

## Embassy of India

### Tokyo

#### Successful soft landing of India's unmanned space craft Chandrayaan-3 on August 23, 2023

##### Press Release

India created history when India's Chandrayaan-3 Moon mission successfully accomplished soft landing on Moon's South Pole on August 23, 2023. India thus became the fourth country in the history to have soft-landed a spacecraft on the Moon, and the first to have done so in the Moon's south polar region.

2. Chandrayaan-3, Sanskrit for "Moon vehicle", launched on July 14, consists of an indigenous lander module (Vikram), a propulsion module and a rover (Pragyan). The data from Chandrayaan-3's scientific instruments will be crucial because the mission will be the first to physically, chemically and thermally characterize the soil, subsoil and air near the Moon's south pole on location.

3. Immediately after the landing, Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi lauded the scientist's hard work and talent. The Prime Minister said that "India's successful Moon mission is not just India's alone. This is a year in which the world is witnessing India's G-20 presidency. Our approach of "one earth, one family, one future" is resonating across the globe'. This success belongs to all of humanity, and it will help Moon missions by other countries in the future" he said. "I am confident that all the countries in the world, including those from the Global South are capable of achieving such feats. We can all aspire for the Moon and beyond", he added.

4. India and Japan have a robust science and technology cooperation, which was formalized through Inter-Governmental Agreement signed in 1985. Japan Space Exploration Agency (JAXA) and Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) collaboration dates back to 1960s. Both agencies have signed several cooperative documents addressing lunar exploration, satellite navigation, X-ray astronomy and Asia Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APSRAF). Japan-India Space Dialogue also lays the framework to exchange information on the space policy and to hold discussions on space security, global navigation satellite systems, space situational awareness (SSA), space-related rules and norms, and other areas of mutual interest.

5. India's successful unmanned lunar landing has added momentum to a water exploration Mission with Japan. (ISRO) and (JAXA) will collaborate for the Lunar Polar Exploration (LUPEX) mission, which also involves a lander and a rover that will study water-ice at the Moon's South Pole. India along with Japan, is also a member of the Artemis Accords, the

multilateral effort to place humans on the Moon by 2025 and thereafter to expand human space exploration to the earth's wider neighbourhood in the solar system

6. The success of Chandrayaan-3 mission highlights India's technological prowess by using indigenous systems at significantly lower price tag. The lunar quest is also a prelude to India's first human space mission – called "Gaganyaan", sanskrit for "sky craft" – scheduled for next year which will see an Indian astronaut arrive at the International Space Station.

7. The soft landing of Chandrayaan-3 will significantly contribute to fostering a global environment of scientific inquiry, innovation and international cooperation.

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