world is known as
(a) Nairobi Treaty
(b) Kampala Convention
(c) Pelindaba Treaty
(d) Non Proliferation treaty

Solution: (c)

Insights Current Affairs Compilation, June 2016 (Page 52)

The African Nuclear Weapon Free Zone Treaty, also known as the Treaty of Pelindaba (named after South Africa’s main Nuclear Research Centre, run by The South African Nuclear Energy Corporation and was the location where South Africa’s atomic bombs of the 1970s were developed, constructed and subsequently stored),[1] establishes a Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone in Africa. The treaty was signed in 1996 and came into effect with the 28th ratification on 15 July 2009.

22. In 2016, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved the proposal to undertake scientific deep drilling in the Koyna region. One of its objectives is
(a) To explore availability of natural gas
(b) To assess earthquake hazard in a stable continental region
(c) To examine extent of aquifers in the region to assess their irrigation potential
(d) To explore possibility of existence of shale gas

Solution: (b)

Insights Current Affairs Compilation, June 2016 (Page 56)

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the proposal to undertake scientific deep drilling in the Koyna intra-plate seismic zone, in Maharashtra. The total cost of the project is Rs.472.3 crore for five years.

The proposed scientific deep drilling investigation in Koyna region will provide a unique opportunity to better understand the mechanism of reservoir-triggered earthquakes, developing a forecast model and assessing earthquake hazard in a stable continental region.

The main objective of the project is to undertake a deep borehole (6-8 kms) investigations in the Koyna-Warna region of Maharashtra where earthquakes have been occurring in a restricted area of 20 x 30 sq. km. for the past five decades, including the largest earthquake of magnitude 6.3 in December 1967. Past studies have clearly demonstrated that the Koyna-Warna area is a natural laboratory to study reservoir-triggered earthquakes, perhaps the best site anywhere in the world.

The project will also provide crucial insights into Deccan volcanism and mass extinction; thermal structure and state of stress in the lithosphere; geothermal potential of the West Coast Belt as well as the geothermal record of climate change in the region. As a part of the project, it is planned to set up a research laboratory at Karad, which will serve as the operational center for carrying out the research activities related to seismic, deep drilling, borehole investigations, core analysis and research in associated fields.

The project will be implemented by the Ministry of Earth Sciences through its Seismology Division / Centre for Seismology in collaboration with the CSIR-National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI). Participations from various universities, research organizations and academic institutions will also be encouraged.

23. The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) has demanded from India binding concessions to consider India’s membership to APEC. Which of the following is/are these demands?

1. An agreement to reduce industrial tariffs to very low levels or eliminate them over a specified time period
2. Signing of Non Proliferation Treaty
3. An early deal on a Bilateral Investment Treaty with the U.S.

Select the correct answer using codes below:
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 2 and 3 only
Union commerce ministry has conveyed to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) its concern over demands that India offer the concessions in lieu of consideration for APEC membership. It has cautioned the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) against ceding to demands that India offer binding concessions to secure an Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) membership.

**What is being demanded?**

An agreement to reduce industrial tariffs to very low levels or eliminate them over a specified time period.

An early deal on a Bilateral Investment Treaty with the U.S.

Participation in negotiations for a proposed Investment Facilitation Agreement at the World Trade Organisation-level.

**Background:**

India has applied for APEC membership in 1991 on the basis of its geographic location, potential size of the economy and degree of trade interaction with the Asia-Pacific. However, at the fifth APEC Leaders’ meeting in Vancouver in 1997, a decision was taken to place a ten-year moratorium on expanding membership, which continues informally till date.

24. With reference to Asian Development Bank (ADB), consider the following statements:

1. The United States holds second largest proportions of shares in ADB
2. The bank admits the members of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)
3. Which of the above statements is/are correct?
   (a) 1 only
   (b) 2 only
   (c) Both 1 and 2
   (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Solution: c)

**Membership and voting:**

The bank admits the members of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP, formerly known as the United Nations Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East) and non-regional developed countries. Currently, it has 67 members – of which 48 are from within Asia and the Pacific and 19 outside. ADB was modeled closely on the World Bank, and has a similar weighted voting system where votes are distributed in proportion with member’s capital subscriptions.

**Funding:**

ADB raises funds through bond issues on the world’s capital markets. ADB also rely on its members’ contributions, retained earnings from its lending operations, and the repayment of loans. Japan holds the largest proportions of shares at 15.67%. The United States holds 15.56%, China holds 6.47%, India holds 6.36%, and Australia holds 5.81%.

25. In which of the following sectors 100% FDI has been permitted by the union government?

1. India based airlines
2. DTH, Mobile TV and Cable networks
3. Food products manufactured or produced in India
4. Pisciculture, Aquaculture and Apiculture

Select the correct answer using codes below:

(a) 2, 3 and 4 Only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Solution: d)
26. Under the new aviation policy, the Indian government is considering to develop about 350 dilapidated or underused airstrips across India into "no frills airports". What do you understand by 'No Frills airports'?

(a) Airports that connect only major airports located in their vicinity

(b) Airports that are categorized as secure and least sensitive airports from security point of view

(c) Airports that eliminate non-essential services to make them more affordable for common man

(d) Airports which are meant to cater only to tourists and VIPs

Solution: c)

Insights Current Affairs Compilation, June 2016 (Page 78)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/No_frills#No-frills_airlines

27. With reference to the Periodic Table, consider the following statements:

1. Elements in the same period have the same number of atomic orbitals

2. Nihonium is the last element in the periodic table with an atomic number 118

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Solution: a)

Nihonium, moscovium, tennessine, and oganesson with atomic numbers 113, 115, 117 and 118 respectively have been added recently by the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC)

Insights Current Affairs Compilation, June 2016 (Page 89)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Periodic_table

28. With reference to DNA sequencing, consider the following statements:

1. It is the process of determining the precise order of nucleotides within a DNA molecule

2. Biomolecule sequencer developed by NASA can also be used to diagnose infectious diseases in remote locations and in developing countries

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Solution: c)

Insights Prelims 2017 Test – 3, Q 5

For more:

https://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/station/research/experiments/2181.html#applications


29. Under the Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (LEMOA), which India has signed with the US, India can

(a) Allow stationing of US troops in the Indian territory

(b) Access the string of U.S. facilities across the globe for logistical support

(c) Access latest military technology from the US

(d) Both b and c

Solution: b)

Insights Prelims 2017 Test – 3, Q 11
30. With reference to the Surat split of the Indian National Congress, consider the following statements:

1. Moderates were opposed to the resolutions on Swaraj, Swadeshi, Boycott of foreign goods and National Education which were passed by extremists in Calcutta session.

2. Moderates wanted Rash Behari Bose to be the president of Surat session.

Select the correct answer using codes below:

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Solution: a)

Insights Prelims 2017 Test – 3, Q 22

It is Rash Behari Ghosh, not Bose. Hence statement 2 is wrong (you can anyway take a guess as Rash Behari Bose was a renowned extremist).

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rash_Behari_Bose

31. The famous Salween Sittaung and Yangon rivers empty into which of the following regions?

(a) The Bay of Bengal
(b) The Gulf of Mottama
(c) The Gulf of Thailand
(d) Malacca Strait

Solution: b)

Insights Prelims 2017 Test – 3, Q 47

River Irrawaddy flows into Bay of Bengal, not the ones mentioned in the question.

Gulf of Martaban is also known as Gulf of Mottama

32. Elevated temperature of water bodies caused by either discharge of waste water by industries or from urban runoff, affects aquatic animals adversely because

1. Elevated temperature typically decreases the level of dissolved oxygen of water affecting aquatic animals.

2. It may increase the metabolic rate of aquatic animals resulting in loss of biodiversity.

Select the correct answer using codes below:

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Solution: c)

Insights Prelims 2017 Test – 3, Q 75

Elevated temperature typically decreases the level of dissolved oxygen of water, as gases are less soluble in hotter liquids. This can harm aquatic animals such as fish, amphibians and other aquatic organisms. Thermal pollution may also increase the metabolic rate of aquatic animals, as enzyme activity, resulting in these organisms consuming more food in a shorter time than if their environment were not changed.[4]:179 An increased metabolic rate may result in fewer resources; the more adapted organisms moving in may have an advantage over organisms that are not used to the warmer temperature. As a result, food chains of the old and new environments may be compromised. Some fish species will avoid stream segments or coastal areas adjacent to a thermal discharge. Biodiversity can be decreased as a result.

33. Which of the following political party or an organization was not founded by Dr Ambedkar?

(a) Samata Sainik Dal
(b) The Republican Party of India
(c) Independent Labour Party
(d) Dalit Mukti Morcha

Solution: (a)

Insights Prelims 2017 Test – 3, Q 68

Samata Sainik Dal was founded by Bhagat Singh. Dr Ambedkar had no connection with it.
34. The Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) theory aims to determine the adjustments needed to be made in the exchange rates of two currencies to make them at par with the purchasing power of each other. If a country is experiencing inflation, what needs to be done to bring this parity?

(a) Country’s exchange rate must depreciated
(b) Country’s exchange rate must appreciated
(c) Country should decrease bank lending rate
(d) None of the above

Solution: a)

Exchange rate is influenced by high inflation. It causes appreciation of currency affecting its exchange rate. Hence depreciation is needed. (If you are good in economics, you can elaborate this further in comment box)


35. In the symbiotic relationship between fungi and algae in lichens,

(a) Algae protect fungi from external environment
(b) Fungi provide nutrition to algae in the form of solutions
(c) Phycobiont component is always either green algae or blue green algae
(d) Heterotrophic nutrition is prominently seen

Solution: c)

The fungus benefits from the algae or cyanobacteria because they produce food by photosynthesis. The algae or cyanobacteria benefit by being protected from the environment by the filaments of the fungus, which also gather moisture and nutrients from the environment, and (usually) provide an anchor to it.

The photosynthetic component of a lichen is called the photobiont or phycobiont. Sometimes the photobiont is a green algae (chlorophyta), sometimes a blue-green algae (cyanobacteria, not really an algae), and sometimes both. The layer of tissue containing the cells of the photobiont is called the “photobiontic layer”.

36. The Paracel Islands located in the South China Sea is a disputed region between

(a) China and Vietnam
(b) China and Taiwan
(c) China, Taiwan and Vietnam
(d) China, Vietnam and Philippines

Solution: c)

The Paracel Islands, also known as Xisha in Chinese and Hoàng Sa in Vietnamese, is a group of islands, reefs, banks and other maritime features in the South China Sea. It is controlled (and occupied) by the People’s Republic of China, and also claimed by Taiwan (Republic of China) and Vietnam.

37. With reference to Arsenic, consider the following statements:

1. People who smoke tobacco can also be exposed to arsenic
2. Arsenic is one of WHO’s 10 chemicals of major public health concern
3. Arsenic has no place in the periodic table

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
38. The Living Planet Report is published every two years by
   (a) UNEP
   (b) IUCN
   (c) World Nature Organization (WNO)
   (d) None of the above
Solution: d)

It’s published by the World Wide Fund for Nature

39. Ross Sea was declared as world’s largest Marine Protected Area (MPA) to protect the Earth’s most pristine marine ecosystem. Which of the following species is not found in Ross Sea region?
   (a) Emperor Penguin
   (b) Killer Whale
   (c) Polar Bear
   (d) Weddell Seal
Solution: c)

Polar Bears are found in the Arctic region alone. Ross Sea is in Antarctica.

40. Doha Amendment which was in news recently, is related to
   (a) Trade disputes between developed and developing nations
   (b) The future of WTO and its trade deals
   (c) Amendment made to the Kyoto Protocol
   (d) None of the above
Solution: c)

41. Consider the following statements:
   1. The island lies 256 km northeast from Port Blair
   2. This Island holds the easternmost point of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands
   3. It is classified as a dormant volcano by the Geological Survey of India
To which of the following islands does above statements refer?
   (a) Barren Island
   (b) Narcondam Island
   (c) Great Coco Island
   (d) Landfall Island
Solution: b)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Narcondam_Island

42. With reference to invasive species, consider the following statements:
   1. They can change habitats and alter ecosystem function and ecosystem services
   2. They crowd out or replace native species
   3. They damage human activities, especially economic activities
   4. They can cause diseases
Which of the above statements is/are correct?
   (a) 1,2 and 4 Only
   (b) 1 and 4 Only
(c) 2 and 4 Only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Solution: d)
Insights Environment Module 2017, Page 49
Third option is correct. For example, costs to agriculture, forestry, fisheries, and other human activities by introduced species are estimated at $137 billion per year to the U.S. economy alone.

http://eol.org/info/460

43. A halophyte is a plant that grows in waters of high salinity. Then, what are glycophytes?
   (a) Plants which thrive in high concentration of sugar
   (b) Plants which thrive in an anaerobic environment
   (c) Plants that will only grow healthily in soils with a low content of sodium salts
   (d) Plants that live in symbiosis with halophytes

Solution: c)
Insights Environment Module 2017, Page 48
All plants other than halophytes are actually known as glycophytes.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Halophyte

44. In India, where do you find Phumdis – a floating mass of matted vegetation, organic debris, and soil?
   (a) River Brahmaputra
   (b) River Godavari
   (c) In many coastal backwaters of Kerala
   (d) None of the above

Solution: d)
Insights Environment Module 2017, Page 48
They are found in Loktak lake, Manipur
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phumdi

45. The Whanganui River, which was in news recently, is a major river in
   (a) Australia
   (b) New Zealand
   (c) Canada
   (d) China

Solution: b)
Insights Environment Module 2017, Page 47
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Whanganui_River

46. With reference to Quarks, consider the following statements:
   1. They possess electric charge, mass, color charge, and spin
   2. They are fundamental constituent of matter
   3. For the first time, scientists are able to observe quarks directly and in isolation thanks to the Large Hadron Collider (LHC)

Which of the above statements is/are correct?
   (a) 1 and 2 Only
   (b) 2 and 3 Only
   (c) 2 Only
   (d) 1, 2 and 3 Only

Solution: a)
Insights Prelims 2017 Test 5, Q 2
Due to a phenomenon known as color confinement, quarks are never directly observed or found in isolation; they can be found only within hadrons, such as baryons (of which protons and neutrons are examples) and mesons. For this reason, much of what is known about...
quarks has been drawn from observations of the hadrons themselves.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quark

47. In 1987, Indo-Sri Lanka Accord was signed between India and Sri Lanka. Who was the President of Sri Lanka then, who signed the Accord?
   (a) Ranasinghe Premadasa
   (b) J L Jayawardene
   (c) William Gopallawa
   (d) Chandrika Kumaratunga

Solution: b)
Insights Prelims 2017 Test 5, Q 9
Refer solution.

48. Which of the following Mudras is characteristic of Buddha Shakyamuni and Dhyani Buddha Amoghasiddhi?
   (a) Vitarkamudra
   (b) Varadamudra
   (c) Abhayamudra
   (d) Shramanamudra

Solution: c)
Insights Prelims 2017 Test 5, Q 16
Refer solution.

49. With reference to Lima Declaration, consider the following statements:
   1. It calls upon the developed countries to eliminate barriers to trade with developing countries and encourage their manufactured exports
   2. It was signed in 2005 at UNIDO

Which of the above statements is/are correct?
   (a) 1 only
   (b) 2 only
   (c) Both 1 and 2
   (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Solution: a)
Insights Prelims 2017 Test 5, Q 31
In solution year of signing of Lima Declaration is not given. Hence we are testing whether you did little search or not (even though dates don’t matter much) It was signed in 1975.

50. With reference to Polarization of light and Polaroid sunglasses, consider the following statements:
   1. Polarized light waves are light waves in which the vibrations occur in a single plane
   2. A reflected light is naturally polarized
   3. Polaroid sunglasses contain polarizers with the polarization direction oriented vertically

Which of the above statements is/are correct?
   (a) 1 and 2 Only
   (b) 2 and 3 Only
   (c) 1 and 3 only
   (d) 1, 2 and 3

Solution: d)
Insights Prelims 2017 Test 5, Q 66.
Though question is on light, checking if you are also studying other properties of light that have daily applications!
http://www.tulane.edu/~sanelson/eens211/proplight.htm

51. Which of the following light is unpolarized?
   (a) Light emitting from candle
   (b) Light emitting from LED bulb
   (c) Light from sun
52. Which of the following functionaries is not appointed by the President of India?
   (a) The Attorney General of India
   (b) The Judges of the High Courts of India
   (c) The Lieutenant Governor of Delhi
   (d) The Solicitor General of India

Solution: d)
Insights Prelims 2017 Test 5, Q 85.
Unlike the post of Attorney General for India, which is a Constitutional post under Article 76 of the Constitution of India, the posts of the Solicitor General and the Additional Solicitors General are merely statutory. Appointments Committee of the Cabinet Whereas attorney general for India is appointed by the President under Article 76(1) of the Constitution, the solicitor general of India is appointed to assist the attorney general along with four additional solicitors general by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/President_of_India#Appointment_powers

53. Which of the following books is not authored by Mahatma Gandhi?
   (a) An Autobiography-The Story Of My Experiments With Truth
   (b) Hind Swaraj of Indian Home Rule
   (c) Key to Health
   (d) Non-Violence and Social Change

Solution: d)
Insights Prelims 2017 Test 6, Q 12.
First three are written by himself. Last on is a book on Gandhiji.
http://www.mkgandhi.org/bk123.htm

54. The union government has decided to develop the Doyang lake as an eco-tourism spot. With reference to this Lake, consider the following statements:
1. It is in Manipur
2. It is a breeding site for longest travelling raptors Amur Falcon

Which of the above statements is/are correct?
   (a) 1 only
   (b) 2 only
   (c) Both 1 and 2
   (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Solution: d)
Insights Prelims 2017 Test 6, Q 12.
It is in Nagaland. It is a roosting (kind of resting) site, not a breeding site for Amur Falcons.

55. Karnataka’s Kalasa-Banduri Nala project intends to use waters from which of the following rivers?
   (a) Krishna River
   (b) Mahadayi River
   (c) Ghataprabha River
   (d) Cauvery River

Solution: b)
Insights Current Affairs Compilation July 2016, Page 12
56. The effectiveness of large telescopes is maximized if it is placed
(a) On an high altitude surface such as Tibet
(b) In a remote desert that has high altitude
(c) Above the earth’s atmosphere
(d) In Polar regions where disturbances are minimal

Solution: c)

Insights Prelims 2017 Test 6, Q 32

Atmosphere due to its various processes such as refractive, absorbing and scattering properties, hinders astronomical observations even during clear skies. There is no best site on earth for proper observation. It’s the space above earth’s atmosphere that provides best location for large telescope to function effectively.

http://adsabs.harvard.edu/full/1964IAUS...19...35S

57. Which of the following Curves describes a historical inverse relationship between rates of unemployment and corresponding rates of inflation that result within an economy.
(a) Lorenz Curve
(b) Laffer Curve
(c) Phillips Curve
(d) Kuznets Curve

Solution: c)

Insights Prelims 2017 Test 6, Q 32

In test series question is about Lorenz curve. But you should also know about other famous curves! Hence the above question. (hope you Google about Kuznets Curve)

58. India is the first country to be officially acknowledged as being Yaws-free. What is Yaws?
(a) It is a chronic bacterial infection that affects the skin, bone and cartilage
(b) It is a chronic infection of kidneys in children
(c) It is a vector borne disease that affects respiratory organs in children
(d) It is a chronic infection of that affects pregnant women in rural regions

Solution: a)

Insights Current Affairs Compilation July 2016, Page 33

Yaws forms part of a group of chronic bacterial infections commonly known as the endemic treponematoses. These diseases are caused by spiral bacteria of the genus Treponema, which also includes endemic syphilis (bejel) and pinta. Yaws is the most common of these three infections.

http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs316/en/)

59. The Nokrek National park is located in
(a) West Garo Hills
(b) East Khasi Hills
(c) Jaintia Hills
(d) West Khasi Hills

Solution: a)

Insights Prelims 2017 Test 6, Q 81

Nokrek National Park, or Nokrek Biosphere Reserve, is a national park located approximately 2 km from Tura Peak in West Garo Hills district of Meghalaya, India. UNESCO added this National park to its list of Biosphere Reserves in May 2009. Along with Balphakram national park, Nokrek is a hotspot of biodiversity in Meghalaya.

60. Petrapole Integrated Check Post is located between
(a) India - Pakistan border
(b) India - Nepal border
(c) India - Bhutan border
(d) India - Bangladesh border
61. Contingent convertibles or contingent convertible notes are

(a) Convertible bonds that bondholders can convert into equity at any point of time
(b) Bonds that cannot be converted into equities at any point of time
(c) Bonds that can be converted to equity on a specified event, such as the stock price of the company exceeding a particular level for a certain period of time
(d) Bonds that the government itself issues as a contingency measures during financial crisis

Solution: c)

62. With reference to seafloor spreading hypothesis, consider the following statements:

1. Seafloor spreading occurs at convergent plate boundaries
2. Seafloor spreading occurs along mid-ocean ridges
3. The age, density, and thickness of oceanic crust increases with distance from the seafloor spreading junction

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 3 Only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 2 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

Solution: b)

63. Oxfam, which is often in the news, is a/an

(a) Official initiative of the Oxford university to fight famine and poverty around the world
(b) Thinktank dedicated to improving education standards around the world, especially in poor countries
(c) International NGO that fights for human rights of population affected by various conflicts

Solution: c)
64. A process by which molecules of a solvent tend to pass through a semipermeable membrane from a less concentrated solution into a more concentrated one is known as

(a) Reverse osmosis
(b) Osmosis
(c) Plasmolysis
(d) Diffusion

Solution: b)
Insights Prelims 2017, Test 7 Q 29

Osmosis is the spontaneous net movement of solvent molecules through a semi-permeable membrane into a region of higher solute concentration, in the direction that tends to equalize the solute concentrations on the two sides.

65. With reference to Arakan Range, consider the following statements:

1. This is the most prominent of a series of parallel ridges that arc through Assam, Nagaland, Mizoram and Burma
2. Geologically, Java and Sumatra islands are extensions of Arakan Range

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Solution: d)
Insights Prelims 2017, Test 7 Q 41

The Arakan Mountains (Arakan Range, Rakhine Range, Rakhine Yoma, Arakan Yoma, Rakhine Roma, Arakan Roma) is a mountain range in western Burma (Myanmar), between the coast of Rakhine State and the Central Burma Basin, in which flows the Irrawaddy River. It is the most prominent of a series of parallel ridges that arc through Assam, Nagaland, Mizoram and Burma. The Arakan Mountains run from Cape Negrais in the south in to the Manipur State of India in the north. They include the Naga Hills, the Chin Hills, and the Patkai range which includes the Lushai Hills. These mountains are submerged in the Bay of Bengal for a sufficiently long stretch and emerges again in the form of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

66. In the marine food chain, which of the following animals sit at the top i.e. at Level Four?

1. Dolphin
2. Pelican
3. Tuna
4. Shark
5. Penguin

Select the correct answer using codes below:

(a) 2,3 and 4 Only
(b) 4 Only
(c) 1, 4 and 5 Only
(d) 1,2,3,4 and 5

Solution: d)
Insights Prelims 2017, Test 7 Q 51

The large predators that sit atop the marine food chain are a diverse group that includes finned (sharks, tuna, dolphins), feathered (pelicans, penguins), and flippered (seals, walruses) animals. These apex predators tend to be large, fast, and very good at catching prey. They are also long-lived and usually reproduce slowly.

http://ocean.nationalgeographic.com/take-action/marine-food-chain/
67. Whose motto and mission is “Every Child in School and Learning well”?
   (a) Teach for India (TFI)
   (b) Make a Difference (MAD)
   (c) Pratham
   (d) Child Rights and You (CRY)

Solution: c)  
Insights Prelims 2017, Test 7 Q 66  
http://www.foradian.com/5-indian-ngos-working-toward-education-equality/

68. With reference to “Tejaswini” project, consider the following statements:
   1. It is a jointly funded project by the Indian government and the World Bank
   2. The government of Jharkhand is the implementing agency of this project

Which of the above statements is/are correct?
   (a) 1 only
   (b) 2 only
   (c) Both 1 and 2
   (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Solution: b)  
Insights Economy Module 2017, Page – 1

Entire loan is given by the world bank. India has signed a financial agreement and the borrower is dept of economic affairs, min of finance. Implementing agency is govt of Jharkhand as the project is solely concentrated in 17 districts of Jharkhand.

(For any project, try to remember about sources of finance, its arrangements, implementing agencies, duration, target population and objectives)

69. Which of the following is **not** an objective of National Agriculture Market (NAM)?
   (a) One license for a trader valid across all markets in the State
   (b) Provision of Soil Testing Laboratories in/ or near the selected mandi to facilitate visiting farmers to access this facility in the mandi itself
   (c) Setting up of national e-market platform for transparent sale transactions and price discovery initially in regulated markets
   (d) Gradual removal of APMC across states to unify all markets to ultimately benefit farmers

Solution: d)  
Insights Prelims Test 2017, Test 8, Q 9

NAM’s objective is not to remove APMC acts. It wants to reform it. Recently agri ministry released draft model APMC law which it hopes would be adopted by all states (check here: http://www.livemint.com/Politics/Atb6MHW1ifnkaeOk1Lgpl/Govt-aims-to-end-APMC-monopoly-with-new-model-agricultural-l.html)

Objectives: http://www.enam.gov.in/NAM/home/about_nam.htm

70. Under the new Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy, government wants to encourage Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP). What is OALP?
   (a) Allowing bidding companies to acquire blocks based on their own surveys but with government permission
   (b) Allowing companies to acquire blocks directly from public companies but with government permission
   (c) Giving an option to a company looking for exploring hydrocarbons to select the exploration blocks on its own, without waiting for the formal bid round from the Government
   (d) None of the above

Solution: c)  
Insights Economy Module, Page 6
71. Which of the following is/are objectives of Mission Indradhanush?

1. To immunize all children under the age of 2 years, as well as all pregnant women, against seven vaccine preventable diseases
2. To provide life-saving vaccines to all children across the country free of cost to protect them against diseases such as Tuberculosis, Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus and Polio

Select the correct answer using codes below:
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Solution: c)
Insights Economy Module, Page 8
(economy module talks about Bank related Indradhanush, however, you should be aware of vaccine related Indradhanush too).... they should have asked PM to suggest a name for this public sector bank mission!

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mission_Indradhanush

72. Recently, the union government approved the scheme for grant of Permanent Residency Status (PRS) to foreign investors subject to the relevant conditions as specified in the FDI Policy notified by the Government from time to time. As a PRS holder will be allowed to take up employment in private sector

3. Permanent Residency Status will be granted for a period of 10 years initially with multiple entry facility, which can be renewed for another 10 years

Select the correct answer using codes below:
(a) 1 and 3 Only
(b) 1 and 2 Only
(c) 2 and 3 Only
(d) All

Solution: d)
Insights Economy Module, Page 11
http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=1493

73. The Global Corruption Barometer is published by

(a) Transparency International
(b) OECD
(c) World Bank
(d) Oxfam

Solution: a)
Insights Prelims Test 2017, Test 8, Q 16

Both Global Corruption Barometer and the Corruption Perceptions Index are published by Transparency International, an NGO based in Berlin.

74. With reference to North Sea, consider the following statements:

1. It is in the Arctic Ocean
2. Brent crude is extracted from the North Sea
Which of the above statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Solution: b)
Insights Prelims Test 2017, Test 8, Q 19

It is in the Atlantic Ocean.

75. With reference to the Question Hour in Lok Sabha, consider the following statements:

1. It is the first hour of a sitting session of Lok Sabha
2. The concerned Minister is can choose not to answer the question during this Hour

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Solution: a)
Insights Prelims Test 2017, Test 8, Q 26

Question Hour is the first hour of a sitting session of India’s Lok Sabha devoted to questions that Members of Parliament raise about any aspect of administrative activity. The concerned Minister is obliged to answer to the Parliament, either orally or in writing, depending on the type of question raised. Questions are one of the ways Parliament can hold the Executive accountable.

76. The following Consumer Price Indices (CPI) are released at national level:

1. CPI for Industrial Workers (IW)
2. CPI (Rural/Urban/Combined)
3. CPI for Agricultural Labourers (AL)/ Rural Labourers (RL)

Which of the above is/are released by the Labour Bureau in the Ministry of Labour and Employment?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) All

Solution: c)
Insights Economy Module, Page 20

Consumer Price Indices (CPI) released at national level are:

1) CPI for Industrial Workers (IW)
2) CPI for Agricultural Labourers (AL)/ Rural Labourers (RL)
3) CPI (Rural/Urban/Combined)

While the first two are compiled and released by the Labour Bureau in the Ministry of Labour and Employment, the third by the Central Statistics Office (CSO) in the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

77. The Supreme Court recently ruled that a Speaker should refrain from deciding the disqualification of MLAs for defection under the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution if he himself is facing the prospect of removal. On which of the following Articles of the Constitution, did SC depend for its judgement?

(a) Article 179
(b) Article 93
(c) Article 94
(d) Article 96

Solution: a)
Insights Current Affairs, July 2016, page 19

78. Bertelsmann Stiftung is known for

(a) Social Justice Index
(b) Sustainable Governance Indicators
(c) Transformation Index
(d) All the above

Solution: d)
Insights Current Affairs, July 2016, page 37
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bertelsmann_Foundatio

79. In 2016, Indian government signed a Line of Credit Agreement for US$ 29.95 million to with an African country to upgrade Rift Valley Textiles Factory (RIVATEX). This factory is located in which country?
(a) Mozambique
(b) Kenya
(c) Tanzania
(d) South Sudan

Solution: b)
Rivatex earlier won the grant from the World Bank because of its Tami dye, extracted from the Mexican marigold weed.. The invention is patented and is being used by Rivatex and other textile factories across the world.

This question is asked keeping in mind that there is a chance of asking more Africa related questions in coming years. Also remembering facts like this helps in enriching Mains answers in GS.

Please also study about Rift Valley and its surrounding countries.

80. With reference to the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists, consider the following statements:
1. It is a network of investigative journalists working for various news organizations in the US
2. It recently leaked Panama Papers
3. It is funded by the Pulitzer Foundation

Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 Only
(b) 2 Only
(c) 2 and 3 Only
(d) 1,2 and 3

Solution: b)
Insights Current Affairs July 2016 (Panama papers story)
The International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ) is a Washington-based international network launched in 1997 by the Center for Public Integrity which includes 165 investigative journalists in over 65 countries who work together on "issues such as “cross-border crime, corruption, and the accountability of power.” For over twenty five years the ICIJ has exposed smuggling and tax evasion by multinational tobacco companies (2000), “by organized crime syndicates; investigated private military cartels, asbestos companies, and climate change lobbyists; and broke new ground by publicizing details of Iraq and Afghanistan war contracts.

Option 3 is just an imaginary option to trick you.

81. With reference to Nominal GDP and Real GDP consider the following statements:
1. Nominal GDP often appears higher than real GDP
2. Real GDP values are evaluated at current market prices

Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Solution: a)
Economic Survey 2017, Page 9
Nominal GDP is gross domestic product (GDP) evaluated at current market prices, GDP being the monetary value of all the finished goods and services produced within a country’s borders in a specific time period. Nominal differs from real GDP in that it includes changes in prices due to inflation or a rise in the overall price level.

Real gross domestic product (GDP) is an inflation-adjusted measure that reflects the value of all goods and services produced by an economy in a given year, expressed in base-year prices, and is often referred to as “constant-price,” “inflation-corrected” GDP or “constant dollar GDP.” Unlike nominal GDP, real GDP can account for changes in price level and provide a more accurate figure of economic growth.

82. Which of the following observations is/are made in the recent Economic Survey (2017) on the issue of redistribution?

1. Under government programmes, often the very districts that house the most number of poor are the ones facing the greatest shortfall in the allocation of funds
2. Universal basic income (UBI) could be a solution to fix misallocation of funds and to eradicate poverty in India
3. Universal basic income (UBI) is less likely to be prone to exclusion errors which is often the case in government programmes

Select the correct answer using codes below:
(a) 1, 2 and 4 Only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 Only
(c) 1, 2 and 3 Only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Solution: c)
In India telecommunications is a success story when it comes to privatization.
Economic Survey 2017, Page 43 – 44

83. The latest economic survey argues that India’s ambivalence toward the private sector manifest in multiple ways. The most well-known example is the difficulty of privatizing public enterprises, even for firms where economists have made strong arguments that they belong in the private sector. In this light, which of the following sectors are the best candidates for privatisation, according to the Economic Survey?

1. Aviation sector
2. Fertilizer sector
3. Banking sector
4. Telecommunications sector

Select the correct answer using codes below:
(a) 1, 2 and 4 Only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 Only
(c) 1, 2 and 3 Only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Solution: c)
In India telecommunications is a success story when it comes to privatization.
Economic Survey 2017, Page 43 – 44

84. India has signed many Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with other countries. Which of the following is/are features of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)?

1. It is legally binding
2. Usually it doesn’t involve the exchange of money
3. MoUs are quicker than treaties and can be kept as secret

Select the correct answer using codes below:
(a) 2 and 3 Only
(b) 1 and 2 Only
(c) 1 and 3 Only
(d) 1, 2, 3

Solution: a)

India has signed many MoUs. It is good to know differences between Treaty, Convention, MoU, Protocol and Agreement.

MOUs are not legally binding but are viewed as serious documents by the law. In the United States, an MOU is the same as a letter of intent, which is a nonbinding agreement stating a binding agreement will soon follow. MOUs are most often used as part of multinational international relations because, unlike treaties, they are quick and can be kept secret. However, MOUs can also be used as a tool to modify existing treaties and domestically. MOUs are common, both domestically and abroad. They vary in length and complexity, but each understanding represents mutually accepted expectations between people, organizations or governments. Other key similarities between all MOUs is they are not legally binding and do not involve the exchange of money.

85. Which of the following Articles of the Constitution provide constitutional safeguard against manual scavenging?
1. Article 14
2. Article 19
3. Article 21
4. Article 23
5. Article 26

Select the correct answer using codes below:
(a) 1, 2, 3 and 4 Only
(b) 1, 3, 4 and 5 Only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 Only
(d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Solution: a)
Insights Current Affairs August 2016, page 8
Article 26 is concerned with Freedom to manage religious affair

86. The Krishna – Godavari inland and offshore basins said to have good prospects of tight oil and tight gas reserves from the conducted field studies. What’s tight oil?

(a) Oil that is found in reservoir rocks which have high permeability to allow vertical drilling
(b) Oil that is found in reservoir rocks with very low permeability which allows only horizontal drilling
(c) Oil that is stored in ancient rocks that have very high permeability
(d) None of the above

Solution: b)
Insights Prelims 2017 Test 10, Q 15

87. Although there are several enzyme systems within the body that scavenge free radicals, the principle micronutrient antioxidants are certain Vitamins. Which of the following Vitamins does not function as an antioxidant?
(a) Vitamin A (Beta Carotene)
(b) Vitamin C
(c) Vitamin E
(d) Vitamin D

Solution: d)
Insights Prelims 2017 Test 10, Q 19

Antioxidants are molecules which can safely interact with free radicals and terminate the chain reaction before vital molecules are damaged. Although there are several enzyme systems within the body that scavenge free radicals, the principle micronutrient (vitamin) antioxidants are vitamin E, beta-carotene, and vitamin C. Additionally, selenium, a trace metal that is required for proper function of one of the body’s antioxidant enzyme systems, is sometimes included in this category. The body cannot manufacture these micronutrients so they must be supplied in the diet.

Vitamin E: d-alpha tocopherol. A fat soluble vitamin present in nuts, seeds, vegetable and fish oils, whole grains (esp. wheat germ), fortified cereals, and apricots.
Current recommended daily allowance (RDA) is 15 IU per day for men and 12 IU per day for women.

Vitamin C: Ascorbic acid is a water soluble vitamin present in citrus fruits and juices, green peppers, cabbage, spinach, broccoli, kale, cantaloupe, kiwi, and strawberries. The RDA is 60 mg per day. Intake above 2000 mg may be associated with adverse side effects in some individuals.

Beta-carotene is a precursor to vitamin A (retinol) and is present in liver, egg yolk, milk, butter, spinach, carrots, squash, broccoli, yams, tomato, cantaloupe, peaches, and grains. Because beta-carotene is converted to vitamin A by the body there is no set requirement. Instead the RDA is expressed as retinol equivalents (RE), to clarify the relationship. (NOTE: Vitamin A has no antioxidant properties and can be quite toxic when taken in excess.)

88. Which of the following is/are benefits of low inflation?
   1. The purchasing power of money held by consumers and businesses will hold for long term
   2. Lower inflation results in lower cost of borrowing
   3. Lower inflation results in low interest rates

Select the correct answer using codes below:
(a) 1 and 2 Only
(b) 2 and 3 Only
(c) 1 and 3 Only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

Solution: d)
Insights Prelims 2017 Test 9, Q 25

89. The Economic Survey 2017 describes India’s recent demonetization as a “reverse helicopter drop”, or a “helicopter hoover”. Why?

(a) Because demonetization was a sudden and surprise move
(b) Because demonetization involved reduction of money supply
(c) Because demonetization was a ‘surgical strike’ on terrorist money supply and counterfeit currency
(d) None of the above

Solution: b)
Economic Survey 2017, Page 54

In the wake of the Global Financial Crisis (GFC), advanced economies have used monetary policy to stimulate growth, stretching its use to domains heretofore considered heretical such as negative interest rate policies and “helicopter drops” of money. In fact, India has given a whole new expression to unconventional monetary policy, with the difference that whereas advanced economies have focused on expanding the money supply, India’s demonetisation has reduced it. This policy could be considered a “reverse helicopter drop”, or perhaps more accurately a “helicopter hoover”

90. To which of the following factors does the Economic Survey attribute NPA problem in Indian banks?
   1. Reckless borrowing by private firms from banks
   2. Low interest rates by RBI
   3. Delayed environment clearances and land acquisition

Select the correct answer using codes below:
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3 only

Solution: c)
Economic Survey 2017, Page 85 – 86
91. Harmika, Medhi, Vedhika are parts of which of the following structures?
   (a) Dravida Temple  
   (b) Buddhist Stupa  
   (c) Pagoda  
   (d) Chaitya

Solution: b)
Insights Current Affairs August 2016, Page 10
https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/originals/a3/4b/6b/a34b6b8c748a53f88869725f7e2d7dc8.jpg

92. Mangroves help in stabilizing the coastline and preventing erosion from waves and storms. How do they do it?
   (a) The short height of mangroves slow down tides, hence coastal erosion  
   (b) The dense roots of mangroves trap sediments flowing down rivers and off the land, which helps in prevention of erosion  
   (c) Leaves of mangroves thrive on excess water and help maintaining normal water levels  
   (d) None of them

Solution: b)
Insights Prelims 2017 Test 9, Q 32
http://www.panda.org/about_our_earth/blue_planet/coasts/mangroves/mangrove_importance/

93. Which of the following is/are negative effects of forest fires?
   1. They increase probability of further burning in subsequent years  
   2. Fires can be followed by insect colonization and infestation  
   3. The replacement of vast areas of forest with pyrophytic grasslands results in loss of biodiversity  
   4. Smoke from fires can significantly reduce photosynthetic activity

Select the correct answer using codes below:
   (a) 1, 2 and 3 Only  
   (b) 2 and 3 Only  
   (c) 1, 3 and 4 Only  
   (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Solution: d)
Insights Prelims 2017 Test 9, Q 41
http://www.fao.org/docrep/004/y3582e/y3582e08.htm

94. With reference to in vitro fertilisation (IVF), consider the following statements:
   1. It involves fertilization of egg and sperm in a liquid medium outside the body  
   2. IVF is used in gestational surrogacy practice

Which of the above statements is/are correct?
   (a) 1 Only  
   (b) 2 Only  
   (c) Both 1 and 2  
   (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Solution: c)
Insights Prelims 2017 Test 9, Q 44
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/In_vitro_fertilisation

95. Experts have proposed advancing the Indian Standard Time (IST) by half an hour. What is the rationale behind this proposal?
   (a) This will save lots of energy running into thousands of crores for India  
   (b) This will result in more working hours for Indians  
   (c) Both a and b

Solution: c)
96. The Union Cabinet has approved amendments to the Maternity Benefit Act of 1961. Which of the following is not one of these amendments?

(a) Increase maternity leave to 26 weeks in all establishments, including both organised and unorganised sectors irrespective of number of employees in the establishment

(b) Provide 12 weeks leave for commissioning and adopting mothers

(c) Making it mandatory to provide creche facility for establishment where the number of workers is 50 and above

(d) Provide full payment by employer during maternity leave

Solution: a)
Insights Current Affairs August 2016 Page 17
http://www.prsindia.org/billtrack/the-maternity-benefit-amendment-bill-2016-4370/

97. Chit fund companies are regulated by

(a) RBI

(b) SEBI

(c) IRDA

(d) None of the above

Solution: d)
Insights Current Affairs August 2016 Page 40
Regulated by state governments.

98. RBI came up with Strategic Debt Restructuring (SDR) in 2015 to

(a) Provide an opportunity to banks to convert debt of companies to equity and sell them to the highest bidders, subject to authorization by existing shareholders

(b) Provide an avenue for the government to reduce its debt burden by selling more securities to RBI

(c) Provide an opportunity for domestic banks to restructure their securities to raise more offshore funds

(d) None of the above

Solution: a)
Economic Survey 2017, Page 103
Conversion to equity can be full or partial.
http://www.indianeconomy.net/splclassroom/218/what-is-strategic-debt-restructuring-sdrscheme

99. ‘TARANG’ Mobile App, ‘e-Trans’ & ‘DEEP’ e-bidding web portals are launched by the government to

(a) Bring transparency in telecom sector

(b) Enhance transparency in power transmission sector

(c) Boost e-governance in higher education sector

(d) Bring transparency in police departments across India

Solution: b)
Insights Current Affairs August 2016 Page 30

100. Harun Rashid Khan Committee recommendations are related to

(a) Debt restructuring of banks

(b) Regulation of non-banking finance activities

(c) Prevention of flow of illicit money in banking sector

(d) Corporate bond market

Solution: d)
Insights Current Affairs August 2016 Page 41; Link;