

Q.1) Louisiana Purchase is associated with USA and

- a) Russia
- b) Japan
- c) France
- d) United Kingdom

Q.1) Solution (c)

This refers to a historic land deal signed between the U.S. and France in 1803, wherein France agreed to sell its large North American territory of Louisiana to the U.S. government. After the successful execution of the deal, the land territory under the sovereign control of the U.S. government doubled in size. The deal was struck between U.S. President Thomas Jefferson and Emperor Napoleon in France. The Louisiana Purchase is considered to be a distress sale by Napoleon who urgently needed money to fund his war efforts in Europe.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/what-does-louisiana-purchase-mean/article20393771.ece>

Q.2) Consider the following statements about 'Project Saksham of Indian Railways'

1. It is a mass skilling exercise
2. Only employees associated with Railway Safety will undergo this exercise

Select the correct statements

- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 Only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.2) Solution (a)

The Indian Railways will launch the country's largest time-bound "upskilling" exercise for government employees to upgrade the skillsets of its 13 lakh-strong workforce with a single drive spanning nine months. Named Project Saksham, the exercise will start in January 2018 and go on till September, putting through training courses and specially designed skill-upgrade modules. Employees from the rank of a peon to the Railway Board Members and everyone in between will undergo the training.

IASbaba's Daily Quiz

November 15, 2017

The nature of the short-duration training will range from refresher courses, with an eye on evolved global practices in the respective areas, to skills in the existing lining of functioning.

Source: <http://indianexpress.com/article/india/railways-to-start-9-month-upskilling-exercise-for-employees-in-january-4933419/>

Q.3) The term 'White Helmets' which is often in news, is a

- a) Volunteer organisation that operates in parts of rebel-controlled Syria
- b) NGO known for its projects in war-torn regions and developing countries affected by endemic diseases
- c) Humanitarian organization that promotes road travel safety through education and advocacy
- d) Global Plan for the Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020

Q.3) Solution (a)

White Helmets officially known as Syria Civil Defence is a volunteer organisation that operates in parts of rebel-controlled Syria and in Turkey. The bulk of their activity in Syria consists of urban search and rescue in response to bombing, medical evacuation, evacuation of civilians from danger areas, and essential service delivery. 159 White Helmets have been killed since the organization's inception.

Source: <http://indianexpress.com/article/world/seven-white-helmets-members-shot-dead-in-northwestern-syria-4793530/>

Q.4) Consider the following statements about 'Mahabalipuram Stone Sculpture'

- 1. It is characterised by art and architecture that flourished in period of the Pallavas.
- 2. Geographical Indication (GI) Registry and Intellectual Property India presented the Geographical Indication Tag status to Mahabalipuram stone sculptures

Select the correct statements

- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 Only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.4) Solution (c)

Tamil Nadu in its application stated that sculptures from Mamallapuram are known to be carved in stone with characteristics of intricate designing chiselled finely, keeping with the spirit of the surrounding Pallava art and architecture. Idols from mythology or of deities depict divinity. The description includes cave architecture, rock architecture, structural temples, open sculptures, relief sculptures and painting/portrait sculptures.

News: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/banglar-rasogolla-mamallapuram-stone-sculptures-get-gi-tag/article20444856.ece>

Q.5) Cayman Islands, an overseas territory of the

- a) United Kingdom
- b) France
- c) Netherlands
- d) Spain

Q.5) Solution (a)

The Cayman is an autonomous British Overseas Territory in the western Caribbean Sea. The 264-square-kilometre territory comprises the three islands of Grand Cayman, Cayman Brac and Little Cayman located south of Cuba, northeast of Costa Rica, north of Panama, east of Mexico and northwest of Jamaica. Its capital is George Town.

The Cayman Islands is considered to be part of the geographic Western Caribbean Zone as well as the Greater Antilles. The territory is often considered a major world offshore financial haven for many wealthy individuals.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/international/paradise-papers-leaks-show-us-commerce-chief-uk-queens-offshore-investments/article19990720.ece>

