

Celebrating 36th Anniversary of BCDX Net: A Legacy of Radio Enthusiasm

: VU2JOS



L-R Sanil Deep VU3SIO, Sharoon VU3XIO – Operators of BCDX Net in their shack.

Introduction: Join us in commemorating the 36th anniversary of the BCDX Net, a beacon of radio enthusiasm that has spanned three and half decades. Founded on November 27, 1988, this unique net has been a constant presence on the Ham Radio band, fostering a community of dedicated BCDX radio enthusiasts and amateur operators.

The Inception: The BCDX Net originated from a small group of visionaries, including Shanmughasundaram VU2FOT (Silent key), Victor Goonetilleke, 4S7VK from Sri Lanka, Jose Jacob VU2JOS from Kerala, and others like Liyakath Ali VU2LIK (Silent Key), Kasi Viswanathan VU2FFM etc. Initially named the SWL DX Net, it evolved into the BCDX Net, emphasizing the exchange of information on BCDX stations and promoting the hobby of radio listening.

The Net's Format: Every Sunday at 0830 IST (0300 UTC), the BCDX Net comes alive on 7085 kHz in the 40-meter Ham Radio band. Led by Net Controller M. Sanil Deep, VU3SIO, and Sharoon S. Deep, VU3XIO, the net provides a platform for Hams to check in, share information, and engage in the love of BCDXing.

Global Participation: Over the years, the BCDX Net has attracted participants from India, Sri Lanka, Gulf countries, and beyond. What sets this net apart is its unique feature—after check-ins, the Net Controller presents times and frequencies of radio stations monitored, akin to a DX Newspaper readout for enthusiasts.



[Victor Goonetilleke, 4S7VK, Sri Lanka](#)

Evolution and Growth: With the passage of time, the BCDX Net has grown, incorporating new voices like VU2KAK Anil, VU3SIO Sanil Deep, VU2ISR Harsha, VU3ITI Varadan, VU3DJQ Raman, VU2NGB Binu, VU2BNP Prahalad, VU3BGK Neel, VU2ICI Mohan, VU2MUD Madhu, and more. In many ways, it served as the "Facebook" and "Whatsapp" of its era.

Recognition and Special Occasions: The net's significance is not only in its longevity but also in the recognition it has garnered. Special QSL cards were issued on milestone anniversaries, and articles featuring the BCDX Net appeared in various DX publications. Events like the BCDX Net Convention in 1991 and the Malabar Meet in 2018 marked significant milestones.

36th Anniversary Celebration: On Nov 24, 2024, at 0300 UTC / 8.30 am IST on 7085 LSB, the BCDX Net will celebrate its 36th anniversary. Since 1990, M. Sanil Deep has consistently controlled the net, and Sharoon S. Deep has been delivering DX tips since August 2016. The occasion marks an unparalleled 35-year legacy of uninterrupted radio enthusiasm.



[Jose Jacob, VU2JOS in shack of DK5WL, Germany](#)

A Grateful Acknowledgment: Heartfelt thanks to Sanil and Sharoon, along with all contributors, for sustaining this unique net, making it the only one of its kind in the world. Sanil Deep's continuous control of the net has earned him a place in various record books, including the Limca Book of Records and India Book of Records.

Conclusion: As we celebrate the 35th anniversary of the BCDX Net, we salute the enduring spirit of radio enthusiasts who have contributed to its legacy. The BCDX Net remains a testament to the passion and camaraderie that define the world of amateur radio. Here's to many more years of spreading joy and connecting through the waves!

Gallery of BCDX Net: A visual journey captures the essence of the BCDX Net, showcasing moments from Hamfest India, conventions, and the diverse faces that make up this vibrant community.



BCDXers at Hamfest India 2019 at Kanyakumari: L-R Dr. T.Jaishaktivel VU3UOM, Jose Jacob VU2JOS, Neelakandan V. VU3BGK, M.Sanil Deep VU3SIO, M.Shanmugasundaram VU2FOT



BCDXers at Hamfest India, Chennai in Dec 2012



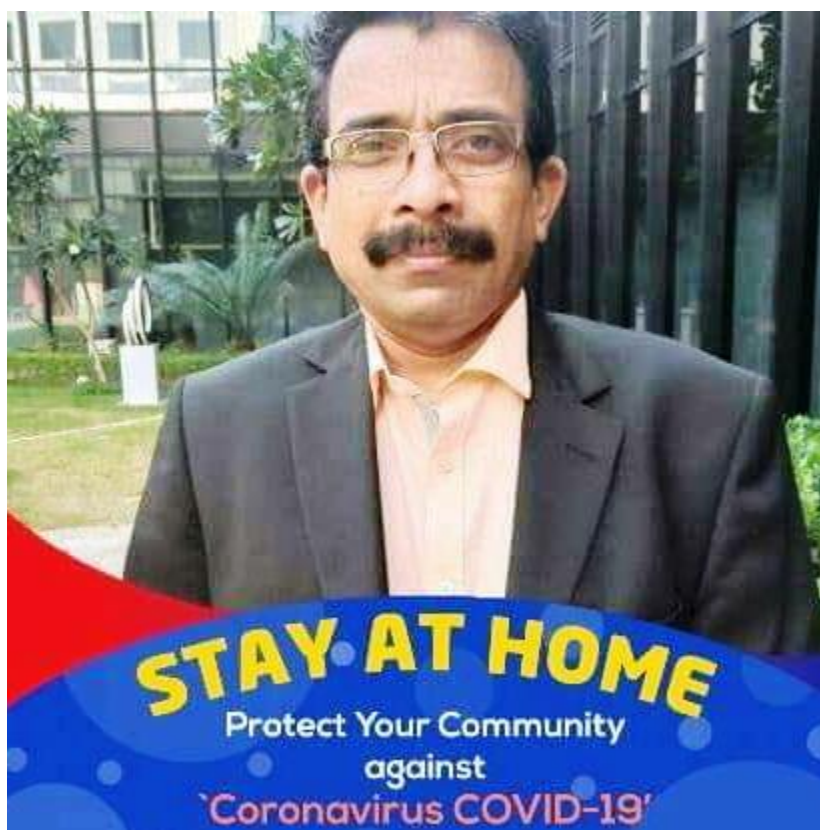
Raman, VU3DJQ, New Delhi (old photo)



Binu, VU2NGB now VK2BNG. Australia



Anil. VU2KAK, Kozhikode



Harsha, VU2ISR, Chennai



Varadan, VU3ITI, Bengaluru



Madhukar, VU2MUD, Bengaluru



Mohan. VU2ICI, Erode

BCDX Net

Conducted on Sundays

8.30 to 9.00 am IST (0300-0330 UTC) on 7085 kHz LSB

Main Net Control: VU3SIO

Check into BCDX Net :

- a) To exchange latest BCDX News
- b) To mark your presence on air
- c) To check propagation conditions
- d) To check for friends / Ham activity
- e) To pass on / get any messages
- f) To check performance of your Antennas/ Rigs
- g) To improve your operating skills etc.

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