

Exploring Space

Chapter 12: Beyond Earth · Topic 3

Key Concept

Satellites launched into space serve many practical purposes on Earth, including weather forecasting, GPS navigation, and television/communication signals. Space exploration also helps scientists understand the origins of the universe, search for signs of water or life on other planets, and develop new technologies that often find uses back on Earth, from improved materials to medical imaging techniques. India's Chandrayaan-3 mission successfully landed near the Moon's south pole in 2023, making India one of the few countries to achieve a soft lunar landing.

Quick Revision Notes

- ISRO is India's national space research organisation.
- Chandrayaan missions have studied the Moon; Mangalyaan studied Mars.
- Satellites support weather forecasting, GPS, and communication on Earth.
- Chandrayaan-3 achieved a successful soft landing near the Moon's south pole in 2023.

Practice Questions

- 1 Name one Indian space mission that studied the Moon.
- 2 Explain two practical uses of satellites in everyday life.
- 3 Why is space exploration considered valuable, even though it is expensive?