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ISRO SUCCESSFULLY CONDUCTS 2ND LANDING TEST OF PUSHPAK IN K'TAKA

Soumya Pillai

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Indian Space Research Organization successfully conducted the second landing test of its reusable launch vehicle (RLV), Pushpak, from the Aeronautical Test Range (ATR) in Challakere near Chitradurga in Karnataka on Friday.

"ISRO nails it again. Pushpak (RLV-TD), the winged vehicle, landed autonomously with precision on the runway after being released from an off-nominal position," the agency said in a statement. At 7.10am on Friday, the winged vehicle was lifted by the Chinook helicopter of the Indian Air Force and was released from an altitude of 4.5 km, the statement said.

After release at a distance of 4km from the runway, Pushpak autonomously approached the runway along with cross range corrections. It landed precisely on the runway and came to a halt using its brake parachute, landing gear brakes and nose wheel steering system, it said.

"RLV-LEX-02 demonstrated the autonomous landing capability of RLV from off-nominal initial conditions at release from helicopter. RLV was made to undertake more difficult manoeuvres with dispersions and land on the runway in a fully autonomous mode," the statement read.