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## Korea to launch its space rocket Nuri from mid-May to late-June

South Korea plans to launch its homegrown space rocket Nuri between mid-May and late-June in its third mission, the science ministry said Thursday, following the second successful launch last year.

The Korea Aerospace Research Institute (KARI), which leads the Nuri project, had initially proposed the launch date in early May, but the schedule has been delayed due to the belated delivery of satellites to be loaded on Nuri.

The presidential science advisory committee approved the launch plan, according to the Ministry of Science and ICT.

The exact date will be set next month, the ministry added.

The 200-ton Nuri, also known as KSLV-II, will carry a total of eight satellites,

including the country's second next-generation small satellite and four satellites developed by the Korea Astronomy and Space Science Institute, codenamed SNIPE.

In June last year, South Korea successfully launched the space rocket Nuri in the second attempt to put satellites into orbit, reaching a major milestone in the country's space program.

South Korea has become the seventh country in the world to develop a space launch vehicle that can carry a more than 1-ton satellite, after Russia, the United States, France, China, Japan and India.

In 2021, Nuri successfully flew to its target altitude of 700 kilometers but failed to put a dummy satellite into orbit, as its third-stage engine burned out earlier than expected. (Yonhap)



Rep. Jo Seung-jae of the Democratic Party of Korea, delivers a congratulatory speech at the opening ceremony of the exhibition about the Danuri lunar orbiter at the National Assembly Members' Office Building in Yeouido, Seoul, Tuesday. **News1**

## Lawmaker holds exhibition on Danuri lunar orbiter

By Baek Byung-yul  
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Rep. Jo Seung-jae of the Democratic Party of Korea hosted an exhibition shedding light on the Danuri lunar orbiter to commemorate the space vehicle's successful entry into lunar orbit, the lawmaker said Tuesday.

The exhibition, titled "Special Exhibition of Lunar Exploration," will take place at the National Assembly Members' Office Building in Yeouido, Seoul, until Saturday. The exhibition features various moon-related content, a miniature of the Danuri and photos taken by the lunar orbiter.

The Danuri is a domestically developed space vehicle. Carried by SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket, the unmanned space vehicle was launched from Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida on Aug. 5.

After being launched into space, the Danuri headed for the moon using a ballistic lunar transfer trajectory method that uses gravity from

the Earth, the moon and the sun to enter lunar orbit.

The Danuri, also known as the Korean Pathfinder Lunar Orbiter (KPLLO), has been conducting scientific research activities since Dec. 28, 2022, with plans to orbit the moon for about a year.

"When I watched the moment that the Danuri was launched in the U.S. last August, I thought it would be good for more people to share the great journey of Korea's space exploration," Rep. Jo said.

"As the special exhibition is held at the National Assembly, the hall of the people's will, I hope the people will have a meaningful time sharing the achievements of the Danuri and the meaning of the country's lunar exploration attempt."

The Korean-built space vehicle has sent a series of photos of the moon's surface and Earth. It also took a rare photo of the moon's largest dark spot, also known as the Ocean of Storms, on Jan. 13.

The exhibition is free of charge. Visitors will need to carry their ID.