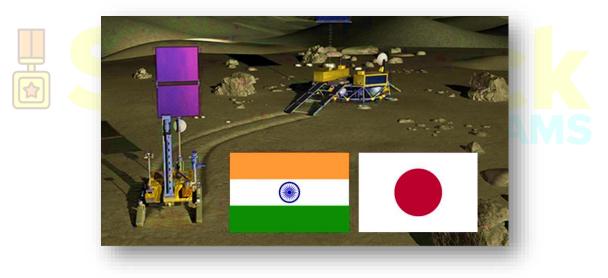


Chandrayaan - 4 Lunar Polar Exploration Mission (LUPEX)

Chandrayaan - 4

- The Lunar Polar Exploration Mission (LUPEX) Or Chandrayaan-4 Is A Planned Joint Lunar Mission By The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) And Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA).
- The Mission Would Send An Uncrewed Lunar Lander And Rover To Explore The South Pole Region Of The Moon No Earlier Than 2026. JAXA Is Likely To Provide The Under-Development H3 Launch Vehicle And The Rover, While ISRO Would Be Providing The Lander.



What Do We Know?

- ISRO Signed An Implementation Arrangement (IA) In December 2017 For Pre-Phase A, Phase A Study And Completed The Feasibility Report In March 2018 With JAXA To Explore The Polar Regions Of Moon For Water With A Joint Lunar Polar Exploration Mission (LUPEX) To Be Launched No Earlier Than 2026.
- ISRO And JAXA Held The Joint Mission Definition Review (JMDR) In December 2018. By The End Of 2019, JAXA Concluded Its Internal Project Readiness Review.

- Since Chandrayaan-2's Lander Crashed On The Moon During Its Landing Attempt In September 2019, India Started To Study A New Lunar Mission Named Chandrayaan-3 As A Repeat Attempt To Demonstrate The Landing Capabilities Needed For The LUPEX.
- In A Joint Statement By JAXA And NASA On 24 September 2019, The **Possibilities Of Joining NASA's LUPEX Mission** Were Discussed.

