



HAM NEWS

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Dayton Hamvention 2005 Award Winners



Left to right. Mr. Alan S. Kaul, W6RCL, Mrs. D. Bharathi Prasad, VU2RBI, Dr. Jeery Sevick, W2FMI.

Dayton Hamvention 2005, USA



Left to right: Mr. S. Suri, VU2MY, Mr. Ajeer Vidya, JS&FA, Dept. of Information Technology, Govt. of India, Mrs. D. Bharathi Prasad, VU2RBI, Mr. D. N. Prasad, VU2DBP and Mr. Hans, DF5UG, IARU representative from Germany.

Ham Radio 2005, Germany



Left to right: Mr. S. Suri, VU2MY, Mr. J. S. Mukul, Consul General of India in Munich, Mr. S. B. Ram, VU2LIC and Mr. Frank, DL4KQ

NIAR PARTICIPATES IN INTERNATIONAL FORUMS

German DX Foundation



Mr.S.Suri, VU2MY, Chairman & Director NIAR receiving the Certificate of Appreciation from Mr. Franz Langer, DJ9ZB, President of German DX Foundation at "Ham Radio 2005" held at Friedrichshafen, Germany. Mr.Frank, DL4KQ to their right

GAREC 2005, Finland



Participants of the First Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Conference held in Tampere, Finland on 13- 14 June 2005

DAYTON Hamvention 2005, USA



Stall of AMSAT



Dayton02-Arena



Mrs.Bharathi, VU2RBI receiving a memento from Mr. Bill Weaver, KB8KW at Dayton Hamvention

NIAR RECEIVED INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

India and NIAR Focus at Dayton Hamvention 2005

An NIAR delegation consisting of Mr.S.Suri, VU2MY, Mrs. D.Bharathi Prasad, VU2RBI and Mr.D.N.Prasad, VU2DBP attended the Dayton Hamfest 2005 in USA from May 20 to 22, 2005. It is the world's largest Amateur Trade show with over 30,000 delegates from around the world attending it. Mrs.D.Bharathi Prasad, VU2RBI, of NIAR received the "Special Achievement Award" for the year 2005 at Dayton Hamvention. She and Mr.Charlie Harpole, K4VUD spoke on NIAR's DXpedition and Tsunami Operation in Andaman & Nicobar Island. Everybody appreciated the excellent work done by NIAR teams. Mr.Carl Luetzelshwab, K9LA, spoke on "Lower band propagation for low sunspot times", including conditions during the Andaman DXpedition. NIAR G.C. Member, Mr.V.A.D. Rayalu and Life Member Mr. Jignesh Desai, AD6TF supported NIAR delegation in USA. The NIAR delegates participated in several forums. Mr.Ajeer Vidya, IAS, JS & FA, Dept. of Information Technology, was officially sponsored by Govt. of India to participate in the Dayton Hamvention. He had a glimpse of latest technologies and interacted with Hams from different walks of life. His presence in Dayton is a great recognition for NIAR activities.

Member of European Parliament and close associate of NIAR Dr.Fenando Fernandez Martin, EA8AK also met the NIAR delegation and Mr. Ajeer Vidya, Jt. Secretary to Govt. of India expressed his appreciation of our activities.

Dr. Martin stated that he specially came to Dayton USA to meet his old friends Mr. S. Suri and Mrs. Bharathi and watch the honor done to NIAR members. He also stressed the need to travel around the world by members saying that India & NIAR are now focus of the world in Amateur Radio field. He invited Mr. Suri to Europe and particularly to visit European Parliament.

Special thanks for the hospitality extended by Mr. Bill Weaver, KB8KW; Mr. Peter Meyer, N0FW, President, Mr. Jay Slough, K4ZLE, Hamvention DX Forum Moderator and others of Southwest Ohio DX Association.

Special Achievement Award for Mrs. Bharathi, VU2RBI

Special Achievement Award recipient Mrs. D. Bharathi Prasad, VU2RBI, was on the air from the VU4RBI/VU4NRO DXpedition in Port Blair in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands when disaster struck on 26th December 2004.

A massive earthquake occurred at 00:58 UTC off the west coast of northern Sumatra. It measured 8.9 on the Richter scale and triggered a tsunami that took over 300,000 lives across the region. An India News report termed the destruction in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands "unprecedented, with the gigantic tidal waves sinking two civilian ships and destroying dry docks." After checking that everyone was safe and that the antennas were still on the roof, DXpedition team Mrs.Bharathi got back on the air and contacted HS0ZAA in Thailand and VU2UU and VU2MYL on the Indian mainland. Both confirmed the tremors at their locations. She then shifted the operation to handle emergency traffic and health-and-welfare inquiries between the island and the Indian mainland. Simultaneously, Mr. Ram Mohan, VU2MYH and other members went to the office of the Chief Secretary, Government of Andaman & Nicobar Islands expressing the willingness to support establishing an emergency communication network to assist the administration. For several days NIAR's DXpedition members were the lone voices on the radio bringing aid and comfort to the people of the isolated islands. Ironically, it was NIAR who organized the DX operation and worked to gain the special permission from India's Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Department of Telecommunication to operate from the island chain. A project support by Dept. of Information Technology was under implementation in 2004. This project helped in providing much needed equipment to the disaster relief activity along with specially trained NIAR team.

Visalia International DX Convention, USA

Mrs.D.Bharathi Prasad, VU2RBI and Mr.D.N.Prasad, VU2DBP attended the International DX Convention held in Visalia, USA on 7 May 2005. Dr.Charles Harpole, K4VUD made a presentation at this convention about the VU4 DXpedition. Special thanks to Mr.Bob Davies, K7BHM and others of Visalia for inviting NIAR member to this convention. Also this trip of Mrs. Bharathi to Visalia convention was partially sponsored by the organizers and NIAR.

Ham-Com 2005, USA

Mr. S Suri VU2MY attended the Ham-Com 2005 DX Convention held in USA on 3, 4 & 5 June 2005. It is the biggest Amateur Radio gathering in Texas. At this convention, Mr. Carl, K9LA made a power point presentation on propagation conditions during the NIAR VU4 DXpedition. He gave detailed explanation on various achievements of Andaman & Nicobar Islands NIAR teams and the US Amateurs achievements. DERA (USA) supported NIAR's participation partially in this event.

GLOBAL AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE-2005, FINLAND



NIAR delegation consisting of Mr.S.Suri, VU2MY, Mrs.Bharathi Prasad, VU2RBI and Mr.D.N.Prasad, VU2DBP attended the First Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Conference (GAREC 2005) held in Finland. They also made a presentation on the Amateur Radio Emergency Communications scenario in India. Dr. Seppo Sisatto, OH1VR, was the Chairman of the Organising Committee and Master of Ceremonies at GAREC - 2005, which was a great success. He had attended the International Seminar on Amateur Radio in Disaster Management conducted by NIAR at Chennai on 18 April 2005 and also visited the NIAR HQ then.

The First Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Conference, GAREC-2005, took place on 13-14 June 2005 in Tampere, Finland. Participants from 17 countries and representatives of all three IARU Regions and NIAR's participation from India exchanged and discussed information on the role of radio amateurs in emergency communications.

The major topics were the cooperation between hams and the institutional emergency response providers on national level, and the exchange of experiences from recent events. Various presentations showed how hams support the emergency responders, as skilled volunteer telecommunication operators for the responders' networks as well as by providing their own global networks.

The GAREC -2005 focus was on Indian Region and the response by NIAR volunteers to Disaster Management. The Conference also discussed ways to improve and facilitate the work of emergency communications networks. It concluded that the establishment of a "Center of Activity Frequency" for emergency traffic would be desirable. The IARU band plans already include this type of frequencies for a number of activities. Given the fact that the dynamic allocation and use of frequencies within the amateur bands

is one of the key elements of the flexibility of this service and thus of its value in disaster situations, such an arrangement appeared as most appropriate and feasible. A respective proposal was formulated, and SRAL, as the host of GAREC-2005, will forward it to IARU for consideration by the next competent regional conferences, the first of these being the Region 1 Conference in Davos, Switzerland, in September 2005.

GAREC-2005 did not make any proposals for actual center of activity frequencies. Such suggestions for actual frequencies will require the careful consideration by those most familiar with band plan matters. In order to be useful for global emergency networks, the frequencies need to be acceptable in all three IARU regions and frequencies possibly to be considered in Region 1 already this year will need to be reviewed in all three regions. In Region 2 and Region 3 conferences to consider the issue will take place only in the following 2 years.

In a separate statement, the conference summarized the value of the amateur radio services in emergency communications. This statement will be submitted as an input document to the World Summit of the Information Society (WSIS) taking place in Tunis, Tunisia, November 2005.

The participants of GAREC-2005 appreciated the hospitality of the Finnish hams and of the city of Tampere, this town, whose name has over the years become a synonym for emergency telecommunications. Tampere was the venue of the most decisive events on this subject, from the 1991 expert's conference adopting the Tampere Declaration, to the intergovernmental conference ICET-98, adopting in 1998 the Tampere Convention as well as several related conferences on the subject. As a follow-up on the earlier events as well as on GAREC-2005, plans for a conference in 2006 are now under discussion.

Ham Radio 2005, Friedrichshafen, Germany

NIAR delegation consisting of Mr.S.Suri, VU2MY, Mr.S.B.Ram, VU2LIC, Mrs. D.Bharathi Prasad, VU2RBI, Mr. D.N.Prasad, VU2DBP and Mr.S.Sathyapal, VU2FI attended the "Ham Radio 2005" at Friedrichshafen in Germany on 24-26 June 2005. For 30 years Friedrichshafen has been an important meeting point for the world of Amateur Radio. This international exhibition for Radio Amateurs has become Europe's most important meeting point for radio operators with an exhibition area of 29000 sqms. The German DX Foundation was kind enough to provide facilities for NIAR exhibit items in their booth. Thousands of people visited NIAR booth. GDXF was a major sponsor of NIAR for the recent Andaman DXpedition and Mr.Frank, DL4KQ of GDXF spent some days at NIAR and shared his expertise in various fields. The Consul General of India in Munich, Germany Mr. J.S.Mukul represented

Govt. of India at the function in which the German DX Foundation presented the "Certificate of Appreciation for the support given to enhance Amateur Radio and fellowship worldwide" to NIAR and to all the 5 members of the NIAR 2004 VU4 Dxpediton Team to the Andaman. Mr. Mukul expressed the view that NIAR must participate regularly in international exhibitions to show the achievements of Ham Radio operators in India. Special thanks to the German DX Foundation for their hospitality.

Northern Illinois DX Association

The Northern Illinois DX Association is sponsored the 53rd annual W9DXCC DX Convention at Grove Village, Illinois on 17 September 2005 and the program included a presentation by Dr.Charles Harpole, K4VUD on the NIAR 2004 Andaman DXpedition. Incidentally he has made several such presentations in various DX forums in USA.

SEMINAR ON AMATEUR RADIO COMMUNICATION IN PORT BLAIR

The Andaman & Nicobar Administration and NIAR jointly organised a one day Seminar cum demonstration of Amateur Radio to the various officials of the Govt. of Andaman & Nicobar and to the students and staff of Dr.B.R.Ambedkar Government Polytechnic, Port Blair on 25 August 2005. Mr.Chetan B.Sanghi, IAS, Commissioner cum Secretary (Finance/GA) inaugurated the Seminar and was the Chief Guest. He had recently visited NIAR HQ at Hyderabad. Many senior officials also attended the program. Welcoming the participants, Mr.Utpal Sharma, Principal, Dr.B.R.Ambedkar Polytechnic said that this program was organized to generate awareness about the potential of Amateur Radio. The importance of Amateur Radio was already experienced by the officials there during the recent earthquake/tsunami. Efforts are on to setup two Amateur Radio Centres in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands. The

NIAR team also met the Lt. Governor Prof. Ram Kapse who appreciated the timely response from NIAR soon after the recent earthquake/tsunami. The following members of NIAR visited the islands Mr.S.Suri, VU2MY, Mr.S.B.Ram VU2LIC, Mr.S.Ram Mohan, VU2MYH, Mr.K.Leela Krishna, VU3LGX and SWL. K.Raju Babu. We thank the WPC Wing, Ministry of Communications & IT, Govt. of India for granting special permission to the NIAR team for operating from Andaman & Nicobar Islands for the demonstration. Efforts are also on to conduct a Hamfest in Port Blair in the first quarter of 2006 for which dozens of DX Hams have shown keen interest.

The Chief Secretary and Lt. Governor appreciated NIAR's proposal to promote Amateur Radio and also to conduct HAMFEST – 2006 in Andaman & Nicobar Islands.



Mr.Chetan B.Sanghi, IAS, Commissioner cum Secretary (Finance/GA) seeing QSL cards during his visit to NIAR



Left to right: Mr. Utpal Sharma, Principal, Mr.Chetan B.Sanghi, IAS, Mr.S.Suri, VU2MY at the Seminar in Port Blair on 25 Aug 2005 at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, Govt. Polytechnic

TRAINING PROGRAMMES AT A GLANCE

NCC, New Delhi

Amateur Radio training was conducted for the National Cadet Corps (NCC) in New Delhi for 40 Boy Cadets in June 2005 and ASOC exam was conducted on 19 & 20 July 2005. 33 students appeared in examination.

Another training batch which was conducted for 40 NCC Girl Cadets in July 2005 is awaiting for the ASOC examination. The classes were taken by Mr. Sushil Kumar Dhingra, VU2LFA.



NCC Delhi Boy Cadets who has undergone Amateur Radio Training with the Instructor Mr.Sushil, VU2LFA in the center and Sqn. Ldr. G. Adityakiran to his right (also student in same batch)

Rotary Club, Bhuj, Gujarat

The Amateur Radio Club set up at Rotary Club, Bhuj under DIT Project has received the club callsign VU2BHJ. A new batch of candidates who had undergone Amateur Radio training here has appeared for the ASOC exam on 29 August 2005. The classes were conducted by Ms. Kulsum I. Paleja.

DMMC, GOVT. OF UTTARANCHAL, DEHRADUN

The results of the ASOC exam conducted on 23 Feb 2005 at Disaster Mitigation & Management Centre, Secretariat, Dehradun, Uttaranchal, under DIT Project show that out of the 51 candidates who appeared, 41 have qualified including many staff members of DMMC. The classes were conducted by Mr. Sushil Kumar Dhingra, VU2LFA.



(Sitting on chair from left to right: Dr. Ravish Sharma, Mrs. Usha Rawat, Mrs. Nirja Kaul – Engineer Monitoring Station, Delhi, Mr. Gupta – Examiner Delhi, Dr. Piyoosh Rautela, Mr. Sushil Dhingra, VU2LFA and other students)

Assam Police Radio Organisation, Training School, Guwahati

One month Training course on 'Amateur Radio Operation Skills and Advanced Technology' was conducted in August 2005 by Mr. Sushil Kumar Dhingra, VU2LFA at APRO Training School, Guwahati. The Advance training covered several topics like RTTY, SSTV, Echolink, Morse using Computer, sending text files and coloured pages on Ham Radio. In the technical session training was given on making / testing antenna system etc. 5 officials of APRO are awaiting for Ham license. Mr.P.M.Dastidar, Inspector General of Police Communications and Director of Police Communications of Assam have shown keen interest to promote Amateur Radio in the state of Assam. The callsign of the NIAR club station of APRO is VU2VKP. Mr. P. Saikia Superintendent of Police (Communication) and his other officers have actively participated in this program.

Industrial Training Institute, Puri, Orissa

New batches at ITI, Puri consisting of 68 candidates have successfully completed their Amateur Radio training and are expected to appear for the ASOC examination in early October 2005. This Center was set up under the DIT Project. The classes were taken by NIAR state co-ordinator Ms. Itisree Devi, VU3IDV.

A.G. & S.G. College, Vuyyuru, Andhra Pradesh

An awareness program and presentation of Amateur Radio was conducted at A.G. & S.G. College on July 22, 2005 by Mr.S.B.Ram, Addl. Director, NIAR. A fresh batch of Amateur Radio training was started for 65 students. The classes are taken by Mr.T.Vakkala Rao. 112 students had appeared for the ASOC exam here on 23-25 February, 2005 and are still awaiting for the results.

Little Flower High School, Hyderabad

Amateur Radio training classes are being conducted in this academic year also by NIAR at Little Flower High School, Hyderabad thanks to the Principal and efforts of Mr.K.Venkateswara Rao, who is in charge of Ham Radio Club here. 48 students have submitted applications for the ASOC examination and are waiting for examination dates. This school has a full fledged club station with the callsign VU2LFC set up under the MPLADS scheme by NIAR.

Amateur Radio Classes at NIAR Hyderabad

A batch of candidates who underwent Amateur Radio Training at NIAR HQ from May 1, 2005 have submitted their ASOC applications and are awaiting the exam dates. Meanwhile another new batch has commenced here from 12 September 2005.

DEMONSTRATIONS AT A GLANCE

Institution of Electronics & Telecommunication Engineers

NIAR gave an awareness program on Amateur Radio at IETE Hyderabad Centre on 20 May 2005 for the Summer School in Electronics (SUSIE). Several High School students attended the program.

Teachers Workshop on GeoMap Quiz 2005

The Geo Map Society (GEMS) of Hyderabad conducted a Teachers Workshop on 15th GeoMap Quiz 2005 at NIAR HQ on 9th July 2005. Its aim was to propagate information about Geographical Information System (GIS) which is used in various fields. Teachers from several reputed schools of Hyderabad attended the program. A Ham Radio demonstration was also given by Mr.P.Ramakrishna Rao, Admn. & Accounts Officer of NIAR on the occasion.

Brain storming session "Ideal Tsunami Warning System"

The Disaster Management, Infrastructure and Control Society (DMICS) of Hyderabad organized a brain storming session on an "Ideal Tsunami Warning System for the Indian Ocean" on 27 July 2005 at Fortune Katriya Hotel which was attended by the world renowned scientist, Prof. T.S.Murthy, popularly known as TAD Murthy from Canada. Mr.S.Suri, VU2MY represented NIAR in the deliberations. Other eminent persons and NGOs also participated in the session.

Shri Ram Chandra Mission, Hyderabad

An awareness program of Amateur Radio was given to the followers of Shri Ram Chandra Mission who attended the 78th Birth anniversary celebrations of the spiritual head and President, Pujya Shri Parthasarathi Rajagopalachari in July 2005 at Shri Ram Chandra Mission, Thumukunta, Hyderabad. Mr.G.L.Rao, VU2GL, Vice Chairman, NIAR and Mr. Kumar, VU3KUM co-ordinated the program.

M.V.S.R. College of Engineering, Nadargul, Hyderabad

A Seminar/presentation on Amateur Radio was conducted at Maturi Venkata Subba Rao Engineering College, Nadargul for the ECE Department on 10th August 2005 by Mr.S.Suri, VU2MY and Mr.S.Ram Mohan VU2MYH. About 75 students and staff attended the program. Special thanks to Dr.D.S.Venkateswarlu, Head of ECE Dept. and Mr.M.B.S.Purushottam, Hon. Secretary for taking keen interest for organizing this program. Mr. S.B.S.Purushotham later visited NIAR and held discussions with Chairman Mr. Suri on the prospects of starting a club at MVSR College of Engineering.

Study Tour by Students of Sasuri College of Engineering, Erode.

40 Students and Staff from Sasuri College of Engineering, Perundurai, Erode, Tamilnadu visited NIAR HQ in Hyderabad on 12th September 2005 as part of their Study Tour. They were given a demonstration on latest technologies used by Radio Amateurs by Mr.S.Ram Mohan, VU2MYH and Mr. Sushil Kumar Dhingra, VU2LFA, SWL K.Raju Babu etc.

Study Tour by Students of NIMRA College of Engineering, Vijayawada.

35 Students and staff of NIMRA College of Engineering, Ibrahimpatnam, Krishna Dist., visited NIAR HQ in Hyderabad on 14th September 2005 as part of their Study Tour. They were welcomed by Mr.S.B.Ram, VU2LIC, Addl. Director. Mr.S.Suri, VU2MY spoke on the various aspects of Amateur Radio. They were given a demonstration on latest technologies used by Radio Amateurs by Mr.S.Ram Mohan, VU2MYH and Mr. Sushil Kumar Dhingra, VU2LFA, Mr.Leela Krishna VU3LGX, SWL K.Raju Babu, SWL Mr.V.Chowdary etc.

Indian Institute of Technology, Chennai

An Amateur Radio Workshop on Amateur Radio was conducted at IIT, Chennai on 13 and 14 August, 2005. Various technologies of Amateur Radio were introduced to the students by Mr.S.Suri, VU2MY and Mr.S.Ram Mohan VU2MYH and Mr.Jose Jacob, VU2JOS. Later Mr. Madhavan, VU2GHX of Madras Amateur Radio Society also gave information on the Home Brewing aspects. The Amateur Radio Club, VU2NCS at I.I.T. was active several years back.



Mr.S.Ram Mohan VU2MYH and Mr.Jose Jacob, VU2JOS with the students IIT Chennai in Amateur Radio Workshop

Special thanks to the Hobby Club Faculty Advisor Dr.Pushpavanam, Ham Club Faculty Advisor Dr.Sanjay Majumdar, Hobby Club in Charge Mr.U. Raghavendra Rao and Ham club in Charge Mr.S.Harish and Mr. Puneet for showing keen interest in organizing the workshop there and to restart Amateur Radio activity in I.I.T. Chennai.

COMING EVENTS

RSGB HF Convention 2005, UK

The Radio Society of Great Britain is organizing the H.F. Convention 2005 (HFC 2005) as follows:

Date: 7th – 9th October 2005

Venue: Gatwick Worth Hotel, Crawley, West Sussex, UK

The main attractions at the Convention are:

- International DXpeditioning & Contesting talks.
- A Special presentation by NIAR on the VU4/ Tsunami Relief operation and the “lessons learnt”. For more details visit: www.rsgb-hfc.org.uk

Silicon City Ham Meet 2005, Bangalore

The Silicon City Ham Meet 2005 is to be held as follows by Indian Institute of Hams (IIH) , Bangalore as follows:

Date: Sunday 9th October 2005

Venue: Shri Jagatguru Renukacharya College (SJRC), Ananda Rao Circle, Near Majestic/ City Railway Station, Bangalore

The meet will focus on creating awareness about Amateur Radio and to have fellowship of all the Hams and SWLs. The one day convention will have a Technical Session, Preparedness Programme on Emergency Communication Network, Ham exhibition, Presentation of Awards and Certificates, Sale of Ham equipment etc.

The delegate fee if confirmed on or before 30th September 2005 will be Rs.50/-. Otherwise it will be Rs.75/- payable by cash or cheque favouring Indian Institute of Hams and may be sent to Box 1927, Bangalore-560019 or by money order to Mr.G.Varadarajan, VU3ITI, No:19,V.R.Layout, Sarakki Road, J.P.Nagar, Bangalore-560078. Tel. 080-26346684. Suitable Accommodation can be arranged on the nominal rates near the venue.

The Silicon City Phone Contest was held on 10 & 11 Sept. 2005 and a Quiz Contest live over Ham radio for 13 Kendriya Vidyalayas in Bangalore was held on 27 August 2005. For more info, please visit www.indianhams.org

Jamboree on the Air (JOTA)

The 48th Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) of Scouts and Guides will be held on October 15 & 16, 2005. The Scouts and Guides will exchange their scouting experience (singing songs, conducting quiz etc., telling jokes / stories etc.) and contribute towards a world brother hood/ sister hood of scouting. Several stations will be on air from different schools etc. around the world every year. It provides an opportunity for all of us to expose youth to Amateur Radio. Look out for NIAR stations also on this occasion.

SEA NET Convention, Bangalore

The South East Asia (SEA) Net Convention will be held as follows:

Date: 7,8,9 October 2005.

Venue : Hotel Gateway,66, Residency Road, Bangalore 560025.

Contact address: SEANET 2005, 27 Shrungar Shopping Centre, M.G.Road, Bangalore 560001.

More info from www.seanet2005.com

Mr.Rama Chandra, VU2RCR, Region III Director of IARU was instrumental in bringing this event to India.

Ham Expo 2005, Adur, Kerala

The Adur Amateur Radio Club, VU2LFB will be conducting HAM EXPO 2005 at Adur on 13 November 2005. This is the 10th continuous year that they are conducting it. For more details please contact: Mr.L.V.Sharma, VU2LV, Mukalethu Matom, Adur-691523, Kerala, Tel. 04734-228358, Email: vu2lv@yahoo.com

Shradhanjali to Mr. Nagesh Upadhyaya, VU2NUD



Mr. Nagesh Upadhyaya, VU2NUD, Governing Council Member of NIAR and an active Ham expired on 25 July 2005. He was working as a Scientist in the Indian Space Research Organisation, Bangalore. He had contributed a lot for promotion of Amateur Radio in the country particularly in forming a group for Hamsat India. He had represented India and NIAR in several Amateur Satellite DX forums like in University of Surrey, UK. As in Charge of the NIAR Club station VU2NRJ, he has trained many SWLs to become Radio Amateurs. He was Advisor to NIAR in various Committees. In 1993, he conducted a major NIAR Ham Convention in Bangalore. He has written several articles in various magazines to give awareness about our hobby. Recently as Chairman of the Souvenir Committee on the International Seminar conducted by NIAR Amateur Radio Communication, he brought out an attractive Souvenir.

We have lost a popular Ham who was dedicated to the interest of the Amateur Radio promotion and the loss is irreparable. His demise means the loss of a strong supporter of NIAR activities. We extend our heart felt sympathies to his family.

Mrs. Bharathi, VU2RBI selected for 2nd Annual Lynch Memorial Award

An Indian ham radio operator has been named recipient of the 2nd Annual Lynch Memorial Award, given by the Tokyo International Amateur Radio Association.

Mrs. Bharathi Prasad, VU2RBI, recently became famous in the ham world for her DXpedition to Andaman Island after 14 years of wrangling with Indian bureaucrats. Shortly after that, she became widely known outside the amateur radio community in India and abroad for her heroic work on-air in the aftermath of the Indian Ocean tsunami.

Mrs. Bharathi has been a ham for more than two decades and is a founding member of the National Institute of Amateur Radio (NIAR), the premier institution in promoting Amateur Radio activities in India.

She has provided ham radio communications at many events including the Asian Games and has helped local administrations with relief work after numerous disasters.

She has also been instrumental in promoting several different ham clubs in India. She was the Secretary for Rajiv Gandhi Foundation Amateur Radio Club for three years.

Even before her trip to Andaman, Mrs. Bharathi had been working on a project with CARE-India - NIAR Joint Project in the disaster management unit for promoting emergency communication through ham radio.

The Lynch Award is named for the late Sandy M. Lynch, W7BX and 7J1ABV, a longtime TIARA member. The award is given annually to one ham in the world who exemplifies Sandy's dedication to the hobby and his personality.

"These traits include enthusiastic participation in a radio club, bridging international cultures, activity in education or "Elmering", being active on-air, enthusiasm for new technology and fraternity," explained TIARA President Steven Herman, K7USJ & 7J1AIL. "There was no doubt among our members that Mrs. Bharathi Prasad was an outstanding nominee for this award." says the memorial award publication.

DERA Supports Katrina Relief Operations

The Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Response Association (DERA) of USA has supported the Relief Operations in USA following the devastating Hurricane Katrina that hit Louisiana on 29 August 2005. NIAR is a partner of DERA.

NIAR has announced a small contribution of US \$250 to Katrina Relief activities through DERA. In the past several years DERA has been providing Technical support to NIAR and also make good contribution to NIAR's activities. NIAR's members were trained by DERA in the past. Mr. Jay Wilson W0AIR and Ms. Christine attended NIAR programs in India. DERA honored Late Shri (Dr.) Srikanth Jichkar, VU2SJA; Mr. S. Suri, VU2MY; and Mrs. Bharathi, VU2RBI.

Asia Pacific DX Convention, Japan

The Osaka International House Radio Club is hosting the Asia Pacific DX Convention, which will take place November 18 through 20, 2005 as the first Asian international DX event. In addition to the presentations of recent DXpeditions, technical sessions, displays, etc. that you find at most large DX conventions, this convention offers something special, such as a tour to the Icom factory, a technical session led by the Icom IC7800 design team, a tour to the electronics district, and more, since it is being held in the country in which most of the Amateur Radio equipment is developed. The guest speakers will include Mrs. Bharathi Prasad, VU2RBI will be talking about her experiences in the Andaman Islands. For more info please visit www.ja3.net/apdxc (Source The Daily DX)

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 WPC Wing, Ministry of Communications & I.T., Govt. of India
 Andaman & Nicobar Administration
 Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Govt. Poly Technic, Port Blair

German DX Federation
 Mr. Jignesh Desai, AD6TF/ VU3JDI
 Mr. V. A. D. Rayalu
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 Mr. Austin Condon, VK5WO, Australia for financial support
 Mr. Bernie, W3UR, The Daily DX, USA
 Mr. Eemandi Krishna Rao, Doordarshan
 Sponsors of Foreign Tours of VU2RBI, VU2MY, VU2DBP, VU2LIC, VU2FI

Media Coverage of NIAR

The Print and Electronic Media covered NIAR activities following the VU4 Andaman DXpedition and Tsunami operations. We thank all script writers, reporters and editors of all magazines who wrote articles on members of NIAR for propagation of Amateur Radio. These include QST of American Radio Relay League, USA; Radcom of Radio Society of Great Britain, UK; German DX Foundation Journal; Funk of Germany; International DX Association of USA; Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Response Association Newsletter of USA; CQ Japan of Japan Amateur Radio League; The Daily DX of USA, The Weekly DX of USA, World Radio of USA; ARSI News Letter of India, 14D India; QTC of Sveriges Sandare Amatorer, Sweden; Radioaficionados of URE, Spain etc. This is besides news reports on NIAR in almost every country praising NIAR's role in Andaman & Nicobar after Tsunami.

Ministry of Human Resource Development encourages Amateur Radio in Technical Institutions

The Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India has addressed a letter to all National Institute of Technology to promote Amateur Radio in their Institutions. It was sent by Dept. of Higher Secondary Education with a copy to the Chairman & Director of NIAR. Earlier this year the Central Board of Secondary Education has also introduced Amateur Radio as a topic in their text book. All this will go a long way for the promotion of Amateur Radio in India.

The CNN TV has specially featured a ten minute program on Amateur Radio Emergency Communications during Tsunami and NIAR in their program "Global Challenges", which was telecast all over the world. Special thanks to Mr. Ram Ramagopal of CNN TV and his team for visiting NIAR and interacting with us. At Dayton Hamvention, ICOM-USA interviewed Mr. Ajeer Vidya, Joint Secretary, Govt. of India, Mr. Suri and Mrs. Bharathi and placed the same in their web site. Department of Information Technology, Govt. of India placed on their website release of VU4 QSL Card by Hon. Minister of Communications, Mr. Dayanidhi Maran, VU2DMK.

Several other TV Channels like Doordarshan, ETV, Teja News and Vissa Channel, have telecast news items as well as featured programs in their regular news and features and created Amateur Radio awareness to the masses in their featured programs exclusively on Ham Radio.

REGRETS: NIAR regrets that there was no NEWS letter between June to September 2005 due to preoccupation and various activities undertaken by all the senior members of NIAR including long foreign travels. We hope to restore the Ham News to regular frequency soon.

Editor

GAREC 2005, Finland



Participants of GAREC 2005 on a cruise



Mrs. Bharathi, VU2RBI operating from the shack of Dr. Seppo, OH1VR in Finland.



Dr. Seppo Sisatto, OH1VR, (sitting) The Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the First GAREC Conference.

HAM Radio 2005, Germany



NIAR delegates with Austrian Hams



NIAR Booth at Ham Radio 2005



Mr. S. Suri, VU2MY (left) with President of International Amateur Radio Union, Mr. Larry E. Price, W4RA



Mrs. Bharathi, VU2RBI making presentation on NIAR VU4 Dxpedition



VU2RBI with DARC YLs

HAM COM 2005, USA



Visalia International DX Convention 2005, USA



Dr. Charles Harpole, K4VUD making presentation on VU4 Dxpediton



Rajiv Gandhi, VU2RG 61st Birthday Celebrated by NIAR



Mr.K.N.Subash Chandra, Postman of Somajiguda Post Office was awarded the "Best Postman" of Hyderabad by the Postal Department for his meritorious services. Incidentally, he is in charge of bringing regular mail to NIAR. He is sincere, dedicated and most honest man as noticed by NIAR. We have very less complaints or missing mail. He has delivered more than 3000 international mails besides many Indian during the past five months.

NIAR presented him with a cash award for his services at a function held on August 20, 2005 to mark the birth anniversary of the late Mr.Rajiv Gandhi, VU2RG.

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