

13-YEAR-OLD UAV PILOT WOWS THE CROWD AT AEROPHILIA'19

Aditya Pawar flawlessly flew remote-controlled planes, pulling off difficult manoeuvres

SHREYAS H S @Mangaluru

THIS 13-year-old pilot flawlessly flies remote-controlled airplanes, even performing extremely difficult manoeuvres. Aditya A Pawar's first flight was Blizzard, a light-weight plane which could travel at a speed of 90-100 km/hr speed and was powered by electricity.

He was impressive from the get-go as the crowd, mostly engineering students, were enthralled and started cheering. Aditya's skills were uncanny. He flew radio-controlled airplanes at Aerophilia 2019, being held and organised at Sahyadri College of Engineering and Management. This flagship event of the institution is held for two days at the national level.

Aditya says he performed prop hang, rolling, rolling circles, loop, half loop, harrier, rolling harrier, snap role, inverted flying or vertical charlie and hammer head manoeuvres. The stunts like prop hang, harrier, hammer head, vertical charlie and rolling harrier take exceptional precision to perform confidently in the presence of large audience. Aditya, who hails from Bengaluru, is studying in eighth standard at Delhi Public School.

Aditya flew five planes at the event. Talking about planes, he said he flew Blizzard, a sports glider first - an electric-powered bird which can fly at a speed of 90-100 km/hr and weighs 1.5 kg. "I performed rollings, rolling circles and other stunts in this plane," he said. The second flight he flew was Stunt Master, also an electric-powered and 3 dimensional (3D) plane. It is called 3 dimensional because it can perform 3D stunts.

According to Aditya's father, Abhay R Pawar who is also a flyer himself, the major



attraction of Stunt Master which weighs about 500 to 600 grams is the prop hang, a kind of vertical hovering. "Unless one has a deep understanding of aerodynamics, they cannot perform this stunt. I myself cannot perform this and he has discovered a skill to do it with precision," he said. Aditya started learning to fly at an age of five and half and learnt it in three months. He participated at an international-level UAV flying competition and bagged the first place.

The other flights he flew are - Low Wing Aerobatic, 7 cc engine powered, weighing 2 to 3 kg. This is an aerobatic plane used during training. This can move at a speed of 180 km/hr and can perform all the stunts. Yet another slow plane he flew was Fun Star (3D), a large bird and more powered with 10 cc four stroke engine (Nitro) and the last flight was S-BACH, a 30 CC engine (Gasoline) monster and sports model which can perform spell-binding manoeuvres and move at a highest speed of 200 km/hr.

Aditya says he also wishes to fly a manned aircraft. "I am proud of my son's passion and skills. He is now in the eighth standard and there is a long way to go before he chooses what he ultimately wants to do," his father said proudly.



(Top) Fun Star being flown by Aditya; The 13-year-old readies his 3D plane, Stunt Master(3D), at Aerophilia | EXPRESS



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Aerophilia '19 at Sahyadri College

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TWO-day national-level event on next generation technology, Aerophilia 2019 was inaugurated on Friday at Sahyadri Engineering and Management College. The event is organised to give wings to innovating thinking to budding engineers. The event was organised by the college under the leadership of Chairman of the institution, Manjunath Bhandary.

The Cdr (ret'd) T RA Narayanan of the Indian Navy, who was chief guest addressing the students said, "This is forth year the college is organising Aerophilia. This is one of the few exclusive aero-oriented events in India." He further said it is heartening to see students show an interest aviation and aerospace related-areas.

Manjunath Bhandary said this event was getting better every year because of the support the college was receiving. he event saw UAV airshows, drone races, UAV model, bot fighting. It will continue till Saturday.



TRA Narayanan and others inaugurate the event. They are holding a remote-controlled airplane which was later flown by a pilot | EXPRESS