

Nasa families don't go to the moon, but they too are on the mission

For the families of the Artemis II astronauts, the mission 'begins at assignment'

KATRINA MILLER
6 April

When the astronaut Reid Wiseman learned that he would be commanding Nasa's Artemis II mission around the moon, his immediate reaction was not excitement.

"It was pretty heavy," Wiseman said on Nasa's Curious Universe podcast. In part, that is because he is the sole parent of two daughters.

"It was not like you just won the lottery and you're running out and jumping for joy," he said. "It was not that feeling at all."

Venturing into space has always been dangerous. But the risk of Artemis II is even higher. The test flight is the first time humans have gone to the moon in more than half a century, and the mission is using a vehicle that had never before carried astronauts to space.

The toll of such risk is felt not only by the astronauts, but also by their loved ones — long before liftoff occurs.

"The launch is a capstone stress event," said James Picano, a psychologist at Nasa's Johnson Space Center in Houston who works to support the families of Artemis II. But "there's an incredible amount of stress on a family before the launch even happens."

For them, he added, "the mission begins at assignment."

Nasa selected the Artemis II crew in 2023, nearly three years before the mission launched on Wednesday.

Astronaut training is rigorous and time-consuming, even for more routine trips to the International Space Station. The strain of long stretches of time away from spouses and children is amplified by intense schedules and the ambiguity of ever-shifting timelines.

Dr Catherine Hansen, who is married to Jeremy Hansen, Artemis II mission specialist of the Canadian Space Agency, described the stress of juggling various briefings and contingency planning before the moon launch.

"It is all-consuming for our whole family," she wrote in a Facebook post. (The Hansens have two daughters and a son.) Planning was made even more difficult by needing to prepare for the worst-case scenario, she added, "con-



A picture of the moon taken by an Artemis II crew member through the window of the Orion spacecraft on Day 5 of the mission

versations that no family of a moon-bound astronaut ever wants to have, but absolutely must."

When Nasa first began sending astronauts to space in the 1960s, little formal support was available to wives and children.

Tracy L Scott, a sociologist at Emory University who researches the lives of astronaut families, described the space agency at the time as "much more like a startup" — small, informal and casual.

"Everybody knew each other," said Dr Scott, whose father, Commander David Scott, flew in the agency's Gemini and Apollo programs.

In the tight-knit communities around Nasa's astronaut training facility in Houston, the families forged their own bonds of support.

Astronauts of previous missions would visit the homes of crew members in space to walk them through what was happening. Some of the women, drawn together by the shared experience of raising children while married to absent husbands in dangerous careers, formed the Astronaut Wives Club (the subject of a book and TV series).

Families were thrust into the public eye, as reporters set up shop on their lawns and even inside homes. Nasa provided no media training, though many of the wives live in the spotlight.

According to Dr Scott, more formal psychological, medical and financial resources for astronaut families began to appear after the 1967 Apollo 1 disaster, in which three crew lost their lives. "But this was being developed kind of by the seat of the pants at the time," she said.

As Nasa grew, the culture shifted to less personal and more bureaucratic, and astronaut families fell out of public view. The Astronaut Wives Club morphed into an organization known as the Astronaut Spouse Group, which interfaces with Nasa's Astronaut Family Support Office and its Behavioral Health and Performance Operations group.

"Family needs and family support have come into full relief," Dr Picano said, adding that the resources were essential for the success of missions, allowing the onboard crew to fully concentrate on tasks in space.

Dr Picano has worked with Anna Morgenthau, a Nasa psychologist, to offer counseling, routine check-ins and other services for the families of astronauts headed toward the International Space Station.

But the group has had to rethink support strategies for the Artemis program, which plans to establish a sustained presence on the moon and send astronauts to Mars. Deep space exploration will come with new challenges

for families. One big issue will be communication.

On the International Space Station, astronauts can stay in touch with people on Earth via email, phone and video calls. Artemis crews, on the other hand, will have less opportunity to connect with their loved ones. Communications with astronauts on the moon face a brief time delay. The families of the Artemis II crew members were trained on what to expect and on how to navigate around these delays.

"You can imagine some of the complex emotions you might feel as a family member," Dr Morgenthau said. "You're excited, you're proud of them, but also there's some anxiety and some fear about potential risks."

Two weeks before the launch, the astronauts entered quarantine in Houston with their families. The crew traveled separately from their loved ones to John F Kennedy Space Center in Florida five days before liftoff.

"This endgame time is probably the most precious time you can have," Wiseman said in an interview in January from quarantine in Houston before a postponed launch attempt. "You get a moment to think about what's truly valuable in your life."

On Wednesday afternoon, the astronauts, wearing bright orange spacesuits, lined up across from their loved ones to share final goodbyes. Victor Glover, the Artemis II pilot, blew kisses to his wife and four daughters. Mission specialist Christina Koch curled her fingers in the shape of a heart toward her husband.

Then the crew loaded into a van that drove them to the launchpad, got strapped to their seats in a spacecraft atop Nasa's giant rocket and blasted off toward space.

The astronauts did not get a chance to speak with their families until the third and fourth days of the mission. In a video call with NBC News, Wiseman described speaking with his daughters as "surreal," as he and the rest of the crew sped toward the moon.

"For a moment, I was reunited with my little family," he said. "It was the greatest moment of my entire life."

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Army lays tech road map for unmanned aerial systems

MARTAND MISHRA
New Delhi, 6 April

The Indian army unveiled a technology road map for unmanned warfare capabilities on Monday.

The 50-page document titled 'Indian Army's Technology Roadmap for Unmanned Aerial Systems and Loitering Munitions' aims to provide clear and actionable guidance to industry, academia and research institutions working in the unmanned systems domain.

Presented by Deputy Chief of the Army Staff (Capability Development & Sustenance), Lieutenant General Rahul R Singh, it detailed 30 types of unmanned aerial systems (UAS) and loitering munitions across five categories, translating into nearly 80 variants, PTI reported citing a

New battle lines

- Focus shifts to low-cost, mass-deployable drones reshaping warfare
- 30 UAS types across 5 categories, translating into nearly 80 variants
- Industry, startups, academia to align with army's evolving requirements



senior Army officer.

While addressing the launch event, Singh cautioned stakeholders about the document's sensitive nature, urging them not to share it with unauthorised persons.

The move comes amid a global shift in warfare, where inexpensive drones which cost

just hundred to a few thousand dollars are being deployed at scale. In the Russia-Ukraine war, both sides have used large volumes of low-cost and loitering drones to destroy high-value targets, including tanks and artillery, changing cost equations on the battlefield. The US has also used the Iranian-modelled Low-cost Uncrewed Combat Attack System (LUCAS) drones for the first time in the ongoing war with the country.

The roadmap lays out a vision for integrating UAS and loitering munitions across operational roles for the armed forces, providing crucial support to manufacturers to align the efforts for the Army's evolving requirements.

Sathankulam custodial deaths: 9 police officers sentenced to death

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
Madurai, 6 April

In a landmark judgment, a Madurai court on Monday handed death penalty to nine police personnel in the sensational 2020 Sathankulam custodial death case.

Father-son duo P Jayaraj and J Bennix were allegedly assaulted by the convicted policemen in Sathankulam, Thoothukudi district, for allegedly keeping their mobile shop open in violation of Covid-19 norms.

First Additional District and Sessions Judge G Muthukumar classified the case as the rarest of rare, observing that those entrusted with protecting the public had committed a crime that shook the collective conscience of society.

The court sentenced all

nine convicted police personnel to death for the murders of Jayaraj and Bennix.

The convicts include former inspector S Sridhar, former sub-inspectors Balakrishnan and Raghu Ganesh, and head constables Murugan and Saamidurai.

In addition to the capital punishment, the court imposed a combined fine of ₹1.40 crore on the convicts to be paid as compensation to the victims' family.

While pronouncing the quantum of sentence, the judge said the police are meant to protect the common man, and when they become the perpetrators of such brutality, the law must act as a deterrent.

It also noted that by killing both the father and the son at once, the police had uprooted the very foundation of a family.

The Rajasthan State Co-operative Bank Ltd.
DC-1, Lakshmi Shopping Center, Opposite Nehru Baidyan, Tonk Road, Jaipur-302015.
Ph: 27448114, 27444176, Website: www.rscb.org.in

Notice Inviting Tenders (NIT) Tender Notice No. RSCB/Purchase/26-27/01
Tenders are invited on eProcurement Portal, Government of Rajasthan (<https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>) from eligible bidders for following:-
1. Request for proposal (RFP) for Annual Technical Support of Oracle Exadata Appliance and Oracle Security Products & Oracle OEM Advanced Customer Services Resource for Operational Support.
Tentative Schedule for tenders:-

S.No.	Events/Particulars	Date & Time
1.	Start date and time of sale/download of e-bid	07.04.2026, 10.00AM
2.	Last date and time of sale/download of e-bid	27.04.2026, 10.30AM
3.	Last Date of submission of e-bid with Bid security	27.04.2026, 10.30AM
4.	Opening of technical bid	27.04.2026, 11.30AM
5.	Websites where tender is available	https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in , https://rscb.bank.in , https://pppp.rajasthan.gov.in

DGM (P&D) & Convener High Level Purchase Committee

TENDER NOTICE
BarodaSun Technologies Ltd. (Wholly owned subsidiary of Bank of Baroda) invites Request for Proposal for Selection of Service Provider for Supply, Implementation & Maintenance of Human Resource Management system.
Last date of Bid submission 28th April, 2026. For details visit Tender section of our website "www.barodasuntechnologies.com".

Place: Mumbai
Date: 07.04.2026
MD & CEO (BSTL)

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE OF Properties: 08-05-2026
Ghaziabad Zone B-32, Sector 62, Noida-201307
Phone: 0120-2404135

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF MOVABLE / IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

APPENDIX- IV-A Under the provisions of Rule 8(6)
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.
Notice is given to the Public in general and in particular to the borrower (s) and Guarantors (s) that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged to Bank of India, the constructive/Physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Bank of India, will be sold on "As is where is" basis on 08.05.2026 (Time 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM).
The Last date for submission of EMD/Documents online is 08.05.2026 (Upto 4:00PM). The Interested buyer shall get their names registered in the portal <https://www.banknet.com/eauction-psb/bidder-registration> and submit EMD online to the Global EMD Wallet.
Short description of the properties to be sold are given below: Amount to be recovered (secured debt) and particulars of possession are also mentioned in the table below.

Sr. No.	Name of the Branch & Name of Account / Borrower	DESCRIPTION & OWNER OF PROPERTY	Outstanding Amount (Secured debt) Date and Type of Possession	Reserve Price EMD		Date and time of e-auction	Name and Mobile No. of Authorized officer / BM to whom bidder may contact
				Bid Increase Amount			
1	Bank of India -Hapur Branch (i) Mohammad Aakil S/O Nasir Ahmad, (ii) Mrs. Rihana W/O Mohammad Aakil, (iii) Anees Ahmad S/O Shamsuddin	All part and parcel of residential building situated at part of khasra no. 607 MI Nagar Palika no. W-13/1533 near Islamiya Madarsa, Mohalla-Rafiq Nagar Hapur, UP-245101 admeasuring 78.41sq. mtrs in the name of Mohd Aakil s/o Nasir Ahmad, Bounded North- Land/House Itram, South- Land/House Jaswant, East- Others Land, West- Rasta 12ft wide	Rs.11,82,503.00+ Intt. W.e.f. date of interest ceased (Less amount if any deposited thereafter) Physical Possession	₹ 11.80 Lakh ₹ 1.18 Lakh ₹ 0.12 Lakh		08.05.2026 10 a.m to 5 p.m	Richa Singh
2	Bank of India -Dibal Branch (i) Mr. Harveer Giri S/O Toddi Giri (ii) Mr. Rambhal Giri S/O Toddi Giri	All the Part and parcel of freehold residential property situated at Vill- Ahmedgarh, Pergana-Parasra, Tehsil- Shikarpur, Distt- Bulandshahr, UP admeasuring 66.00 sq.mtr. In the name of Mr. Harveer Giri S/O Toddi Giri, Boundary - North : Plot of Shri Niwas, South : Plot of Ashoka Kumar , East- Rasta 10ft wide, West: Plot of Rajendra Singh	Rs.7,71,546.50+ Intt. W.e.f. date of interest ceased (Less amount if any deposited thereafter) Symbolic Possession	₹ 14.05 Lakh ₹ 1.41 Lakh ₹ 0.15 Lakh		08.05.2026 10 a.m to 5 p.m	Rajesh Kumar Singh
3	Bank of India -Dibal Branch (i) Mr. Ibrahim Khan S/O Sakhawath Khan, (ii) Mr. Masrur Ali Khan S/O Mausam Ali	All the Part and parcel of freehold residential property situated at Anshikha Vihar Dibal, GallePur Road, Tehsil- Dibal, Distt- Bulandshahr, UP admeasuring 83.61 sq.mtr. In the name of Mr. Ibrahim Khan, Boundary -As per Deed - North: Rasta 14 wide, South: Khel Lakhi Singh , East: Plot of Javed, West: Plot of Arazzi Seller	Rs.7,49,871.00+ Intt. W.e.f. date of interest ceased (Less amount if any deposited thereafter) Physical Possession	₹ 9.88 Lakh ₹ 0.99 Lakh ₹ 0.10 Lakh		08.05.2026 10 a.m to 5 p.m	Rajesh Kumar Singh

TERMS & CONDITIONS:
1. Auction sale bidding would be only through "Online Bidding process" through the website <https://www.banknet.com/eauction-psb/bidder-registration>
2. Date and time of E-auction is 08.05.2026 (10.00AM to 05.00 PM) with Auto-Extension of 10 minutes each). The last date for submission of EMD is 08.05.2026 (Upto 4:00PM).
3. Auction would commence on the Reserve Price plus first incremental value as mentioned in bank's website. Bidders shall improve their offers in multiples/incremental value mentioned in the above table for all the properties simultaneously. The properties shall not be sold below the Reserve Price plus first incremental value.
4. The intending bidders shall get their names registered on the portal <https://www.banknet.com/eauction-psb/bidder-registration> and submit EMD online to the Global EMD Wallet and thereupon they would be allowed to participate in the online auction through the said portal. Buyers shall submit their KYC documents, phone number and email id to the website.
5. The property shall be sold with all existing or future encumbrances (if any). The authorized Officer shall not be responsible for any third party rights/claims or dues on the properties.
6. To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorized Officer, there is no encumbrance on the property. The intending bidders should make their own independent inquiries regarding encumbrances/ title of properties, statutory liability (tax liability / arrears of property tax etc. The Properties can be viewed by login to the website <https://banknet.com>. For Physical Inspection of the property Authorized Officer can be contacted during working hours.
7. The successful bidder / purchaser would bear all taxes including TDS @ 1% of sale price payable on purchase of property (if sale price is Rs.50 lakhs/- & above) and the taxes payable to service provider for conducting online sale. Also the fees payable for execution of sale certificate such as stamp duty, registration fee, etc. shall be borne by the successful bidder.
8. Unsuccessful bidder shall take up with **BAANKNET** on their own for refund of EMD. Authorized officers shall not be responsible for refund of EMD.
9. The authorized Officers/Bank is not bound to accept the highest offer and has the absolute right to accept or reject any or all offer(s) or adjourn/postpone/cancel the e-auction or withdraw any property or portion thereof from the auction proceedings at any stage without assigning any reason there of.
10. The Sale certificate will be issued in the name of purchasers/applicants only and will not be issued in any other names.
11. The Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) of the successful bidder shall be retained towards part sale consideration. The Earnest money Deposit shall not bear any interest. The Successful bidders shall have to deposit 25% of the sale price including EMD already paid, immediately before the end of next working days on acceptance of Bid price by the authorized officer & the balance of the sale price on or before 15th day of sale. The auction sale is subject to confirmation by the Bank. Default in deposit of amount by the successful bidders would entail forfeiture of the whole money, already deposited and property shall be put to re-auction and the defaulting bidders shall have no claim/right in respect of property/amount.
The intending bidders who want to get registered with the website and to submit the EMD and require assistance in creating Login ID & Password, uploading data, submitting bid, training on e-bidding process etc., may contact the customer care at 8291220220 or support.banknet@psbaliaance.com and for any property related query may contact Authorized Officers at their respective phone numbers OR at Ghaziabad Zonal Office in 0120-2404135. Sale will be done by the Authorized Officers through e-auction platform provided in the website <https://www.banknet.com/eauction-psb/bidder-registration>
Note: All interested bidders may inspect the property and its related documents/visit the site after contacting the AO/Branch from 22.04.2026 to 24.04.2026 during working hours only and no request for site visit shall be entertained thereafter or prior to the date mentioned.
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in <https://www.bankofindia.co.in>

Date: 06.04.2026, Place, Ghaziabad
Authorised Officer, Bank of India

GUJARAT ENERGY TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
REGISTERED & CORPORATE OFFICE, SARDAR PATEL VIDYUT BHAVAN, RACECOURSE, VADODARA – 390 007
www.getco.gujarat.com
TENDER NOTICE NO. ACE (P&C): TN - 01: 2026-27

[A] PROCUREMENT: E-3059, 3074, 3086, 3098:- (1) Purchase of Emergency Restoration System (ERS) for 400KV and suitable to use for 220kV/132kV/66kV class transmission line as per Technical specification and as per BOM attached as Annex. against Tender No. CE (P&C)/ / E-3059/ ERS/ 400 KV class Transmission Line/2025-26., (2) Various Class Lightning Arrestors for year 2025-26 and 2026-27 as per latest technical specification on Firm price basis., (3) Various CT-PT & NCT for year 2025-26 as per Specification against tender No. : CE (P&C)/ / E-3086/ CT-PT & NCT / 2025-26., (4) Purchase of 3 Nos. of Mobile Test Vans with Integrated Testing Kits for GETCO.

[B] CIVIL: ACE (P&C)/ Contracts/ Civil - 604, 605, 606, 607:- (1) Construction of a Multi-Storey Building including Civil & Structure for GETCO Corporate Office at 220kV Gotri Substation, Gotri Road, Vadodara., (2) Construction of various store room buildings, stacking platforms, WBM road, precast compound wall, Water tank, septic tank and soak pit, Parking shed, security cabin etc. and demolition of old quarter building at 66 kV Ghanteshwar S/S under Rajkot Construction Division under Gondal Circle., (3) Construction of Control Room Building, Foundations, pre cast Cable Trench, precast Compound Wall, RCC Road & misc civil works etc at 66 kV Tankariya S/S. Ta. Kalayanpur and Dist. - Dev bhoomi Dwarka, Jamnagar Circle., (4) Construction of Compound wall , control room extension and renovation of existing CR bldg. with paint, Metal spreading, WBM Road, OHWT dismantle and other miscellaneous works at 66 kV Ambaliyara SS Under Dhansura AM division Under Himatnagar Circle.

[C] LINE: ACE (P&C)/ Contracts/ E-421, 432, 442, 443, 445-A, 446/ TL/ Uprating/ UG/ 66kV, 765kV/ S&L, E:- (1) Supply, Laying, Erection, Testing and Commissioning of 66kV 1CX630 sqmm XLPE Cable with Poly AL-Poly / Aluminium Corrugated construction on EPC basis for various lines in Anjar circle in Rajkot Zone., (2) Supply, Laying, Erection, Testing and Commissioning of 66kV 1CX630 sq.mm XLPE Cable with Poly AL-Poly / Aluminium corrugated construction on EPC basis for Various lines in Jamnagar Circle in Rajkot Zone., (3) Supply, installation, testing & commissioning of conversion of (i) 66kV Halvad - Soladi line (ii) 66kV Dhrangadhra - Hirapur line (iii) 66kV Dhrangadhra - Bavli line (iv) 66kV Surendranagar-Wadhwan - Rajsitapur line (v) 66kV Limbdi - Sayla line (vi) 66kV Limbdi - Chornia line (vii) 66kV Chornia - Khandiyia line with ACSR DOG conductor into equivalent HTLS conductor (equivalent weight of ACSR DOG conductor with higher ampacity) of Surendranagar Circle., (4) Supply, Laying, Erection, Testing and Commissioning of 66kV 1CX630 sqmm XLPE Cable with Poly AL/Aluminium construction on EPC basis Various lines under Navsari Circle., (5) Supply, Laying, Erection, Testing and Commissioning of 66kV 1CX630 sq.mm XLPE Cable with Poly AL-Poly / Aluminium Corrugated construction on EPC basis for various lines in Nadiad circle in Mehsana Zone., (6) Design, Supply, Erection, Testing & Commissioning of 765kV D/C Pachchham-Saykha line having route length 140.85 km with Hexa ACSR Zebra conductor (WZ-3 Coastal) on turnkey basis., (7) Supply, Laying, Erection, Testing and Commissioning of 66kV 1CX630 sq.mm XLPE Cable with Poly AL / Aluminium construction on EPC basis Various lines under Jambuva Circle in Bharuch Zone.

[D] SUBSTATION: ACE (P&C)/ Contract/ E-388, 403:- (1) Supply, Erection, Testing & Commissioning of 132kV Feeder Bays on EPC Basis (Excluding Civil Works) under Option-1 of Deposit Work for M/s Western Railways – Part-A: 02 Nos. FB at 220kV Jambuva (GETCO) S/S for 132kV Jambuva (220kV)-Itola TSS Line & Part-B: 02 Nos. FB at 220kV Godhara (GETCO) S/S for 132kV Godhara (220kV)-Godhara TSS Line., (2) Supply, Erection, Testing & Commissioning of 220kV & 66kV equipment's & materials on turnkey basis including civil works for 220/66kV Ramsan (Near Thavar) AIS substation, Tal. Deesa, Dist. Banaskantha under Palanpur Circle.

Above tenders are available on website www.getcogujarat.com (for view and download only) & tender.nprocure.com (For view, download and online tender submissions).
Note: Bidders are requested to be in touch with our websites till opening of these tenders.
Date: 07/04/2026
I/c. Additional Chief Engineer (Procurement & Contracts)