

India's MOM captures first image of the red planet

September 26 2014, by Ken Kremer



ISRO's Mars Orbiter Mission captures its first image of Mars from a height of 7300 km. Credit: ISRO

India's "history creating" maiden interplanetary voyager, the Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM) has captured her historic first image of the Red Planet.

The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), India's space agency which designed and developed the orbiter released the image today, Sept 25, just a day after MOM successfully arrived at Mars on Sept. 23/24.

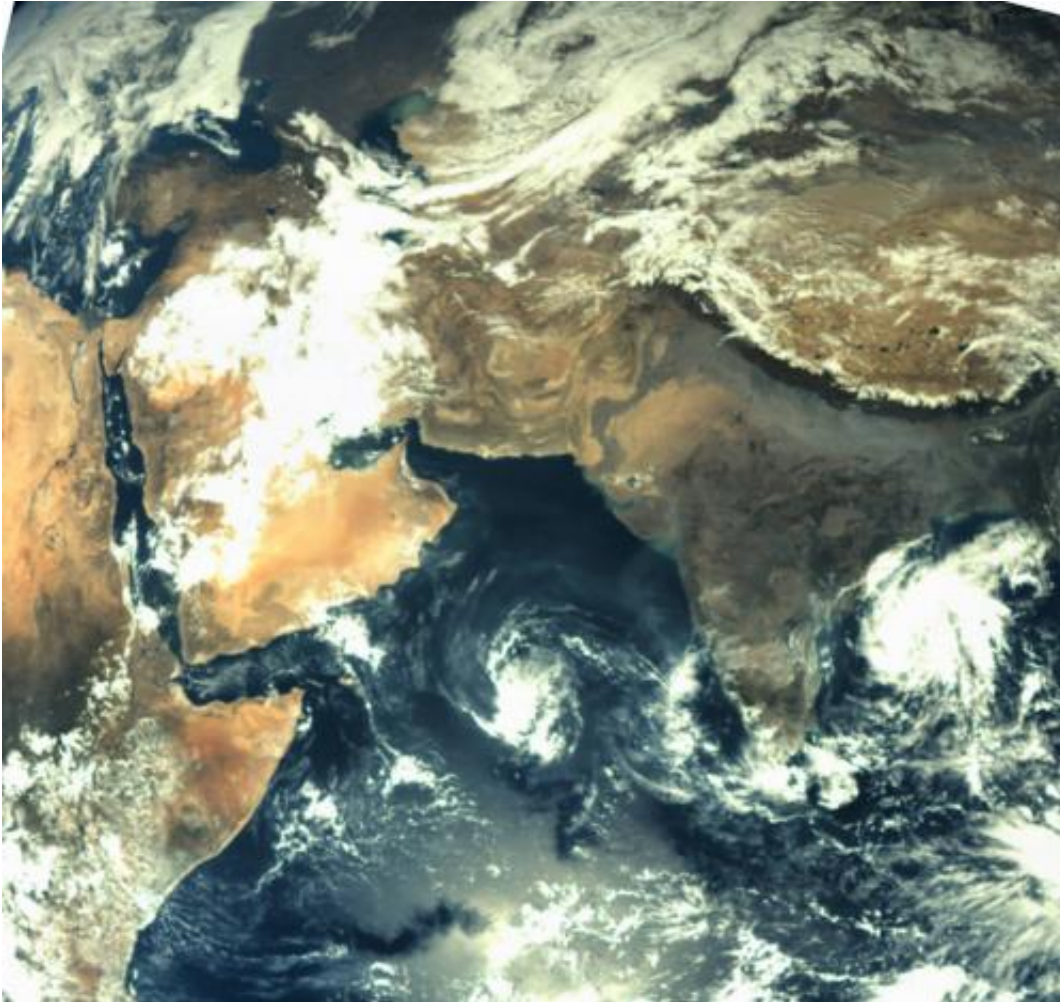
Read my complete MOM meets Mars arrival story – [here](#).

The image was taken by the probe's Mars Colour Camera (MCC), tri color imager, from a height of 7300 kilometers with a spatial resolution of 376 meters.

Following MOM's successful orbital insertion maneuver, India joined an elite club of only three other entities who have launched probes that successfully investigated Mars – following the Soviet Union, the United States, and the European Space Agency (ESA).

MOM is now circling Mars in a highly elliptical orbit whose nearest point to Mars (periapsis) is at 421.7 km and farthest point (apoapsis) at 76,993.6 km. The inclination of orbit with respect to the equatorial plane of Mars is 150 degrees, as intended, ISRO reports.

By way of comparison, here's the first image taken by MOM of the Blue Planet, her Home World.



First ever image of Earth Taken by Mars Color Camera aboard India's Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM) spacecraft while orbiting Earth and before the Trans Mars Insertion firing on Dec. 1, 2013. Image is focused on the Indian subcontinent. Credit: ISRO

Provided by [Universe Today](#)

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