

Bhutan, radios clubs installed in the schools with the help of French radio hams

In 2004 and 2005 Bhutan Information Communication and Media Authority (BICMA) decide to promote amateur radio activity with the project to install ham-radio stations in high-schools, initially in Thimphu, then in the various areas. This project could be done with radio operator material offered by French radio hams.



The A52CDX team at the Bhutan Information Communication & Media Authority head office



Official handover of two stations to BICMA

The first ham-radio stations were installed in the schools of Thimphu, Phuentsoling, Bardo and Shanghar. Two new stations radios were also to be installed by the BICMA in the East of the Country.

Some have expressed doubts about the interest and relevance of our projects, and also about the benefit and even the existence of these "club stations" that nobody ever hears... We invite them to visit these deep Himalayan valleys, where signals have to bounce across a maze of valleys before passing the high Himalayas and reaching Europe or the US.

The schools radio stations are active for a daily network, in Dzongka the official language of the country, on short waves, in the band of the 40 meters. They allow to the children of these schools to exchange between these distant valleys.

installation of the radio-clubs of Bardo and Shanghar with the material offered by the French radio hams



Hand-over of license A50F



Hands-on training



Excited children

The conditions are not ideal, the radios are low power, with solar panel power supply and the antennas are made of simple wire tended between the building of the school and the tree nearest.

Setting-up at Bardo primary school



Bardo primary school



Antenna wire



Antenna supporting peach tree



Antenna erection



Earthing



Head teacher training

Setting-up at Shingkar primary school



Shingkar primary school



Battery setting



Solar pannel installation



Earthing



Battery & charger



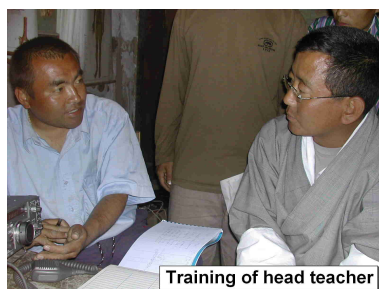
Antenna pole



Feeder fixing



Hand-over of license A50E



Training of head teacher