



Embassy of India
Rabat

Press Release

India has become the first country in the world to land near the south pole of the Moon after historic successful landing of Vikram Rover on August 23, 2023 at 1804 Hrs Indian standard time. The Chandrayaan 3 (Moon Mission 3) was launched from Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota on July 14 by indigenously developed launch vehicle LVM3 M4. It took 41 days for the entire process from launch to successful landing near the south pole of the moon on August 23, 2023.

2. With the successful landing of Vikram Lander and Pragyan Rover on the moon, India has become the first country to reach near the south pole of the moon and fourth nation after USA, Russia and China to have successful landing on moon. Indian expedition is unique in many ways, as it has not only the most competitive moon expedition (total cost of the project is USD 75 million only) as compared to other Missions, but it also scripted a history to successfully land near South Pole of the moon, where no other country has ever attempted due to difficult terrain and several technical challenges. Lander Vikram and Rover Pragyan have started sending images and will do take critical soil and environmental samples on the surface of the moon for further analysis of scientific importance.

3. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi who virtually joined the historic moment along with the ISRO scientists team lead by ISRO Chairman Shri S Somanath and the entire nation, has applauded the efforts of the entire team of the scientists and termed it as a historic and proud moment. He termed the success of Chandrayaan 3 as aspirations and capabilities of 1.4 billion Indians. PM Modi mentioned that the India believes in the principle of "One earth, One Family, One Future" and that Indian moon mission is also based on the same human-centric approach. He further added that the success of Chandrayaan 3 belongs to all of humanity as it will help moon missions by other countries in the future. He expressed confidence that the achievements of Chandrayaan expedition will take India's flight beyond the lunar orbits. PM Modi also thanked to a number of world leaders who congratulated ISRO and India for the successful landing of Chandrayaan 3.

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August 24, 2023