

Isro, Nasa to launch joint ISS mission

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India has decided to join the Artemis Accords, which brings like-minded countries together on civil space exploration, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nasa) and Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) have agreed to a joint mission to the International Space Station (ISS) in 2024, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced while addressing the press at the White House on Thursday.

“On space, we will be able to announce that India is signing the Artemis Accords, which advance a common vision for space exploration for the benefit of all humankind,” a senior administration official had said hours before the meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Joe Biden in the Oval Office. Grounded in the Outer Space Treaty of 1967 (OST), the Artemis Accords are a non-binding set of principles designed to guide civil space exploration and use in the 21st century. It is an American-led effort to return humans to the moon by 2025, with the ultimate goal of expanding space exploration to Mars and beyond.

The official said that Nasa and the Isro are developing a strategic framework for human spaceflight cooperation this year.

In addition, they have agreed to a joint mission to the International Space Station in the year 2024, said the official who spoke on condition of anonymity. On semiconductors, US companies are partnering with India to build a semiconductor ecosystem that promotes supply chain diversification.