

# VU2RBI Bharathi in Hungary

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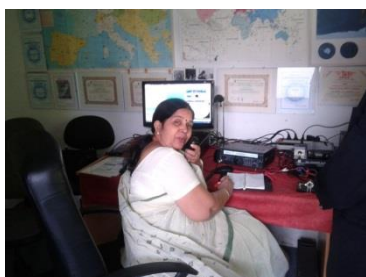
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July 2-4 [VU2RBI Bharathi](#) and her husband [VU2DBP Prasad](#) visited Hungary. Bharathi is well known shortwave radio amateur who can be heard on 20m up to 10m bands and in recent years often on 6m during sporadic E seasons.

HA5XA Krisztian introduced her to me in spring of 2010, she asked us how Hungarians managed to open the 50MHz amateur band what they also wanted to achieve in India. I was pleased to share our experiences with her and not much later, in summer [2010 they received the 6m amateur band](#).

[First time in June 2011](#) then also [June this year](#) we had 50MHz contacts. In this June she already planned to come to Friedrichshafen HAM Radio Exhibition with her husband then visits to Austria, Hungary and Croatia. She asked me to help organizing their Hungarian staying. Bharathi would have liked to operate on the radio also, but unfortunately there is no reciprocal agreement between India and the CEPT countries, so she did not have valid permit automatically in Hungary. She sent copies of their Indian ham licenses so I could request local licenses at [NMHH](#) Telecommunication Authority. In a short while Hungarian permits were issued for them with [HA2RBI](#) and [HA2DBP](#) callsigns.



They got to Budapest on July 2<sup>nd</sup> at noon and after a short city tour we arrived to my QTH where Bharathi [came out with her HA2RBI callsign](#). After a few minutes on 20m she had huge pile up as if she was at her home QTH in New Delhi then in a short hour she logged around a hundred stations. After 6 PM my friends arrived then till late at night

we had a very good mood [VU-HA DX meeting](#) with HA5AO, HA5UK, HA5JI, HA7RY and their XYLs. We have learned [a lot about ham life in India](#) and how they organized first VU4/VU7 DX expeditions.



Prasad showed us a [CNN report](#), from which we learned how the Andaman DX expedition of 2004 was suspended after the [tsunami hit Indian Ocean](#) and how they changed their operation right away to fulfill the needs for emergency communication. The amateur station communication became vital in place of the tragedy and the CNN memorial interview well summarized the role of Indian ham radio communication.

[Guests](#) and their hosts:



[HA5UK George](#) among Indian and Hungarian women:



On July 3<sup>rd</sup> afternoon we [went to HG7T](#) contest station where we enjoyed hospitality of HA7TM Tibi's family and friends (HA5YA, HA5MY, HA0UC and HG0NAZ). We admired Tibi's



antenna farm and richly constructed station.

HA0DU Steve soon arrived and brought his QSL card collection about contacts with



our guests from home and their VU4/VU7 expeditions. It was [great to remember together](#) for the QSOs and QSL collecting practices 20 years ago.



[Bharathi sat in front of the radio](#) and similarly to previous day's pileups she was called by many stations again. We enjoyed seeing and listening her contacts. I recorded a few minute video with my phone. The video is in MP4 file format and its size is about 500Mbyte that you can download from [here](#). I held the phone vertically so please turn your screen accordingly.

On July 4<sup>th</sup> I followed HA5JI George's advice and we went on a [sightseeing City Tour](#). It was worthwhile because a well prepared English speaking guide explained the history of the city's attractions and Hungary. Back in June, I asked for advice from [HA9WM Márti](#) about the best Indian restaurants, so I had list of her recommendations. I chose the highest-rated [Maharaja restaurant](#) for our last day lunch. Bharathi and Prasad confirmed my expectations, Maharaja proved to be a very pleasant place with authentic Indian foods that I can warmly recommend to everyone. In the evening they continued their trip to Berlin by train. I am glad to be with them during the three day visit and also to have successful ham meetings and having many QSOs.

On Monday they arrived home. Bharathi said that they both had a great time in Hungary and admitted that although she had lot of hams visiting her New Delhi home and she managed Indian ham radio licenses for most of them, this was the first occasion to have ham radio license abroad and she enjoyed making QSOs with her Hungarian callsign very much.