



**CQ WPX SSB Contest 2023 – Multi-Multi Operation
Special Call “AT3K”**

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Greetings to all from ARSI

Amateur radio is more than just a hobby – it's a way of life, a way to connect with others, and a way to serve our communities. As radio amateurs, we are privileged to have access to the latest technologies and innovations in the field of radio communications. But we must never forget that amateur radio is ultimately about people - connecting with others, building relationships, and making a positive impact on the world around us.

From the beginning of this year, we are seeing a surge in interaction between the WPC, our regulatory authority and us, the Radio Amateurs in India. Starting with the Open-Meeting that WPC held with numerous Amateurs and Clubs across the country in January and then on our meetings with some senior WPC officials on the 15th Feb along with our ARSI WPC-Coordinator VU2VAB, we are sure to see many positive changes which will be implemented through this year, benefitting budding hams and serious DXers.

The ARSI Regional Meet held in Chennai on 12 Feb 2023 had a good response despite being held at a short notice. Many regional radio amateurs and ARSI members attended this meeting. We are working on another ARSI Regional Meet, probably in western part of India very soon.

We have understood that by working together, we can ensure that the amateur radio community continues to grow and thrive for generations to come. I am excited to see what the future holds for our community, and I look forward to working with all of you to make amateur radio an even more dynamic and vibrant part of our lives.

Wishing everyone good health and happiness,

73, de Ramesh Kumar VU2LU

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK



Greetings to all.

Band conditions seem to be improving with the solar activity peaking earlier than thought. In the past three months, we had a couple of strong *solar flares* accompanied by *corona mass ejections* (CMEs) that caused total radio black-out in certain regions, lasting for a few hours. As I am writing this, there is a solar flare that may have hurled a CME toward Earth.

Contesting has become quite popular now, and I see many members are taking it seriously. This year's **CQ WPX SSB Contest** saw ten of our members get together for a *multi-multi* station (*multi operators, multi stations*) with a special callsign **AT3K** from the National Institute of

Technology Karnataka, Surathkal, Mangalore. Full details can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

Amateurs have discovered that modern contests draw upon the heritage of DX communications, traffic handling, and communications readiness that helps a lot in times of emergency. If you have not *contested* yet, its time to start!

73, de Ganesh VU2TS

**THE CW NET IS ON EVERY MORNING AT 07:30
ON FREQUENCY 7015 KHz
ARE YOU HAM ENOUGH TO CHECK IN?**

**ARSI wishes all Radio Amateurs a Happy
MORSE CODE DAY - 2023**

Morse Code Day on April 27 honours the inventor of the Morse code, Samuel Morse, who was born on this day in 1791. Apart from this, Morse Code Day also celebrates this pioneering method of communication and the invention that was first used to transmit encoded messages — the electric telegraph. Morse code is a precise, concise form of communication which is significantly popular in Amateur Radio today. As a Radio Amateur if you are not operating on CW, start learning Morse Code today!

If you have lost touch with Morse Code because you normally operate on SSB or digital modes, re-start today and have a QSO on CW.

Long distance, low power (QRP) communication with simple equipment is possible only with Morse Code.

Ramesh VU2LU - President, ARSI

AMSAT-INDIA promotes Amateur Radio & Satellite Communication at the biggest Science Carnival 2023 in Gujarat, India

To celebrate National Science Day on February 28 one of the biggest Science Carnival of 2023 was organised by Gujarat state - India at prestigious Science City Ahmedabad, AMSAT-INDIA was specially invited to participate in this biggest scientific exhibition for mass awareness of Amateur Radio and Satellite Communications.

AMSAT-INDIA Regional Coordinator Rajesh Vagadia VU2EXP & team member Sakshi Vagadia VU3EXP did huge efforts to mass promote AMSAT activities amongst a wide variety of visitors including kids, school/college students, budding engineers, IT Programmers, professionals from various industries, scientists from renowned organization like ISRO, PRL, IPR, VSSE, ISR, officers from Border Security Force, Police, the Fire Department and citizens from every walk of life! More than 100,000 visitors were reported and grabbed the opportunity to visit science carnival 2023 and our Science exhibition during the 5 days.

The AMSAT-INDIA stall was spacious & decent sized at 3m x 3m, it was a big attraction at the center of the Science Exhibition. With well prepared informative posters on AMSAT-INDIA, Various Satellite Activities, Amateur Radio Satellite chronology, ARISS Student outreach program, ARISS SSTV events, Question submission for our upcoming ARISS student outreach program etc, the AMSAT stall was a great attraction. For the curious visitors, every aspect of our unique hobby was highlighted, and a variety of radio equipment and accessories, QSL cards, Books, and software were on exhibition.

Experiencing various amateur radio gear, satellite antennae & test instrument were highly appreciated by visiting budding engineers from a number of colleges. Some of the stuff on display included Dual band Arrow-II antenna, dual band Yagi, tape measure antenna, Ground Plane, Telescopic antenna for SDR, while the Radios includes Icom IC-705 with LiFePO4 battery pack, Kenwood VHF base, half dozen of VHF/UHF HTs, RTL-SDR setup, LDG ATU, Nano VNA, Morse Key, cw

oscillator, Paddle, electronic keyer, SWR/Power meter, Cable, Connectors etc. It made our task easy to explain the use of each of these in reply to the visitors' queries.

We came across various types of queries such as - *how to be a Ham, Procedure to get license, Types of Amateur Radio satellites, operating modes, setting up ground station, how to receive ISS SSTV images, how to establish satellite contact etc.* We made a humble attempt to answer all those queries. We enjoyed a very detailed discussion with students/groups who already knew about *Amateur Radio* and wanted to learn more about *Satellite Communications*.



We also highlighted contributions of worldwide AMSAT organizations, IARU, ARISS, RSGB, ARRL and our ARSI & GIAR. I also mark a note on an author and my teacher Mr. Nagendra Vijay of popular Gujarati Science

magazine named 'Scope' who did tremendous efforts to introduce Ham Radio in Gujarat (India) 40 years ago and still continues to create awareness via the leading Science magazine '**Safari**', His stall was just across AMSAT's.

The AMSAT-INDIA stall were visited by many well-wisher GIAR Ham friends including VU2CPV Pravinbhai, VU2JGI Jagdishbhai, VU2MJP Manojbhai, VU2SPF Bhatnagarji, VU3APY Asheshbhai, VU3VDC Vitthhalbhai, VU3GLY Priyesh, VU3WHO Snehal and so on.

It was a great experience for us to spend the entire 5 days enjoying talking to visitors and explaining to them our favourite hobby *Amateur Radio & Satellite-Communication!* We were happy to present amateur radio as a scientific hobby & experimenting platform for diversified fields and not just as emergency communication tools. We have lots of positive & appreciative feedback from the visitors as noted in the in the visitor's feedback book.



We are thankful to Science Carnival 2023 Organiser Dr. Vrajesh Parikh, Pulkesh Prajapati, Dr. Narotam Sahoo & team for inviting us for this

prestigious Science Carnival Exhibition. I also thank our AMSAT-INDIA Secretary Mr Nitin Muttin VU3TYG, Director Educational B. A. Subramani VU2WMY, President Ramesh Ramsabhu VU2RMS & committee for complete guidance and support extended to us. I specially thank team member Sakshi Vagadia VU3EXP & my XYL Kiran Vagadia for supporting and assisting me all the time during the five-day exhibition.

I am optimistic to see the next generation taking keen interest in Amateur Radio & Satellites from VU Land.

Thank you, 73

Rajesh Vagadia VU2EXP Rajkot, Gujarat

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CQ WPX SSB Contest 2023 – Multi-Multi Operation - AT3K From NIT-K

For some time, VU2IBI (OM Kash) and VU2AE (OM Vatsa) were pursuing VU2XE (OM Kiran) to lead a multi operator contest at some remote location. The thought again rekindled during Hamfest India 2022 in Mysuru. Having been a part of few such group operations previously and with experience of portable ops, Kiran certainly knew about the magnitude of pre-event efforts that are required. Contrary to common belief, operations on the day is just a tip of the iceberg and it is very hard to find sufficient support to sweat it out and prepare the ground.

Kiran was part of an Alumni funded station project at National Institute of Technology – Karnataka (NIT-K) since June of 2022. It is due to the constant pursuit and support by NIT-K project head Dr. Pruthviraj and

Kiran's multiple visits to the campus over the months, the station was taking good shape at a steady pace.

The request from VU2IBI and VU2AE kept VU2XE thinking on whether to propose this "under construction" station or to propose some other location. VU2XE had another beach-side location and a hilltop location scouted earlier for his individual portable contest operations. In January 2023, during one of the local eyeball meet, VU2XE proposed all three locations and mentioned all possible pros and cons of each locations. An immediate decision was made to go for NIT-K club. It would also be an appropriate activity to honour the incredible work and support being offered by NIT-K. Also, the CQ WPX SSB contest that is held annually during the last weekend of March became the first real test for the efforts.

Once the location was shortlisted, immediate intimation to Dr. Pruthviraj was made on selection and dates of Mach 24 to 27th provided. This gave a tremendous boost to the project at ground zero and what could be best possible with the limited budget got an immediate "go ahead". This project is part of a larger cluster program mainly funded by alumni donations. Autonomous vehicles, drone surveys and other advanced technologies are part of the program. There is also a club station VU2REC in the main CSD (Center for Systems Design) building. Student groups guided by Prof. Prithviraj got variety of deep practical exposure from civil, mechanical, electrical and electronics through their involvement in the project. .

VU2XE put together a team of operators who would join to make a Multi-operator, Multi-station (Multi-Multi-Unlimited Category) for the CQ WPX contest. The Stations who confirmed participation were VU2XE (as the team leader aka Captain), VU2AE, VU2IBI (who unfortunately dropped out due to personal reasons), VU2DED, VU2YYF, VU2SBJ, VU2MUD, VU3DMP VU3SPD, VU2BQN & VU2JIX.

As for any contest or field operations, preparation is 80% of the success. VU2XE started communicating the importance of this over the WhatsApp group created for coordination. Videos from contesters were shared to

encourage all. As dates neared VU2YYF and VU2XE made couple of more visits to check readiness, sweat-out on the antennas and laying out cables. VU2SBJ joined in most of such visits. VU3DMP helped erection of the Hex beam along with students during one of the days.

By now we knew who are the members who has 360degree aspects of the operation and they formed core team for contest time support for any technical issues. Other than cabin and support mast/towers almost all equipment and antennas were to be carried for the contest.

The Communication Hub is a fully air-conditioned 20 feet container placed on a 8 feet elevated structure that provides a distinct and clear view of the western horizon and is just around 100 meters from the sea. It is just inside the NIT-K periphery wall surrounded by a plantation of the medicinal plant *Morinda citrifolia* (aka Noni – locally). Currently 50 feet tower with a UMS rotator hoists Spiderbeam, 40feet elevated telescopic mast with Yaesu 450A rotator hoists hexbeam antennas. There are also preparations under way for a 75 feet crank tower closer to the Communications Hub.



Spider beam getting ready

With just one week before the contest, we successfully placed the Spiderbeam on a 50 ft tower, Hexbeam at 40ft and two receive beverages(to be tested during the contest). Only 40m phased array and 80m Inverted L were left for the day before the contest due to local logistics and permissions to use the grounds. The enthusiasm and hardwork of staff and students kept so called “technical team” going.

“Hey, we do this at our home station for self-goals (contest or casual

pleasure), why not handle extra beating from Sun’s burning heat for sake of sharing with hardworking young students” is all we had in our minds.

Radios were carried by participants - TS590S, Anan SDR, IC756 Pro and TS 480. Two Furuno and one home-brew W6PQL amplifiers were used. Also a home-brew triplexer for 20, 15 & 10m was used that would allow us to have 3 stations simultaneously use the same antenna which came in very useful.



Four operating stations were planned and designated for specific band activity which would allow maximum utilization of the band openings. Most of the installation work was completed by Thursday and the trial runs promised a good time during the contest. The Phased Array and the Inverted L were the last to be put up as it had to be installed on the other side of the periphery wall in public area and the co-axial lines had to go overhead a road to ensure uninterrupted vehicular movement and no damage to the coaxial lines.

VU3DMP and students preparing the mast and rotator cage for the Hexbeam

The Team assembled for the prevent briefing and a small formal entry into the infrastructure with a traditional coconut breaking ceremony. A well known DXer and contester - VU2RCT (Chandra) visited on Friday evening and he shared his experiences and predictions about the propagation and band openings. We were also fortunate to have the presence of Mr. Karanth, a senior Alumni of the erstwhile REC-K who travelled from Bengaluru to wish us good luck in our operations. With all things tested for operations and readiness, the team closed down for the night ready for the start of the contest in the morning.





Hex beam (on a mast not fully extended) & Spider beam in the background

The Team assembled by around 4.30AM on Saturday 25th March to get the gear into working state in time for the start of the contest at 5.30AM (0000 UTC). Operators in place, the countdown was given and at the stroke of 0000 UTC, 4 stations got on the air – 80m, 40m, 20m and 15m were put on the air. The start was rather slow and bands were not open as anticipated. The team pushed on even after realising that the effects of a solar storm on 24th March, was showing its effects with the bands opening later

that anticipated. Over the two days of the contest, it was found that 10m was open most of the time and gave good runs. 15m was good with varying propagation and 20m did not give the anticipated propagation. It was discovered rather late into the second day that a SO-238 (Barrel connector – SO239 at both ends) that was used to extend the cables for the 40m phased array was defective thereby not supporting the operation. It was too late to fix it and 40m activity was given up. , the Band Pass Filters for the Beverage antenna got missed out which hampered the effective use of the antenna for RX.



Contest day – Starting Lineup. 4 positions setup in cabin to operate all available bands at once. VU2YYF closely monitoring the progress. VU2MUD capturing the operations. Operating positions VU2XE, VU2DED, VU3SPD and VU3DMP

The team ended up making close to 2000 QSOs – which could have been much higher with a little more planning on the equipment & accessories and support from the uncontrollable solar activity!! But for a Multi-Multi operation, it was an excellent achievement as this was a **first time** effort for the team. There was great camaraderie among the members who were always ready to step in when any operator required assistance or ready to give up their slot for another operator to go faster than them or even to accommodate extra operating time to individual operator to achieve personal QSO goals. The roster worked out by Kiran gave every team member to find a slot – long enough for them to get the feel of contesting as a group. All 10 members who were present made QSOs which in itself was an achievement.

It will be wrong if the efforts and support of the Staff of NIT-K is not mentioned – especially Prof. KV Gangadharan, VU2TAO, Centre of System Design (Custodian - VU2REC), Dr. Prithviraj, the students group headed by Rajath VU3LHV, Rakshith VU3LGQ, Manish VU3FCC, Dixith, Keith, Niranjan, Vikas, Akhilesh. The facilities created were excellent. Uninterrupted stable power supply with backup including a Solar charged Inverter system and a standby diesel generator ensured smooth round the clock operation. Facility to use their guest house, food court and round the clock support was highly appreciated and acknowledged by the entire team. The team dispersed on 28th morning with sweet memories and eagerly waiting for the next group event.

The final QSO tally is as Follows:

Band	QSOs
160:	
80:	2
40:	73
20:	530
15:	555
10:	806
Total:	1966

What some members said about their experiences –

“Overall, it's memorable event for me to be part of setting up a contest shack from ground up. Thanks to Dr. Pruthviraj and team for giving us this privilege” – **Kiran VU2XE**

“It was a unique and pleasant experience. Fully enjoyed the eye ball qso with you all. Many thanks to Kiran for taking the lead. Special thanks to Dr. Prathavi and his team nitk. Look forward to having many such events in the future” – **Ajaya VU2DED**

“Although I had participated in in a multi operator event for the ARSI Hilltopping & FD previously, I was always wanting to experience the multi-multi operation. This came as god-sent opportunity with experienced operators to guide me further and new comers who could be mentored into contesting and group activities. Thanks to NIT-K for providing excellent facilities and infrastructure. Thanks to Kiran VU2XE for accommodating me into the team knowing my personal limitations and allowing me to enjoy the activity” – **Madhu VU2MUD**

“Meeting many of you for the first time; it was indeed a great experience and I have learned many things. Thank you for accommodating! Hope to meet again soon” – **Sri VU2SBJ**

“What an experience!! What a bunch of people who got together! amazing, wonderful, extraordinary, awesome yet the “simplest” great bunch of people I met over the last weekend. – **Vatsa VU2AE**

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ARSI HILLTOP CONTEST 2023 – KULAMAVU, IDUKKI VU2CPL - GRID MJ89kt

A telephone call started it all. Post the long Covid lockdowns, the ARSI Hill top contest was a relief and a unique opportunity for experimenting & eyeball QSOs.

It all started with a call from VU2ADV (Jacob Elias) to VU2KGB (Girish Babu) with an idea to participate in the ARSI Hilltop contest 2023. Girish, who enjoys taking challenges, immediately supported the idea. Multiple phone calls later, a team was formed inclusive of VU2DTH (Manoj T R), VU3GNL (Saju Gopal), VU2PJP (Peter), VU2ACT (Dr Easwaran), VU2OJ (Dr Abraham) and VU3FWR (Rejeesh).

Right from day one, Girish was hunting out for Manoj, VU2CPL to be the lead operator. In spite of being a Commercial Pilot with a packed work schedule, on February 12th, VU2CPL decided to join the team and from the very same day started attending the group audio meetings. The team fully got charged by this development and from the very same day Manoj started attending the group audio meetings and it was decided to use **VU2CPL** as the team callsign. Time was too short to get a special call sign for the event.



With Manoj (VU2DTH) having some local contacts and Girish having visited and made many VHF trials, the idea of conducting the event at a resort located in **Kulamavu**, was put forward. Jacob also seconded the location. Without further delay, it was decided to choose the operating location as **Kananam resort, Kulamavu, Idukki** with grid locator **MJ89KT**. This message was soon given to ARSI contest manager. The resort management was friendly and they allocated the highest located cottages to us and all the freedom to install the antennae.

The chosen location was 880 m above the sea level, on top of a hillock.. We had a 360° view from there. The distance to the forest was just 3 meters from the cottage wall. The wind velocity was high on the roof top. It was very tricky to assemble the 5m x x 5m structure which was prone to high wind resistance. The standard step ladders were not suitable. We managed to get a broken iron ladder (see photo) and got it welded and repaired at site. Without the strong will and muscle power of VU2DTH and his friends, this monster would not have been up.





Manoj VU2CPL had a new Diamond 10 element UHF yagi which was lying idle and it was decided to be carried. This proved to be an excellent backup for the team on UHF later.

Due to a last minute change in the QTH, rooms at the venue were available only on 25th and 26th. This meant that operations can commence only by 2 pm on the contest date. That would be a loss of 6 hours from the contest time. This was not acceptable to the team and the solution was to rent one cottage on 22nd night, install all antennae, and leave everything ready to use.

Then a temporary camping gear was planned to be erected on the day of contest to start operation with limited capability and then shift to the cottages when they become available post which, installation & operations go as planned for the rest of the contest. This was not an ideal solution, but was the only one at hand. A hotel, about 27 km from Kulamavu was chosen for the team's stay on 24th February night.

Antenna installation team consisting of Girish, Jacob, Manoj (VU2DTH) and Saju got together at the venue on 22nd morning itself and started surveying the site for suitable locations for installing various antennas. The management of the resort informed that the open yard that was proposed to raise the cubical quad did not belong to them and they informed that it is not feasible to put it up

there. However they permitted us to put up all the antennae on top of the cottage building. This upset all the plans, but a quick rework with the help of Kalesh and Tomy, two friends of Manoj (VU2DTH), temporary masts and supports were installed by the side of the cottage/building as telescopic masts. Guy wires were tied up on the terrace and to the nearby tree trunks. VHF stacked array was tuned to perfection with the SWR of 1:1.08. HF quad, though not perfectly tuned, there was no time left to fine tune, since it was already late night.

On 24th February, the team members started from various locations in Kerala. During the drive towards Kulamavu, Girish got a call from Kananam resort manager who informed him that one cottage where antenna was installed, was vacant for 24th and this was the best news we could have expected! The team of Manoj VU2CPL, Girish VU2KGB and Rahul VU2KKG drove straight to Kulamavu to setup the stations as planned and got everything ready to go 24th February night itself. Early morning of 25th saw VU2CPL and VU3GNL engaged in tuning the cubical quad. This was not easy without the support from VU2DTH and others. Though not to perfect levels, we brought down the SWR within acceptable levels on 20m, 15m and 10m. Straight away on checking the HF quad, we noticed some RFI during higher power levels (anything over and above 25 watts). This was disconnecting the sound interface during the data operations. It was decided to use only 25 watts for data and use the amplifier only for CW and SSB. M/s EPTRIC, Thiruvalla had given us a power conditioner to handle the power fluctuations. The final station line up was the following:

HF STATION 1

RGO ONE QRP HF TRANSCEIVER. SPE EXPERT 1.5 KFA AMPLIFIER, MACBOOK AIR, WINKEYER, 5B4AGN 6 band HF Bandpass filter, 3 BAND 2 ele CUBICAL QUAD, VERTICAL Ant with elevated radials for 40m and EPTRIC Power Conditioner

HF STATION 2

ICOM IC7000 INVERTED V for 40m. SMPS, 5B4AGN, 6 band HF Band Pass Filter

PORTABLE STATION:

BARRETT MANPACK. LONG WIRE ANTENNA, SOLAR PANELS. VHF/ UHF Kenwood TS2000, 2x7 element stack for VHF 10 elements UHF YAGI 150 AH Batteries

Our efforts to install omni directional antennae for VHF and UHF were not fully successful due to logistical limitations. This proved to be a handicap and affected the final tally. The stacked array was too directional and we would have lost at least a few calls from the sides and rear of the array.

Contest started exactly at 09:00 hrs IST on 25th February on both HF and VHF. VHF QSOs trickled in and HF ran dry on 40m very soon and operations shifted to higher bands mostly on FT8. This mode was chosen so that all members can see and get a feel of how this very popular mode can be operated. SSB and CW required some dedicated and focused efforts to ensure good QSO rates under marginal band conditions. As soon as conditions were found to be favourable, we switched to CW or SSB. Highlight of the operation was the sustained QSO rates that was possible on higher bands 10m and 15m thanks to higher sunspot numbers. 40m SSB QSOs were handled by VU2OJ from the HF station 2 from a separate cottage within the same premises. HF Band Pass Filters ensured nil QRM between the two HF stations.

VHF operations gave some exciting moments with a few stray calls from A45 land which made everyone jump towards the VHF radio. Unfortunately despite many calls, we couldn't get the QSO in log. As the contest operations closed at 18:00 hrs IST on 26th February.

The final QSO tally looked like this:

Band	CW	Data	Phone	Total	%
160m:	0	0	0	0	0.0%
80m:	0	0	0	0	0.0%
40m:	2	7	117	126	10.7%
30m:	0	0	0	0	0.0%
20m:	0	236	4	240	20.4%
17m:	0	0	0	0	0.0%
15m:	2	30	0	32	2.7%
12m:	0	0	0	0	0.0%
10m:	214	458	0	672	57.2%
6m:	0	0	0	0	0.0%
2m:	0	0	75	75	6.4%
70cm:	0	0	29	29	2.5%
Total:	218	731	225	1,174	

Usually a contest is a place where there is a lot of stress. Due to systematic panning and the beautiful location, all of us enjoyed the event & the stay together! Every team member operated the radio and picked up a few contacts. We really enjoyed the whole event! Here are some pics:



Peter VU2PJP with his harmonics Rakesh VU3RGP and Ajith VU3EMX along with Ajith's better half Priya joined as a whole family. SWL Mahi and Akhil were also along to support them. With this strong team around, we felt nothing was impossible



There was a mid day strategy briefing by VU2CPL. The team learnt many operating techniques through this session and also planned ways to improve the next field days and contests. After the event, during the summing up sessions, lessons were documented and a few shortfalls were understood. To the team's surprise, many stumbling blocks which were thought of as problems, finally turned out to be in favour. Shifting of the quad antenna from open ground to the roof top was one among them.

THE TEAM AND THE CONTRIBUTION FROM EACH MEMBER THAT MADE THE EVENT A SUCCESS

VU2ACT

Dr Easwaran was our guiding light. When the team faced a difficult challenge, as his name suggests, "God" was always there to guide us!. Caps for the team members were printed within a short period. Thanks to his planning and support.

VU2ADV

The spark that started it all. A huge inspiration and a constant source of motivation to all. He kept ideas coming and ensured the the team neverfelt discouraged. A very good operator, he kept the QSOs coming on VHF.

VU2CPL

He was behind the big numbers that were in the log. Showed all others how to operate non stop from beginning to end. “Butt on the chair and CQ in the air” attitude set the tone of operations during the contest day and night. Manoj acknowledged that it was VU2CIA Maya’s mobile kitchen which helped him to survive during the non-stop QSOs.

VU2DTH

The strong man who never runs out of energy. With local knowledge and experience, from climbing poles for antenna installation to being the co-pilot to Abraham and Manoj, he was everywhere.

VU3FWR

The VHF man who knows most of the call signs and pathways! Major driving force behind the VHF numbers.

VU3GNL

The Antenna man! Who else could have thought of a Cubical Quad to be put up for a contest which came on such a short notice? And a stack for VHF? All his efforts showed in the final results.

VU2KGB

The CEO of the team! The glue that held all together. He was planning and installing antennas, organising the stay, ensured every one had basic necessities and reasonable luxuries, operated VHF and UHF and had an HF station with on standby.

YouTube Link of the contest video <https://youtu.be/MqQDT2s2KOc>

BRIEF REPORT ON ARSI – IIH FIELD DAY 2023 FIELD DAY GRID : MK83id Category: A - 25th & 26th FEB. 2023 INDIAN PUBLIC SCHOOL, TURUVEKERE, TUMKUR DISTRICT

ARSI FIELD DAY 2023 is a annual outdoor event of Ham (Amateur) Radio stations in India held on 25 & 26 Feb. 2023. Indian Institute of Hams (IIH) one of the premier institute promoting Ham Radio at large in the country adopted INDIAN PUBLIC SCHOOL (ICSE school) grid locator MK83id at Turuvekere, Tumkur District, Karnataka to create massive Ham awareness in the region to popularize Ham Radio network which is lacking compared to other countries.

Two day Ham Radio camp with full fledge Ham Radio Station at Indian Public School in a open arena was an eye opener for many students, educationists, parents, public and media. We have made more than 500 international contacts covering Australia, France, Greece, Spain, China, Japan, US, Norway, Austria, Russia, Balearic Islands, Finland, Indonesia, Hongkong, Poland, Lebanon, Germany, Kaliningrad, Phillipines, Kazakhstan, Romania, Bulgaria, South Korea, Thailand, Kuwait, Brazil, Denmark, Puerto Rico, Italy, Belarus, Guadelope, Nethelands, Turkey, Portugal, Hungary, Sweden, Czech Republic, West Malaysia, Ecuador, Czech Republic, South Korea, Oman, Estonia, Ukraine, Asiatic Russia, Solvenia, Malawi, Kazakhstan, Taiwan, Argentina, Sardinia, South Africa etc.. of course many Indian stations.



It was total field wireless communication exercise (Technical Camp) on NON-IOT activities.

Team of Ham Operators under Indian Institute of Hams

VU2VTM Marcus

VU2FI Dr. Sathyapal

VU2MLA Achar

VU3IGP Dr. Rudrayya Hiremath

VU3CJM Manjunath

VU3VXT Paramesh

VU3OIM Venkat

VU3UJZ Pramod

VU3EFZ Neil

VU3DUG Suganya Baskar

VU3FCE Shilpa

VU3LXI Lakshmi

VU3UDC Girish

VU3CVA Vishnu

VU3LNX Vino Alex

SWL Satish

Few comments received from our crew members:

Dr. Rudrayya Hiremath, VU3IGP Chairman, Indian Public School. Thank you all for your wishes. In fact I am proud of being associated with IIH and team of real Hams to make this program successfully conducted at our school. Hope to see you all soon. Once again THANK YOU SP SIR for providing an opportunity to host it in our school. Thank you Marcus Sir for

encouraging me to become HAM in the year 1997. (25years back).

Satish, SWL I stepped into this world of HAM from the womb of mundane life at the dawn on the occasion of ARSI Field Day under the umbrella of IIH ably guided by Dr.SP Sir and the IIH HAM fraternity. The rays of amateur radio waves embraced this new baby inducing a bright smile. One can't ask for a better place than a School. What a lovely place selected to conduct the field day.



When the Hands unite, the Neurowaves of the Minds ignites. When the Minds ignites, the Success Resonates. It was fantabulous coworking with HAM's and it's a learning factory of knowledge. Overall it was an epitome of experience center. Hats off to everyone who are part of this – SWL. Indian Public School staff and students under the able guidance of Dr. Rudrayya Hiremath ji is a symbolic representation of Athithi Dhevo Bhava Hats off to his Father as well who was always with us taking care of all our needs.

Achar, VU2MLA Under IIH banner, the ARSI Field Day of 2023 at Indian Public School, Turuvekere was a combination of 2021 Field Day in Anekal and 2022 Ham promotion program in Moodabidri. Team sprit of all Hams representing IIH in this Field Day who were busy either in making contacts or ham awareness program need an applause. SP deserves a special pat for systematic planning, execution of activities / events.



Not to forget the cordial hospitality extended by Dr. Hiremath, Chairman of Indian Public School, Turuvekere, his staff and students at the venue. Visit of Swamiji of Virakta Mutt, Turuvekere and the media representatives are added highlight in the event. It was a great and fun filled, enjoyable event.

VU3UDC GIRISH Great experience working with the team setting up different types of antennas and making more than 500 contacts all over the world. Thanks to IIH for wonderful opportunity

Parmesh, VU3VXT This is again new experience to me apart from field day activities it was wonderful to see huge participation by local schools, interaction and presentation by team. I have no doubt event motivated students. Thanks to IIH for wonderful opportunity.

VU3CVA Vishnu, Jeppaiar Institute of Technology, Sriperumpatur, TN First time I'm attending the ARSI Field day contest IIH. we made 500+ QSO approximately with various countries in FT-8, from QTH Indian public school Turuvekere Tumkur district, it was a very good experience and I

learned lot with fellow HAMS, I'm very thankful for the wonderful opportunity by IIH.

Shilpa Manjunath VU3FCE This is my first field day experience after I got my license and call sign in May 2021 I thoroughly enjoyed my experience where I checked into all HF nets first time and made my first HF contact during the contest under IIH, overall a great experience to cherish thanks to SP Sir and all

Suganya VU3DUG Another new learning, new location and great team work. Thanks to IIH and Sp sir for showcasing the world of HAM to future generation - all the school kids.

Nandu VU3UBN Great experience working with fellow hams at a remote location braving the elements. Outset, we thank Indian Public School for providing all logistics and hospitality. Our further focus to do the same exercise in different districts of Karnataka to bring more and more youths into this unique technical hobby and connect all the rural areas for any crises emergency communication management.

Jai Bharat & Great Bharat

Results of the FD and Hill top contest 2023

Results of the Field day and Hill top contest 2023. I thank all the participating teams and to all the Winners.

ARSI GC is planning to give Plaques and mementos to the winners and participants.

We had 23 teams participating in the contest with a total of 3712 QS0's . The mode breakup is as under:-

HF-VU - 587	VHF - 263
HF-DX - 2776	UHF - 80
6m - 6	

ARSI Hill Top and Field day Feb 2023																	Deductions			
Sl No	Team Call	Category	RANK	# QSO	# QSO	# QSO	# QSO	# QSO	Distance Multiplier	Sub-Total	Camping/			Banner/ VIP	Home-Brew	Total Points	Deductions			
				HF-VU	HF-DX	fm	VHF	UHF			f.1	f.2	25				25	Dups	Wrong call	No of wrong grid
1	AU3HT	A	1	5	510		1	2	3	1 for 10km	1041	104	200	0	0	1393	21			
2	VU2NH	A	2	44	440						840	0	180	25	0	1135	10	1		
3	AT3M	A	3	33	393						819	0	0	25	0	844	20			
4	VU3UOB	A		8	47						102	0	0	25	0	127				
5	VU3OSA	A		15	20						71	0	0	25	0	96	2			
6	VU2MCW	A		2							2	0	0	0	0	3				
7	VU2UPQ	B	1						10	7	122	103	16	35	0	372	3			
8	VU2ASH	B	2						9	13	54	111	11	22	0	144	3			
9	VU3TGG	B	3						11	9	46	50	10	0	25	130	1			
10	VU2TUT	B							6	6	16	46	0	0	0	46				
11	VU3CDI	B							7	2	20	20	0	4	0	24	3			
12	VU2CPL	C	1	99	529				70	26	1229	3414	341	0	25	3760	43			
13	VU3OZW	C	2	79	46				73	5	1745	2077	206	415	25	2725	1			
14	VU2ARC	C	3	110	180			1	2	2	507	51	101	0	0	659	18		1	
15	AT2EOD	C		20					47	2	154	252	0	50	0	336				
16	VU2JXM	HOME	1	50	147				6	5	53	404				464	28	1		
17	VU2GRM	HOME	2	45	23		5		1		50					94	6		6	
18	VU2KTW	HOME	3	10	1				7		7	41		25		65	4			
19	VU2TOZ	HOME							9	5	24	57				57				
20	VU2GMN	HOME		6							6					6				
21	VU2JOS	HOME		5							5					5				
22	VU2IBI	CHECK LOG																		

Category A – HF Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 M
 Category B – VHF, UHF & 6 M
 Category C – HF, VHF, UHF & 6 M
 Category- Home

**Prakash Srinivasan VU2IBI
 Contest and Awards Manager ARSI**

Here are some photos of FD & HILLTOP CONTEST 2023



AU3HT



AT3M



VU3OSA



VU2ASH



VU3UOB



VU3UOB

Pune Hams VU2RCP celebrated World Amateur Radio Day at All India Radio Auditorium Pune on 18th April 2023

Daring childhood it was always fascinating to play with kiddish version of walkie-talkie made with empty match boxes and rubber bands. While growing up it was amazing to see police man & soldiers carrying their walkie-talkie. It was exciting to know that we can also own such and use it for meaningful communication with others in the world and also with crew of ISS.

Almost all the 60 people ranging from 7 yrs up to 75 yrs proclaimed this when they visited the Akashvani (All India Radio) Pune, to witness the functioning of the studio and observe the World HAM Radio Day on 18th April 2023.



HAM radio is inexpensive, portable, global and scientific hobby. Every day millions of Men, women toddlers to grandfathers of all ages around the world are in touch with each other through HAM radio and exchange information about various projects and experiments. This hobby helps in acquiring deep scientific knowledge along with skill development

Human security starts with people Without it, there is no national or global security. But when a crisis comes along, it affects us in many ways.

There are many well-known examples of Hams helping in times of crisis through radio communication. During the recent devastating earthquake in Turkey, when all communication systems were shut down, hams played a vital role in relaying messages and saving thousands of lives.

Emphasizing the importance of HAM for society and “Human security for all” was explained in easy words in an inspiring speech by Shri. Vishwas Kale, Owner, director of Vijayesh instruments, Pune.



Mr. Adhir Gadpale, Deputy Director General, Center Head, Akashvani Pune and Mr. Indrajit Bagal, Assistant Director, Head of Programme, Akashvani Pune gave an orientation speech. Attendees also got to see the demo of homemade Ham Radio (SDR) by HAM Suraj Chinoy VU2ZAG.

Mr. Vilas Rabde emphasized on the participation of school and college students under Make in India and skill development. On behalf of Pune HAMs, they promised independent guidance on starting a Ham Radio Club and a 24-hour laboratory in every school and college. With the

enthusiasm of Amateur Radio Club of Pune, 'Akashvani' All India Radio and Tech Forum, invited attendees had good opportunity to visit studios of All India Radio to view their functioning. It was a unique experience to see how the programs are created, recorded, edited and arranged to broadcast was most interesting and said the students of FunSmartism Activity Center. Made students aware of the benefits of technology and how to use that effectively for welfare of masses for bridging the digital divide.



Under the guidance and leadership of (Ex-Technician Akashvani Pune) MFJ Lion Satish Rajhans, a quiz program based on GK of Radio was conducted by Mrs. Dipali Akolkar and Mrs. Reshma Pawar. Students were happy to win prizes from MFJ Lion Satish ji.

73, SWL Deepali Akolkar. Pune Hams VU2RCP



Prasad, VU2PTT joins the ARRL DXCC Honor Roll



Let us join hands to congratulate **Prasad, VU2PTT** on his achievement of getting into the **ARRL DXCC Honor Roll**.

VU2PTT has worked/confirmed 337 of the total 340 DX entities currently on the DXCC list.

The DXCC Honor Roll is earned by amateurs who submit confirmation for contacts reached within the numerical top 10 of the overall number of entities on the DXCC List. As of 21 Dec 2022, there were 340 current entities on the list, with 331 being required for the Honor Roll.

-O-O-O-O-

CONGRATULATIONS TO LUCKY VU2LBW on making the first ever EME contact from VU land. Frequency 434.063 MHz using 50W and a 20 element *crossed RHCP* Yagi. Mode FT8 on 26 February 2023

Station contacted DL7APV Mode FT8 – one way distance 384,000 Km

-O-O-O-O-

- QRU-

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