

with a fixed voltage and the resultant high or low is input to the microprocessor to determine whether a reasonably well received signal is present. If positive, the microprocessor will turn on the supply to the audio amplifier IC3, otherwise it will shut it down, a squelched condition. If CTCSS is used, then the valid sub-tone is needed to turn on the amplifier, as determined by the microprocessor. The power supply to all the relevant circuitry are controlled by the microprocessor. It turns on the power intermittently in synchronization with the LED display which blinks on and off. When the above receive condition is met, the power stays put and reception continues.

3.0 Transmitter

Refer to schematic page 2. When the PTT switch is pressed, the microprocessor turns on the power to the microphone amplifier, PLL oscillator, pre-driver Q3 and bias to driver Q2 and Q1. Audio signal enters the microphone which is amplified by op-amp and is amplitude-limited by the diode clipper D7 and D8. It then passes through three stages of RC low-pass (composed of R30,31,34 and C5,12,16,44) and fed into the VCO for FM modulation. This serves the purpose of modulation limiting. The modulated VCO is fed to pre-driver Q3 whose supply is controlled by the microprocessor and is a regulated 3-volt supply. This stabilizes the driving power into pre-driver Q2 and hence the power amplifier Q1. Q1 and Q2 have their supply directly from the batteries and are current-limited and protected by resettable fuses FUS1 and FUS2. The final amplified signal passes through the RF switch formed by PIN diode D1 and passes through a band-pass filter realized by L15 and stripline. Finally it goes through three stages of LC low-pass and to the antenna. The antenna is of helical type which has a very narrow bandwidth and provide further filtering of the signal. The DC voltages and currents of the power amplification elements are as follows:

Element	Function	Voltage	Current
Q3	pre-driver	3V	10ma
Q2	driver	4.5V	100ma
Q1	power amp	4.5V	200ma