

# NITK Surathkal hosts radio event

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Mangaluru:** NITK Surathkal organised the annual Jamboree on The Air (JOTA) event on Oct 19, at the System for Emergency Assistance, Response, and Communication Hub (SEARCH) facility.

The event was a collaborative effort between NITK's Amateur Radio Club (VU2REC) and the Mangalore Amateur Radio Club (MARC), with the aim of introducing young scouts and guides to the world of amateur radio communication. Manipal Dot Net Private Limited provided valuable support to the initiative, emphasising the significance of industry-education partnerships.

The event attracted a significant number of participants, with 157 students from local schools attending. Vishnumurthy from MARC shared his knowledge and expertise with the young enthusiasts, guiding them through the complexities of amateur radio operation. His presence underscored the collaborative spirit between NITK and the local amateur radio community.

Pruthviraj U, professor in-charge (transdisciplinary research and development) at NITK and project head of SEARCH, and KV Gangadharan, custodian of

VU2REC, along with the CSD project staff team led by Manish, organised the event. Their involvement demonstrates NITK's dedication to providing students with enriching extracurricular experiences.

As global challenges continue to rise, events like JOTA are essential in equipping the next generation with the skills necessary for effective communication during emergencies. By combining education with practical experience, NITK Surathkal is contributing to the development of a more resilient and connected community, said organizers.

The event featured a range of engaging activities, including the setup of VHF stations for long-distance communication and the use of the VU2NIW repeater station for local connections. Participants eagerly engaged in interactive sessions, filling the airwaves with songs, quizzes, riddles, and short speeches, bringing the spirit of amateur radio to life.

"The enthusiasm we saw from the schoolkids was truly inspiring," said Pruthviraj U. "It's clear that there's a strong interest in amateur radio among our local youth, which bodes well for the future of this important skill set," he added.