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## Day 20: IAF duo braves winds to land at Changchun

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Wg Cdr Rahul Monga and Wg Cdr Anil Kumar faced strong winds when they were about to land at Changchun on Wednesday

The IAF pilots, Wg Cdr Rahul Monga and Wg Cdr Anil Kumar faced surface winds across the runway at a speed of 55 kms when they were about to land in Changchun on Wednesday. The 'little baby', ML-105, was almost swept away during one of their attempts to land.

The IAF duo made three valiant attempts only to abort their landing and divert to Shenyang, 163 nautical miles away from Changchun. Incidentally at these speeds even jumbos don't take off.

According to the latest reports reaching here, the weather was overcast when the duo took off from Dalian earlier. But closer to Changchun, it became absolutely clear till they made their approach for landing and were hit with gusts across the runway.

After a few unsuccessful attempts, and as the plane ran low on fuel, the pilots declared an emergency and they were permitted to take detour to Shenyang.

Weather will play a crucial role on Thursday as Jiamusi does not have an option for diversion. So the IAF duo will take off from Shenyang only after the weather conditions are clear.

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