

FADED DREAM !

As a young ham enthralled by Ham radio,
I too had a dream!
That at least one of my little children
Would grow up and become a fine ham,
And that we would be one of the few
Father - progeny ham duo in our country.
As my son grew up into a teenager,
Began to tinker with science models
For his school exhibition, and learnt the
Morse code, I saw my dream taking shape!
When he, as a college student and SWL,
Attended a Hamfest unaccompanied by me
And told me of his active participation,
My dream began to take wings!
I thought of the 'dream ham shack'
That I would help him build, and even
Saved hard-to-get parts for his rig!
Well, that was a decade and a half ago!
The world has changed a lot since then;
With television, computer and internet
Grabbing our time and attention,
Few youngsters make it to Ham radio, and
Alas! The average age of hams is
Inexorably going up.
Today all that remains of
My faded dream is a photo showing
My son with me in my ham shack!
When nostalgic memories haunt me,
I console myself that I had better success
With a few others who are now hams!
-- R. Jayaraman, VU2JN - Nov. 2005.

