

# Be ready to touch the sky!

Sky-Waltz will operate balloons during the five-day 'Sky Fest' from December 23

STAFF REPORTER

**HYDERABAD:** Come December 23, Hyderabadis can get a bird's eye view of the city from hot air balloons. Sky-Waltz, a hot air ballooning company, will operate balloons during the five-day 'Sky Fest' that will be organised at Gachibowli Stadium, IT Minister K.T. Rama Rao announced here on Wednesday.

Speaking to a media gathering, Mr. Rao said the fest is part of the State's efforts to provide avenues for social life



A Sky-Waltz pilot conducting a test flight at Muffakham Jah Engineering College on Wednesday. - PHOTO: MOHAMMED YOUSUF

in the city. Hot air balloons are being introduced for the first time, he said. Sky-Waltz has already surveyed the loca-

tion and obtained necessary clearances.

"All clearances including those from the Airport Au-

thority of India have been procured," said Jagdish Ramadugu, the fest's organising secretary. A Sky-Waltz pilot conducted a test flight at Muffakham Jah Engineering College on Wednesday.

The organisers informed that balloons of two sizes will be operated at the fest and two kinds of rides are being planned. One ride that will take passengers across the city and over some of its historic places, including the Charminar is priced at Rs. 15,000 per person. These rides will lift passengers up to 3,000 feet high.

The second type of rides will cost Rs. 2,500 per person and will take passengers up to a height of 350 feet.