

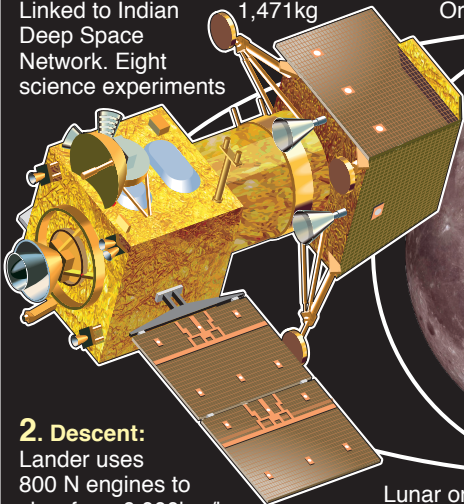
India's first soft lunar landing mission

India's Chandrayaan 2 mission hopes to confirm evidence of water ice and essential minerals in the lunar crust. Eternally dark craters at the south pole are believed to hold vast quantities of water

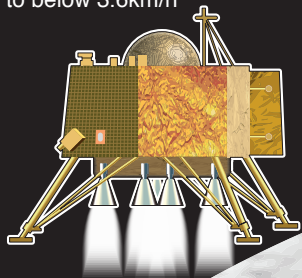
Orbiter: 2,379kg.
Linked to Indian Deep Space Network. Eight science experiments

Vikram lander: 1,471kg

1. Sep 2: Lander separates from Orbiter during circular lunar orbit

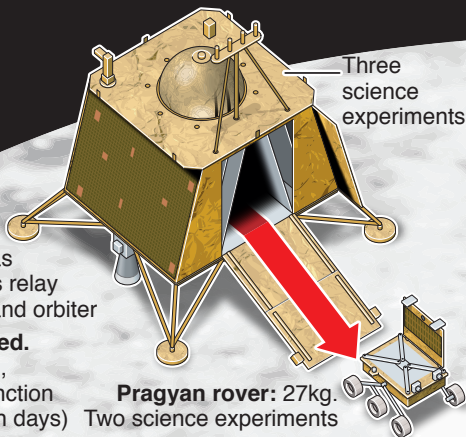


2. Descent:
Lander uses 800 N engines to slow from 6,000km/h to below 3.6km/h



Lunar orbit

3. Sep 7: Soft landing on plain between Manzinus C and Simpelius N craters, in Moon's southern polar region



Three science experiments

Lander serves as communications relay between rover and orbiter

4. Sep 7-21: Rover deployed.

Rover can travel up to 500m, at speed of 1cm/sec. Will function for single lunar day (14 Earth days)

Pragyan rover: 27kg.
Two science experiments