



HAM NEWS

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INDIA'S LEADING JOURNAL ON AMATEUR RADIO

June 2007

"Ham Radio, A European Resource" an exhibition in European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium During 5-9 March, 2007



Mr. Frank
DL4KQ



Mr. Franz
DJ9ZB



Dr. Fernando
EA8AK



Mr. Suri
VU2MY

"28 Annual Mostra Nazionale Mercato Radiantistico", Montichiari Italy



Amateur Radio Exhibition / DX Corner Meeting at Montichiari, Italy during 10-11 March, 2007

3rd Progress Review meeting on Propagation Conditions in Amateur Radio Communications for Coastal Areas held in Chennai



L-R: - Dr. David Koilpillai, IIT Chennai; Mr. B.M. Baveja, Sr. Director DIT; Mr. S. Suri, VU2MY, Chairman, NIAR.



Mr. S. Ram Mohan, VU2MYH, Presenting details on the project progress, other project members are also seen.

The 3rd Progress Review Steering Group (PRSG) meeting of the project on "Propagation Conditions in Amateur Radio Communications for Coastal Areas" was held on 30th April 2007 at IIT, Chennai, Tamil Nadu. This meeting was chaired by Dr. R. David Koilpillai, Prof, Telecom & Networking, IIT. Mr. B.M. Baveja, Senior Director, DIT and members of NIAR were present.

Dr. David Koilpillai said that amateur radio has proven to be an important element for communications in disaster management activities and Hams have rendered immense service in various calamities using this two-way communication resource. The knowledge and information exchange imparted through awareness programs and interaction with local communities at each of these locations would greatly enhance utilization of this communication resource in disaster prone areas along the coast. The results of the study would provide better understanding on the most desirable frequencies for reliable amateur radio communications along the seacoast.

Shri Baveja said that the results of the propagation study may be shared with the user departments for the real time application and providing alternate channel of communication systems to help vulnerable communities in coastal areas like the fishermen community in times of natural calamities.

Mr. S. Ram Mohan, VU2MYH, Chief Investigator of the project gave a power point presentation on the progress on from the date of implementing the project.

Mr. S. Suri briefly narrated out comes of the project. Mr. Suri while thanking the encouragement and support rendered by the PRSG for successful implementation of the project. He requested the committee to consider establishing amateur radio repeater communication network for supporting much needed communications for the benefit of vulnerable communities such as the fishermen in the Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh coast. The PRSG concluded that the objectives of the project were fully met and recommended successful closure of the project.

A report on the Project on Propagation Study

The coastal areas of the country have been frequently affected by disasters like Floods, Cyclones, Tsunami etc causing immense loss of life and property in the region. It has been realised that communication, either within or between agencies working in disaster management, is essential for their effectiveness to provide effective rescue and relief.

Hams and Amateur Radio communication systems are considered ideal to serve such a purpose, as they can be quickly deployed in a disaster site and can support mobility. In the planning of any communication link, field surveys are necessary in order to sample and establish the true practical propagation characteristics obtainable over a particular path at a given instance.

The study of propagation conditions in amateur radio communications in coastal areas was initiated to identify frequencies in amateur radio communications for coastal areas and also to indicate suitable locations for operating amateur radio stations with a purpose to respond to human suffering caused by disasters.

The data obtained from a 12-month period on behaviour of the radio signal from the point of transmission to the receiving point on high frequency as well as very high frequency (VHF) and ultra high frequency (UHF) - line of sight communication in amateur radio frequencies, carried out in coastal areas of Tamil Nadu, have been statistically analyzed in this study. This would have available propagation data that enable us to demonstrate that amateur radio communication will meet both the feasibility and performance objectives.

The report is the summary of signal strength reports from log sheet data of the two-way amateur radio communication contacts made by the Ham volunteers in the coastal areas on their own work. It is hoped that the report will help the policy makers and decision makers to encourage promotion of amateur radio activity and also as a tool for alternate channel of communication for people living in coastal areas vulnerable to natural disasters.

The Log book maintained as a prerequisite for operating an amateur radio station, has inbuilt components of much wider details with respect to frequencies being used by hams in conducting propagation condition tests, details of operators and date, time of operation, power output, station contacted, location and reports exchanged are recorded. These will include the clear procedure of the operations.

The parameters such as the transmitter power, frequency, type of signal modulation, type of aerial, and the sites of the transmitter and receiver are taken into consideration.

Propagation conditions often vary considerably from month to month, and the monthly variability can change significantly from year to year.

These statistics of signal variability, are required for predicting the reliability of amateur radio communications. In this context it is important to know, the signal level exceeded for large percentages of time or location, in the determination of signal quality from a desired amateur radio station or of that particular area; and the signal level from amateur radio stations that are heard for small percentages of time, to determine signal loss or with significance of potential interference.

The experiments were conducted under the existing Indian Wireless Telegraphs (Amateur Service) rules issued by Dept. of Telecom (WPC Wing) on amateur radio operation which require a log book and the equipment register maintained by the ham volunteers, who are licenced amateur radio operators working on this project.

The results from Ship to shore VHF communication from a given transmitter would typically travel over paths of 60 km or less is achieved, in order to ensure a satisfactory communication, while signals from a VHF repeater station would travel from far greater distances. However, there are occasions when radio-meteorological conditions occur whereby signals can travel to far greater distances than normal with sufficient signal strength to achieve long distance communication. The purpose of conducting propagation measurements on long distance propagation paths is, also to acquire knowledge of the likelihood of such reports. While the HF communication provided long distance communication day/night from amateur radio stations from coast to coast during this period. Limited success was achieved in the use of UHF frequency bands / HAMSAT during the period of study.

In the planning of any communication link, field surveys are necessary in order to sample and establish the true practical propagation characteristics obtainable over a particular path at a given instance. High frequency transmission where ionospheric paths are considered, surveys need not be very extensive in a large number of instances, as these can be supplemented by a vast amount of statistical information, which is already available. For VHF transmission propagated over tropospheric paths, relatively long-duration field surveys are necessary because of the inadequate knowledge of the essential properties of the propagation medium combined with the lack of relevant statistical information. The study has brought out the need for establishing more VHF repeater stations and HF communication stations on permanent basis in the coast.

In developed countries, due to the existence of large number of radio amateurs that are spread over different locations as a permanent feature, these countries could use Amateur Radio resource more extensively than in India. Our country therefore needs to look at this prospect not only for disaster management but as part of other development process and plans. An extensive measurement campaign is thus necessary to extend knowledge of the propagation characteristics in this region. This report presents the results of radio signal characteristics and propagation measurements carried out in the coastal areas of Tamil Nadu.

HAM Demo at Samiyarpettai Village Cuddalore



L-R: Mr. Joshua, Helpage India; Mr. K. Leela Krishna, VU3LGX, Co-ordinator NIAR; Mr. Elangovan BDO Panchayath Administration of Samiyarpettai and Mrs. Shaginabee, Project officer, Disaster Management.

A demonstration was organized by District Rural Development Authority (DRDA), Cuddalore for Fishermen Community. Mr. Leela Krishna VU3LGX gave demonstration of amateur radio communication. Mrs. Shaginabee, Project officer, Disaster Management appreciated the role of ham radio in disaster and encouraged educated members of Fishermen community to undertake training program on amateur radio communication as an alternate means of communication in disasters. The program was supported by several officers viz. D. Rajeshwar, Project head, Helpage India. Mr. Megaraj DRDA Project officer, Mr. Radha Krishna A.P.O. DRDA. Mr. Elangovan BDO Panchayath Administration of Samiyarpettai and over 200 fishermen participated.

Government of India initiatives to Promote Amateur Radio

Mr. M. Shashidhar Reddy, Member NDMA & Dr. G.R.S. Rao Policy Analyst & Management consultant visited NIAR on 12th April 2007



Mr. M. Shashidhar Reddy, Member NDMA & Dr. G.R.S. Rao Policy Analyst & Management consultant visited NIAR

The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), whose Chairman is Prime Minister of India is considering many proposals /views from various agencies for formulating a national policy and guidelines. NIAR has also submitted proposals to include Amateur Radio as value added resource for disaster mitigation and requested him to see that NGO's in this field be considered for effective utilization by providing policy & funding support. Mr. Shashidhar Reddy one of its Member recently made a formal visit to NIAR and we had demonstrated to him various facets of Amateur radio Communication including "Echo Link". He was able to witness contacts over VHF handy with Chicago in USA and also many in India including Delhi. Mr.H.S. Brahma IAS, Additional Secretary NDMA witnessed the services rendered by NIAR members during disasters including Tsunami relief communications in Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Recently the NIAR team met him and appraised him of the role Amateur Radio in Disaster Management.

We hope NDMA will bring a conscious National Policy to further promote Amateur Radio as part of Disaster Management to utilise easily available technical and human resource in nation building.

NIAR : 25 years in Public Service

The members of NIAR are among the most active and enthusiastic amateurs and have been committed to promotion of amateur radio in the country. NIAR with its Headquarters at Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, speaks for all Hams nationally & internationally and provides benefits to members.

National Institute of Amateur Radio (NIAR) was registered under the Andhra Pradesh (Telangana Area) Public Society Registration Act, 1350 Fasli (Act I of 1350F) on the 21st day of June 1983, as a non-profit voluntary organisation.

The forerunner of NIAR was the Andhra Pradesh Amateur Radio Society (APARS) which was formed in the year 1975 and conducted various activities for development of Amateur Radio. Impressed by the professional functions of the organisation in this field, Shri. Rajiv Gandhi, VU2RG desired that Amateur Radio be further strengthened and took several initiatives like writing letters to Dept. of Electronics (Now Department of Information Technology), Ministry of Communication (Now Ministry of Communication and Information Technology) and Ministry of Sports etc. between 1981 to 1985. Several initiatives were taken by the Ministry of Science and Technology and Department of Electronics headed by then Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi. It was suggested that a apex organization in the name of National institute of Amateur Radio (NIAR) be setup with Mr. S. Suri VU2MY as the Chief Executive. The Govt. also approved proposals to sponsor Mr. Suri, VU2MY on a two month world wide tour to study Amateur Radio organizations between August, September 1983. They also encouraged Ham Expedition to Antarctica, Lakshadweep, Andaman & Nicobar Islands etc. besides making it possible for members of NIAR to participate in several National / International events like Asiad-82, CHOGM 83.

The Government of India saw immense potential in Amateur Radio volunteer services during National calamity and decided to support with seed funding.

The Government of India initially funded NIAR's infrastructure and the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh supported by allotting land and providing further financial support. Thus NIAR became a Apex and well established unique organization with support received not only from government but also by several public/private agencies as well as member support. The NIAR has made tremendous progress in these years and is well recognized by National/International forums since 1983 and to represent Indian Amateurs. The fact that the reputed and well established institutions like Bharat Scout & Guides, Rajiv Gandhi Foundation, ONGC, Disaster Emergency Response Agency (USA), Institution of Engineers, AP academy of Science etc. have all been regularly utilizing services of NIAR speaks volumes.

The amateur population in India which was around 1500 (in 1982 before NIAR was established) has been raised to nearly 15,000 through it's consistent promotional activities.

Promoting people's participation in Communication and Information Technology through Amateur Radio and Disaster management was launched under the leadership of Mr. S. Suri.

- ❖ 1975 - Registration of A.P. Amateur Radio Society (APARS)
- ❖ 1976 - AP Govt. constituted a committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Technical Education, Employment & Training with Director, Employees & Training and Director, Technical Education. This committee after conducting thorough process and discussions with Mr. Suri, gave a report on the usefulness of Hams during natural calamities and other areas of development were brought out.
- ❖ 1981 - A major exhibition on "Communication, Past - Present - Future " was organized by Late Shri. Rajiv Gandhi VU2RG with the help of Mr. Suri
- ❖ 1982 - Amateur Radio Emergency communication for Amreli floods in Gujarat.

- ❖ 1982 - A Major All India Hamvention was conducted at Hyderabad which was attended by Late Prime Minister Shri. Rajiv Gandhi VU2RG.
- ❖ Amateur Radio Network was organized during the 9th Asian Games - Asiad'82 held at New Delhi.
- ❖ 1983 - Provided communication Network at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meet (CHOGM) held at Goa.
- ❖ 1983 - Mr. S. Suri, VU2MY the Executive Vice Chairman & Director, NIAR was sent on global tour for two months to study many international Amateur Radio organizations.
- ❖ 1983 - NIAR emerged as a National organization in promotion of Amateur Radio.
- ❖ 1983 - NIAR conducted Dxpediton to Lakshadweep Is. (VU7)
- ❖ 1984 - Established NIAR office at P.S. Nagar. (Mr. Suri's residence) and hired two other buildings in the same area.
- ❖ 1984 - NIAR developed low cost HF transceiver for two bands with support received from MIT (formerly DOE), Govt. of India.
- ❖ 1985 - Shifted NIAR office to Banjara Hills, Hyderabad.
- ❖ 1986 - Constructed own buildings and moved NIAR office to Rajbhavan Road, Hyderabad.
- ❖ Participated in several RSGB (UK) and AMSAT (UK) conferences.
- ❖ 1987 - NIAR conducted a major DXpediton to Andaman & Nicobar Islands with a team of 30 members lead by Mrs. Bharathi Prasad VU2RBI. She became number 1 among woman hams and was Awarded World Wide "DX"er and "Ambassador on the Air" by USA.
- ❖ 1987 - 1992 - All India Hamvention held at NIAR HQ.
- ❖ 1988 - International Amateur Radio Union President and two other representatives visit NIAR.
- ❖ 1988 - Emergency Communication Bihar Earthquake - Dharbanga, Madhubani, Munger.
- ❖ 1989 - 2nd Laccadives DXpediton was conducted by NIAR with a team of 5 members lead by Ms. M. Bhanumathi VU2BL.
- ❖ 1991 - Major Policy - "Introduction of Amateur Radio (Ham Radio) as an activity under Work Experience from Class IX onwards in all CBSE affiliated schools" introduced.
- ❖ 1992 - A Network of Amateur Radio Clubs established in coastal areas of Andhra Pradesh with the support received from World Bank.
- ❖ 1992 - Cover page article on Mr. Suri appeared in September 1992 issue of Reader's Digest.
- ❖ 1993 - Acquires office buildings at Delhi and started expanding NIAR activates in North India.
- ❖ 1993 - Emergency communication provided in Latur (Maharashtra) Earthquake.
- ❖ 1993 - Collaboration with Rajiv Gandhi Foundation and establishment of R.G. Amateur Radio Club for promotion of Amateur Radio activities with the callsign VU2RG.
- ❖ NIAR received "Golden Antenna Award" at 25th German - Dutch Radio Amateur Festival held in Bad Bentheim, Germany
- ❖ 1994 - Major All India Hamvention held at Bangalore. Many politicians, IAS, IPS, representative of RGF were among the dignitaries who attended. Mr. Swaminathan, IAS, took over as Chairman NIAR.
- ❖ 1995 - Dr. Shrikant Jichkar, VU2SJA MP, Rajya Sabha who was also highly qualified person in India took over as Chairman NIAR.
- ❖ 1996 - Provided communication for "Amarnath Yatra" calamity near Srinagar.
- ❖ 1996 - MPLAD scheme approves setting up Amateur Radio clubs in Schools.

- ❖ 1997 - Shri N. Vittal, IAS recommended Public Sector Enterprises to establish Amateur Radio Clubs in their schools. Several Kendriya Vidyalaya of ONGC and IOC Gujarat Refinery establish Ham Radio Clubs.
- ❖ 1997 - 98 - NIAR conducted a study of Socio-Economic Viability of Village Public Telephones which was successfully completed.
- ❖ 1997 - NIAR participated in National Council of Emergency Management (NCEM), Global Forum of National Disaster Reduction (NFNDR) at Phoenix, USA.
- ❖ 1997 - NIAR has reached an MOU with Disaster Emergency Resource Agency (DERA) USA to work out some details for further improvements in taking up Emergency Management areas through Voluntary action.
- ❖ 1998 - NIAR participated in Disaster -98 at Orlando, USA under the guidance of DERA USA.
- ❖ 1999 - National Control Room inaugurated by Shri N. Vittal, VU2NVO, IAS Central Vigilance Commissioner, Govt. of India.
- ❖ 1999 - Members of NIAR participated in Orissa Super Cyclone Relief Operations
- ❖ 2000 - NIAR received Award for Excellence & Award for Meritorious Leadership from DERA, USA
- ❖ 2000 - A 4 member team led by Dr. Shrikant Jichkar participated in Dayton Hamvention USA.
- ❖ 2001 - Members of NIAR participated in Gujarat Earthquake relief operation.
- ❖ 2001 - Co-sponsored Hamfest India 2001 at Nagpur.
- ❖ 2002 - NIAR builds partnership with CARE-India to promote Amateur Radio in India.
- ❖ NIAR has undertaken a major programme for the promotion of Amateur Radio in Orissa State in Collaboration with United Nations Development Program (UNDP).
- ❖ 2002 - NIAR propagated 32nd National Games at Hyderabad with special Callsign ATONG in December 2002.
- ❖ 2003 - NIAR delegation met the Dr.A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, President of India on 26 Aug 2003 at Rashtrapathi Bhavan, New Delhi.
- ❖ 2003 - NIAR propagated Afro Asian Games at Hyderabad with special Callsign ATOAAG during October to November, 2003.
- ❖ 2004 - NIAR conducted DXpedition to Andaman & Nicobar with a team of 5 members lead by Mrs. D. Bharathi VU2RBI. This DXpedition got stuck with Tsunami on 26th of December 2004 and DXpedition converted it to Relief Communication. NIAR send more hams from New Delhi, Hyderabad, Bangalore etc. to Andaman for relief communication.
- ❖ 2004 - Mr.S.B.Ram, VU2LIC, Addl. Director, NIAR participated in "National Seminar & Exhibition on ICT 4 D - Role of Amateur Radio" conducted at Dhaka, Bangladesh on 19 June 2004
- ❖ 2004 - NIAR implemented a "Project on Digital Connectivity - Urban, Rural & Remote Areas through Amateur Radio" supported by Dept. of Information Technology, Govt. of India. 10 centres were started in different parts of India, Amateur Radio training given and equipments supplied .
- ❖ 2005 - NIAR members received the prestigious "International Humanitarian Award" from ARRL, USA.
- ❖ 2005 - Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India recommended setting up of Amateur Radio Clubs in National Institute of Technology and Indian Institute of Technology.
- ❖ 2005 - India launched its first Hamsat. NIAR Governing Council Member & Co-ordinator AMSAT India Late Shri. Nagesh Upadhyaya VU2NUD who was also a Senior Scientist in ISRO supported this milestone.
- ❖ 2005 - NIAR organized "International Seminar on Amateur Radio in Disaster Management" in Chennai on 18 April 2005 supported by Dept. of Information Technology, Govt. of India attended by delegates from DERA USA, GDXF Germany, Finland, Sri Lanka, etc.
- ❖ 2005 - NIAR team met the Prime Minister of India, Dr. Manmohan Singh on 05 March 2005 and appraised him of the Tsunami Relief operations which he appreciated.
- ❖ 2005 - Mr .Dayanidhi Maran, VU2DMK, Hon'ble Minister for Communication & Information Technology, Govt. of India presented Appreciation certificates to volunteers who participated in Tsunami Relief communications. He also released the VU4NRO VU4RBI QSL cards at a function in New Delhi.
- ❖ 2005 - Mrs.Bharathi, VU2RBI, Chief Co-ordinator, NIAR made key note presentation at the International DX Convention held on April 15-17, 2005 at Visalia, California, USA on "The role of VU4 DXpedition turned disaster communication effort in Andaman & Nicobar Islands".
- ❖ 2005 - Members of NIAR and Mr.Ajeer Vidya from Dept. of Information Technology Govt. of India visited Dayton Hamvention USA during May 20-22, 2005.
- ❖ 2005 - Mr.Suri attended Ham-Com 2005 DX Convention held in USA during 3-5 June, 2005.
- ❖ 2005 - NIAR team participated in Ham Radio conducted at Friedrichshafen, Germany.
- ❖ 2005 - NIAR team participated in the First Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communication Conference held at Tampere, Finland during 13-14 June, 2005.
- ❖ 2005 - Mrs.Bharathi, VU2RBI, Chief Co-ordinator, NIAR received the 2nd Annual Lynch Memorial Award from Tokyo International Amateur Radio Association.
- ❖ 2005- Mrs.Bharathi, VU2RBI, Chief Co-ordinator, NIAR attended the Asia Pacific DX Convention held in Japan durin 18-20 Nov, 2005.
- ❖ 2006 - NIAR organized HAMFEST (VU4) INDIA, at Port Blair, Andaman and Nicobar Islands supported by Dept. of Information Technology, Govt. of India. More than 30 foreign hams participated in it.
- ❖ 2006 - Mr.Suri attended SEA Net Convention held in Osaka, Japan.
- ❖ 2006 - NIAR attended the 2nd Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Conference held in Tampere, Finland during June 19-20, 2007.
- ❖ 2006 - NIAR implemented a project "Propagation conditions in Amateur Radio communication for costal areas" of Tamilnadu supported by Dept. of Information Technology, Govt. of India. 10 centres functioned for this project.
- ❖ 2006 - NIAR participated in Ham Radio held at Friedrichshafen, Germany during June 23-25, 2006.
- ❖ 2007 - NIAR organized "HAMFEST 2007" DXpedition at Lakshadweep Islands with support from Dept. of Information Technology, Govt. of India. 33 foreign hams from 11 countries operated from 4 Islands. This DXpedition got Best "DXpedition of the year" award from GMDX, Scotland and SWODXA, USA.
- ❖ 2007 - Invited by Dr. Fernando, EA8AK, Member of European Parliament Mr. S. Suri attended an exhibition "Amateur Radio - a European Resource" in European Parliament, Brussels.
- ❖ 2007 - Mr.Suri made presentation on VU7RG/VU7MY in "28th Annual Mostra Nazionale Mercatao Radiantistico", held in Montichiari, Italy during 10-11 March, 2007.
- ❖ 2007 - Mr.Suri visited Amateur Radio associations in Poland and Austria.
- ❖ 2007 - Mrs.Bharathi, VU2RBI, Chief Co-ordinator, NIAR attended Dayton Hamvention 2007, and also HamCom 2007, USA.
- ❖ 2007 - NIAR sponsored 8 members for Disaster Management Training at Austria.

On 21st of June 2008 NIAR will celebrate its Silver Jubilee.

Now NIAR is looking for partnership with International Organisations and expert Hams.

Training program at RSTI (T), AIR & DD, Bhubaneswar

Ham Radio training was conducted at "Regional Staff Training Institute (Technical), AIR & DD" at Bhubaneswar, from April 16 to May 12, 2007. This training was organised by Orissa State Disaster Mitigation Agency (OSDMA), 54 participants including various NGO's, Students, Teachers, Doctor from various Districts of Orissa registered for this training program. The training was conducted by Mr. Sushil Kumar Dhingra, VU2LFA & Mr. Madhu Mohan, VU2UWZ.



L-R Gyana Ranjan Dash, Chief General Manager, OSDMA; Sushil Kumar Dhingra VU2LFA, Nikunja K Sundaray, Managing Director, OSDMA & Special Relief Commissioner, Orissa

Mr. Nikunja K Sundaray, Managing Director, OSDMA & Special Relief Commissioner, Orissa inaugurated the training program and speaking on the occasion highlighted the importance of amateur radio communications in times of disasters. He gave details of various activities initiated by OSDMA on the disaster preparedness and response for effective disaster management. During the interaction with the participants, he said that OSDMA would organise advance level of training for those qualified in ASOC examination and further improving their technical skills for utilising their services in the event of disasters.



Mr. P.R. Mohapatra, Manager (co-ordination), OSDMA interacting with the participants

ASOC Examination was conducted on 10th - 11th of May 2007.

Training Classes at NIAR HQ



An Amateur Station Operator License (ASOL) training program was started at NIAR HQ from 23rd April 07. Mr. Srinivas, VU2CSV & Mr. Leela Krishna, VU3LGX are guiding the students.

DRM Workshop at All India Radio, New Delhi



All India Radio (AIR) in collaboration with Digital Radio Mondiale (DRM) & Asia Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) conducted a "Showcase on SCS Simulcasting in MW Band : Digital Transmission Workshop & Field Measurements" in New

Delhi from 7th to 12 May 2007.

DRM is a universal, non-proprietary digital radio system to deliver enhanced quality sound and data in existing broadcast bands. It has been endorsed by ITU and others. In this system, upto 4 services can be broadcast on a single frequency with audio and text messages. Stereo is also possible. The principle objective of the project was to showcase the feasibility and working of the relatively new technology of Single Channel Simulcast (SCS) and Multi Channel Simulcast (MSC), while broadcasting AM and DRM signals using only one transmitter. It was the first trial project of its kind in the Asia-Pacific region.

The inauguration was held at Conference Hall, Directorate General, AIR, Akshwani Bhawan, New Delhi while the workshop was at the Staff Training Institute (Technical) AIR & Doordarshan, Kingsway Camp, Delhi. The trials in the MW band were conducted on the frequency of 666 kHz from the new DRM compatible 100 kW transmitter installed at High Power Transmitter site of AIR at Nangli, Delhi. For trials on SW a new 10 kw transmitter was installed at AIR High Power Transmitter site at Kingsway Camp, Delhi.

Trial of novel application of local DRM transmissions in the 26 MHz band using Vertical Incidence (NVIS) propagation was also successfully conducted. There were also DRM tests on 6100 kHz using 250 kW transmitter located at AIR Khampur, New Delhi. Broadcasters from several Asian countries attend this workshop. From NIAR Mr. Jose Jacob, Asst. Director participated in it along with NIAR member Mr. Alokesh Gupta. For field measurements, two vans fitted with latest equipments and DRM receivers were used which travelled in and around Delhi. Several ordinary and digital receivers were also used by the participants.

Ham Demonstration for Experts of Power & Energy Sector

The Engineering Staff College of India (ESCI), Hyderabad, a forum of the Institution of Engineers (India), organised a training programme on "Disaster Management, Electrical Safety Procedures and Accident Prevention" on April 16, 2007. As part of training programme a session on "Use of Ham Technology during Disasters - Case Studies" was conducted by Mr. S. Ram Mohan, VU2MYH, Additional Director, NIAR.



Mr. S. Suri, VU2MY, Chairman was the chief guest of the inaugural forum. Dr. MVS Birinchi, Advisor and Head, Power & Energy (to the Right) and Mrs. P Vijaya Lakshmi, Sr. Faculty, P&E, ESCI (to the left) coordinated the program. Delegates from various Power & Energy sectors from all over the country attended it.

Inauguration HAM Club at Shanti Sarovar, Gachibowli, Brahma Kumaris, Hyderabad



Amateur Radio Station was inaugurated by B.K.Mrityunjay, Vice- Chairman, Education wing of Brahma Kumaris and Mr. S.Suri, VU2MY, Chairman, NIAR at Brahma Kumaris Shanti Sarovar Academy, Hyderabad on 17th April, 2007.

The programme was attended by divine sister B.K.Sabita I/C Warangal centres, B.K.Vijaya I/C Karimnagar centres and B.K.Anjali Sr. Faculty member of Shanti Sarovar and I/C Basheerbagh centre and others. In his inaugural speech B.K.Mrityunjay blessed the activity to achieve everlasting success and strengthen information exchange among communities with alternate channels of communication in distress. Mr. Suri explained about the Amateur Radio and its application in managing disasters.

Ham Radio Demonstration in Shimla



Mr. Mukesh Kumar, VU2MCW

The Ham Radio Demonstration was organised by State Council for Science Technology & Environment Himachal Pradesh in collaboration with NIAR, Hyderabad on April 4, 2007 at the Ridge, Shimla. Mr. Mukesh Kumar Gola, Ham Radio expert from Delhi demonstrated the Ham Radio to School Children and Public. Mrs. Bharathi Prasad provided Ham Radio Equipment and all necessary assistance. It may be mentioned that earth quake occurred on April 4, 1905 at Kangra in HP in which about 20,000 lives were lost and thousands of houses were damaged. In order to create awareness about earth quake disaster the Ham radio demonstration was organised as Ham Radio is the most reliable Communication Tool during such disasters.

Dr S.S. Chandel, Principal Scientific Officer in the State Council for Science, Technology & Environment co-ordinated the event.

HAM COUPLE



The ceremonial wedding of daughter of Mr. S.Sathyapal, VU2FI, S.Sowmini, VU3SIM and B.K.Raghavendra, VU3HJC was held on 29th April 2007 in Bangalore. Several Hams from across South India and Bangalore

graced the occasion, as the young HAM couple decided to walk their journey of life together. Mr. S. Suri VU2MY, Chairman, NIAR attended the wedding ceremony and extended Hearty Congratulations to the new couple.

Remembering Rajiv Gandhi VU2RG



Members of NIAR paid flowral tributes to former Prime Minister late Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, VU2RG on his 16th anniversary.

Mr. Suri, VU2MY briefed the members on various policies and programs initiated by late. Shri Rajiv Gandhi for promotion of Amateur Radio in the country.

Silent Key



Padmashree Dr. Narala. Tata Rao, VU2NTR
(04-Sep-1917 - 07-Apr-07)

Governing Council members and Hams express heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family members of Padmasri Dr.N.Tata Rao.

Dr. N.Tata Rao was well known for his special interests in HF DXing and was an active Ham over two decades with callsign VU2NTR. He also operated amateur radio stations from abroad during his visits.

"He has been a supporter and guide to several developmental activities conducted by NIAR. He was a great motivating force that gave us strength as we embarked on several challenging activities that brought good recognition to NIAR. We shall miss him" said Mr. Suri VU2MY.

Our condolences go to members of his bereaved family and we pray to give them the courage and fortitude to bear this irreplaceable loss.

Mr. A.Sridhar Babu VU3IGG among toppers in all India civil services examinations of 2007



NIAR extends warmest greetings and congratulations to Mr. Sridhar Babu, on his selection to All India Civil Services.

Mr. Sridhar Babu actively participated as a Ham volunteer in the recent International Hamfest 2007 VU7RG organised by NIAR in Lakshadweep Islands during January 2007.

Our heartiest congratulations for your success and wish the new duties will allow him to continue his contribution to general public and Ham Radio.

NIAR building International Relations

Austria



Mr. S. Suri receiving Flag from Mr. Michael Zwingl, OE3MZC, President Österreichischer Versuchssenderverband (OVSV) Austria

Mr. S. Suri presenting NIAR Ham News to Mr. Michael Zwingl, OE3MZC



Mr. Arno Metzler, OE9AMJ
HAM Station

Mr. Arno Metzler, OE9AMJ,
Mrs. Helga Metzler (Wife),
Nicole Metzler (daughter).



Poland



Mr. S. Suri, VU2MY operating as
SO3MY from SP3DOI's Shack

Mr. S. Suri with Mr. Piotr
Skrzypczak, SP2JMR, President
Polish Amateur Radio Union



Mr. Janusz Ambrozy,
SP3CYY

Mr. S. Suri with Mr. Leszek
Fabjanski SP3DOI family



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Club Station: VU2NRO 14.160 Mhz, Echolink-Node: 133507.

Amateur Radio Exhibition in European Parliament, Brussels

An Exhibition titled "Ham Radio, a European Resource" was held in European Parliament during 5-9, March, 2007 with an objective to raise the profile of Amateur Radio Service to the Members of the European Parliament and to promote the image of this service as a valuable European resource. MEP Dr. Fernando Fernandez-Martin, EA8AK was the patron for this event.

Inaugural function was held on 5th March attended by about 100 guests including, The IARU president Region 1 and several presidents and vice-presidents of national societies representing RSGB, DARC, REF-Union, URE, VERON, RAAG and UBA. AMSAT societies were represented by the president of AMSAT Italy. Mr.S.Suri VU2MY, Chairman NIAR and a group of Spanish hams were invited by MEP Dr. Fernando Fernandez-Martin, EA8AK.



MEP Ms. Mechthild Rothe (Germany) welcomed the guests, she appreciated radio amateurs for their commitment in educational and emergency fields.



In his speech Dr. Fernando, EA8AK spoke about the important role of amateur radio in strengthening International relations, technology development and the need to further promote the activity in European Union. He felt this exhibition would pave the way for more awareness and proactive role by various agencies including government to promote Amateur Radio. He appreciated the role played by NIAR particularly in the aftermath of Indian Ocean Tsunami-2004 and Govt. of India for its support to promotion of amateur radio activities in India.



Mr.Suri VU2MY explained the role of Hams in public service, particularly the utilisation of Amateur Radio resource during natural calamities during Indian Ocean Tsunami in 2004 besides several others and promotion of Amateur Radio activities with support of Government of India.



Mr. Gaston Bertels ON4WF, Chairman EUROCOM WG, presented the amateur radio service to the audience and explained the use of Ham Radio in areas of education, technical research and development and emergency work.

Mr.Suri presented Dr. Shrikant Jichkar memorial "Gold Medal" award - 2007 to Dr. Fernando Fernandez-Martin, EA8AK for his outstanding contribution to Amateur Radio at this event.

This exhibition ran successfully over a week, with focus on five key areas of amateur radio: emergency activities, space communications, famous radio amateurs, training of young people and careers influenced by amateur radio.



The president of IARU Region1 Ole Garpestad, LA2RR officially opened the Exhibition.

Among other VIP, Joachim Strick, leader of NATO's Frequency Management Office, Freddy Baert and David Erzeel of the Belgian Institute of Post and Telecommunications, Mathieu Bolland Chairman SSETI, Jean-Marcel Thomas General Manager Euro Space Center, Adriano Graziosi (ON5GA) General Manager European Social and Economic Committee (retired) also visited the Exhibition.



Written the posters illustrated to MEPs the important role that amateur radio plays in education, science and emergencies and one of the poster Personality shown Mrs. Sonia Gandhi VU2SON Chairperson, United Progressive Alliance, while another Poster included late Mr. Rajiv Gandhi VU2RG former Prime Minister of India are shown.

(Mr. S. Suri with RSGB General Manager Peter Kirby, G0TWW)

Five self supporting panels (2m x 3.20m) represented specific aspects of amateur radio:



- o Emergency activities
- o Space communications
- o Personalities who are radio amateurs
- o Training of the youth
- o Careers directly influenced by amateur radio.

The text of these panels was in English, French and German.

A flyer was printed in three languages, covering the topics presented in the Exhibition and providing the addresses of the IARU societies in the 27 countries of the European Union.

There were also exhibits on -

- o EMC box to demonstrate HF interference by several sources including PLT/BPL
- o CW writer PSK31 (reception)
- o DVD and Internet on large screen (a router was installed by Jacques Debouche ON500)
- o Engineering model of Sputnik 40
- o Engineering model of L/S-band antenna for Columbus.

Many European members of the parliament, officials and even visitors to the parliament had good exposure to Amateur Radio. This exhibition "Ham Radio a European Resource" showed the capacity of European hams and gave lesson. The exhibition proved a major success.

More details of this event are available in the website <http://www.darc.de/ausland/iaru/eurocom/index.html>

Dr. Fernando Fernandez Martin, EA8AK receives Dr. Shrikant Jichkar, VU2SJA "Gold Medal" Award 2007 from NIAR.

Dr. Fernando Fernandez Martin, EA8AK received the year 2007 "Gold Medal" Award for his outstanding contributions to promotion of amateur radio in India and other countries. Dr. Fernando also heads the list of celebrity Hams in the world and is an active Ham till date on all bands. He also received several amateur radio awards from around the world for his work in Amateur radio. The award was presented during the exhibition held on 5th March in European Parliament, Brussels by Mr. S. Suri VU2MY Chairman, NIAR.

The NIAR Awards committee under the Chairmanship of Late Dr.N.Tata Rao, VU2NTR met on 23 December 2006, decided unanimously the name of Dr. Fernando Fernandez Martin, EA8AK for this award and announced the same.

Achievements of Dr. Fernando Fernandez Martin, EA8AK in Amateur Radio:

- Fernando Fernandez Martin was born in 1943. First amateur radio license in 1956.
- Former President of U.R.E (Spanish amateur radio league).
- Active DXer and contester.
- Worked all 337 entities of the DXCC list (337 phone, 336 CW).
- Awards: W.A.Z. (Worked all zones) award and plaque number 1 on 80 mt. and 40 mt. 5BWAZ number 7.
- CQ World Wide DX Contest : winner
- World Champion-world record 1980
- Single operator-all band category.- 1977



- Winner world champion-world rtecqr Multi-Multy category (phone) - 1978: winner world champion-world record Multi-Multy category (CW).- Winner world champion on 40 mt (1974), 80 mt (1.976), 160 mt (several times on SSB and CW). 1984
- Winner world champion world recorder on 40 mt category - phone- and many others, including VU4-Hamfestival Andaman 2005 Continental winner award.

- Married to XYL Elena, 1 son and 3 daughters.

Profession:

- Medical Doctor, MD, Ph D degree.
- Professor of Neurology at the Medical School of the Canary Islands University.
- Head of Service of Neurology, University Hospital of the Canary Islands.
- Former President of the Government of the Canary Island.
- Nowadays, Member of the European Parliament of the European Union.
- Member of Development Committee.
- Vice-President of the Delegation of the European Parliament for Latin-America.
- Chairman of the Political Affairs committee of the Euro-Latin America (EUROLAT) Joint Assembly.

Brief Profile: Fernando FERNÁNDEZ MARTÍN

- ❖ Graduate in medicine and surgery (Navarre, 1965); diploma in Neurology (Barcelona, 1966; Paris, 1967); specialist in clinical neurophysiology and neurology (Navarre, 1968); doctor of medicine (1975). Assistant lecturer in neurology (Navarre, 1965-1968). Senior lecturer in medical pathology (La Laguna, 1969-1979); deputy professor in neurology (La Laguna, 1984). Head of the Neurology Department at the University Hospital of the Canary Islands (1971-1999).
- ❖ Member of the PP Regional Executive Committee (Canary Islands, 1991-2004) and of the PP National Executive Committee (1994-1999).
- ❖ Member of the Canary Islands Regional Parliament (1983-1994); Regional President of the Social Democratic Centre party (CDS) in the Canary Islands (1983-1989); Chairman of the PP parliamentary group (1991-1994). President of the Autonomous Government of the Canary Islands (1987-1990).
- ❖ Member of the European Parliament (since 1994). Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Development (1999-2001). Member of the ACP-EU Assembly (1994-2004). Vice-Chairman of the Delegation for relations with the countries of South America and Mercosur (2001-2004). Chairman of the ad hoc delegations for Venezuela (2003) and for Bolivia (2004). Member of election observation missions for various electoral processes in Africa and Latin America.
- ❖ Chain of the Order of the Canary Islands. Medal of the Spanish Senate and other national and foreign decorations.

Postal address: Parlamento Europeo Rue Wiertz ASP 11E142 BE-1047 BRUSELAS

"28 Annual Mostra Nazionale Mercato Radiantistico", Montichiari Italy

The 28th Annual Exhibition of Radiantistico Market dedicated to Electronics, Computer Science, Hi-Fi and the radios of age was organized during 10-11 March 2007 in the province of Brescia, Montichiari, Italy. This event was attended by over 11,000 guests from around the world and Italy.

Several exhibitors/dealers/resellers of Amateur Radio communication equipment among the leading brands displayed their products and services. The exhibits at this event include military surplus equipment & antennas. Amateur Radio forums for special interest groups on Dxing, Contests, U/VHF forums are main attractions of this event.

The Brescia Contest Group in association with Centro Fiera del Garda organised DX & Contest corner 2007 inviting presentations on recent dxpeditions around the world. BCC Bavarian Contest Club - CRK Czech Radio Club - IOTA Islands On The Air - MCC Marconi Contest Club - RRDXA Rhein Ruhr Dx Association - Tikiriki Contest Club - MDXC



Mauro - IN3QBR - an Italian Dealer for ACOM Linear Amplifiers. Co-Organizer of the Italian Montichiari Hamevent with Mr. S. Suri, VU2MY



Mr. Suri with members of Bavarian Contest Club



Mr. S. Suri VU2MY was invited to present the achievements of Hamfest 2007 and Dxpediton VU7RG/VU7MY at this event.

Other presentations at this event include,
1A4A- Amateur Radio Station of The Sovereign Military Order

of Malta by Giorgio IZ4AKS & Massimo IZ4DPV.

Contesting on Low Bands by John ON4UN.

IR4M - Romagna Contest Team by Fulvio IK4MGP

J20M and J20R-Djibouti Dxpediton 2007 by Silvano IZYSB

MDXC- Histroy and New Projects by Nicola IZ3EBA

S01R - Western Sahara Dxpediton by Fabrizio IN3ZNR



Member of the VU7RG Agatti team, Mr. Jun Tanaka, JH4RHF (Extreme Right) with the president and members of Austrian Radio Society.

Southwest Ohio DX Association (SWODXA) 'DXPEDITION OF THE YEAR' Award presented to VU7RG/VU7MY at Dayton, USA.

The Annual Dx Dinner hosted and sponsored by Southwest Ohio DX Association, USA each year in conjunction with Hamvention at Dayton, Ohio, USA was held on Friday, 18th May, 2007.

The DX Dinner is an exciting forum for Dxers, DXCC countdown, invited lectures and the Awards are main attractions for this event. Hams make reservations for the annual DX dinner each year owing to its popularity and increasing numbers of participants.



(Photo courtesy: Nigel Cawthorne, G3TXF)

Mrs. Bharathi VU2RBI receiving the SWODXA "DXpedition of the year" award on behalf of VU7RG / VU7MY team. Dr. Glenn Johnson W0GJ, Jeane Parker WA6UVF, Steve Wright VE7CT, Robert Neilson King VA7DX, Madison R Jones W5MJ, Mahathi VU3DSM, were among other members of the team members to attend this event.

The SWODXA DX Dinner event attracts as much publicity as the annual Hamvention which is attended by over 30,000 hams for a 3 day event. This year Hamvention was held during May, 18-20, 2007.

Earlier this year VU7RG / VU7MY received GMDX Foundation, Scotland "Dxpediton of the year 2007" award. This award was received by Mr. Frank Rosenkranz, DL4KQ on behalf of VU7RG team.

Mrs. Bharathi at Irving Amateur Radio club USA Meeting



Mrs. Bharathi VU2RBI and
Ms. Mahathi VU3DSM

"Bharathi Prasad VU2RBI from New Delhi, India gave the program for the general meeting May 24, 2007 on her experience with DX and disaster management through Ham radio in India. We appreciate what her contributions mean to "Ham Radio", including being the Chief Co-ordinator of the

National Institute of Amateur Radio in New Delhi. Bharathi Prasad's accounts of DXing and the tsunami, which were fascinating! Bharathi is truly an ambassador representing Ham's throughout the world." More details available at <http://www.irvingarc.org>

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W5DXCC
Ham-Com 2007





Dr. Glenn Johnson, W0GJ
<http://www.vu7.in/>

The DX dinner speaker will be Dr. Glenn Johnson, W0GJ. The topic is the VU7RG 2007 DXpedition to Lakshadweep Island. For more information about the VU7RG DXpedition, visit:

The DX Dinner price list is available on the Ham-Com web site at <http://www.hamcom.org/>. Check out the DX Dinner "Trifecta" of three Grand prizes on pages 13-19!



VU7RG **VU7 - HAMFEST**
Visit India DX website
Lakshadweep Island
May 24-25, 2007

The Lone Star DX Association in conjunction with Ham-Com 2007 host this year's W5DXCC. Along with the venue and schedule change of Ham-Com, this year's W5DXCC will have some changes as well. The main event will be a **dinner** affair at the Southfork Hotel near the Plano Convention Center on Friday evening, June 8, 2007. Following the dinner, the Lone Star DX Association and the North Texas Contest Club will host the ever popular DX/Contest hospitality suite for a time of fellowship and renewing old friendships.





Ham-Com 2007 was organised in the Plano Centre, Texas, USA during June 8-9. Mrs. D. Bharathi Prasad VU2RBI, was invited to give her experiences on "VU7MY - Minicoy Island DX-Pedition". Her presentation covered DXpedition / Hamfest to the Lakshadweep Islands. VU7 was the #2 MOST WANTED DXCC entity in 2007. The event also featured a talk / Presentation by Dr. Glenn R. Johnson, W0GJ on VU7RG.

World Amateur Radio Day (April 18) Celebrated around the world.

The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) and its member societies representing more than 150 countries around the world celebrated World Amateur Radio Day on April 18, 2007. The theme for this year's celebration is "Amateur Radio: Allowing youth to connect the world."

Despite the Internet and cellular phone, Amateur Radio continues to attract people world-wide by providing free international communications and friendships. Because it does not need pre-established supporting infrastructure, Amateur Radio reaches into every corner of the world -- and even into space.

With the help of Amateur Radio clubs and operators, space shuttle astronauts and crewmembers of the International Space Station have been speaking directly to youth around the world while in orbit. They are talking directly with schools, showing teachers, students, parents and communities how Amateur Radio energizes youngsters about science, technology, and learning. The program is called ARISS, Amateur Radio on the

International Space Station, and is an opportunity for students to experience the excitement of Amateur Radio by talking directly about science, technology, and learning. Speaking to the ISS crewmembers is a unique educational experience. Hundreds of Amateur Radio operators, including those from NASA Amateur Radio clubs at Johnson Space Center, Goddard Space Flight Center, and Marshall Space Flight Center, work behind the scenes to make these educational experiences possible.

Similar youth programs are available through Scouting as each year many thousands of Scouts "get together" over the airwaves for their Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA). Modern radio technology offers Scouts the exciting opportunity to make friends in other countries without leaving home.

JOTA is an annual event in which Boy and Girl Scouts and Guides from all over the world speak to each other by means of Amateur Radio. Scouting experiences are exchanged and ideas are shared via radio waves. Since 1958 when the first Jamboree-on-the-Air was held, millions of Scouts have met each other through this event. Many contacts made during JOTA have resulted in pen pals and links between Scout troops that have lasted many years. Many Scouts and leaders hold licenses, while others participate in JOTA at stations provided by local radio clubs and individual radio amateurs.

Young radio amateurs also form their organizations. One example is the World Wide Young Contesters, made up of radio amateurs under the age of 30 who enjoy participating in international operating competitions. Several members of the club qualified to compete in the World Radiosport Team Championship in Florianopolis, Brazil last July.

Calling "CQ" on the amateur shortwave bands can result in a contact with other amateurs across town or far across the oceans. While amateurs repeatedly have been in the news for their life-saving communications services in disasters, a large part of their activities remains the excitement and joy of contacting distant and remote areas of the world, learning directly about each others' regions and lives and trying different ways to make radio contacts around the world. In this way amateurs learn skills that, in other situations, have earned them world praise for their responses in emergencies. In addition, leading electrical engineers are able to draw from their practical, hands-on experiences gained as Amateur Radio operators while they develop the inventions that are today's necessities

Source: The IARU E-Letter and The International Amateur Radio Union

Disaster Management training program in Austria

Training program on Disaster Management is being organised in Austria for the NIAR members in June 2007. This study program includes visit to Friedrichshafen (South Germany), a major annual Ham Radio event attended by over 18000 Hams. NIAR in association with GDXX is setting up a stall at this event.

The following NIAR members are sponsored for OVSF-NIAR training program

1. Mr. S. Suri, VU2MY
2. Mr. Ajeer Vidya, IAS (Retd)
3. Mr. Ram Mohan, VU2MYH
4. Mr. A. Satyanarayana, VU2SAX
5. Mr. Jose Jacob, VU2JOS
6. Mrs. B. Jayamma VU2JMA
7. Ms. S. Yamini
8. Mr. B.K.Yashwant, VU2YOR

