

Super Pink Moon observation from Bharati Indian Antarctic Base on 7-8 April 2020

On April 7-8, 2020, Ankush Magotra at the Bharati Station in Antarctica took the photo of a Super Pink Moon rising over a cloud-covered Earth. The Moon appears about 7% bigger and 15% brighter than usual when the perigee, i.e. when the moon comes to nearest distance in its elliptical orbit to a distance of 356,907 kilometers from Earth, compared to its average distance of 384,400 km. Unlike the misconception that (from the name as it suggests) the Super Pink Moon does not actually look pink, it looks 15% brighter unlike during the other full Moon days. It is named Super Pink Moon after a wildflower (*Phlox subulata*) from eastern North America (Creeping phlox, moss phlox, moss pink, or mountain phlox-- a species of flowering plant native to eastern and central USA) which blooms during the early springtime when the moon was first observed appear bigger and brighter than the usual full Moon. **Unfortunately on our planet, unless it's obscured by pink-hued clouds, the moon does not turn pink.** Probably the photo shot by Ankush Magotra at the Bharati Station in Antarctica is looking very feebly pinkish in colour due to being observed through the hues in the cloud



Ref:

https://twitter.com/ncaor_goa/status/1247819730380935172

Bharati is a permanent Antarctic research station commissioned by India. It is located at about 3000 kilometers East of Maitri station in Antarctica at 35 m above the sea level. Bharati's research mandate focuses on oceanographic studies and the phenomenon of continental breakup. It also facilitates research to refine the current understanding of the Indian subcontinent's geological history. The communication with India mainland is maintained through dedicated satellite channels providing connectivity for voice, video, images and data.

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