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## Day 40: IAF duo still stuck in Anchorage

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NEW DELHI: The IAF RTW expedition made two attempts to take off from Anchorage, but was forced to return on Tuesday due to bad weather.

The IAF pilots took off at 2213 hrs IST, July 9 in their first attempt and landed at 2230 because of bad weather. Wg. Cdr. Rahul Monga and Wg. Cdr. Anil Kumar again took off at 0458 hrs IST, July 10 and were forced to land at 0555 hrs.

With this delay the expedition is now flying thirteen days behind schedule.

According to sources, they IAF RTW Expedition will take off on Tuesday night (IST) if they have a clear weather window.

The two pilots had reached Anchorage on Saturday after a brief fuel stop at McGrath.

The aircraft reached Alaska on Friday when Wing Cdr Rahul Monga flew the machine in from Providenia in Russia, flying solo over the Bering Sea, becoming the first Indian to fly solo over the sea. The co-pilot is Wing Cdr Anil Kumar, who, however, had to step out during the Russian leg as it was mandatory to have a Russian speaking navigator in the leg.

The expedition aims to create a new world record of circumnavigating the world in single motor small aircraft in 64 days. However, the plans went a bit awry due to bad weather conditions in both China and Russia.

[Congratulate Wing Cdr Rahul Monga](#)

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