

## Russia-US to build first ever lunar space base!



Russia and the US have agreed upon building first ever lunar space station which will orbit the Moon instead of Earth, and will be led by - NASA and Roscosmos, of course. This lunar project is a foresight to Mars colonisation plans and will be helpful in sending humans to the red planet too.

The manned space centres have been revolving around Earth since the day humans made first space travel - because Earth's gravitational pull keeps the space stations controlled, or they'd just sway around uncontrollably in space. Or we'd need a lot of fuel to keep the space station propelled and controlled in the void area that is called space. So we keep it around Earth, you know. Okay, so moving ahead, we humans have been planning to colonize on Mars since long now and to take the plan further towards reality, we'd need to step beyond our comforts - which here is beyond the orbits of Earth for setting a space station. So that's why we will move space bases to lunar orbits - which technically is within Earth's gravitational region, but still.

Two space research organisations which have been sending human beings to space since 1961 - US' NASA and Russia's Roscosmos have finally decided to team up and build a "deep space gateway", which for now is still in the planning stages. So the idea is to provide a place to astronauts where they can test systems which might be needed for deeper space travel - including manned Mars missions. The lunar space station will also prove to be a base space camp where astronauts can spend extended time in space but still be near Earth.

The Moon base camp will also provide a 'staging area' for long, long space missions, like it can be used to send and store supplies needed for distant space missions - say to Mars. So with a storage boot camp thingy in the space, it will get much easier and economic as compared to bursting supplies all the way from Earth. Like a gateway to deeper space travel, it will actually change the way space travel is made at present. But it is not easy to take such ambitious projects off ground, it will take a lot of resources and engagement of multiple countries and companies. NASA and Roscosmos may even take help from other European, Japanese, Chinese and Canadian space research organisations - uniting for space.