



Beresheet 2: Israel

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Why in News

Recently, Israel launched the **Beresheet 2 project** aimed at landing an **unmanned craft** on the moon in **2024**.

Earlier, Israel's **Beresheet probe crash landed** on the Moon.



Key Points

- **Background:**
 - The **Beresheet probe** was a **private mission** to the Moon by Israeli non-profit Spacell organisation.
 - Beresheet in hebrew (spoken in Israel) **means Genesis**.
 - It was successfully launched in **February 2019**, on board a **Falcon 9 rocket** from **Cape Canaveral (USA)** and arrived in lunar orbit in **April 2019**.
 - It suffered an **engine failure** as it prepared to land and **crashed abruptly** on the surface of the **moon**.

- **Beresheet 2:**
 - **Objective:** Conducting **experiments and collecting data** on behalf of school students.
 - **Structure:** It will involve launching **two landing craft and an orbiter** that would circle the moon for years.
 - **Cost:** It will cost around **100 million dollars** raised from **international partnerships** and **donors**.
 - **Significance:** **Israel could become the fourth nation** to land a spacecraft on the moon after the **USA, the former Soviet Union and China**.
- **Other Missions to Moon:**
 - **India** has planned a new moon mission named **Chandrayaan-3**. It is likely to be launched in early **2021**.
 - It will be a mission repeat of **Chandrayaan-2** and will include a Lander and Rover similar to that of **Chandrayaan-2**, but will not have an orbiter.
 - **Chandrayaan-2** failed which crushed **India's dream to become the first nation** to successfully touch down on the lunar surface in its maiden attempt.
 - The **United Arab Emirates (UAE)** has decided to send an **unmanned spacecraft to the moon in 2024**.
 - **Artemis** is a crewed spaceflight program of the **National Aeronautics and Space Administration** (NASA) that has the goal of landing "**the first woman and the next man**" on the Moon, specifically at the lunar south pole region **by 2024**.