

Date: 17-06-2026

RED BALLOON AEROSPACE AND ARMENIA'S BAZOOMQ SIGN MoU; WILL JOINTLY TEST STRATOSPHERIC PLATFORMS AND AI APPLICATIONS

- Three Weeks after Launch, Red Balloon Aerospace draws first international research partner to India's Near-Space Ecosystem

Vijayawada, India, 17 June, 2026 - Red Balloon Aerospace Private Limited, India's first near-space startup, and Bazoomq Space Research Laboratory, an Armenia-based private space research organisation, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to jointly advance near-space test campaigns, payload-platform integration, atmospheric research, and onboard AI development.

The partnership will enable both organisations to jointly execute stratospheric demonstration campaigns, test payloads under real near-space conditions, advance edge computing and autonomy applications, and explore future commercial opportunities. It also opens a channel for joint pursuit of government programmes, grants, and customer-funded prototypes. For India's near-space ecosystem, the collaboration is a signal that indigenous capability is now attracting international partners. For Armenia, it creates a direct pathway into one of the world's most active emerging stratospheric markets, where the infrastructure layer between aircraft and satellites is being built indigenously for the first time.

"Private-sector space initiatives in Armenia must move forward to practical international collaboration," said **Avetik Grigoryan, Co-Founder and CEO of Bazoomq Space Research Laboratory**. "Partnership with Red Balloon Aerospace gives us a strong framework to explore near-space capabilities, advanced payload integration, and edge compute applications that can help strengthen Armenia's role in the emerging aerospace ecosystem."

Under the MoU, the parties will explore joint activities spanning stratospheric demonstrations, payload-platform integration and tests, flight operations, atmospheric research, onboard AI, data collection, and future near-space applications. Supporting R&D may extend to stability and pointing systems, communications relay experiments, sensing, autonomy, and data workflows. Specific activities will be governed by future Work Plans or Statements of Work agreed by both parties.

"We believe that our partnership with Red Balloon Aerospace will also serve as a private-sector contribution to Armenia's state effort to shape and strengthen the country's space technology industry," said **Hayk Martirosyan, Co-founder and Board Member of Bazoomq Space Research Laboratory**. "High-altitude platform systems are strategically important because they create a practical layer between terrestrial infrastructure, aircraft, and satellites enabling persistent observation, resilient communications, atmospheric research, and faster testing of advanced payloads. For Armenia, this is not only a technical collaboration, but also a step toward building near-space capability through international private-sector partnerships."

The collaboration is expected to follow a test-first approach: executing demonstration campaigns, evaluating results, and using lessons learned to support future upgraded tests and more advanced near-space missions.

"Near-space and satellites serve different mission profiles and different economics," said **Dr. CVS Kiran, Co-Founder and CEO of Red Balloon Aerospace Private Limited**. "High-altitude platforms operate in the stratosphere far above conventional aircraft and far below orbit creating

a complementary layer for localized coverage, faster deployment, and practical access to near-space capabilities. Through this partnership with Bazoomq, we look forward to exploring how such platforms can support real-world applications, technology demonstrations, and international collaboration.”

The agreement comes weeks after Red Balloon Aerospace’s Mission SANA on 27 May 2026, the successful launch of India’s first indigenous stratospheric super-pressure balloon platform, VISTA, which carried commercial payloads to stratosphere. The mission placed India alongside the United States, France, Japan, and China as one of only five nations globally with this capability. For Bazoomq, partnering with Red Balloon Aerospace at this moment means collaborating with a proven operator at the leading edge of near-space technology.

Bazoomq brings hands-on near-space experience to the collaboration. The organisation has previously conducted stratospheric balloon flights with AYAS Aerospace Society, capturing imagery and video footage of Armenia from approximately 30 kilometres altitude. Those missions provided practical grounding in payload preparation, flight operations, and high-altitude environmental conditions.

High-altitude platform systems are gaining renewed global attention as governments, industry, and research institutions seek resilient solutions for connectivity, disaster response, environmental monitoring, and persistent Earth observation. Operating between aircraft and satellites, HAPS offer a flexible layer for rapid deployment, localised coverage, and mission-specific payloads, capabilities that are increasingly relevant for countries building sovereign aerospace capacity.

About Bazoomq Space Research Laboratory:

Bazoomq Space Research Laboratory is an Armenia-based private space research organization focused on advancing space technology, aerospace education, satellite systems, ground infrastructure, and applied space research. Bazoomq works to strengthen Armenia’s role in the global space ecosystem through practical engineering, international collaboration, and technology development.

About Red Balloon Aerospace Private Limited:

Red Balloon Aerospace Private Limited is an India-incorporated aerospace company working in the near-space and high-altitude platform domain. The company focuses on stratospheric infrastructure and applications across connectivity, observation, communications, logistics, research, and technology demonstration.

Media Contact
Kashish Malhotra
8595000159