

South Korea's Ambitious Lunar and Martian Exploration Agenda: Key Missions

Space Exploration · Answer Key · 15 Questions

1. What is the target year for South Korea's first indigenous lunar landing mission?

- A) 2030
- B) 2031
- C) 2032**
- D) 2035

2. Which newly established South Korean agency is spearheading the nation's space exploration efforts?

- A) Korea National Space Agency (KNSA)
- B) Korea Aerospace Administration (KASA)**
- C) National Aerospace Institute of Korea (NAIK)
- D) Advanced Space Research Center (ASRC)

3. South Korea plans to land a probe on Mars by which year?

- A) 2035
- B) 2040
- C) 2045**
- D) 2050

4. What is the name of South Korea's indigenously developed three-stage launch vehicle that has successfully placed satellites into orbit?

- A) KSLV-III
- B) Nuri (KSLV-II)**
- C) Naro-1
- D) Hanbit-Nano

5. Which of the following is NOT a stated objective for South Korea's space program in the coming decades?

- A) Establishing a lunar base
- B) Developing independent satellite navigation capabilities
- C) Conducting crewed missions to Mars**
- D) Launching a Mars orbiter in 2035

6. South Korea's '425 Project' focuses on developing what type of satellite constellation?

- A) Earth observation satellites
- B) Communication satellites
- C) Weather monitoring satellites
- D) Military reconnaissance satellites**

7. In collaboration with which private aerospace company is South Korea exploring the possibility of sending a 500 kg payload to Mars in the early 2030s?

- A) Blue Origin
- B) SpaceX**
- C) Rocket Lab
- D) Virgin Galactic

8. What significant milestone did South Korea achieve in May 2023 concerning its indigenous space capabilities?

- A) Successfully launching its first deep-space CubeSat
- B) Completing the fourth successful launch of the Nuri rocket**
- C) Testing its first solid-fuel space rocket
- D) Signing the Artemis Accords

9. Which South Korean satellite, launched in August 2022, is currently orbiting the Moon and studying its surface?

- A) STSAT-3
- B) KOMPSAT-3A
- C) Danuri (KPLO)**
- D) GEO-KOMPSAT-2B

10. What is the primary role of the Korea Aerospace Administration (KASA) as described by President Yoon Suk Yeol?

- A) To develop advanced aerospace materials
- B) To lead the country's 'space economy' and foster innovation**
- C) To solely focus on military satellite development
- D) To exclusively manage international space collaborations

11. Which year is South Korea aiming to launch a lunar communication orbiter?

- A) 2029**
- B) 2030
- C) 2031
- D) 2032

12. South Korea aims to become one of the top five global space powers by which year?

- A) 2030
- B) 2035
- C) 2040
- D) 2045**

13. What is the projected budget for South Korea's space exploration over the next two decades, as announced by then-President Yoon Suk Yeol?

- A) \$50 billion
- B) \$60 billion
- C) \$72.6 billion**
- D) \$100 billion

14. Which South Korean company is a key player in the development of the KF-21 fighter jet, a significant achievement in the nation's aerospace industry?

- A) Hanwha Aerospace
- B) Korea Aerospace Industries (KAI)**
- C) Innospace
- D) Perigee Aerospace

15. What is the objective of South Korea's 'R&D Project to Foster Industrial Competitiveness in Low-Earth Orbit (LEO) Satellite Communications'?

- A) To develop advanced asteroid mining technology
- B) To achieve technological independence in LEO satellite communications and enable market entry for domestic companies**
- C) To build a lunar base for scientific research
- D) To create a new deep-space telescope network