



**KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY**  
Only IAS Academy by Grandson of "Per. unthalaivar Kamarajar"

# U.S. company successfully landed its spacecraft on the moon



Firefly Aerospace's Blue Ghost Mission 1 touched down near Mons Latreille, a volcanic formation in Mare Crisium on the moon's north eastern near side.

The spacecraft was "**stable and upright**" — in contrast to the first private landing last February, which came down sideways.

Nicknamed "**Ghost Riders in the Sky**," the mission is **part of a NASA-industry partnership** aimed at reducing costs and supporting **Artemis**, the programme designed **to return astronaut to the moon**.

## India's moon missions

India's moon missions include Chandrayaan-1, Chandrayaan-2, Chandrayaan-3, Chandrayaan-4, and Lunar Polar Exploration Mission (LUPEX)

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## Chandrayaan - 1

India's first mission to the moon, launched in **2008**. The mission included an orbiter and an impactor. The impactor confirmed the **presence of water molecules** in the lunar exosphere.

## Chandrayaan - 2

Launched in 2019, it was India's **second unmanned lunar mission**. It was the **1st Indian expedition to attempt a soft landing** on moon with indigenous technology.

However, the landing probe, Vikram deviated from its trajectory and **crashed**.

## Chandrayaan - 3

This mission was **successful in landing a lander** on the lunar surface, making **India the fourth country** to do so after USA, Russia and China. It was also the **first country to land on the moon's south pole**.

## Chandrayaan - 4

Following the success of [Chandrayaan-3](#), ISRO is now turning its attention to Chandrayaan-4, a lunar sample-return mission.

- This ambitious project **aims to achieve a soft landing** on the Moon, collect **lunar rock samples, and return them to Earth**.
- If successful, India would join the ranks of the United States, Russia, and China in accomplishing this challenging feat.

## Lunar Polar Exploration Mission (LUPEX)

This mission will be a **joint mission between India and Japan**. It will explore the moon for water and resources.