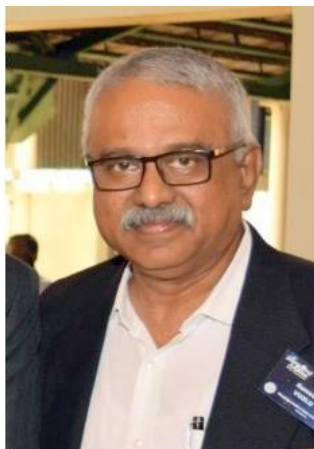




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President's Message



Amateur Radio in 2022

New Year wishes to all Amateur Radio enthusiasts for a happy and Healthy year 2022 - from the Amateur Radio Society of India.

In the midst of the rising concerns from the third wave of the pandemic, we are looking forward to having a lot of events lined up for this year.

The ARSI Mixed Sprint Contest which was only on 26 Jan, 15 Aug and 2 Oct, is now a calendar event on the 4th Sunday of every month. This change was brought in to bring in more VU hams active on HF Radio.

Hoping we will have the Hamfest India 2022 at Mysore this year, after a gap of two years due to prevailing conditions. The virtual event conducted by the Mysore team on 13 & 14 November 2021 to mark the 100 years of Amateur Radio in India, went very well with several technical presentations and a great participation.

Globally, The Dayton Hamvention, on 20-22 May 2022, and Friedrichshafen, Germany, on Jun 24 - 26, 2022 is planned for this year after a gap of 2 years.

So we have an interesting and eventful year to look forward to. Hope things will work in our favour so we can have all events as planned and a great time on the air.

Wishing you all Happy Ham Radio in 2022.

73, de Ramesh Kumar, VU2LU

From the Editor's Desk



A Very Happy New Year to all of you! 2021 was kind of rough with the pandemic playing havoc; when we thought it is all over at last, there is something new showing up! I guess that's life. Anyway, don't get hung up on, "*What did I want to achieve last year, and why didn't it happen?*" Instead, ask yourself: ***What do I want to accomplish this year, and how can I ensure it happens?***

Congratulations to the ***Contester of the Year 2021*** - Ajaya Gupta VU2DED. An article on *contesting* by Ajaya is included in this issue. The year has seen more VU participants in international contests. Hope the trend continues.

A team going by the name of "Manic Monkeys" have just successfully completed an expedition to St. George's Island, off the Goan coast; details and pics included in this issue.

I have the job of publishing a newsletter with hardly any contributions from members!

Why not help me by sending articles, reports on your activities – *individual as well as club activities* – and photos? Let's try and make 2022 a better year for HRN.

73 - Ganesh VU2TS



JOTA AT MOODBIDRI, DAKSHINA KANNADA

The report is intent to brief about Jota (Jamboree on Air) program took place on 16 Oct & 17 Oct 2021 at Scout and Guides Bhavan, Moodbidri.

The HAMS of **Alva's Institute of Engineering & Technology, Moodbidri** along with NCC cadets setup the HAM Radio Station.

The team was led by Flying officer Parveez Shariff B G (VU3PZL) in coordination with Mr. Rohit (VU2RDQ), Coordinator of JOTA, Assistant District Commissioner, D.K, Mangalore.

The JOTA is an international event conducted globally every year on third week of October. The motto of the JOTA program is to provide exposure of HAM radio operation to the student of scouts and guides, cubs and bulbuls, rangers and rovers. The students make radio contact with other JOTA stations using VHF or HF mode. The students obtain knowledge about transceivers and antenna, and its simple basic communication. The scouts and guides are taught to methods to establish radio stations importance of ham how to apply ham license.

The main motto was the World's Largest Scout Event promoting friendship and global citizenship. OUR COMMITMENT AND ACTIONS

The District Bharat Scouts and Guides had requested the Flt – B Air Wing NCC to support in conduction of JOTA Program. In this regard, 32 NCC cadets of Flt - B Air Wing NCC of 06 Kar Air Sqn NCC assisted in conducting JOTA program. Modern 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 (ham) Radio.

Scouting experiences are exchanged and ideas are shared via radio waves. Since 1958 Alva's Air Wing NCC (Flight – B) Moodbidri - 574227

6 Kar AIR SQN NCC, Mangalore 2 when the first Jamboree-on-the-Air was held, millions of Scouts worldwide have met each other through this event.

The aim of JOTA as follows:

1. Scouts & Guides to talk to their counterparts from different places using WIRELESS HAM RADIO.
2. Making friends and connecting with other people from different places.
3. Exchanging messages to learn about each other's culture and other details.
4. Learn about SCIENCE of RADIO TECHNOLOGY and RADIO EQUIPMENTS
5. Learn about disaster communication using HAM radio.
6. Having FUN with technology & science and making the world a smaller place by connecting with people.

CONCLUSION The cadets with the help of HAMs Fg Offr Parveez Shariff B G (VU3PZL), Ms. Rashmi VU3GXX, Mr. Naga Hemanth (VU3GYE), Mr. Kiran (VU3GXL) and Mr. Rubesh, learnt setting up of HAM station.

The cadets helped in presentation and demonstration about amateur radio, basic principles and working of radio communication, service provided natural calamities, how to communicate while using ham, Morse code, Q codes, ham license, to scouts and guides. NCC cadets. The practical demo station of radio communication is provided to scouts and guides to communicate with other JOTA stations and the communication details were recorded in log book. –

Report by Cdt S.K. DHAREPPA

JOTA station at Manipal - A brief report. Sri, VU2SBJ,

Manipal - 3rd weekend of October - It was that time of the year again when we host a JOTA station for the local Scouts & Guides community of our vicinity. It is an opportunity to interact with young enthusiasts from the Scouting movement who are also interested in the radio.

Amidst the Covid confusion and uncertainty, 2021 JOTA eventually managed to see the light of the day, albeit not so bright. Due to uncertainty about school premises being available, I offered my MQTH premises to host the event. We decided to have an abridged version, only one session on the 16th Oct 2021 rather than the entire 3 day JOTA/JOTI event.

The station being at my MQTH also meant easier time for me to set up a station at my convenience and on familiar turf. I decided on a VHF last mile setup – linking it to the VHF repeater in Mangalore which was about 55 kms away. My location being favourable for this longish haul on VHF, was very promising to communicate reliably with the other two JOTA stations hosted by our club members of Mangalore Amateur Radio Club (MARC).

Additionally, I was also able to temporarily enable our VHF repeater in Mangalore with an Echolink repeater node using my home VHF station. My home station is about 2 kms away from my MQTH in Manipal. This set up would ensure some DX activity through our VHF setup too. For the Echolink -R node at my Home QTH, I used the Yaesu FT-991A radio with a USB interface to a PC running the Echolink. This made the set-up fairly convenient and well performing compared to my earlier analog interfacing scheme which was prone to noise and some hum.



State Organising Commissioner (Scouts) Sri Prabhakar Bhat (on the mic) along with local District Officers Sri Nithin Amin and Ms. Suman Shekar

Our JOTA station was visited by about 25 Scouts and Guides from Manipal and Udupi schools. They interacted with their peers from the other two JOTA stations hosted by our own club MARC at Mangalore (by VU2RDQ, VU3GBG) and at Moodabidri (by VU3PZL). Our 3 JOTA stations by MARC facilitated about 200 Scouts & Guides to interact with each other exchanging riddles, showing off their singing skills, sharing jokes and many Scouting movement related topics.



Participants have a look at QSL cards, Radio World Map and understand call sign prefixes



Each batch of Scouts and Guides visitors were first introduced to Ham Radio and the context of JOTA was briefed. We also managed to contact with a few DX stations from VK land and Europe via the Echolink patch on our VHF repeater. Most of the DX stations we contacted were devoid of Scouts/Guides and only their leaders hosted their JOTA stations. They attributed this to Covid restrictions in their region that prevented assembly of students. Nevertheless, their interaction added a lot of value and excitement. Included are a few pictures from the Manipal JOTA station.

We look forward to a more full-fledged event next year when, hopefully, conditions are more favourable.

.....

BENGALURU, Karnataka

The Bangalore Amateur Radio Club – BARC organized JOTA between 16th and 17th October 2021.

PUNE, MAHARASHTRA Vilas VU2VPR reports:

Pune Hams VU2RCP organized a TechTalk on Sunday 7th November 2021 at 8:30 AM on VU2ETD-R Echolink and VHF Repeater VU2ETD on 144.800 Mhz with std -ve shift*

VU3GEN OM Ganesh from Shringeri gave a presentation on BATTERIES. It was an excellent and detailed presentation on Batteries. He reviewed all kinds of batteries available in the market and the latest trends in the international market. With the entry of EVs, most of the research labs have focused on packaging more power in small size. The program was on Zoom platform attended by nearly 40 participants from pan India

Pune Hams (VU2RCP) in association with Muktangan Science Exploratory/IETE/and/Tech-Forum celebrated **World Television Day** on Sunday 21st November 2021 at Exploratory auditorium. The main focus was on the students present, and promotion of Ham Radio. Shri Vishwas Kale delivered a well-studied and researched Presentation on History of Television. His presentation was very well received by the 30 participants.

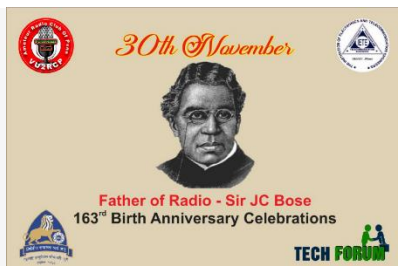


Shri Satish Rajhans, and sisters Ragini & Rohini Mulay shared their memories about Pune TV Relay center installation. Their father, (late) Sri **Vasant Mulay** – had played a very important role in entire project of Pune relay center, and Shri Satish Rajhans was Team Member for installation by German engineers, of the Siemens Transmitter gifted by Germany.

The icing on the cake was the SSTV demonstration by Ajit Karnik VU2AMK and Monika Supported by Mangesh and Atul. Slow-scan television is a picture transmission method, used mainly by amateur radio operators, to transmit and receive static pictures via radio

in monochrome or colour. A literal term for SSTV is narrowband television.

Thanks to our SWL friend Shri Shirish Deshmukh, President DEMA for sponsoring the refreshments.



Pune Hams in association with **MES *Garware Collage* _Vidnyan Bharati, IETE & Tech Forum** celebrated 163rd birth anniversary of the Father of Radio *Sir JC Bose*

The program started by the HoD Electronics Deptt. **Garware College**, Dr Supriya Patil's address welcoming the participants. She shared information on the *Electronics and Telecommunication* activities at the college.

Shri. Vishwas Kale, Director, **Vijayesh Instruments Pune**, was the main speaker and chief guest.



Shri. Ajit Karnik VU2AMK - former Director, C-Dac – presented an introduction to **Digital Radio** and demonstrated Ham Radio activity using DMR mode.

He took an overview of Sir JC Bose's innovations through a slide show. A biologist, botanist, physicist, author and an inventor — Jagdish Chandra Bose was a man who had donned many hats in his life.

Born in 1858, in the district Mymensingh of the Bengal Presidency (present in Bangladesh), Bose was known most significantly for his research on Radio development. The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, a New York-based international body, even called him the 'Father of Radio Science' since the science behind radio technology was first explained by Bose.

He also invented the crescograph, a device for measuring the growth of plants. A crater on the moon has been named in his honour. He founded Bose Institute, a premier research institute of India and also one of its oldest.

The former Director of **All India Radio Pune**, Shri Gopal Autee shared his thoughts on long term impact of innovations on society with special focus on Radio.

Shri Deepali Akolkar conducted a Quiz programme designed by Shri Vishwas Kale, which received overwhelming response. The winners were suitably rewarded by Shri Kale.



Shri Vilas Rabde VU2VPR demonstrated Morse code and taught 7 English alphabets to the august gathering which created some excitement.

A booklet on Sir JC Bose in Marathi language, published by **Vidnyan Bharati**, was distributed to the participants.

The program ended with a vote of thanks.

Members of the **PUNE HAMS AND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB-VU2PHQ** had a wonderful sprint field day on 17th October 2021 morning followed by an EYEBALL QSO at the club station.



There were three stations setup at different locations and all were setup in the morning itself within 30 minutes of reaching the locations. All field stations were on air from 07.45 IST & operated it till 10.00 IST.



It was so wonderful to having a QSO with so many stations. We thank all of you for your support.

73

**For PUNE HAMS AND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB-VU2PHQ
de UDAYA PATIL/VU2UPQ**

CONTESTER OF THE YEAR 2021

Congratulations to OM Ajaya Gupta VU2DED who has been on his “CONTESTER OF THE YEAR” award. Ajaya got his ticket in 1986 with the call VU2DGX, later obtaining his advanced grade as VU2DED. Ajaya is an engineer with the world's largest commercial TV Broadcaster - **Doordarshan India**. His modest station consists of ICOM IC-7300 /Yaesu FT-757/ IC-707, Furuno PA-2500 250W Amp hooked to a simple *fan dipole*.



Ham radio Contesting – Tips and Tricks

VU2DED-Ajaya

Ham radio contesting is an exciting element of ham radio. The Ham radio contesting usually involves a competition to see who can contact the most stations in a set period of time on certain bands and within specific rules. Participating in contests can be rewarding and it also presents many new operating challenges and an opportunity to pit your wits against hundreds of other ham radio operators and groups around the world. It's a growing aspect of amateur radio which can be enjoyed throughout the year. There are contests almost every weekend.

All contests have different sections, allowing choosing the one which suits your mode preferences, skill level, station capabilities and available time. One doesn't need a 'super-station' to take part from home. I use simple fan dipole with not more than 300 Watts of power.

The tips and tricks to follow for good scoring in contesting:

1. The contest details: Check at least one day before start of the contest. It is essential to check out the basic facts. One of the first is

to check the times. With different time zones around the world, don't assume they will start at midnight local time. It is also essential to check out other facts such as the serial numbers that need to be given. These change from contest to contest, so don't assume that they always consist of the contact serial number. It is good to know, what the top scores were for previous years, and then you will know what scores to aim for to have a credible entry. Also find out any special requirements for submitting the Log and where to send it.

2. **The health of Equipment/Antenna:** It is wise to check over all the equipment and make sure they all are operating to their best. These preparations may also be the opportunity to install a new antenna, or make other improvements. But don't leave things too late as any problems encountered could result in losing some or all of the time in the contest.

It is best to install any new equipment well before the contest and have time to make any final alterations. One particular area to check is the antenna system. As antennas are left outside, they are subject to the rigours of the weather and corrosion will set in. Check that all joints on the antenna are electrically sound, and also that the antenna itself is mechanically strong. Any moisture entering the feeder cable will degrade its performance and cause the cable loss to rise.

While a good VSWR may indicate all is well with the antenna this may not be the case as any power reflected by the antenna will be attenuated and this will result in a low VSWR that may be taken to indicate all is well - but this is not the case.

3. **Propagation changes:** Knowing how propagation changes can be a key factor in planning not only what times to work and not sleep, but also what bands will produce the best results. There are many websites that provide propagation predictions and these should be studied just prior to the contest. Live statistics of the ionosphere conditions can also be used during the contest. Knowing the bands, knowing how the propagation predictions may affect their properties and knowing when to operate and where paths are likely to be open and at what times gives stations a real edge over many others. Listening on the bands before and during the contest can be a real help.

4. **Rotating the antenna:** Rotate beam (if your antenna is rotatable) periodically. Propagation will change with time, and it is necessary to ensure that the beam is rotated to keep up with any changes. Changing the beam heading will reveal a new set of stations that would have previously been too weak to contact.
5. **Equipment skills:** Be familiar with your equipment. Speed is of the essence in any contest, and when things start to get muddled, the only way out is to take a break to catch up. It is therefore essential to be able to operate all the equipment swiftly and efficiently. Examples include:
 1. Transceiver - know all the controls, especially how to change things like incremental tuning on transmit and receive, etc.. Make sure you can change settings quickly.
 2. Morse key - with keyers / Morse keyboards being used almost exclusively for Morse, CW make sure you can use them efficiently.
 3. General keyboard skills - Logging programmes are essential for serious contest entries. Again they also provide many other facilities that interface directly with the transceiver. Touch typing is therefore a real advantage along with knowing how to use the programme efficiently.
6. **Alternative modes:** Many contests are multimode contests. This gives the opportunity when the contact rate falls, to change the mode. Often CW will provide contacts when SSB going is more difficult so a change like this can be beneficial.
7. **Leanings from previous contests:** If you have taken part in contests in previous years, it is worth looking at what strategies paid off? What gave the best number of points? Did changing bands to give new countries / areas provide more points, or did sticking with the more popular bands and contacting more run of the mill stations give the best results?

It is worth taking a look at previous contests in general and also at the particular contest in question as different strategies will work better for different contests.

8. Join a contesting group: It always pays to learn from the experience of others. Joining a contesting group can help in a number of ways. One is to discuss how others approach contesting and learn what approaches work best.

Another advantage is that a contest group may well enter a contest with a multi-operator entry. Participating in a contest with others will bring first-hand knowledge of how to approach contesting. We have VUCG (VU-Contesting Group) in India, which has number of good contesters as its members.

9. Interface radio to a computer: Although many people will want to operate a radio themselves, but connecting the radio to a computer the full power of much of the software available for logging, radio control and the like can be gained. This will pay real dividends in a ham radio contest environment where efficient operating and speed are of the essence.

Contesting is a fascinating element of ham radio operating. It provides many real challenges in terms of operating skill, technical knowledge and the ability to set up radio stations that operate to their best. To achieve the best results, hints and tips of ham radio contesting can be very useful. These tips may be common knowledge to many, but to others they may help provide that small edge that makes all the difference in a ham radio contest. See you in my log in the next contest!

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I urge members to look up VU2DED on QRZ.com – to see all the awards displayed by Ajaya. Ed/



Another young YL amateur!

Let's welcome YL **Smriti VU2FNV** from **Bengaluru** – 14 years old – and 8th grade student who got her ticket last year and is already active on the bands.



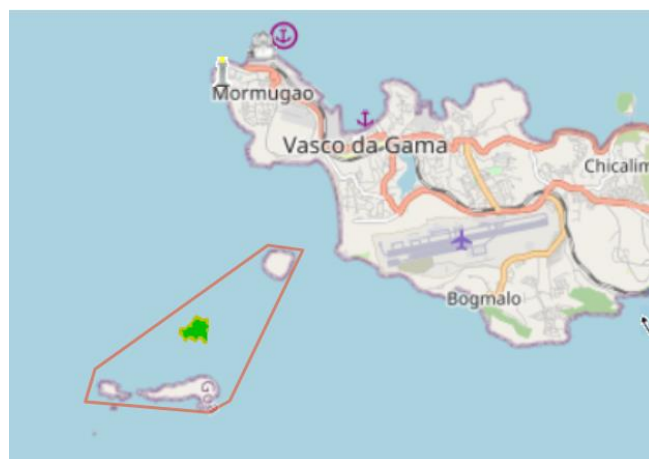
Smriti operated with the special call **AT2YOA** in the YOTA-2021 contest. Thanks to our Contest & Awards Manager VU2IBI, Prakash who coordinated this operation.

Check this out: [December YOTA Month 2021 \(ham-yota.com\)](https://ham-yota.com/)

AT7SJ – St. George's Island expedition

December 04, 05, 06, 2021

Ilha St Jorge or St. George Islands consists of three islands situated between 2 and 4 kilometers SSW of Marmagao Head - off the coast of Goa in western India – grid locator **MK65vi**.



Earlier, *Team Manic Monkeys* have activated St Mary's Island AS 096 and Danushkodi island AS-173.

The team found, sifting through an old magazine, the **Ilha de sao Jorge** an island in the cluster of AS-177 near Goa which was left unexplored from the previous expeditions. The previous team had activated Island **Ilha Grande** on an IOTA expedition 10 years earlier.

November 2021... After successfully being granted permission for expedition Ilha de Sao Jorge - **AT7SJ** at the fag-end of the closing-year dx season, the team leads hurry and do a recce of the island to explore for setting up the camp and equipment for their IOTA expedition.

For the expedition, the team leads had persuaded the local fishermen boat "**Dolphin**" to drop them on the island and bring them back to the mainland.

The uninhabited island which houses an active light house **ALRHS-IN-112** was once home to the Navy and Lighthouse authorities and is now off bounds with dense jungle covering the island.



The island to their dismay has no beach for setting up their antennas, completely engulfed by forest the island does not have much flat surface for setting up camp. The team had decided to tie their antennas to a fallen jetty and be parched for their operations and to sleep on a small piece of land which was an old temple where the local fisher men pray once a year.

The team had resigned to the fact that they will have to carry not only the equipment but everything from *pin to paper* in order to operate from the island.

December 2 2021 Loaded with equipment in two cars the operators took up their 15 hours 600 km journey by road from Bangalore to Goa. Breaking for night at Goa after last minute preparations for their next day IOTA operations

December 3 2021 Friday bright morning at 11.00 am the Dolphin laden with equipment and essentials dropped the team and unloaded the cargo at the St Jorge Island after a 90 minute journey from the mainland.

The Team:

VU3NPI: Madhu, VU3GDS: Giri, VU3UNO: KK, VU2GRM: Ram, VU2MNX: Cmdre. Mahindra, VU3ZNG: Nyjil, VU3ULP: Vishwa, and VU3KWK: Vijay



Mainland support Team: VU2JHM: Ajoy, VU2GTI: Gaurav

The Equipment: (nearly 600 kgs in all)

Two AC Generators

Several Lifepo4 batteries, lead acid batteries, solar panels, computers

Transceivers

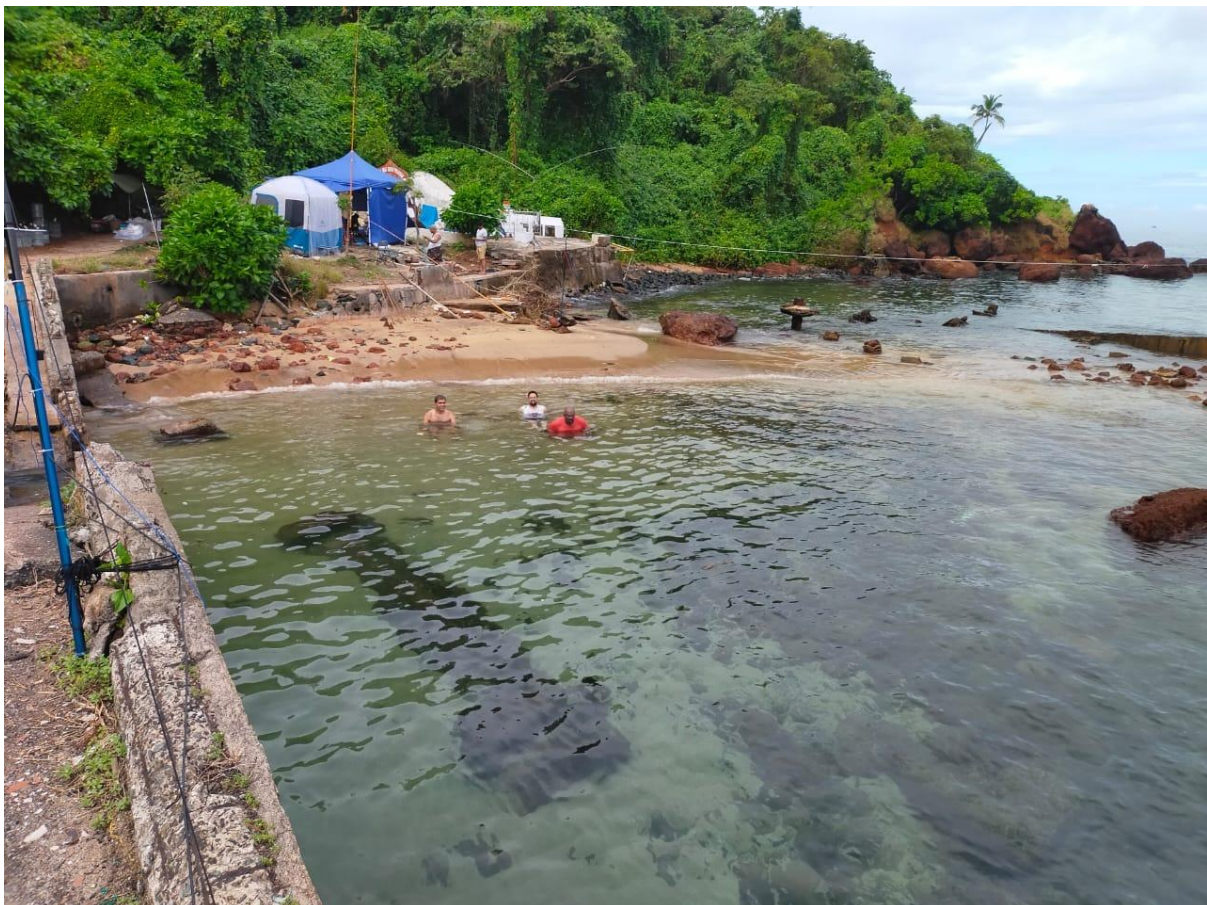
Parasitic array from 20m to 10m.

Bravo7k from N6BT for 40m

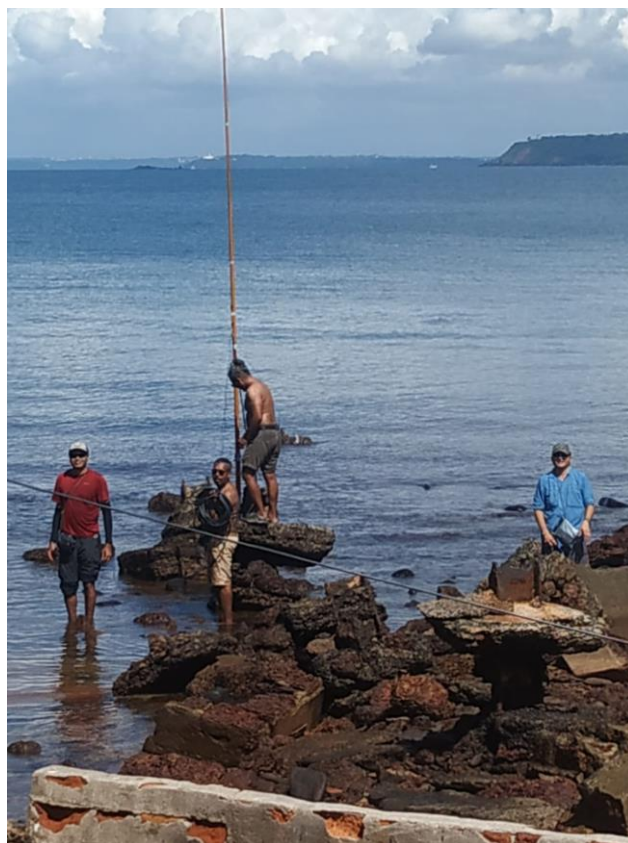
Operational and sleeping tents

Ration and drinking water for four days of operations.

Band by Band the antennas were up along with the operational tents. The team started radio operation in parallel to setting up of their campsite. First to go up was the FT8 mode of operations later CW and then SSB.

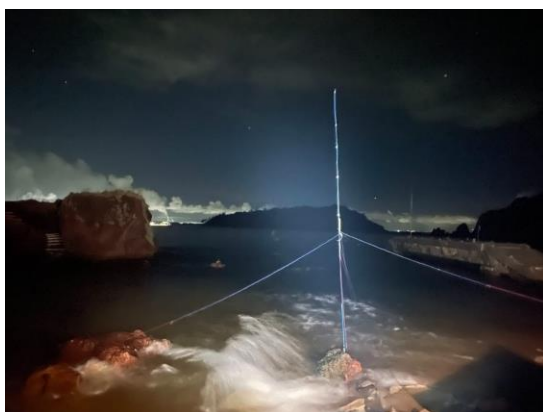


The team as previously determined had used the jetty piers to tie their vertical parasitic array antennas. By evening the team was operational on all modes.



December 4, 5, 6 2021 The team realized that the island had mysterious propagation conditions, the signals would go up and down like the tide and mysteriously close abruptly on all bands with S9 noise.

The team was able to contact DX stations on CW, SSB and FT8 despite all the odds of operations and make some 1600 contacts.





VU2MNX on the mike

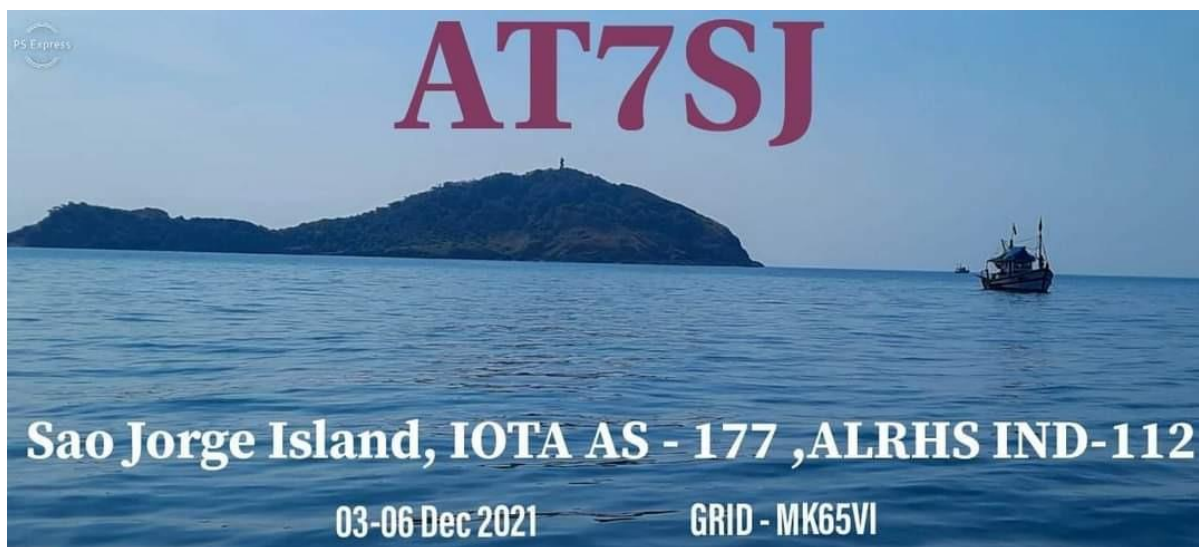


VU2ZNG, VU2KWK and VU2NPI

The team cooked from the ration that they had carried and enjoyed the freshly caught fish on the island.

The team gathered some knowledge and understating of the propagation condition from the illah de Sao Jorge Island.

Bidding adieu to the island, the Manic Monkeys team is now preparing to improve on operations and gearing up to explore another island in 2022.



Working **IOTA** is an exciting and innovative activity programme that has caught the interest of thousands of radio amateurs worldwide. Established in 1964, it promotes radio contacts with stations located on islands around the world to enrich the experience of all active on the amateur bands and, to do this, it draws on the widespread mystique surrounding islands. It is

administered by **Islands On The Air** (IOTA) Ltd (IOTA Management) in partnership with the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB).

This year Manic monkeys activated St Georges Islands (Grandi) in Goa during December 3-6, 2021 the team was QRV on 40-10m; CW, FT8, SSB; 100w only.

IOTA islands are grouped into 1200 'IOTA groups' with, for reasons of geography, varying numbers of 'counters', i.e. qualifying islands, in each group and has published the listings in the IOTA Directory and on the IOTA website. The objective, for the IOTA Island Chaser, is to make radio contact with at least one counter in as many of these groups as possible and, for the IOTA Island Activator, to provide such island contacts. The programme has a strong rule structure. IOTA Management encourages friendly competition among chasers by publishing details of participants' performance in an Honour Roll and annual listings, as well as by recognising it with certificates and prestige awards.

All logs are uploaded in Club Log available for QSO matching for IOTA awards.

73 – de VU3NPI – Madhu



Does an antenna need to be ‘resonant’ to be able to radiate efficiently?

(Here’s an article from QST of July 2001 which I found very interesting.)

Some hams steadfastly cling to the confusing notion that somehow, “resonance” is necessary in an antenna system in order for radiation to occur. (In this case I am using the term “antenna system” to include the antenna, the transmission line, the antenna tuner – and the environment in which all these are placed, including the ground, nearby conductors, etc.

Resonance is by no means necessary for radiation to occur! If the impedance at the shack for an antenna, its feed line and its environment happens to end up at, say 400 ohms and if the transmitter is designed to work into exactly this impedance directly – or, even more interestingly, if the transmitter consisted of a voltage source and a lossy resistive attenuator pad – no antenna tuner at all would be required. In this case, the transmitter wouldn’t be very efficient, admittedly, but it also wouldn’t care what the load impedance is at all. Where would resonance come into the act in such a situation? It wouldn’t.

However, most transmitters are indeed designed to work into a 50 ohm nonreactive load, so the function of an antenna tuner in this case would be to transform the 400 ohms into 50 ohms. Is there “resonance” in this system with such an antenna tuner as an impedance transformer? Let me submit that the answer most antenna engineers would give is “Why are you asking this question?”

They would simply state that the antenna tuner provides a 50 ohm load to the transmitter. The SWR on the line between the antenna and the tuner is not changed by the presence of an antenna tuner at the input of the transmission line. The additional SWR due to mismatch between the characteristic impedance of the line and the antenna load adds extra loss beyond the matched line-loss for that length of line at that frequency. But where does “antenna resonance” come into play?

It does not.

It is quite possible to look mathematically at the way the impedance changes along the physical length of the line, using the hyperbolic transmission line equation – and the impedance as it varies along the length of the line has absolutely nothing to do with the source impedance of whatever appears at the input of the line. The impedance at any point along a transmission line depends solely on:

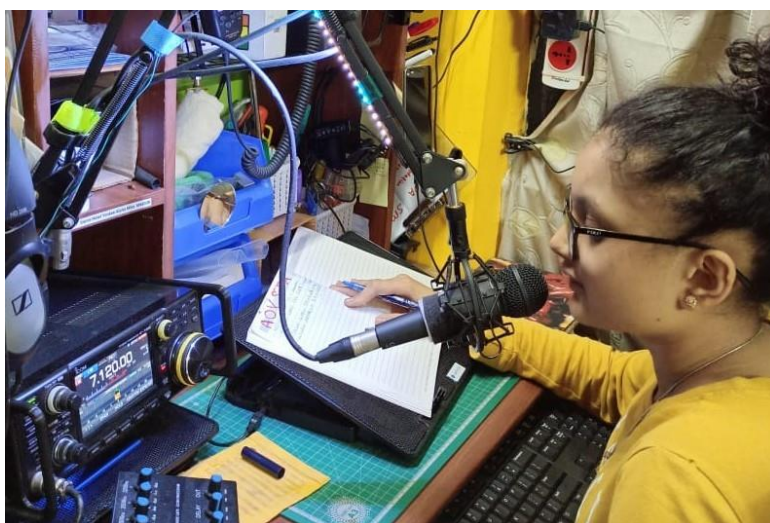
1. The complex characteristic impedance of the line itself
2. The physical length of the line
3. The velocity factor of the line.
4. The matched-line loss of the line
5. The impedance at the load end of the line (the antenna, in this case)

(Source: *The QST Workbench*, QST July 2001)

YOUNGSTERS ON THE AIR

ARSI participated in the DECEMBER month **YOTA** - The YOTA month was for the full month of December starting from 1st to 31st of December. Young Amateur “under the age of 26” were allowed to take part.

OM Philipp Springer, DK6SP, Chair, Youth Working Group, International Amateur Radio Union was very keen about participation of Youths from India. With the invite from Philipp, our President OM Ramesh wrote to WPC and got the special call **AT2YOA** allotted.



YL Smriti - VU3FNV operating AT2YOA, 40m SSB

We have logged more than 500 QSO's under the special call.

There were two youths **VU3YPP OM Poojith** and **VU3FNV, YL Smriti** took keen interest in the YOTA.

73, Kash VU2IBI, Contest and Awards Manager ARSI.



Let's use AI to improve the hamshack!

I am a **true blue dxe**r – meaning, I send CW manually using a paddle, write the log manually in the log book using a ballpen, and decode morse by the ear. I use my laptop only to watch movies when band conditions are bad, Hi However, things are changing – over the years. Everything is automatic or *autonomous*. Now there are driverless cars, even pilotless aircraft and so on. My dad (*R.I.P.*) used to tell me “*If you can't beat them, join them*”.

Yes, today I am holding down the F1 key. I need help. I need help from a **computer geek** to come up with a programme that will be a great addition to the modern ham-shack making it fully automated; and it may be a good *business proposition* too.

I got this idea after watching all new hams active on **Whatsapp, Echo-link, Facebook, Hamsphere** and so on. **I see and hear them everywhere except on radio.** Somehow, it appears as if operating ham radio is *pas*se to newcomers.

I suggest this new software installed on the laptop, and full details of the shack plugged in – like - the callsign/handle/QTH/grid locator, and make and model of transceiver used, output power, favourite modes and bands,

antenna/s used, and the time of operation possible during weekdays as well as Sundays and holidays, and so on. Everything about the shack.

Once switched on, the software will continuously observe the propagation conditions via the internet - to estimate what contacts you could make with a set up like yours under the propagation conditions existing during the times you have noted, and, log the stations automatically and QSL via LOTW. **There is no need to actually make the contacts, because the software decides what contacts you would make – depending on the propagation - if you had actually operated the station.** The number of contacts per day will be according to the time you have specified.

The callsign holder needs to log-in once a week or once a month or any time *when he/she is free* and find out how many contacts are logged and what are the rare dx calls etc - so he/she can **boast** about it on WhatsApp, Telegram, Instagram and Facebook.

The software also automatically *googles* the 'awards' that the callsign holder is eligible, and if the he/she has 'checked' the options of applying and obtaining the awards, the software will take care of it. Of course, the op needs to plug in the credit card details so that any payment to be made for the awards can be taken care of without disturbing the op who may be QRL on social media. The software will work silently in the background when the op is busy on hamsphere or echolink - so there is no QRM whatsoever.

Anyone who is capable of writing such a programme please contact me by sending me a personal e-mail. We can discuss the commercial aspects later. Let's make ham radio more advanced and popular!!

73 -Ganesh VU2TS

Check out the BATC web site: <https://batc.org.uk/live/>

You can watch live streams from 62 ATV repeaters, plus several hundred ATV hams from around the world. There are some repeaters that are streaming 24/7.

The much awaited events – VHF Hill Topping on Jan 29-30 and Field Day on Feb 26-27 have been postponed due to the prevailing Covid situations and weekend Lockdown in certain Cities.

The future date will be announced in due course of time.

Danish special event

Danish Radio Amateurs will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of HM Margrethe II, the Queen of Denmark's, accession to the throne by activating the special event station **OZ5ØQ** during the whole month of January 2022.

Special award is available (see QRZ.com).

QSL via OZ1ACB,

ClubLog's OQRS,

eQSL or LoTW.

All QSOs will be confirmed via LoTW and eQSL.



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