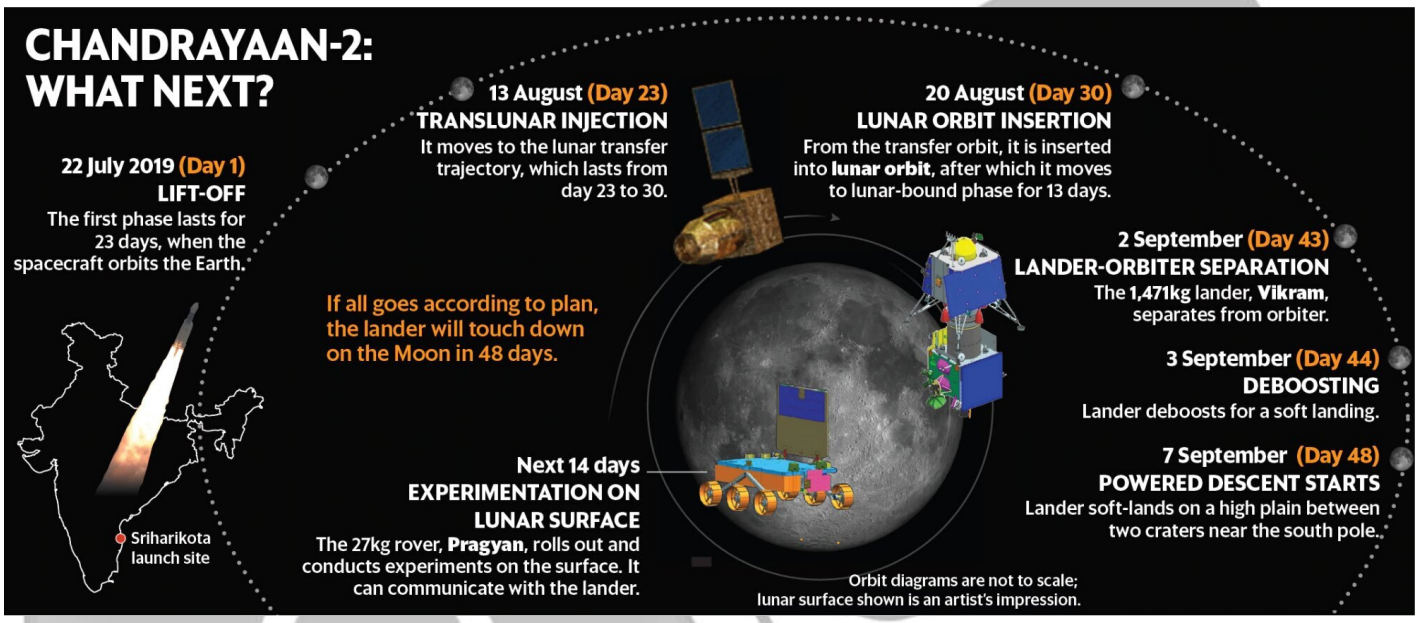
Chandrayaan-2 : Launched Successfully

India’s Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (**GSLVMkIII**-M1), successfully launched the **Chandrayaan-2** spacecraft into the earth orbit.

- The chandrayaan-2 is now revolving round the earth with a **perigee** (nearest point to Earth) of 169.7 km and an **apogee** (farthest point to Earth) of 45,475 km.



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- Chandrayaan-2 is India's second mission (after Chandrayaan-1) to the moon and comprises a fully indigenous **Orbiter, Lander** (Vikram) and **Rover** (Pragyan).
    - The Rover Pragyan is housed inside Vikram lander.
- The mission aims to expand our knowledge and understanding of the **origin and evolution** of the **Moon** through a detailed study of its **topography, mineralogy, surface chemical composition, thermo-physical characteristics** and **atmosphere.**
- After Chandrayaan-2, the **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** has **planned the launch** of its solar mission, **Aditya-L1,** in the first half of 2020 to study the **Sun’s corona.**

Aditya-L1

- The satellite will be launched during 2019 – 2020 timeframe by **PSLV-XL** from **Sriharikota.**
- Aditya L-1 is a follow on mission to **Aditya 1** (that was meant to observe only the solar corona). It will provide observations of the sun's **photosphere** (soft and hard X-ray), **chromosphere** (Ultra Violet) and **corona** (Visible and Near infrared rays).

Source: TH