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Day 64: RTW lands in Iceland

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The IAF RTW expedition reached Reykjavik in Iceland at 03:19 hrs IST on Friday

NEW DELHI: The IAF RTW expedition reached Reykjavik in Iceland at 03:19 hrs IST on Friday after taking off from Kulusuk, Greenland at 22:45 hrs IST on Thursday.

The pilot covered a distance of 735 km in 4 hours and 34 minutes. It took longer than planned for the small machine had to encounter strong head winds all through the journey.

Earlier, flying solo, as he has been from Iqaluit in Canada, Wing Cdr Rahul Monga had landed at Kulusk at 21:27 hrs IST.

After becoming the first Indian to fly solo across the Davis Strait from Canada to Nuuk, Greenland, Wing Commander Monga landed at Kulusuk.

The total flying time of the flight was recorded 4 hours 11 minutes, covering a distance of 743 km from Nuuk to Kulusuk.

The four-hour flight from Nuuk to Kulusuk was a real adventure. Flying over 12,000 feet, the aircraft was completely iced out for a while with Monga unable to see even the wings of his small aircraft.

With the microlite covering two legs, at a stretch of 1478 km, in a single day, Wing Commander Monga has recorded a total of 8 hours 45 minutes of flying in a day.

The next flight from Reykjavik, Iceland to Vagar in Denmark is scheduled to take off at around 17:00 hrs IST on Friday. And if weather permits, the total flying time to reach the destination, Vagar is expected to be around 4 hours 22 minutes.

The expedition is led by Monga with Wing Cdr Anil Kumar as his co-pilot. But owing to extra load over high seas, Monga is flying solo between Iqaluit and the UK.

The expedition is already running 16 days behind schedule, which includes four rest days.

They had taken off from Hindan air base near Delhi on June 1.

Congratulate Wing Cdr Rahul Monga

Special: Round the World Expedition

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