

## Press Note

English

Red Balloon Aerospace Conducts Tethered Trial of India's First Super-Pressure Balloon at Vijayawada.



**Successful recce launch at Indira Gandhi Stadium marks a significant milestone ahead of India's first stratospheric super-pressure balloon flight.**

Red Balloon Aerospace (RBA) conducted a landmark tethered launch of its super-pressure balloon (SPB) system at the Indira Gandhi Stadium, Vijayawada, in what marks a decisive step towards the historic first-of-its-kind stratospheric super-pressure balloon launch in India.

The trial commenced at 6:00 AM on 13th May and saw the balloon ascend under full tethered control. All necessary permissions from the relevant civil aviation and local authorities were secured in advance of the launch, with the operation executed in full regulatory compliance.

The event served as a precision simulation of RBA's forthcoming main launch in Q2 2026, which will target an operational altitude of up to ~25 kilometres, establishing India's first indigenous super-pressure balloon flight into the stratosphere. This tethered flight was

designed to validate launch protocols, ground crew operations, and systems readiness under real-world field conditions.

Notably, the launch also served as a payload integration platform, with multiple aerospace companies flying their instruments and payloads aboard the balloon. All payload missions were completed successfully, underscoring RBA's capability to serve as a reliable launch partner for the broader Indian aerospace ecosystem.

*"This tethered trial was executed with the rigour and precision we bring to every phase of this programme. Everything performed as planned. The main launch is imminent, and today has strengthened our confidence. This was a crucial step towards successful VISTA platforms for the near-space infrastructure, RBA is creating"*

- Dr. C. V. S. Kiran, CoFounder & CEO Red Balloon Aerospace.

The trial reflects RBA's commitment to systematic, safety-first development of stratospheric balloon technology in India, a capability with significant implications across telecommunications, disaster response, scientific research, spatial governance, and near-space access.

*"Our VISTA platforms (SPBs) are the building blocks of our HELIX platforms(Airships). Every step progresses towards establishing lighter-than-air technology for plethora of applications, bridging the gap between the airspace and space."*

- Sireesh Pallikonda, CoFounder & COO Red Balloon Aerospace

## About Red Balloon Aerospace

Red Balloon Aerospace is an Indian near-space startup developing super-pressure balloons, tethered aerostats, and stratospheric airship systems for near-space applications. The company is focused on building a stratospheric infrastructure layer using lighter-than-air technology, serving communications, disaster management, earth observation, and commercial payload markets.

Media Enquiries:

+91 96525 47890 | [info@red-balloon.space](mailto:info@red-balloon.space) | Red Balloon Aerospace