



The Astrophile Newsletter

One Fond of Starlore: An Amateur Astronomer

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ISS EarthKAM workshop in school

September 25-October 01 mission saw students taking breathtaking pictures of the earth

A NASA funded and supported program ISS EarthKAM Mission 63 was conducted in different schools in Delhi towards the end of September. The mission was scheduled for Sept. 25 to Oct. 01.

The students using the innovative technology onboard International Space Station to look down on Earth and learn about the geological and geographical features and to understand the changes our planet is going through. The results of the images will be used as part of their curriculum to understand various features on land. Studies on deforestation, population expansion and turbulent weather patterns can also be studied. Next Mission is expected in the month on January.

Moon phases and dates

Important phases and dates for Moon to plan your observation

02/10/18	Third Quarter	15:15
09/10/18	New Moon	09:16
16/10/18	First Quarter	23:31
24/10/18	Half Moon	22:15



Jupiter

Jupiter will shine bright in the evening sky looking due west just after sunset. It is shining bright enough to be spotted in the urban skies throughout October. It will set early in the evening.



Saturn

The ringed planet will be shining bright in the constellation of Sagittarius just outside the "TEA POT" next to milky way. The planet is the faintest of the 3 planets visible but bright enough to spot from urban skies. The planet will set before midnight and is good for views in the evening skies.



Mars

The red planet is still shining bright in the night sky. Setting just after midnight, the red planet has a lot of great features to reveal to the observers.

Other Solar system planets like **Mercury, Venus, Uranus and Neptune** will also be visible in the month of October but due to its distance, wont be able to see with amateur telescopes.

Chandrayaan 2 to be launched on Jan 3

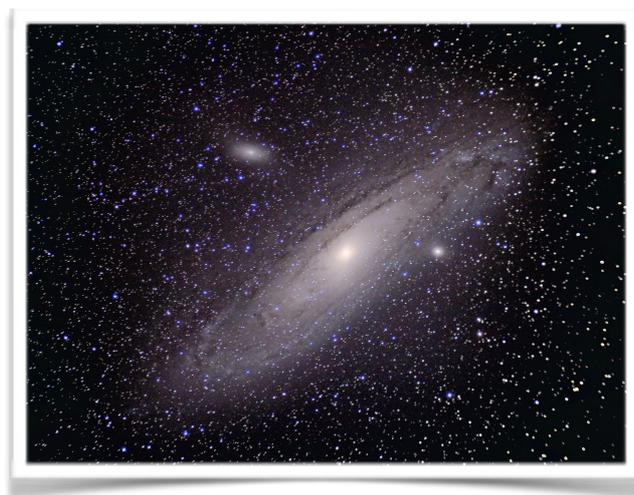
ISRO announced the launch date for Chandrayaan 2 mission.

Indian Space research Organisation (ISRO) chief Mr. K. Sivan has recently announced that Chandrayaan 2 will be launched no earlier than Jan 3. This is the next target date.

Chandrayaan-2, India's second mission to the Moon is a totally indigenous mission comprising of an Orbiter, Lander and Rover. After reaching the 100 km lunar orbit, the Lander housing the Rover will separate from the Orbiter. After a controlled descent, the Lander will soft land on the lunar surface at a specified site and deploy a Rover.

The mission will carry a six-wheeled Rover which will move around the landing site in semi-autonomous mode as decided by the ground commands. The instruments on the rover will observe the lunar surface and send back data, which will be useful for analysis of the lunar soil.

The Chandrayaan-2 weighing around 3290 kg and would orbit around the moon and perform the objectives of remote sensing the moon. The payloads will collect scientific information on lunar topography, mineralogy, elemental abundance, lunar exosphere and signatures of hydroxyl and water-ice.



Astrophotography workshop for young

A one night astrophotography workshop conducted in Tijara, Rajasthan for the young enthusiasts. The program went well as the students clicked some cracking pictures of the sky. They clicked Andromeda galaxy, Lagoon Nebula and Triffid Nebula and California Nebula. The equipment and guidance was provided by Astrophile team.

Astrophile constantly promote such skill development and learning opportunity to various schools across the nation.

WORLD SPACE WEEK 2018

World Space week 2018 will be celebrated from October 4-10, 2018 across the world. Over 100 countries are expected to participate in the week long celebration of space exploration. World space week is celebrated to mark the successful launch of first human satellite in to space on Oct 4th and "The signing of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies" on Oct 10th.

World Space week is a United Nation declared event and has over 4,000 events listed last year with more than 20,00,000 audience/participants. There are many small or big events which can be conducted within an individual or in capacity of your institution. With simple talk or movie screening or public observation, poetry, debate or any such activity as per the choice or availability of time can be done in order to participate in this global event. All you have to do is to register for the event.

The theme for 2018 WSW is: "Space Unites The World". Looking for any ideas or any support to conduct the program or any info about how to register, do contact us.

