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Q.1) Consider the following statements with respect to 'ExoMars'

1. The NASA and Russia's Federal Space Agency have teamed up on ExoMars
2. It comprises of two missions, which includes a trace gas research and communication satellite and a rover.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.1) Solution (b)

ExoMars (Exobiology on Mars) is a two-part astrobiology project to search for evidence of life on Mars, a joint mission of the European Space Agency (ESA) and the Russian space agency Roscosmos. The first part, launched in 2016, placed a trace gas research and communication satellite into Mars orbit and released a stationary experimental lander (which crashed). The second part is planned to launch in 2020, and to land the ExoMars rover on the surface, supporting a science mission that is expected to last into 2022 or beyond.

Source: <https://indianexpress.com/article/technology/science/esa-roscosmos-mars-rovers-landing-spot-revealed-5444319/>

Q.2) The terms 'Mawrth Vallis' and 'Oxia Planum' is associated with

- a) Cryptocurrency
- b) Ransomware
- c) Onion Websites
- d) None of the above

Q.2) Solution (d)

Mawrth Vallis literally means "a valley on Mars".

Oxia Planum is Mars's equator.

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Source: <https://indianexpress.com/article/technology/science/esa-rosocosmos-mars-rovers-landing-spot-revealed-5444319/>

Q.3) 'Energy Efficiency Revolving Fund (EERF)' was recently in news. Consider the following statements with respect to EERF

1. It aims to expand and sustain investments in the energy efficiency market, build market diversification, and scale up existing technologies.
2. Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Energy Efficiency Services (EESL) signed a USD 13 million grant to set up the fund.

Select the correct statements

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

Q.3) Solution (c)

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) would grant \$13 million to the government-owned Energy Efficiency Services Ltd (EESL) to set up an energy efficiency revolving fund (EERF).

Towards supporting investments in new, innovative and scalable business models, EESL and ADB signed an agreement for a Global Environment Facility (GEF) grant of USD 13 million to establish an Energy Efficiency Revolving Fund.

The fund aims to expand and sustain investments in the energy efficiency market in India, build market diversification, and scale up existing technologies.

The tie-up was announced at the "International Symposium to Promote Innovation and Research in Energy Efficiency 2018".

Source: https://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/adb-to-grant-eesl-13-mn-for-energy-efficiency-revolving-fund-118111100548_1.html

Q.4) Consider the following statements with respect to 'India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO)'

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1. It is a public sector company that provides services to promote Indian exports, by organising trade fairs, buyer-seller meets, and providing information on produce and market.
2. It is under the aegis of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry

Select the correct statements

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

Q.4) Solution (c)

India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) is the premier trade promotion agency of India, provides a broad spectrum of services to trade and industry and acts as a catalyst for growth of India's trade.

ITPO is a Mini-Ratna Category-1 Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) with 100 percent shareholding of Government of India.

The main corporate objectives of ITPO are:

- To promote external and domestic trade of India in cost effective manner by organizing and participating in international trade fairs in India and abroad; organizing buyer-seller meets and contact promotion programmes abroad; conducting overseas market surveys, exchanging and contact promotion programmes abroad; conducting overseas market surveys, exchanging and coordinating visits of business delegations, and undertake need based research to facilitate trade in specific sectors/markets;
- To support and assist small and medium enterprises to access markets both in India and abroad;
- To disseminate trade information and facilitate E-commerce/trade;
- To develop quality physical infrastructure, services and management so as to enable holding of trade promotion events such as conventions and trade exhibitions of international standard; and
- To enlist the involvement and support of the State Governments, other government trade promotion agencies, trade and industry associations in trade promotion of India's external and domestic trade.

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With its Headquarters at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi and regional offices at Bangalore, Chennai, Kolkata and Mumbai; ITPO ensures representative participation of trade and industry from different regions of the country in its events in India and abroad.

Source: https://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/iitf-a-platform-for-all-kinds-of-businesses-tourism-minister-118111401344_1.html

Q.5) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Limited (ISPRL)'

1. It is a Special Purpose Vehicle which looks into the construction and management of the Strategic Crude Oil Storage facilities
2. It is a wholly owned subsidiary of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC)

Select the correct statements

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

Q.5) Solution (a)

The construction of the Strategic Crude Oil Storage facilities is being managed by Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Limited (ISPRL), a Special Purpose Vehicle, which is a wholly owned subsidiary of Oil Industry Development Board (OIDB) under the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas.

Source: <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/markets/commodities/india-to-lease-out-half-of-padur-strategic-oil-storage-to-adnoc/article25473075.ece>