



INDIA NEWS

Press Release

1. The Indian Air Force is celebrating its Platinum Jubilee this year. As part of the celebrations, the IAF is undertaking a 'Round the World' Microlight Expedition to set a new world record for the fastest time to circumnavigate the world in the 300-500 kg weight category.
2. Presently the expedition, after 74 days, has reached Rome, Italy. It is expected to land at Jinnah International Airport, Karachi around 18 Aug 07. The landing of this microlight aircraft at Karachi is another example of cooperation and friendly relations between Pakistan and India.
3. Till date, only two microlights have circumnavigated the globe. The current record of 99 days was set in 2001 by United Kingdom's Colin Bodill.
4. The expedition was flagged off on 01 Jun 07 from New Delhi by Air Chief Marshal Fali Homi Major, Chief of Air Staff, IAF. After flying through Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam, China, Russia, United States, Canada, Greenland, Iceland, Denmark, UK, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Greece, Turkey, Iran, Oman and Pakistan, it will finally return to India.
5. Wg Cdr Rahul Monga and Wg Cdr Anil Kumar are undertaking this expedition of 40,806 kilometres and are all set to create a new record. Incidentally, Monga also holds the record for the highest altitude gain by an Indian in a microlight plane, when he reached an altitude of 21,000 feet in May 2004 at the Hindon air base.

Islamabad
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