

News & Notes

#932 A weekly bulletin for residents of Auroville 21 July 2022



The one Godhead secret in all beings, all-pervading, the inner Self of all, presiding over all action, witness, conscious knower and absolute... the One in control over the many who are passive to Nature, fashions one seed in many ways.

Swetaswatara Upanishad.

From the non-being to true being, from the darkness to the Light, from death to Immortality.

Brihadaranyaka Upanishad

The Ponder Corner



A Spiritual evolution, an evolution of consciousness in Matter in a constant developing self-formation till the form can reveal the indwelling spirit, is then the keynote, the central significant motive of the terrestrial existence. This significance is concealed at the outset by the involution of the Spirit, the Divine Reality, in a dense material Inconscience; a veil of Inconscience, a veil of insensibility of Matter hides the universal Consciousness-Force which works within it, so that the Energy, which is the first form the Force of creation assumes in the physical universe, appears to be itself inconscient and yet does the works of a vast occult Intelligence.

Man and the Evolution—Life Divine—Sri Aurobindo

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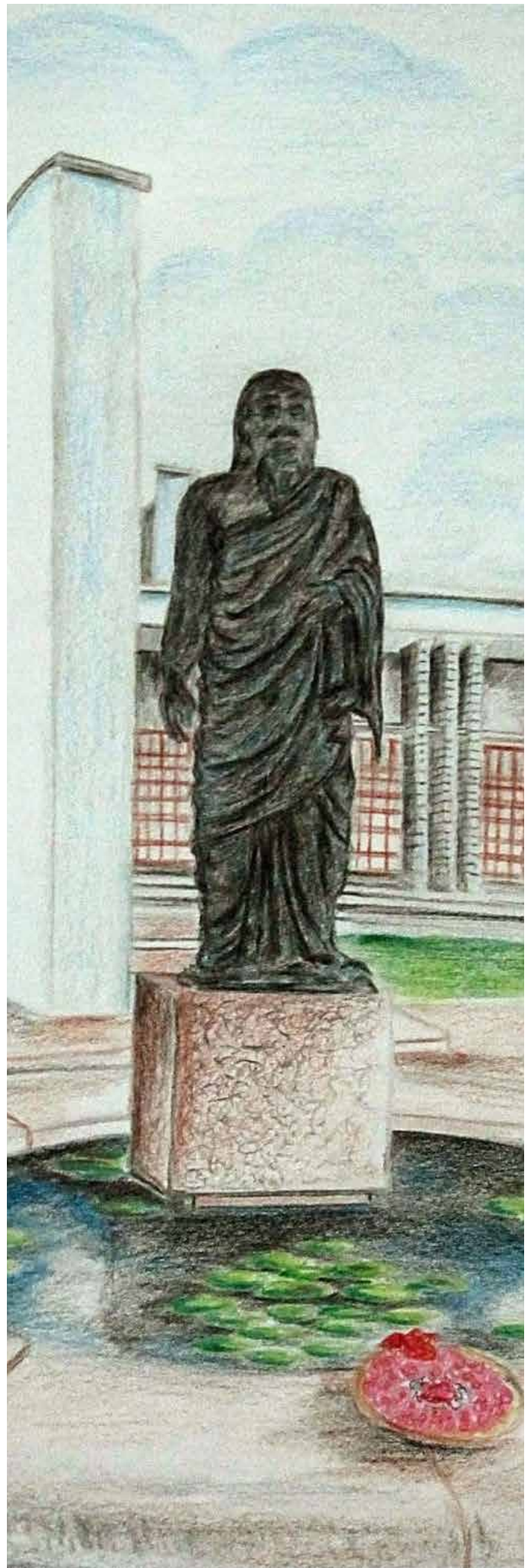
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House of Mother's Agenda

"In fifty years the whole world, all the receptive section of humanity (I am not saying intellectual, I am saying receptive), all the receptive section of the world will be embraced—not "embraced": ABSORBED in the power of Sri Aurobindo's thought.
Those who already are have the good fortune of being the first ones, that's all."

The Mother, Agenda 16 February 1972 (+ 50 years = 2022)

But all is screened, subliminal, mystical;
It needs the intuitive heart, the inward turn,
It needs the power of a spiritual gaze.
Else to our waking mind's small moment look
A goalless voyage seems our dubious course
Some Chance has settled or hazarded some Will,
Or a Necessity without aim or cause
Unwillingly compelled to emerge and be.
In this dense field where nothing is plain or sure,
Our very being seems to us questionable,
Our life a vague experiment, the soul
A flickering light in a strange ignorant world,
The earth a brute mechanic accident,
A net of death in which by chance we live.
All we have learned appears a doubtful guess,
The achievement done a passage or a phase
Whose farther end is hidden from our sight,
A chance happening or a fortuitous fate.
Out of the unknown we move to the unknown.
Ever surround our brief existence here
Grey shadows of unanswered questionings;
The dark Inconscient's signless mysteries
Stand up unsolved behind Fate's starting-line.
An aspiration in the Night's profound,
Seed of a perishing body and half-lit mind,
Uplifts its lonely tongue of conscious fire
Towards an undying Light for ever lost;
Only it hears, sole echo of its call,
The dim reply in man's unknowing heart
And meets, not understanding why it came
Or for what reason is the suffering here,
God's sanction to the paradox of life
And the riddle of the Immortal's birth in Time.
Along a path of aeons serpentine
In the coiled blackness of her nescient course
The Earth-Goddess toils across the sands of Time.
A Being is in her whom she hopes to know,
A Word speaks to her heart she cannot hear,
A Fate compels whose form she cannot see.
In her unconscious orbit through the Void
Out of her mindless depths she strives to rise,
A perilous life her gain, a struggling joy;
A Thought that can conceive but hardly knows
Arises slowly in her and creates
The idea, the speech that labels more than it lights;
A trembling gladness that is less than bliss
Invades from all this beauty that must die.
Alarmed by the sorrow dragging at her feet
And conscious of the high things not yet won,
Ever she nurses in her sleepless breast
An inward urge that takes from her rest and peace.
Ignorant and weary and invincible,
She seeks through the soul's war and quivering pain
The pure perfection her marred nature needs,

A breath of Godhead on her stone and mire.
A faith she craves that can survive defeat,
The sweetness of a love that knows not death,
The radiance of a truth for ever sure.
A light grows in her, she assumes a voice,
Her state she learns to read and the act she has done,
But the one needed truth eludes her grasp,
Herself and all of which she is the sign.
An inarticulate whisper drives her steps
Of which she feels the force but not the sense;
A few rare intimations come as guides,
Immense divining flashes cleave her brain,
And sometimes in her hours of dream and muse
The truth that she has missed looks out on her
As if far off and yet within her soul.
A change comes near that flees from her surmise
And, ever postponed, compels attempt and hope,
Yet seems too great for mortal hope to dare.
A vision meets her of supernal Powers
That draw her as if mighty kinsmen lost
Approaching with estranged great luminous gaze.
Then is she moved to all that she is not
And stretches arms to what was never hers.
Outstretching arms to the unconscious Void,
Passionate she prays to invisible forms of Gods
Soliciting from dumb Fate and toiling Time
What most she needs, what most exceeds her scope,
A Mind unvisited by illusion's gleams,
A Will expressive of soul's deity,
A Strength not forced to stumble by its speed,
A Joy that drags not sorrow as its shade.
For these she yearns and feels them destined hers:
Heaven's privilege she claims as her own right.
Just is her claim the all-witnessing Gods approve,
Clear in a greater light than reason owns:
Our intuitions are its title-deeds;
Our souls accept what our blind thoughts refuse.
Earth's winged chimaeras are Truth's steeds in Heaven,
The impossible God's sign of things to be.
But few can look beyond the present state
Or overleap this matted hedge of sense.
All that transpires on earth and all beyond
Are parts of an illimitable plan
The One keeps in his heart and knows alone.
Our outward happenings have their seed within,
And even this random Fate that imitates Chance,
This mass of unintelligible results,
Are the dumb graph of truths that work unseen:
The laws of the Unknown create the known.

(to be continued next week)

Sri Aurobindo. Savitri—A Legend and a Symbol
Book 1: The Book of Beginnings . Canto 4:
The Secret Knowledge

Townhall Speaks

NOTICE TO WHOMEVER FEELS CONCERNED

July 13 2022



**Auroville Town
Development Council**
L'avenir d'Auroville

The Auroville Foundation and the ATDC has engaged CPWD for the execution of the Crown in compliance with the NGT order.

The work has started this week and will continue for the coming months.

We request all Auroville residents, Newcomers, Volunteers, Guests and others of Auroville not to interfere with the ongoing work so that it may continue smoothly. Anything needing attention may be brought to the notice of the Auroville Town Development Council by writing to avenir@auroville.org.in.

Kind regards,

Dr. G. Seetharaman, Govind Ranjan, Hemant Shekhar, Jaya Berggreen-Clausen, M. Ponnusamy, Jothi Prasad Rajan, Sindhuja Jagadeesh, Toby Neuman
L'avenir d'Auroville / Auroville Town Development Council

SENDING YOU LOVE FOR YOUR HELP AND SUPPORT

Dearest friends, the Council wants to extend its heartfelt thank you to all who have given their time and have blessed the Council office and meeting room with their 24-hour 24/7 presence since July 2.

Without you we would not have the place that had been designated to Council, BCC, Housing Board and Entry Board for the past 20 years and our work for the Residents' Assembly would have suffered. We are sending out a prayer to all to remember that our goodwill is our guide.

With kindness and love, Auroville Council

SELECTED MEMBERS

OF THE TOWN DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Dear Community, as the freshly selected members of the Town Development Council (TDC), we are navigating this new terrain to see what our priorities should be so as to be more effective in our work. Each day poses a new challenge. We have spent the last few weeks updating ourselves with a wealth of documents and meeting people who have contributed to the development of Auroville. The list is long, and we have just begun.

In the coming weeks, we will be happy to share what we have gathered and how we think we can work together, with community participation as a base to our future development.

The events of the last few months in Auroville have made it clear that appropriate planning and implementation are indispensable to solve the present divisive situation and to help avoid similar conflicts in the future.

A brief update for now:

We met with and provided reports to the Joint Commission, assigned to the National Green Tribunal Crown road decision, to aid in getting a better outcome for Auroville.

We have made a clear statement in response to the accusation of blocking Crown road work with this letter.

We are clarifying the status of construction works near completion or indoors regarding whether they need to stop or can continue according to the NGT ruling.

The issue of illegitimate appointments by the Foundation Secretary is being progressed through the courts, and we will update you of the outcomes in conjunction with the Working Committee.

Your TDC, **Allan Bennett, Anan Skoles, Divya Lieser, Dorle Heller, Fabian Ostner, Island Lescure, Lata Iyer, Meera Natarajan, Natasha Storey, Tom Gablier**
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/11OWb8pn12H6J7k7w0Uj8cVf49F3kkggrn/view?usp=sharing>

TDC REPLY TO DR. G. SEETHARAMAN

Editor Note: This is the reply to the article "Notice To All Concerned Persons" by Dr .G Seetharaman, published in N&N 931 on 7 July 2022. This article was submitted too late for publication last week: the issue was already finalized for the press.

The below letter was written by the TDC of the RA as a reply to the accusation made by Dr .G Seetharaman, Special officer on Duty of the Auroville Foundation Office. The letter was also copied to the AVFO, Dr. Ravi, the Chairman and members of the governing board, members of the international advisory council as well as the individuals currently occupying the 2nd floor of the ACUR building.

Auroville 13 07 2022

TDC 22.004

Dear Dr. G. Seetharaman,

The allegations made by you on 12th July of residents obstructing so-called 'government works' are not based on the reality of what took place, or the relevant legal frameworks. As members of the Town Development Council (TDC) selected and authorized by the Residents' Assembly, Natasha Storey and Dorle Heller were present and asking for the work order, or any agreements or contract to show that the work being carried out was prescribed by the correct authority to execute the work and its scope. These were strangers with a JCB claiming to be contracted to build a road on Auroville property. How are we to assume the validity without a work order, proof of contract or proper accounting & governance. They repeated simple, straight forward requests that have been made in writing without any response from you or the Foundation Office Secretariat.

As Residents we have a right, even a duty, to object and challenge such activities which are not authorized, and ultimately undermine our collective work in service to the Charter. Moreover, we would like to remind you of the Resolution of the Residents' Assembly directing all bodies of the Foundation to pause work on the Crown, Ring and Radials, until appropriate plans and preparations have been made by it and agreed upon by the same.

We would also like to remind you that the NGT passed a judgment on the 28 April 2021, in which it constituted a Joint Committee that would submit a report on the Crown area stipulating the forward development of the crown road, which the Foundation is then bound to follow. This stretch of land is not simply clear of any trees, trees previously present were removed without following basic environmental practice (enshrined in law) or due processes and this should not be repeated. It is very concerning, and clearly contempt of court, that clearance and the removal of trees in Bliss forest was resumed on 13/07/22 at the request of you and those claiming to constitute the Town Development Council.

As you are aware, this stretch of land is under litigation and it would ease the tension in the community if you would be patient enough for this to be first settled and plans can be drawn up by the right authority assigned to do this task. This would truly serve, and even accelerate the physical manifestation of the City. We attach our recent report to the Governing Board, expressing our intent, advice and areas of concern as TDC.

We strongly object to the unauthorized use of TDC letterheads, as your group has not been selected or appointed to the working group of the Residents' Assembly. We are writing on behalf of residents, members of representative groups of the Residents' Assembly and volunteers who deeply care for Auroville, and will continue to do so. We are protecting Auroville, and asserting the right to build the city the earth needs in a collaborative and humane manner.

Sincerely and in Service, TDC of the RA
Allan Bennett, Anan Skoles, Dorle Heller, Divya Lieser, Fabian Ostner, Island Lescure, Lata Iyer, Meera Natarajan, Natasha Storey, Tom Gablier
and on behalf of
Aurore Mabilat, Deeptendu Sarkar, Divya Kapoor

BCC NARRATIVE REPORT: APRIL '22–JUNE '22

Dear Community, the BCC would like to share with you a narrative report of issues addressed and decisions taken in April, May and June 2022 as a complement to our monthly report of income and expenses. We hope this can increase community-wide understanding of the economic issues affecting our community that fall within the BCC's scope of work.

Community-at-large matters

- **Budget update:** The new City Services Budget (22-23) is delayed due to the present unclarity surrounding the FAMC.
- **E-Mobility:** Green Move, a recently created Auroville unit that seeks to offer e-mobility in Auroville, reached out to BCC offering to set up an MoU by which all services would use Green Move e-vehicles at set rate. The BCC replied that since there are two pre-existing units (Kinisi and ITS) offering e-mobility services, it could not create any exclusive MoUs, but rather would encourage collaborative solutions for Auroville's e-mobility needs.
- **Health Fund:** The BCC has received several requests for financial support from Aurovilians who's health expenses had not been met by the Health Fund. Meanwhile, the Health Fund has informed the BCC that in the last few months they have spent more than they receive, and are concerned that their reserves do not drop below 20L. The BCC agreed to ensure that they have at least a 20L balance by the beginning of every month. The BCC also requested the Health Fund to review their refund rates by the end of June (as projected increases need to be taken into consideration in our budgeting). The Health Fund replied that only delivery (birth) refund rates are fixed and require an increase as the costs of these have risen since they were set in the guidelines. The BCC also noted that an overall review of the Health Fund guidelines would need to be taken up (the relevant body for this would be the FAMC) and that there are gaps in our health care service sector: assistance is needed for those requiring care, and reducing the overall health care costs of Auroville needs to be explored. We have allocated Maintenances for these aspects should they be taken up.

Maintenances

- **Children's Maintenances update:** Following our announcement to units that all children of Auroville are eligible to receive a children's Maintenance, independent of the status of their parents, and that Childrens' Maintenances will no longer be considered an expense of units to be deducted from their contributions due to City Services, we received approximately 30 requests.
- **Children's Maintenances for Newcomers?** The topic of children of Newcomers becoming eligible for Childrens' Maintenances was discussed by the BCC. Given that Newcomers are requested to pay school fees for their children, BCC decided instead to waive school fees in case of financial hardship of a Newcomer, and that the parents' Individual contributions could also be waived, on a case by case basis.
- **Children's Nutrition for Auroville kids:** A joint communication was made to the community by BCC and Solar Kitchen that while children are always welcome to eat in Solar Kitchen, from the 10th of July, tiffins for school-going children will be stopped.

Management of Services

- **Maarganam Apprenticeship program:** The newly established Maarganam Apprenticeship Programme requested that 1-2 BCC members join the team. BCC members cannot be involved in all services of Auroville, and have instead sent information about the apprenticeship guidelines.
- **Solar Kitchen:** The BCC support group for Solar Kitchen (Enrica, Mahi, Sacha and Verena) together with the Solar Kitchen Management team (Manimaran, Harshini, Vanitha and Shakti) agreed to meet every 2nd Saturday of the month. Previous and appreciated members Angelo and Marc (former FAMC members) left the group. The ongoing task of the subgroup is to support Solar Kitchen management with the SK budget.

Meetings with other groups/services

BCC members have met with many services as part of the budgeting process for FY 22-23, to support them in creating and reviewing their budget requests. Other meeting included:

- **Auroville Council:** Members of the BCC were invited by the Auroville Council to meet together with members of other Working Groups on the topic of Newcomers residing outside of Auroville. No decisions were taken at this meeting.
- **Auroville Electrical Service:** The BCC invited the AVES team to present their annual budget requests (listed below) as these represented significant sums of money.
- **School Board Repairs Team:** The BCC met with the newly formed School Board Repairs team: Mahavir (Deepanam), Smiti (Last School), GK (Aha), Chris (TLC). Having such a team in place to more closely review school repair budgets has been in discussion for a couple of years, as these are collected and requested by the School Board without much knowledge of ground realities. Some buildings are new, some are old, some require technical knowledge to repair and a team is needed to look into this and guide the allocations accordingly. The School Board Repairs team proposes to have a technical team and a few people from schools to visit the different schools and recommend grants based on the repairs needed and overall budget available. The BCC is happy to learn of this development.

Service Budgets

- **Bharat Nivas** requested a budgetary increase towards diesel costs for running the generator during their performances. This is required even when there is power, because of the voltage fluctuation that would damage the sound system.
- **Land Board** requested the BCC cover their Rs. 54,640 yearly audit fee. This was approved.
- **Pitanga** requested support for covering their wages in June, during which Pitanga is closed for major repairs. This was approved.
- **Mattram:** an additional Maintenance was allocated to the Mattram budget, in addition to their existing 2 FT Maintenances.

Extra (non-recurring) budget requests

- ACUR (Town Hall) management team made a number of requests to BCC during this period:
 - Rs. 13, 379 towards painting the Entry service office. This was approved.
 - Rs. 35,000 to purchase furniture assets of the ABC installed in Town Hall. This was approved, the assets are to be added to the ACUR asset list.
 - Rs.12, 363 for generator maintenance. This was approved.
- **Aruvadai** is a new service that started out as a research project funded by City Services, looking into how to improve communication, data analysis, planning and coordination in Auroville's food sector. They requested that BCC set aside a 5 lakh 'safety net' per 6 month increment for a Food Pilot project in which Auroville farmers will grow specific crops for planned consumption by Solar Kitchen. The 'safety net' would be used in case of natural disaster resulting in crop loss (such as flooding) or the inability of Solar Kitchen to operate and therefore purchase the crops as agreed (such as in the case of a Covid lockdown). The BCC has agreed to allocate this amount alongside a list of the farms participating in the pilot, the agreement with outlets being produced for, and the guidelines for reimbursement in case the safety net funds are requested.
- **Aspiration team** requested a laptop for the Yucca programme, Rs.35,000 were approved for this purpose.
- **Auroville Ambulance** requested funds towards the purchase of a new ambulance. This is to be taken up as part of the overall budgeting process.
- **Auroville Birthday Breakfast:** Rs. 52,520 was granted to cover the expenses of the Auroville Birthday breakfast this year.

- **Auroville Electrical Service** made several annual budget requests to BCC in this period:

- 12.18L for general maintenance of electrical HT infrastructure
- 5.6L for repair and maintenance of Street Lights
- 13.5L for the conversion of street lights from DC to AC.
- 37.5L for the replacement of electrical cabling

The BCC requested AVES for clarifications and to see if some repairs could be undertaken by the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board, and if replacement of infrastructure could be funded by ATDC. So far the BCC has approved to disburse 1.5L for Maintenance and 2.5L for repairs of Street Lights.

- **Blue Light** requested Rs.50,000 for the back up of organisational Auroville mails and documents. This was approved.

- **Farms:** The BCC received a number of requests related to Farms during this period

- **Buddha Garden & Siddharta Farm:** Arbiters of the Buddha Garden & Siddharta Farm arbitration are in communication with BCC about possible costs to be covered for each farm to be able to function independently of each other.
- **Alipsa Farm** requested Rs. 26,000 to refund their broken pump repair, this was approved.
- **Manvasam Farm** requested a grant for a solar pump system. The BCC informed the steward to approach the Farm Solar team, who may have remaining funds from a donation for this purpose. Manvasam farm was granted the remaining funds, and requested the balance amount of Rs. 1, 47, 966. The BCC informed the steward that this request would be taken up as part of the overall budget for farms in the upcoming year, and asked if he would be able to start the work in the meantime. The materials were able to be purchased, avoiding any potential increase due to rising prices.
- **Farm Group** requested that BCC cover an additional Rs. 1.5L to the Rs. 3.7L already granted to cover a subsidy on the price of Auroville Farm produce. This was approved.
- **AuroOrchard** requested that the BCC cover their losses on egg sales. The BCC felt this situation should be discussed first with Farm Group, as it relates to the planning of production and sales, furthermore we would need to know the overall financial situation. This was communicated to AuroOrchard.

- **Health Centre:** A major repair is needed to the entire roof structure of the Health Centre Given that the Health Centre also has significant reserves, BCC members are in conversation with them about using reserves for the repair.

- **Kuilapalayam Creative Centre:** KCC requested a budget of Rs. 20,000 from City Services to support a Field Trip as part of the Summer Camp they held in May. This was approved.

- **Land Board:** The BCC approved a budget of Rs.4L prepared by the Land Board's towards fencing encroached Auroville land in Eternity.

- **La Piscine:** La Piscine is in need of significant repair, estimated at a total of Rs. 27L. The La Piscine shared that they need 6.35L to start the repair, as they had already fundraised 12.5L and required a minimum of 18.85L to begin. The BCC agreed to grant 6.5L to enable the work to begin, and to assist La Piscine in raising the remaining funds by listing them on a recommended specified contributions list to City Services contributors. La Piscine has since decided to postpone the large part of the repair in order to allow the pool to stay open in summer, when it is most used.

- **Pitanga** requested Rs. 3.77L to repair the leaking roof and floor. This was approved.

- **Residents' Assembly Service:** The RAS requested Rs. 65,000 for a new voting software system. This was approved.

- **Residents' Service** requested an AC Unit be installed in their office, Rs. 39,000 was approved for this purpose. An additional Rs. 15-20,000 was requested to retrofit the office for AC (changing the existing door as well as putting glass on a small window). Rs 2000 was approved for the necessary retrofitting of a window.

- **Road Service** requested Rs.141,600 towards thermoplastic paint for speed breakers. This was approved.

- **Prosperity Area:** Rs. 88.775 was requested for generator improvement for the entire Prosperity (SK) area. This was approved.

- **School Summer Repairs:** A total of Rs. 12, 75, 473 was approved towards repair costs for 10 Auroville schools, and a total of Rs. 8, 89, 121 towards repair costs of 10 Auroville Outreach schools, at the request of the School Board.

- **Solar Kitchen Tour:** Rs. 1.8L was approved for the Solar Kitchen team to go on tour (to Kodaikanal) this year, as a team-building event given the big transition that happened in the service this year.

- **Talam** submitted a proposal for software development for Savi and the Guest Registration Service, to maintain proper records of volunteers and guests. This request was referred to the Working Committee.

- **Tamil New Year:** A budget of 2.5 lakh was requested for Tamil New Year celebrations this year. Rs. 75,000 was granted, which is 3x what was granted in 2019 (pre-lock-down).

- **Yuvabe** offered to develop ERP software for Auroville (farms, solar kitchen, ptps etc.). The BCC believes this would be valuable as existing management software is becoming outdated and the need for these is growing. As such a software would be an asset of Auroville (similar to ACARAT), the proposal was sent to the FAMC for review and follow up.

BCC Finance

- **Savitri Bhavan Hostel** requested a waiver of guest contributions who were residing as volunteers. BCC agreed to reduce the contribution to minimum Rs. 30 per day (equal to 900/month contribution for registered volunteers), instead of Rs. 150 per day Guest contribution.

- **Auroville Art Camp:** The contribution waiver request from Auroville Art Camp was approved, as it is not a profit-making initiative.

Internal BCC team updates

- **BCC Software Development:** The BCC has been collaborating with Vasanth (Yuvabe) and Avinash (BCC Resource Person) to develop a programme and application for its budget request and approval process, as well as a programme and application for the process of calculating and recording contributions due and received to City Services.

- **BCC collaborating with a PhD researcher:** The BCC is happy to collaborate with Cansu Gurkaya, a PhD student carrying out research on Auroville's economy, specifically its organisational employees, and have shared relevant data with Cansu for the sole purposes of her research. We look forward to better understanding Auroville's economy as a result of her study.

- **Resignation of a BCC member:** Mathan resigned as member of the BCC in June 2022, following a TOS period starting on April 1st 2022. Mathan joined the BCC as a member in June 2021, after serving the FAMC in an administrative role. We appreciate Mathan's participation in Auroville's organisation and wish him the best for his next steps.

REGISTER OF RESIDENTS SUBMISSIONS NOW CLOSED

Dear Residents, this is to inform you that the final submission date for filling in the register of residents (RoR) was on the 15 of July. Currently the submissions have been closed for collating the forms into the Register of Resident database. End of April the Governing Board via the OSD Dr Seetharaman put out the circular for updating the register of residents, and since then an all-out effort was undertaken to reach out to all the residents of Auroville to help them to fill in the forms. The forms had been made available online and as well as in 3 languages: English, Tamil and French. The forms were published on Auronet and massbulletin several times as well as a reminder to residents to fill them up. Additionally hard copies were available at the Foundation Office's help desk for those that needed assistance to fill them up. Lastly, many of the Working Committee members together with Foundation Office personnel went out in the evening to several communities to assist those who may have difficulties filling in the forms themselves.

Tine, for the Working Committee

AUROVILLE RESIDENTS SKILL DIRECTORY

There is a long-time need for a Skills Directory of Residents of Auroville. This Directory, easily accessible, would allow any Working Group, Service, Activity and/or individual in Auroville to quickly reach out to a skilled person.



Irrespective of the field of expertise (be it Environment, Ecology, Health, Education, Farming, Agriculture, Architecture, Urban Planning, Geology, Forestry, IT, Economy, etc), this Directory could help any specific project, at any stage of its development, to find competent individuals.

If you are skilled in any field, please, help us bridge the needs with the resources in our community, by sending us some information about you: Name, Contact, Community, Experience, Skills (and endorsements, similar to LinkedIn), etc.

Soon we will update you on the frame/shape this Directory will be (app, website, hard copy, etc).

Please, write to Laurence (Baraka) who is the contact person for this project: ldejunnemann@gmail.com

For the Residents' Assembly Service
Dan, Giovanni P, Sathish A, Tatiana S
raservice@auroville.org.in, ras.auroville.org.in

RAS—SELECTION PROCESS 2002 FAQ

(ver. 1—July 2022)

1. Was there the required number of selectors throughout the selection process?

Yes, there was the required number of selectors throughout the process as stipulated in the PWG (Participatory Working Groups) document, Part 4, ch.4. *"In case any member of the Selection Group resigns or for any other reason is unable to attend the entire process, the work can continue if at least 24 selectors, 6 per group and at least 3 teams remain."*

Our detailed report published recently to the community on the Selection Process held will give enough evidence to this fact.

• **Here's the full report:**

- [auroville.org.in users](http://auroville.org.in/users)
- [others](#)

On the eve of the preparation session (training), June 17, we had a list of 40+ residents (which is over the required number) who agreed to participate in the process as selectors. The next day, during the training workshop, 31 selectors attended and were registered.

We had 28 selectors at the selection sessions for AVC, WCom; 26 for ATDC; 27 for FAMC; 25 for EB. There are witnesses and written records that the number of selectors has never dropped below the minimum outlined by the PWG (Part 3, ch. 7).

2. Were candidates selected to be a Working Group member in contradiction with the PWG document because they did not participate in the interviews?

The question of whether a candidate could be considered to be chosen for a Working Group in the absence of attending an in person or virtual interview was raised by the Selectors.

Under PWG document, Part 6, there is no explicit reference to disqualifying a candidate due to not attending the interview, hence, the RAS responded to the Selectors to take the liberty to make their own decision on it during the process in their respective teams.

This concern/feedback has been recorded by the RAS and we will add it to the feedback list and hand it over to Auroville Council for the policy improvement.

3. Was the Selection Process non-transparent?

The process was conducted for the first time since its approval by the RA. The RAS followed the process as much as possible in compliance with the Residents' Assembly approved PWG document from Part 3, section 1 to 9.

The PWG document went through due community process and feedback integration by reaching to the wider community in a transparent manner through the RA Decision making process. Ample amount of time for all the residents was given equally to express their feedback on the process before it was finally approved and implemented.

Like any policy/document in our community, this document also has room for improvement as a sign of continued progress in our collective organisation.

4. Was the Selection Committee secretive and unknown to the community?

It's perceived by some residents that the community was kept blind and was not informed about the Selection Committee and that it was kept secret, forgetting that the approved PWG document didn't specify anywhere that the names of the Selectors were to be made public prior or during the selection event.

However, for transparency, the list of Selectors were revealed to the community in our detailed report.

This concern/feedback has been recorded by the RAS and we will add it to the feedback list and hand it over to Auroville Council for the policy improvement.

5. Was the feedback period on candidates held only for 2 days (48 hours) between announcement of candidates and the final selection?

No, It was a 2 week feedback period open call to the community as usual. The feedback call and announcement was announced on 10th of June and ended on 24th of June.

• Here's one of the references to the announcement in Auronet: <https://auroville.org.in/article/91514>

6. Did any Selector become candidates and chose themselves during the process?

It's self-explanatory from the detailed report we've published to the community that the Selectors and Candidates remained in their role throughout the process and that there were no such cases as referred falsely by some residents with no supporting factual information.

• **Here's the full report:**

- [auroville.org.in users](http://auroville.org.in/users)
- [others](#)

7. Did the RAS not respect the established rules and guidelines of the RA for selecting Working Group members?

Not that we are aware of any such incidents to the best of our knowledge, however, we are happy to clarify provided residents bring in factual information supporting their accusation.

8. On members being selected for Working Group's with less than 5 years of living in Auroville.

Except for FAMC and Entry Board, there's no such criteria of minimum living in Auroville to be a Working Group member. The newly selected FAMC and Entry Board members fall well within this criteria.

9. How was the Selection Group formed?

According to the PWG document, Part 3, ch. 4: *"From Aurovilians on the Master List, 40 names will be drawn completely at random. To get 40 volunteers, it is understood that it is necessary to randomly pick a larger number of names from the register of community members (more than 100, depending on the response)"*.

We did get the required number of selectors after sending emails and sms, making phone calls to 400 randomly selected Aurovilians.

This random selection of the Selection Group was witnessed by 3 residents that were randomly invited from Le Morgan, Town Hall area.

Interestingly, a resident who publicly mentioned that this was a totally secretive and unknown "Selection Committee" was also invited to witness the process and he refused to witness it and instead chose to criticize the process now.

10. Was this Selection Process created by RAS?

No, RAS did not create this new procedure; RAS is only the process holder and implementer.

Some residents either ignore conveniently the facts of how and who formulated this procedure, that was duly communicated to the community, or they are completely unaware of it. Hence, we'll recap on this over here briefly.

A Selection Process Review Task Force (SPRTF) was formed by making an open call in the community in October 2021 by Auroville Council.

• Here's the announcement:

- <https://auroville.org.in/article/87059>

Several residents applied to be part of this Task Force in November 2021. The SPRTF, as formed and announced to the community, was composed of the following members:

Jaya (Sunship), Jean-François (Sharnga), Martin (Samridhi), Philippe (Kalpana), Sanjeev (Mir), Saravanan (La Ferme) and Selvaraj (Aspiration).

• Here's the announcement of it:

- <https://auroville.org.in/article/87250>

Some members voluntarily left the task-force and the final members who were continuing the procedure draft creation for community approval were: Jean-François (Sharnga), Martin (Samridhi), Philippe (Kalpana) and Sanjeev (Mir).

This selection procedure went through due community process and feedback integration by reaching to the wider community in a transparent manner through the RA Decision making process. Ample amount of time for all the residents was given equally to express their feedback on the process before it was finally approved and implemented.

We request residents to share critical feedback when it's needed, instead of choosing to criticize it when implemented.

11. On selected Working Group members having criminal court cases against them.

It was not the role of the RAS to check these records and disqualify a candidate but rather of the Selection Group following the community feedback, as prescribed in the selection procedure.

12. What happened with the Entry Board selection?

RAS is not responsible for deciding the terms of office of Working Groups' members. We ask the relevant WGs to communicate their vacancies. For the Entry Board, we followed the indication given to us by this group. Later, upon request of one member for the Entry Board, the AV Council and the Working Committee looked into the Admission and Termination Regulations, Entry Policy and PWG, and informed us of their final decision the same day the Selection Group was selecting the new Entry Board members—see the statement of the AVC and WCom dt. 25.06.2022.

UPDATE AND REPORT FROM WCOM

From 27 June to 15 July 2022

Dear friends, the situation in Auroville continues to be unsettling, and calls for our collective efforts at nurturing our inner peace and deep aspiration. We would like to share with you an update on recent events, as well as a summary of some recent actions. Please note that all letters and reports that are mentioned here are available with us in our temporary work space in the old Koodam office opposite the Auroville Library, and can be read there by interested residents every weekday (Monday through Friday) from 3 to 4pm.

Meetings of the new Working Committee team

The new Working Committee team had its first meeting on Monday 27th June, together with some of the interim members from the previous team. Since then, the new members have been getting into the workflow and are actively participating in the daily tasks of the Working Committee. We would like to extend once again our gratitude to the organizing team of the selection process (including the Residents' Assembly Service), as well as to the selection teams / participants who have committed themselves to an intense three-days process. We also would like to extend our gratitude to Elisa, Gilles and Juergen for having served as interim members in spite of the intense times Auroville is experiencing.

Joint meetings with other Working Groups of the Residents' Assembly

In the past two weeks, the Working Committee has had three joint meetings with members of the four other newly-selected groups (Auroville Council, Entry Board, FAMC and TDC) to discuss topics of common concern. A brief report of our first meeting was shared with the community in the News and Notes in Issue number 930, dated July 13th.

New team for Police Liaison

To assist the Working Committee with its work, a team of resource persons and employees dedicated to Police Liaison has been created. The Auroville Safety & Security Team (AVSST) has been informed of these appointments and continues to be the body to contact by residents for all safety and security matters, including those involving the police. (AVSST emergency number: 94430 90107.) We remind all Aurovilians to be cooperative and respectful in case of Police visits and interactions.

Additional liaison teams are being created and will be announced in due time.

60th Governing Board meeting

A letter has been sent on 7 July to the Chairman and Members of the Governing Board, suggesting that the forthcoming meetings of the Governing Board should ideally take place after the ruling of the honorable Madras High Court, to avoid taking any decisions of sub judice which could affect any of the matters that are presently in court, including the functioning of the Residents' Assembly or the groups and committees constituted by it. (This letter is available with us.)

In spite of our letter, we came to know that the 60th Governing Board meeting was scheduled for the 11 & 12 July through an AuroNet announcement from a group of residents claiming to be the 'Working Committee' despite being removed from office by a decision of the Residents' Assembly. The duly-selected Working Committee of the Residents' Assembly was not invited to participate in the 60th meeting of the Governing Board, and nor were the other Working Groups of the Residents' Assembly. This is in spite of a letter sent to the Governing Board on 28 June informing them about the outcome of the recent selection

process, and a letter sent to the Chairman on 9 July reaffirming the same. (These letters are available with us.)

The Working Committee has nevertheless written to the Governing Board on 9 July, requesting once more to be given time to interact with the Governing Board. This letter also included reports and communications from the FAMC of the RA and the TDC selected by the RA, as well as observations and questions on the Minutes of the 59th Meeting of the Governing Board. A communication from the Auroville Council followed shortly. This letter, and these reports and communications were posted on Auronet on the 10 July and are also available with us. None of the Working Groups of the Residents' Assembly have been received by the Governing Board in their 60th Meeting. To date, no reply or acknowledgement to any of our communications has been received.

Office Orders of dubious legality

As many may already be aware, the Office of the Secretary has recently been issuing several Office Orders of dubious legality to dismiss and/or appoint some executives of units and services, as well as working group members who were selected through processes ratified by the Residents' Assembly, without consultation with the relevant working groups of the RA and without following due process. The Working Committee disapproves of any change of unit / service managers or executives which would not follow due process and involve both the relevant trustees and the FAMC of the Residents' Assembly. In a letter sent on 1 July, we have appealed to the Chairman of the Governing Board to halt this unprecedented and illegitimate abuse of power from the Office of the Secretary. (This letter is available with us.) To date, no reply nor acknowledgement has been received.

Update on court cases

As has been previously announced, the Working Committee of the Residents' Assembly has filed a Writ Petition in the Madras High Court. The first hearing took place on the 13 June, and hearings are still ongoing. We will keep the community updated on the outcome and decision from the Court.

We are also aware that three other court cases are ongoing, which have been filed by Auroville residents, in regards to the Auroville Outreach Media, as well as the appointments by the Office of the Secretary to the TDC and FAMC.

Creation of a Media Cell

In order to fulfill communication needs, both internal and external, we are establishing Communication and Media Liaison support teams for the Working Committee of the Residents' Assembly. These liaison teams will work on multiple media and direct communication channels to gather and integrate the views of different residents and working groups. This is needed to ensure that the voice of the Residents' Assembly of Auroville and its bona fide working groups is represented within internal communication platforms and towards any external agency or media platform. The Media Liaison team will interface with external print, digital and broadcasting channels to provide accurate and diverse perspectives of the Auroville residents. The team will consist of Anita Gaur, Divya Lieser, Fabienne Maréchal and will be assisted by several additional resource persons. The Working Committee is looking for additional people who are willing to help with this very important task. Communication and liaison work within the community will be assisted by Jurgen Axer and Gilles Guigan, as well as several others. If there are any communication skills that you would like to offer, please contact us.

Further censorship of [@auroville.org.in](#) email IDs

As previously reported, most communication platforms of the Working Groups of the Residents' Assembly have been taken over, such as the massbulletin, Auronet group accesses or group email addresses. Other means of communication, including the Compats (a long-established email forum consisting mostly of early pioneers of Auroville and other well-wishers of Auroville) and the Auroville International mailing list, have also been taken out of the hands of the residents who had been diligently managing them for the past decades.

In the past weeks, a number of residents have informed the Working Committee that they were unable to reach [@auroville.org.in](#) email IDs or that they were blocked from accessing their personal [@auroville.org.in](#) email accounts. Not only are the Working Groups unable to reach many residents, but residents have also been blocked from reaching essential Auroville services. Additionally, since 8 July, Shared Drives and Drive folders created under the [auroville.org.in](#) domain can no longer be shared with other email IDs such as Gmail. This severely impacts the work of many Auroville units and services.

We are looking into the matter and hope to regularise the situation but this may take some time. Meanwhile, we extend once again our invitation to switch from your [@auroville.org.in](#) email ID to another domain such as Gmail.com, and to include yourself in the new massbulletin group by filling up the form that was earlier shared by the Auroville Council. This way you will be able to continue receiving important communications and announcements, and this will allow you to communicate and share files with people of your choice without being restricted or censored.

Creation of new email addresses: [@auroville.services](#)

A number of essential services and working groups have already created an [@auroville.services](#) email address, such as:

- Auroville Council: avcouncil@auroville.services
- FAMC: famc@auroville.services
- TDC: tdc@auroville.services
- Working Committee: workingcom@auroville.services
- RAS: raservice@auroville.services
- BCC: bcc@auroville.services

We invite other essential services which would like to create a new email address to contact the Auroville Council or the Working Committee at the above email addresses.

Weekly open house

Every Tuesday from 10am to 12noon, Working Committee members and resource persons will be welcoming community members at the old Koodam office (previously Kailash clinic, on the crown road opposite to the Library). All residents are welcome to ask questions, share ideas and discuss the challenges and opportunities that Auroville is currently facing.

For administrative procedures, please visit us at the old Koodam office Monday through Friday, from 9:30 to 4:30, and Saturday from 9:30 to 12:30.

We trust that through a collective effort and aspiration, Auroville can get out of the impasse in which it currently finds itself, and take a leap towards its true realization.

*In community,
your Working Committee
Aravinda, Bharathy, Chali,
Hemant, Maël, Sauro, Valli*

FROM THE ENTRY SERVICE—ES # 141

Dated: 21-07-2022

The following people have been recommended by the Entry Board to join our community. Please share your feedback within 2 weeks for potential Newcomers, Associates and Friends of Auroville and within 4 weeks for Potential Aurovilians, Returning Aurovilians, Youth and Spouse/Partner of an Aurovillian in writing to entryservice@auroville.org.in. We thank you in advance.

NEWCOMER ANNOUNCED:

- Palanivel RANGASAMY (Indian) staying in Azhagu Bhoomi Forest and working at Flame Pottery
- Sathish KUMARESAN (Indian) Staying in Samarpan Community and working at Samarpan Guest House
- Veeramani VISHWAKETHU (Indian) staying in Kalpana and working at AV Consulting



Palanivel



Sathish

NEWCOMER CONFIRMED:

- Lukesh Bharath MOORTHY (Indian)
- Parthiban IYANAR (Indian)
- Tommaso D'AVANZO (Italian)



Veeramani

AUROVILIAN CONFIRMED:

- Marzia LOCHIS aka Samantha (Italian)

NOTE: The Newcomer probation year becomes effective only after the NC kit has been returned and should not exceed 18 months from the date of confirmation. A Newcomer becomes an Aurovillian once his/her name has been confirmed by The Admission Committee (aka the Entry Board) after following due process.

The date of becoming Aurovillian is the date of confirmation. An Aurovillian confirmed by the Entry Board is eligible to participate in all community decision-making processes.

A confirmed Aurovillian becomes officially a Resident of Auroville once the individual has filled in and signed the B-Form and his/her name has been entered in the Register of Residents (RoR) maintained by the Auroville Foundation Office (AVF).

A Resident of Auroville is eligible to become an executive of a Unit or Service of Auroville and to get an ID card issued by the Auroville Foundation.

A meeting with the Secretary of the AVF will be arranged by the Entry Secretariat according to the availability of the Secretary and not at any personal request.

Yours, The Entry Service

APARTMENT FOR HOUSE TRANSFER

Dear Community, an asset is currently available for transfer: **Prarthna, PRA012, Couple & Single**

To apply, please click on the new "Houses Available" button in the very right column of the AuroNet main page.

You will be directed to our Housing Transfer App at

<https://housing.auroville.org.in>

All you need to do is:

- click on the transfer you are interested in,
- view all the details and pictures of the asset for transfer and if you wish to apply,
- click on the "Apply" button and fill in the online application form.

Once the indicated deadline for applying has passed, you will receive an email from Housing Transfer with the date for the site visit.

For any questions, please feel free to come and see Venkatesh at Housing Service Office

*Thank you, The Housing Service,
K. Venkatesh & Amy.L*

Community News

AUROVILLE MATTERS

PASSING ON: SHRADDHAVAN



This is to inform the community that Shradhdhavan of Savitri Bhavan left her body in the Sri Aurobindo's Nursing Home where she had been taken several weeks ago. She was just 80 years old. In November 1970 she came to Pondicherry and met the Mother who accepted her for Auroville.

Shradhdhavan has been with us since 1971 and was the initiative taker of Savitri Bhavan and its main guiding force. Further details and obituary will follow as and when they reach us.

*Our prayers go with her
OM*

Shradhdhavan

Shree Krishna, Himself has pronounced the term 'Shradhdhavan' (Adorer) while narrating the Bhagavad Gita.

'The one who performs Bhakti is a Bhakta. However, we must not forget that the one who remains within the Devotion Sentience (Bhaktibhav Chaitanya) is the real Bhakta that is—the 'Shradhdhavan'.



Shradhdhavan is the Sanskrit name given in June 1972 by the Mother to an English woman who joined Auroville in 1970. After studying English Language and Literature at Bristol University in the U.K. She traveled extensively in Europe, Asia and Australia before coming to Auroville, where she lived ever since, playing the role as an educator, translator, editor and writer. Several of her poems, stories, essays and book reviews have been published in the Ashram Journal Mother India as well as in Heritage magazine. Since August 1999 she had been the Project Coordinator of Savitri Bhavan, a Centre of Sri Aurobindo and The Mother Studies which is a unit of SAIER (Sri Aurobindo International Institute of Educational Research). She edited the Savitri Bhavan's journal, Invocation: study notes on Savitri and led study courses on Savitri and The Life Divine.

We dream of an environment in Auroville

*We dream of an environment in Auroville
that will breathe the atmosphere of Savitri
that will welcome Savitri lovers
from every corner of the world
that will be an inspiring center of Savitri studies
that will house all kinds of materials and activities
to enrich our understanding and enjoyment
of Sri Aurobindo's revelatory epic.
that will be the abode of Savitri,
the Truth that has come from the Sun.*

*Shradhdhavan (for Invocation journal)
submitted by Uma Melin*

AUROVILLE'S SELF-GOVERNANCE:**A TALK BY KIREET JOSHI**

Thursday, 21 July, 5:30pm, SAIER Conference Room



Join us for this inspiring, hour-long talk by Kireet Joshi on the Self-governance of Auroville.

Recorded in 2003, it is highly relevant for today's challenges and gives us hope and guidance for the way forward.

All Are Welcome!

also to stay on for sharing and discussion after the talk...

Confluence team—seeking deeper resonance and common ground in the community,
confluence-logistics@auroville.org.in

GRATITUDE

Dear Auroville family, with the overwhelming joy and deep sense of unity experienced on the Saturday evening, 16th July, we are writing this note of gratitude to all who rendered your presence, joined hands for the preparations, supported with resources, extended support in spirit and the beautiful grace showered on our big family as a divine blessing. There were over 1000 of

us that shared the beautiful space. It was felt by many that it was a moment of healing, a renewed connection and an opportunity to see and greet the members of our bigger Auroville family. The grace showered on us in the form of rain had brought all of us closer.

We aimed at organizing this event with the collective spirit of Auroville, through in-kind support, completely utilizing Auroville's resources (except few) and moreover as environment friendly as possible. All the tasks for the preparation of this event and post event on ground were completely done by Aurovilians. In the light of making it environment friendly, shuttle service for collective transportation in different routes was organized; efforts were made to cut down plastics and use reusable materials in the event. As a result, we could reduce the waste to a total of only 3 kgs of plastics and 19 kgs of paper and cardboards from the whole event.

With a diverse range of home cooked food from different cuisines, the sense of sharing and joy resonated all over the place. We wanted to take us all through a time travel experience and highlight the values in our collective processes. In that light, we screened a movie from the 90s and a compilation of interviews from Aurovilians on 'What is Auroville for them?' which was followed by the screening of a teaser video of the recent 'Dream weaving process for the Crown'. It was also announced that there will be a follow up session on Dream weaving process later where more details of the process will be presented and discussed.

We again extend our special thanks to all the Auroville services, units, eateries and individuals who supported with their good will and resources for organizing this event. There was a strong feeling that a deep sense of togetherness and joy was taken home by all the residents.

With sincere aspiration to strengthen the unity in our community, we offer it all to HER.

With love,

Your brothers and sisters of Auroville family

Anand, Aropriya, Aurosugan, Bharathy, Dinagar,
 Ganesh, Induja, Krishnaraju, Murali, Padmanabhan,
 Prakash, Raj, Ramanan, Satya, Senthil, Uma, Vadivel,
 Valli and others

WHO IS THE FORCE BEHIND AUROVILLE?

"The One whom we adore as the Mother is the divine Conscious Force that dominates all existence, one and yet so many-sided that to follow her movement is impossible even for the quickest mind and for the freest and most vast intelligence. The Mother is the consciousness and force of the Supreme and far above all she creates. ...

All the scenes of the earthplay have been like a drama arranged and planned and staged by her with the cosmic Gods for her assistants and herself as a veiled actor.

The Mother not only governs all from above but she descends into this lesser triple universe. Impersonally, all things here, even the movements of the Ignorance, are herself in veiled power and her creations in diminished substance, her Nature-body and Nature-force, and they exist because, moved by the mysterious fiat of the Supreme to work out something that was there in the possibilities of the Infinite, she has consented to the great sacrifice and has put on like a mask the soul and forms of the Ignorance. But personally too she has stooped to descend here into the Darkness that she may lead it to the Light, into the Falsehood and Error that she may convert it to the Truth, into this Death that she may turn it to godlike Life, into this world-pain and its obstinate sorrow and suffering that she may end it in the transforming ecstasy of her sublime Ananda. In her deep and great love for her children she has consented to put on herself the cloak of this obscurity, condescended to bear the attacks and torturing influences of the powers of the Darkness and the Falsehood, borne to pass through the portals of the birth that is a death, taken upon herself the pangs and sorrows and sufferings of the creation, since it seemed that thus alone could it be lifted to the Light and Joy and Truth and eternal Life. This is the great sacrifice called sometimes the sacrifice of the Purusha, but much more deeply the holocaust of Prakriti, the sacrifice of the Divine Mother."

Sri Aurobindo's The Mother, Chapter 6

https://sri-aurobindo.in/workings/sa/25/on_the_mother_sabcl_25_e.htm

These few rays of revelation from Sri Aurobindo of the Supreme Divine Consciousness-Force behind Auroville, whom we are constantly reminded in our Charter to be willing servitors of, already gives a potent insight to any individual who wishes to understand the enormity of the forces involved in the progressive development of this City of Dawn, the cradle of the marvellous promise of an eventual Life Divine on Earth, not just for a few, but for all.

For anyone who wishes to participate in this laboratory of evolution in however one feels like individually, it is highly recommended to contemplate deeply the whole book for a truly integral understanding of the meaning and purpose of Auroville and of our very lives, as Sri Aurobindo and The Mother have patiently reminded us all of our actions and their effects, and quite succinctly in Chapter 1:

"The Supreme demands your surrender to her, but does not impose it: you are free at every moment, till the irrevocable transformation comes, to deny and to reject the Divine or to recall your self-giving, if you are willing to suffer the spiritual consequence."

Zech. 2022.07.04

PS: Here are the missing links to last week's post 'What Then Shall Be Our Ideal?'

The Mother, page 363, Words of the Mother– I:

https://sri-aurobindo.co.in/workings/ma/13/vol_13_e.pdf

Sri Aurobindo, pages 144-147,

Essays in Philosophy and Yoga:

https://sri-aurobindo.co.in/workings/sa/37_13/essays_in_philosophy_and_yoga_13_1_e.pdf

OCEAN FESTIVAL AT BHARAT NIWAS



It has been a grand experience for your young creative people who came from different parts of India. Festival had one location 6 days 20 plus events over Five days. Biggest take away has been that out station students experienced it as life changing. Pondicherry tourism development corporation launching Ocean festival in Pondy. Many hotels as partners. Twenty-

three volunteers from Auroville joined Pondicherry tourism development corporation for Beach Cleaning.

Student's work was presented at the Ocean festival Exhibition. Even The ocean clean-up from the Netherlands showing up! Many design colleges have taken the ocean as a theme in curriculum as general elective. Many schools around Auroville and Pondicherry. Tamil Nadu participated in the festival through sending their poster which was part of the gallery.

For Students came from all different of India, it was great experience to come together and participate

Did Aurovilians participate? —“NO”.

Ocean Festival participants and guests did not see them. Ocean has been an international theme from the UN for recent years. Biggest take away has been 'out station' students experience as life changing. Local school children's participation. Pondicherry tourism development corporation did an ocean festival in Pondy. Many hotels or Ocean based activity came forward as partners. even The ocean clean-up from the Netherlands showing up!

Ocean festival has been a great step towards resilient ecology and the future. Event was funded by Community support to the Tsunamiika project.

Special thanks to Bharat Nivas for Venue. Neem tree for Food support for guest Students. Auroville school transport for Bus service. Upasana and Her Creative Team. Pooja from Studio-8 from Bangalore. Shreen and Kala from Chennai. All creative people from all over India..

Musicians—Swaram, Gauwli Band, Kirtana and Shank. Marco and Anurag for images and video. Mitra Team for being handy support.

- See more at Insta: [tsunamiika_](#)
- Facebook: [tsunamiika.alivingsymbol](#)

• Ocean Drive needs you!

Thank you, Asha Gupta from pondicherry Tourism Caveri
Love and regards, Uma Prajapati

“GRATITUDE FARMS” OFFERING TO AUROVILLE

Organic Farming is no longer a choice



There are close to 30 farms in Auroville, covering approximately 400 acres of farming land. The yields from Auroville farms cover approx. 15% of the requirements. This is general information. Clearly there are farms in Auroville, which participate to a much higher extent.

Sri Aurobindo ashram farm in comparison covers 85 % of the requirements on vegetables, fruits, grains, oil and jaggery, and 100% of dairy. Ashram farm has also a hierarchical structure of decision making. The decisions are made and executed rapidly. They have no long meetings and only day to day discussions. Here is an informative video of 10 minutes about it.

In the light of these numbers, one can see that there is a lot of potential for AV farms to grow and to cover the needs of the community to a higher extent. Clearly, there are many difficulties, but there are also solutions.

Last week simultaneously several individuals came forward with interesting practical proposals on how to improve the production in Auroville.

The project presented below could be a real game-changer for Auroville's agriculture and the farmers.

Major Sharma and the project of “Gratitude Farms”

A retired officer Major Sharma sincerely offered his help to Auroville in collaboration with the FAMC and the secretary Dr. Jayanti Ravi. Being a devotee of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother, Mr. Sharma is very grateful to support Auroville's growth and the farmers with his expertise. He is running together with his daughter a very successful project of organic farming and fruit forests, called the “Gratitude Farms”.

1. High-yield Organic Farms

The first goal set and achieved by the “Gratitude Farms” is to achieve very high yields per acre and financial profitability.

• Food Forest Model (Per Acre Per Year)

- 80-100 Fruit trees
- 10, 000+ vegetables plants in 3 cycles
- 12,000+ greens and herbs
- 10 Tons of Biomass converted into rich vermicompost

The assistant of Major Sharma was quite surprised to hear about the 15% coverage of the needs of the community by AV farms. Their model shows that depending on the quality of land, in a maximum of 6 months, any land can be made fertile and highly productive after one year, and increasingly better with every following year thanks to traditional farming methods.

All surplus can be solar dried to prevent food loss / waste and in some cases it is even more financially beneficial than selling fresh items; dried foods can be stored for at least 6 month.

2. Gratitude Farms could help AV by sharing their knowledge and expertise in:

- 1. Production; 2. Knowledge; 3. Designing pilot projects; 4. Education, Discipline & Monitoring; 5. Yield per acre will improve; 6. Assessment of land, what can be grown there and what are the requirements; 7. Marketing and sales, premium stores and markets.

Marketing is a great challenge for every farmer. Gratitude Farms have worked out the ways to solve it, so the farmers can concentrate on production.

Mr. Sharma will be soon offering courses and training for everyone interested in Auroville, farmers and those who'd like to learn it or use some available garden space for personal needs. All related events will be announced by FAMC on Auronet and News and Notes.

3. Organic and traditional farming—to heal the land

“Organic farming is no longer a choice. Organic farming can be done from 1 sq ft space to any size of land. Whether you are living in a city, town or a village you can convert any piece of land into an organic farm, organic kitchen garden or organic food forest.”

Mr. Sharma mentioned that in the conference on the agriculture of Tamil Nadu, it was said that if the farmers continue to use common chemicals and pesticides, in a few decades the 27 of 31 districts of Tamil Nadu, the farmlands will be not possible to use any longer.

As of now, in the whole India less than 3% of farms are treated naturally. The demand for organic products is exponentially growing, as only less than 3% of farms provide such products.

Not only organic farming, as practiced by “Gratitude farms”, can become financially beneficial. It also heals and rescues the land from becoming unusable. Through traditional and organic farming, the soil is not exhausted, but becomes richer with every passing year and brings higher and higher harvests.

He mentioned that they study and teach traditional methods coming from as far as from the Vedic knowledge, which gets almost forgotten. He gave a very interesting example. They use natural anti-pest treatments. One can save 2/3 of it and have a much greater pest control, by applying it on two specific nights of the month. This proves the prime usefulness of the traditional knowledge of India.

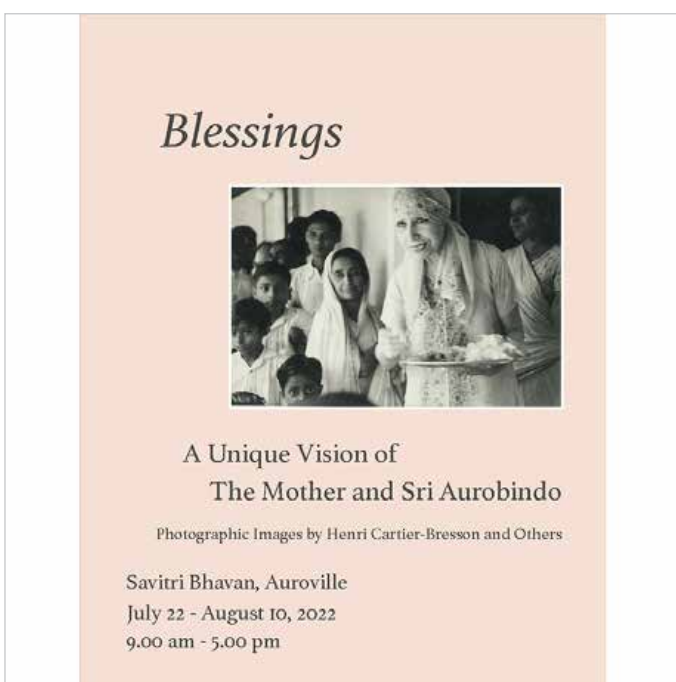
4. There are various other aspects of the "Gratitude farms", which one can find on their website. Such as creating work-space for rural people, teaching and educating people, how to use their small garden spaces and urban farming.

5. How the "Gratitude farms" started
Without having any previous knowledge in agriculture, Major Sharma started this project out of the deep wish to help the retired army officers, like him, to lead a life of dignity and not to be forced to work as security guards after their duty was accomplished. Many are retired at the age of 35 to 45. Some have family lands in rural areas. Usually they sell those lands and move to the city.

Major Sharma has put his energy into finding ways to use the land that is profitable. He went through every mistake possible and developed a functioning and time proved model, which is financially beneficial.

For any further information and possibilities of learning, please write to: collaborate.secavt@gmail.com

AWAKENING SPIRIT



The exhibition entitled 'Blessings' is a collection of images mainly by the world-renowned photographer Henri Cartier-Bresson who was chosen by the Mother to photograph Sri Aurobindo and Herself, and capture some moments of the Ashram life on the Darshan days in April 1950.

These photos are unique in many ways. Without them we would not even know how Sri Aurobindo looked after his forties. Also, they offer a rare insight into the solemn atmosphere of the Darshan and the daily life of the Aurobindo Ashram.

The photographs displayed are illustrative of Henri Cartier-Bresson's searching for the 'right moment'. They trace his creative process: his changes of the angle, focus, and composition. These rather subtle changes are extremely interesting for the viewer because they reveal Cartier-Bresson's effort to capture the highest moments of truth.

Two thirds of the exhibition comprise the work by a single photographer: Henri Cartier-Bresson. Besides that, single photographs by various photographers are presented in random order to give an idea of the Mother's daily work and various Ashram activities.

Inauguration of the exhibition will be at 10am on Friday, 22 July

- The Exhibition will be from 22 July to 10 August
- In the Square Hall of Savitri Bhavan

Everyone is welcome

MEDITATION WITH SAVITRI READ BY MOTHER TO SUNIL'S MUSIC

6 to 6:30pm, Amphitheatre—Matrimandir

Every Thursday at Sunset.



During the summer the Meditation is with Mother and Sunil's "New Year Music", before we restart a cycle of Savitri read by Mother to Sunil's music.

Enjoy the beautiful open space, an immense sunset, heavenly music in the very center of Auroville!

Reminder to all:

- The Park of Unity is a place for silence, meditation and inner work and is to be used only as such.
- We request everyone: please do not use cameras, I-pads, cell phones, etc. No Photos.
- Dear Guests, please carry your Guest Card with you.
- Access only for the Amphitheatre from 5:45pm.
- Please be seated by 5:55pm.

Thank you,
Surya & Amphitheatre Team

OFFERINGS TO SRI AUROBINDO

"Sri Aurobindo is here, as living and as present as ever and it is left to us to realise his work with all the sincerity, eagerness and concentration necessary."

The Mother, 15.12.1950

August 2022

Offerings to Sri Aurobindo

in the Park of Unity, Matrimandir

for the occasion of His 150th Birth Anniversary

- **5 August—6:30pm**, Amphitheatre, Bansuri or the Indian flute by Adit Ravi
- **9 August—6:30pm**, Amphitheatre, Surbahar, a variation of a Sitar by Soham Munim
- **12 August—4:30pm**, starting in the Garden of the Unexpected, an offering by the children and youth of Auroville
- **15 August—4:45am**, Amphitheatre, meditation with dawn-fire. Entrance from the Second Banyan Gate from 4am
- **15, 16, 17 August—7:30pm**, Mini Amphitheatre of Unity Garden, 'Usha and the Dawns to Come', (from the Veda to Sri Aurobindo's Savitri) by Aryamani's group
- **27 August—7pm**, Amphitheatre, Odissi Dance by Sangeeta Dash and Aneesh Raghavan

Aurovilians, Newcomers and Guests holding a valid Aurocard are welcome.

Except for the dawn-fire meditation on the morning of 15 August, entrance for all other events will be from the Office Gate 30 minutes before the presentation.

Bags, cellphones, cameras and other recording equipment are strictly not allowed in the Park of Unity and need to be deposited before entering.

Bonne Fete and see you there
The Matrimandir Team

THE OBSCURE MYSTERIOUS CREATRIX...

The obscure mysterious creatrix ends indeed by delivering the secret consciousness out of its thick and tenebrous prison; but she delivers it slowly, little by little, in minute infinitesimal drops, in thin jets, in small vibrant concretions of energy and substance.



Sri Aurobindo

SV932 - 21 July 2022



Regular Activities

- Sundays 10:30–12noon: Savitri Study Circle
- Mondays 3-4pm: Sri Aurobindo's Isha Upanishad led by Dr.Jai Singh
- Tuesdays 3-4pm: Yoga and the evolution of man led by Dr.Jai Singh
- Tuesdays, Fridays, Saturdays 4-5pm: L'Agenda de Mère: listening to recordings with Gangalakshmi
- Fridays 3-4pm: Finding of the Soul (in Savitri Book 7 Canto 5) led by Dr.Jai Singh
- Saturdays 3-4pm: Introduction to Integral Yoga, led by Ashesh Joshi
- Saturdays 4-5:15pm: Satsang, led by Ashesh Joshi

Meditations On Savitri, Book 2

The Book Of The Traveler Of The Worlds, Canto 5 + 6: The Godheads Of The Little Life And The Kingdoms And Godheads Of The Greater Life

- Monday, 25 July, 4pm at Savitri Bhavan. Duration: 33min.

On his journey through the Worlds Aswapathi explores the realm of the LITTLE LIFE which is an unhappy place with rigid forms and set in ignorance. Wanting to understand its secret more deeply he tries to discern the Power that has created it and to grasp the creative Idea which has brought it into existence. He plunges his powerful gaze of consciousness through the mist of obscurity which surrounds it. As if lit up by a searchlight, a multitude of tiny primitive entities appear moving about before his eyes: elves, imps, goblins, genii and others, half-animal, half-god in their appearance and their nature. Their work only seems to spoil, deform and pervert, and they amuse themselves in the process. Wherever there is narrowness, chaos and obscurity, these petty beings exercise their influence. They lurk in the unconscious and half-conscious parts of man and lead him astray.

Earth is not a closed system or a set typical world like others: it is open to the action of powers from other worlds and as well it is a field of evolution and progress. On Earth all powers have to move through strife and struggle towards an eventual Harmony and Perfection. The way is long and leads through belts of inconscience, blindness and ignorance. But the Divine inhabits every corner of his universe and leads its movement and assures a successful culmination into Freedom and Light. In truth there is God within, sitting unseen, the great Creative Force and all is his action and his will.

Aswapati escapes from the anarchic world of lower life and astral chaos in which the only sure Light to be found is the flame of his own Spirit. Moving with his light through the hostile region, he comes towards the realm of GREATER LIFE. He recognises that this realm inspires our vaster hopes, and its forces have made landings on our globe. All that we seek for is prefigured there.

All powers of Life towards their godhead tend.../ (p.185)

Our souls are dragged as with a hidden leash, /

Carried from birth to birth, from world to world,... (p.197)

Aswapati sees great achievements of the Life Power realized. All is a play of Life and Spirit. It is a universe of truths and myths. But he also notices that Reality is hidden from her, she lacks eternity and misses the infinite. The world of Greater Life does not provide what he is seeking: a Power which can enable life on earth to become divine.

A meditative film of Huta's paintings illustrating passages from Savitri read by The Mother and accompanied by her own organ music which can connect us to the Divine Presence within and can lead us towards spiritual truth and the New Consciousness.

In the beginning there is also a short video of Huta speaking about her work with The Mother. Duration: 5min.

The videos *Meditations on Savitri* can be seen at the Savitri Bhavan website <https://savitribhavan.org/meditations-on-savitri-video/>

AFICIONADOS OF SRI AUROBINDO'S SAVITRI

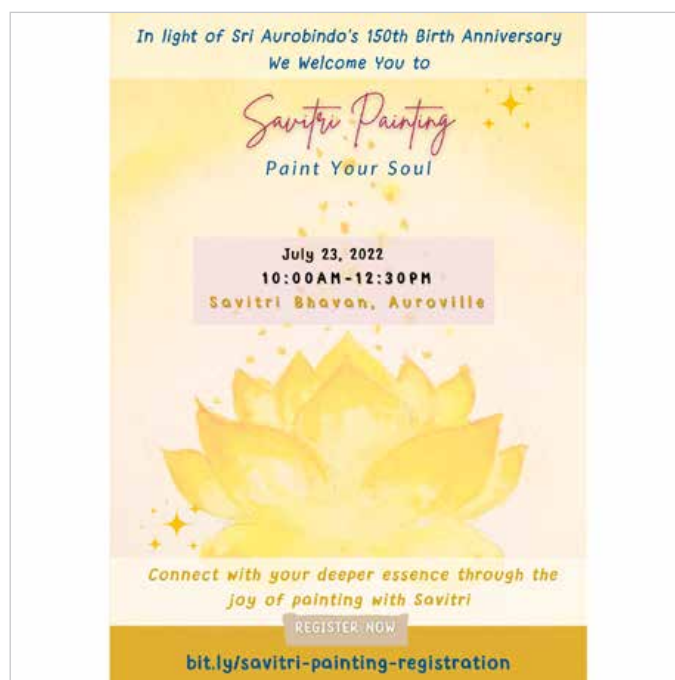
Hi aficionados of Sri Aurobindo's Savitri! I am doing a series of clay panels for an installation in pondy for the 150 birthday celebrations next month.

Everyone has their own little stanza that they remember from this epic and if you have four favorite lines from Savitri, I would be happy to receive them and possibly use them in my work. Please email me just four lines? Along with the Book number and Canto number.



adilbw@gmail.com, Adil

SAVITRI PAINTING



We welcome you to experience a session of Savitri Painting to touch one's deeper essence through the joy of painting. Bask in the vibrancy of colors, sacred music and the poetry of Savitri. No artistic skills are required to attend the session, only an openness to the process.

- **Location:** Savitri Bhavan, Auroville
- **Date & Time:** 23 July, 10am—12:30pm (Please be available before 9:55am, so we can start as per schedule)
- **Contribution:** needed
- **Account Number:** 252925
- **Registration:** bit.ly/savitri-painting-registration

If you have any colors (watercolor preferable), brush and drawing sheets, bring, otherwise, we will provide.

For more information please contact below:

- savitripainting@auroville.org.in
- Ph. +91 8448484699, 9599266910

Palak and Divyanshi,
for Purnam Centre of Integrality

SN 932 - 21 July 2022

HEALTH

AUROKIYA HEALTH

to Provide Home collection
and Diagnostic Services Support

Aurokiya, an activity of Auroville, will provide home collection for all laboratory samples, Master Health Checkup, Covid PCR, Rapid Test and facilitate diagnostic services (X Ray, CT, MRI). This service will provide better rates and quicker results through collaboration and negotiation with quality certified labs.

This is a community supported activity at your service.

Contact:

- Call/WA: 8012305151
- Email aurokiya@auroville.org.in

*Thanks for your Support
Aurosugan for Aurokiya*

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

CALL FOR GRANT PROPOSALS

SDZ Funding in 2022

The Project Coordination Group (PCG) will be meeting to review grant proposals for possible funding by Stichting De Zaaier. The **last date** to submit proposals for this call is **Wednesday, 10 August 2022**. You are welcome to submit earlier or send us a draft version of your proposal for comment prior to the due date. *(If you plan to submit a proposal, please carefully read this full announcement to the end!) All documents related to this purpose are to be submitted in the prescribed forms as attachments, emailed to pcg@auroville.org.in*

Please note that in case your proposal is not ready by this date, there will be another call for proposals for SDZ later this year.

The Project Coordination Group will check whether proposals fall within the SDZ funding criteria and forward those that do to the SDZ Board for final selection and grant allocation.

Stichting de Zaaier welcomes project proposals for:

- research studies in the fields of sociology, economy, psychology and inner development;
- exploratory (research) studies into the relations with the world outside Auroville, in particular with the villages (and villagers) surrounding Auroville, as well as proposals for initiatives that seek to contribute to strengthening these relations;
- initiatives that seek to enhance the efficient co-operation of Aurovilians with the aim of making full use of the existing potential in Auroville;
- studies exploring a sustainable future for Auroville and initiatives contributing to such a future;
- initiatives requiring seed money (micro-projects) for innovative and informal education and training, women's development, outreach as well as proposals prepared by youth.

Please note that funds are generally not available for infrastructure, buildings or transport. Requests for equipment will only be considered if specifically required for the implementation of the project and are not already available in Auroville.

Stichting De Zaaier has also indicated a preference for funding projects where the maintenance of Aurovilians is either provided by Auroville or from a source other than SDZ grants.

A grant application form and budget request spreadsheet are available on request from pcg@auroville.org.in or may be downloaded from Auronet.

NB If you have already received funding for a project through the Project Coordination Group please send in a progress report/status update (if the project is ongoing) or final report (if the project has been completed or all funds have been utilized) before making an application for a new grant.

Please note that if you are submitting a project that has anything to do with Auroville or Auroville Outreach schools, or, students of any individual classes, your project is to be reviewed by all concerned School Boards prior to the Project Coordination Group review. (Please contact all individual schools before submitting your proposal to the School Boards.) Therefore, it is important that all the relevant bodies (i.e. schools, teachers, school boards, etc.) are aware of your project and support it. In this way, the Project Coordination Group can more easily recommend a project for funding knowing it will have the support of schools and thereby have a greater impact on the beneficiaries of the project.

- For more information or assistance please write to pcg@auroville.org.in
- The last date for submitting proposals for this call is **Wednesday, 10 August 2022**. Please submit earlier if possible.
- **NB** There will be another opportunity to submit proposals for funding by Stichting de Zaaier announced later this year.

YOUTHLINK 2022

Dear Auroville, we are happy to introduce the YouthLink team as of July 2022. Our team members are: Ankita, Aurore, Krishna, Lucrezia, Medha, Namu, Sanata, and Tenzin. Our new team went through a team building process, supported by our mentors in December 2021, to plan for the coming year. We have come up with an aspiration and agenda for the year 2022; which we are very excited to share with you.

Youthlink Charter 2022

- To help integrate youth into the community and be a bridge between Auroville and the world.
- To explore and experiment various ways of enabling free progress and a higher consciousness.
- Be the link that enables continuous flow of wisdom and knowledge throughout generations.
- To activate future leaders and thinkers to be the driving force for conscious change.

What is YouthLink?

YouthLink is a service unit that works towards integrating and empowering individuals into the community.

We Took the first two months of the year to organise our internal structure into a well-oiled machinery, reviewing our organization model and engaging in deep discussions regarding our Code of Ethics, Code of Conduct, etc and turning them into coherent integral documents, to be the founding bricks of the organisation.

How To Engage

1. Connection

At the basic level, Youthlink will provide a central point of connection for youth priorities and needs. Youthlink will organize gatherings —both social and professional, maintain profiles of capabilities and

interests, provide information and maintain an active support system to help youth integrate into the larger ecosystem in Auroville and beyond.

2. Support

For youth-led activities, Youthlink will operate as a channel for resources from the various sources within and outside Auroville. Support will range from the personal (counseling, housing, mentoring etc.) to the professional (project planning, financial resources, skills) in order that the youth-led activity achieves success.

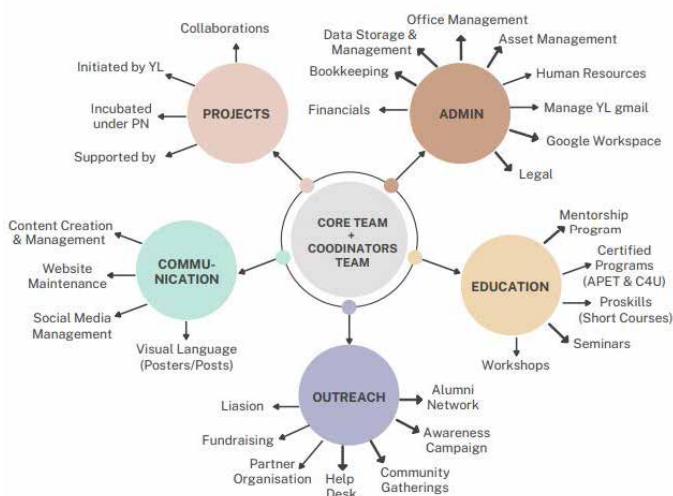
3. Growth

Through its series of programs and projects, Youthlink will provide for experiences and skills development “on the job” on a voluntary basis. The goal is to provide youth with a safe environment and non-judgmental space to try out various opportunities without the pressure to commit to one or the other.

4. Career

For those with the passion to advance youth causes, a position within Youthlink is an opportunity to experience a career in social services while getting more involved with Auroville. Our goal is to support the youth that never ages, but keeping in mind our scope of work for this year, our primary target audience would be individuals between 16-30 years of age.

YL Organisational Structure



What do we do?

1. Outreach

Help desk, located in Townhall Auroville, it is the best place to meet us for information, discussion, or a friendly cup of coffee!

- **Awareness campaign**

Where subjects that require public awareness are brought to light and discussed, followed by an action phase based on community discussions.

- **Mentorship program**

Connects youth to mentors who can guide them through their growth.

- **Community gatherings**

A way to bring the community together, to celebrate and bond. To share information and stories. To meet one another with creativity and fun. A beautiful way to remember we are a community.

2. Education

The focus is to deliver certified programs, short courses, seminars, workshops and mentorship programs to offer different kinds of education models to the community.

3. Projects

Their focus is to initiate, collaborate, incubate and support projects within Auroville, to support young entrepreneurs manifesting their projects and to help Auroville youth to ground their skills and ideas. And create a network of possibilities for our community. The intention is to vet new projects that can influence the future of Auroville and its youth engagement.

- **Project Nursery**

YouthLink operates as a channel for resources, guidance, and support for youth activities or units to kick off. Currently working on the design of a 3 months program to incubate new projects in Auroville.

(more will be shared soon).

- **Activities & workshops**

Workshops

- Thooya Tamil, beginner 1
- Thooya Tamil, beginner 2
- How to build your computer

Events

- Vegan potluck
- Blind babble 1
- Savi volunteers gathering

Outreach

- Chennai CII event
- Road safety awareness campaign
- YouthLink mentors gathering

NextGEN global gathering online

- Continuous linking for job opportunities inside Auroville
- Collaboration with different groups to bring the community together through gatherings.

Team Learnings & development

- Project management Workshop with Pranjal
- NVC —nonviolent communication Workshop with Vega
- Using Online workspaces, data management, Project management software, and other office applications.
- Sign language beginners’ classes with Venkatesh
- Exploring oneself with inner world studio

Projects

- Training for Youthlink ambassador

- **Upcoming Events & Workshops for July & August:**

Workshops

- First aid course, 12 August
- Thooya tamil 3. 18 —29 July
- Road safety: schools presentation Events
- International youth day, 12 August
- Blind babble, 19 July
- First aid awareness campaign, 5 August

Projects

- Youth podcast
- Youth paper

- **Ongoing collaborations:**

Youth YUCCA program with Aspiration Team: An Auroville introduction program specifically catering to children of Auroville turning 18, designed to provide an insight into Auroville’s vision, Auroville’s way of functioning, and the opportunities it provides.

Online Tea Shop With AVI —USA

We are collaborating with the AVI-USA team to support their Online Tea shop Initiative. Online Tea Shop is a way for people living outside of Auroville to understand & be informed about exciting new projects, ideas, workshops & events happening in Auroville. They have various forms of communicating this information, through Auroville Facebook Live events, Video clips of events & programs, setting up online interviews etc.

Project nursery

Operates as a channel for resources, guidance, and support and as an umbrella for youth activities or units to test their projects for one year, and understand how it impacts the community.

How to reach us!

Our office is located under Le Morgan, Town hall; from where we operate a youth help desk. You are welcome to come visit us Monday to Friday, 9:30am to 12:30am, where we can provide you with more detailed

information on our projects and programs, as well as services we can provide to you as an individual (Volunteering opportunities, collaborations, mentors, etc). You can alternatively reach out to us through:

- Email Youthlink@auroville.org.in
- Instagram YouthLink Auroville

2021 has been a tough year, but we are eagerly anticipating an explosive 2022, filled with positive experiences and meaningful projects. You can also support us through various ways, such as volunteering/working with us, joining hands with us on various projects, and facilitating our programs through monetary/in-kind donations. We are looking forward to engaging with the community in meaningful and constructive ways, and we hope to create a bright future together.

With Much Love, The YouthLink Team :

Dear Community, we at the YouthLink Team are organizing an event for YouthDay on upcoming August 12! The event will be full of workshops, food and fun & we are looking for volunteers to help us.

Contact us at youthlink@auroville.org.in or swing by our office in Town Hall and let us know you would like to volunteer :)

We look forward to seeing you!

Love, the YL Team

BLIND BABBLE EVENT



How often do you meet a completely new person? & How often do you then have a discussion and delve into deep conversation and join self introspection with that person?

Our Blind Babble Event taking place later this month was created to provide you with the experience of meeting and discussing loads of different topics and questions in a safe environment over some tea and cookies with another attendee. Your partner will be selected through a random raffle and the two of you will be provided with a stack of cards, each one containing a unique question meant to encourage deep thought and creative verbal expression.

Join us at Le Morgan on the 29 July from 5:30 to 7pm :)

Email us at Youthlink@auroville.org.in if you have any questions!

LANDLINE NUMBER CHANGED: CHALI



Please note that my landline number at home has changed from 2622113 to 2911806.

Chali, Madhuca

MARTIAL ARTS

MUDRA-CHI: THE MOTHER 'S MUDRAS IN A TAI-CHI FORM

Saturday, 30 July, 5pm,
Garden Within, Savitri Bhavan



Facilitator Anandi, Everybody Welcome

TAI CHI CHUAN INTENSIVE

Inner Way Tai Chi School—Tai Chi Hall in Sharnga Presents

The Art Of Chi—Stevanovitch's method



July 25 to August 13

Monday to Saturday, 7:30—10:30am

Beginners: Chi and Tai Chi basics Three weeks, three steps through the discovery of the Chi work and the 24 posture form.

Lead by Marco, Binu and Krishna the work is essentially directed towards: Concentration techniques to stay focused Mastery of the body through breathing and muscular relaxation; Improvement of movement through balance and coordination; Learning to mobilize Chi. First perceiving it, then guiding it in one's body with the use of three factors: will, imagination and muscular activity.

This is a recreational activity

- For information and booking, contact Krishna at 0413 2623187, taichi@auroville.org.in, taichi.auroville.org, www.artduchi.com

DANCE

FEMININE DANCE INTRODUCTION



Saturday 30 from 9 to 12

Integrating Gypsy, Tribal, belly dance and self expression.

Details and booking

- galit@auroville.org.in +972533740721
- Facebook—FeminineDanceGalit

Galit

GUJARAT DARPAN BY AVISHKAR FROM AHMADABAD

On the occasion of
Sri Aurobindo's 150th Birth Anniversary & 50 Years of Bharat Nivas
Presents

"Gujarat Darpan"
Presented by
Aavishkar from Ahmadavad

Venue : Sri Aurobindo Auditorium
Date : Saturday 23rd July 2022
Time : 8 pm

For Community Garba on Thursday 21st July 2022
7 - 9 pm at SAWCHU

SHARAT NIVAS
SHARAT NIVAS
The Fusion of Arts, Kutch

Please follow the Covid Protocols & all vehicles should be at the Parking outside the gate.

HONORARY VOLUNTARY

GAU SEVA AT SADHANA FOREST!



Your heartfelt service is needed at the Sadhana Forest Gaushala! You are most welcome to join us on any day **from 6am onwards**, and have a vegan breakfast at **8:45am**. Breakfast is offered as a gift, and there is no need for prior booking.

If you would like to contact us:
sadhanaforest@auroville.org.in,
 WA 8525038274 or call
 8122274924.

Looking forward to welcoming you!
The Sadhana Forest team,
Warmly, Shek

WORK OPPORTUNITIES

RAINBOW CAFE SEEKS AN EXECUTIVE

Dear Community, Rainbow Cafe is looking for a new executive to join the team. We started Rainbow Cafe in Svedam Community. We are looking to invite a master chef on board our team as an executive. You must Love to create food and menu that suits best for the location and situation of the Rainbow Café.

Rainbow Cafe was conceptualized as a place where Aurovillians could come with their friends and family for having a good time together and to have healthy and Conscious food. If you have had a dream to open your own Cafe this can just be that opportunity.

- If you like to know more and send in details about your vision & background you can contact us Romel, 9619996080 (WA), Romel@auroville.org.in

Regards, Romel

LOOKING FOR

Looking for a Veena



A Veena is what we will be so happy to find, a Veena that possibly lies around bored and unused at your house. We would be happy to play it for a while or forever. Contribution if needed. Our daughter would like to explore the beauty of the Veena sound. Ever so grateful.

Ulrike Urvasi and Drupad.
ulrikrishna@gmail.com, 9751513906

AVAILABLE

Fresh Cut Yellow Bamboo



Yellow bamboo, already cut, 4-5 meter long pieces, available for free in Discipline at Meike's.

Call or message: 9047654761

Thank you!, Kathrin

Give Away Used Split Bamboo Pieces

Used split bamboo pieces, about 30 numbers each approx 1 meter long. Contact: isha@auroville.org.in

LOST AND FOUND

The Infinitesimal Chance



Hello hello. For that infinitesimal chance someone may have found my iPhone and would like to return it, I lost it somewhere between Sharnga and the Eco Service on Saturday (16th) morning..... with my name emblazoned on it as a just-in-case.... But that doesn't seem to have helped!

I dream of times when quality of life is such that everybody returns everything they find by the roadside. Amen;)

Adil Writer, 9443029539, adilbw@gmail.com

One wooden spoon



One wooden spoon at the potluck at Certitude. It has a label with 'Krishna' on it.

Krishna and Christoph,
Anusuya Forest

TAXI SHARING

From Chennai Airport, August 4



Arriving at Chennai Airport at 3:20am on August 4. Willing to share a cab back to AV either way.

Monica, WA +39 3917254083
marinonimonica@gmail.com

HELP NEEDED

AV ART SERVICE REQUIRES SOME HELP

We need some help to connect an excel database with Data Studio. If you have the time and expertise to help us with this, please email us on aurovillearts@auroville.org in with "Data Studio help" in the subject line.

Thank you very much!
AV Art Service

BIOREGION

EDIBLE WEED WALK



Do you feel like having a few Edible Weed Walks?

Wild weedy greens are flourishing in this premonsoon period. Good time to get to know about them, so that you are ready after the monsoon to forage.

Watch out for the announcement for a few edible weed walks on Saturdays in August (To organize special walks on other days for 5-10 people please email)

Edible Weed Walk @ NinaS
Edibleweedwalk@gmail.com
Thanking you, best, Nina

FOODS, GOODS AND SERVICES

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR AV ARTISTS

To be profiled on artservice.auroville.org website, please do email us on aurovillearts@auroville.org.in with "artist for website" in the subject line. Please also contact us if you wish your profile on the website to be updated and please use the same subject line.

This is a service offered to AV artists.

SPROUTED SOURDOUGH BREAD RETURNS



We are happy to announce that we will be starting again with our sprouted sourdough bread from Tuesday the 02/08. Bread delivery days are on Tuesdays and Fridays. To place an order directly with us and for further details please call ±918838012456 or send an email to siddhartha.farm@auroville.org.in. The bread will also be

available in HERS and PTPS.

Thanks for your support.

Siddhartha Farm Team

LATEST NEWS FROM INSIDE INDIA

Mr. Ganesh our Travel Consultant can only be contacted directly for discussing Travel itineraries, issuing, rescheduling etc. for all kinds of ticketing.

- Phone or/and by WA: +91 9894598686
- E-mail: travelshop@auroville.org.in or domestic@inside-india.com

Before making a flight booking please inform yourself of all compulsory respective Covid requirements.

Do not forget to comply with the required COVID documentation while returning back to India.

The [guidelines for international travelers](#) arriving in India have been reviewed & formulated taking a risk-based approach. Government of India have amended the protocols for international travelers as mentioned below:

- Submit self-declaration form on the Air Suvidha portal
- Upload a negative COVID-19 RT-PCR report conducted within 72 hrs prior to undertaking the journey **OR**
- Upload a Certificate of completing ***full primary vaccination schedule** of COVID-19 vaccination
- Exit the airport or take connecting flights, upon arrival in India
- Self-monitor their health for next 14 days of arrival

HELP US TO SERVE YOU BETTER

SCHEDULE YOUR EV SERVICE

PLEASE FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS BELOW

1

GO TO OUR WEBSITE kinisi.in

2

SELECT "KIM" & LOGIN TO CONTINUE

3

ON DASHBOARD PAGE, SELECT "SCHEDULE SERVICE"

4

VIEW UPDATES OF SERVICE ONLINE

5

EMAIL NOTIFICATION WILL BE SENT UPON COMPLETION

6

READY FOR PICK UP!

Voices and Notes

CENTAURUS



If I meet the children on horses in Auroville, I remember the Greek legend about Kentauros (or centaurus): the creatures which were half horses and half human beings.

Above Auroville it is possible to see the constellation centaurus on a good night. I think that every child on a horse feels like Alexander the Great on his battle horse Bucephal (means " Bull head"). Alexander the great conquered many countries on his famous Bucephal.

Don Quichot conquered the hearts of many people on the planet on his old weak horse Rossinant. Children on horses in Auroville too conquered the hearts of many Aurovilians. There were times in Auroville when some children used the ponies on the way to school. The part of horses in the city used for hippo therapy. There are children who need horses like medicine for their perfect health. The father of medicine is the Greek physician Hippocrates, he lived from 460—359 BC, his name means " horse's power".

Mankind respected the horse's power before 1770 when the industrialization started the era of bulldozers. Machines are enemies of nature. The children like horses and plants, and machines prefer large roads without any sign of life.

Contemporary autostrades cover the planet like the octopus tentacles, they are polluted and dangerous. The ancient forest roads were healthy and attractive for the people and gods. Sri Aurobindo wrote (CWSA 2: 626):

"Here Krishna flutes upon the forest road, Here Shiva sits ash-smearred, with matted hair. But Shiva and Krishna are the single God."

Horses played a serious role in the history of mankind. For example they helped conquistadors to invade America because the aborigines didn't see horses previously and were very much afraid. Very often the fate of people and horses was common. Napoleon's army in 1812 was in excellent condition before it moved to Russia. But from Moscow the half skeletons returned—and human beings and animals. More and more people on the earth—and less, much less horses.

I was lucky to clean horses for some months in Auroville, in Achilles Pony farm. Every horse has its own behavior. One with a more bad character pushed me with his leg in my face. My poor nose! Once I read a brilliant article by Frederick in Auroville Today about horses in Auroville. I am sure that the city now has horses, not only bulldozers—that is a result of Frederick's efforts and of course the efforts of some other enthusiasts.

According to me, the horse's voices are wonderful. The best I ever heard was in Pitanga: two Aurovilian ladies made a concert " Duette for two cats".

All living creatures are nice.

Boris

DIVINE CONSCIOUSNESS

"...to live in Auroville, one must be a willing servitor of the Divine Consciousness."

What is this Divine Consciousness?

Well what we are, what we feel, what we want, what we aspire for what drives us, what we live in, if it is for the Divine, the Divine Mother, or that something higher and vaster that is above us and we feel it and receive from it, it is the Divine Consciousness. In the Divine Consciousness, there is always, peace, beauty, harmony and inner satisfaction and support which is always upholding us that we never feel alone, limited or incomplete. The joy of this Divine Consciousness itself fulfills us with love, serenity and a natural healing energy that is always welcomed. There is no greater joy than to abide in the Divine Consciousness. And this is why the Divine Mother is making Auroville so that we can know how to live and be one with the truth of our being and live in its highest form without limitations.

In many our lower nature has misinterpreted this freedom and licensed themselves above morality and law. Whose servitor have we become as the sole servitor permitted in Auroville is living for the Divine only. *Sunil*

AUROVILLE RADIO



Dear Aurovilians, please check the latest podcasts of your favourite radio! Stay tuned!

[Here you can listen](#) to the stream channel (playing 24/7).

[Here you can see](#) on-air schedules.

Last published podcasts

- [Audible Weed Walk-Ep.87 "Affordable healthy diet: wild food & fairness \[Part 4\]"](#) (Food Education)
 - [The Ocean Festival—a talk by Aurofilio](#) (Environment)
 - [Une série hebdomadaire de lectures par Gangalakshmi—403](#) (Integral Yoga)
 - [Savitri, Book I, Canto III, Part 1](#) (Integral Yoga)
 - [The Life of Sri Aurobindo in Tamil—Ep.24](#) (Sri Aurobindo)
- "ஸ்ரீ அரவிந்தரின் வாழ்க்கை வரலாறு"**

Last Youtube live videos

- [Orev, the Sufi painter](#) (Art and Artists)

...and more! on www.aurovilleradio.org

Please help us to relocate the radio! Donate to F.A. number 251369

For more information write to radio@auroville.org.in

Peace and Love

AV POETRY

WHEN I SEE BEAUTY

When I see Beauty
And don't carry a camera
I gaze and blink my eyes
To take a few quick shots.

∞

Beauty transports me
To a subtler realm.

There I roam
Here I rove
Endlessly.

Where is
The intersection?

Anandi Zhang

CLASSES, WORKSHOPS & HEALING ARTS

ARKA WELLNESS CENTER

& MULTIPURPOSE HALL

Regular activities, July 2022



Treatments

Treatment	With Whom	When
Body Logic, Soft Massage And Deep Tissue Massage.	Pepe, by appointment 9943410987	Monday to Saturday
Cranio sacral, Lomi Lomi Kahuna massage, Barefoot body massage.	Silvana, by appointment 9047654157	Monday to Saturday
Facial, Manicure, Pedicure, Threading, Waxing, Haircuts, Haircolouring, Henna-colouring	Meha, by appointment, 9443635114	Monday to Saturday
Shiatsu, Thai Yoga Massage, Osteothai, Somatic Bodywork.	Marco, 9600094875, +353877420282 (WA)	Monday to Sunday
Chinese Fire Cupping and Moxibustion Therapy	Chun, 8098900708	Monday to Saturday
Ayurvedic Massage, Garshana with wool and silk gloves, Chinese Anmo and Energy Techniques	Mukta, 9655422346	Monday to Saturday
Psychospiritual Introspective Tarot Reading, Deconditioning Self Inquiry Also in French	Antarjyoti: 0413 2623767, antarcalli@yahoo.fr	Monday to Sunday

Classes

Classes	With Whom	When
Acro Yoga	Damien- 9047722740	Monday to Saturday
Pilates	Teresa 7867998952	Tuesday & Thursday, 7:30-8:30am. Wednesday 4:15pm Friday 5:30pm, Appointment.
Iyengar yoga	Olesya, 9159052743	Monday, Wednesday, Saturday, 6:30-8am. Monday, Thursday, Saturday, 5-6:30pm.
Qigong yang Style	Marco, 9600094875, +353877420282 (WA)	Monday to Saturday, Appointment, 8:30 to 9:30am



PITANGA



Programme for July/August 2022

(0413)2622403/ 9443902403,
info@pitanga.in

Dear friends, after a thorough work Pitanga to repair damages caused during the last rain season will be open for activities from Monday, July 25 onwards.

Like us, you will be missing some dear activities, particularly Yoga, as some of teachers and therapists as temporarily not available either because they are out of station or not well. Activities of the following practitioners will start later and their starting date will be announced in the News&Notes:

Elisa T., Lisbeth, Rachel, Tatiana, Vani

Please see below the public activities you can join presently. Rehearsal and study spaces continue in the way you are informed by your teacher.

Pranayama, Regular only	Friday, 6:45–8am	François, Namrita
Yoga Therapy, All levels	Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 8:30–10am	Gala
Neurographic Drawing, For adults, Drop-In	Friday, 3–4pm	Gala
Feldenkrais, Drop-In	Tuesday, 10–11:30am	Aurovici
Feldenkrais, Drop-In	Friday, 5:15–6:30pm	Shari
Aviva Exercise, For women, Drop-In	Thursday 4:30–6pm	Suriya-gandhi
Odissi Dance, Beginners and Intermediate	Friday, 3:30–5:15pm	Rekha

Homeopathic Clinic

“Svasti” Homoeopathic Clinic with Dr Aditi Patel, B.H.M.S., Homoeopath (Registered).

Consultations for new cases are held by appointment only. Please take your appointment with Dr Aditi directly, by calling +91-9428429642.

Patients with any urgent requirements and regular patients can drop-in Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday 10:30–11:30am and will be attended to on a first come, first served basis.

Healing Spaces

Please book your appointment for a healing space by phone: 2622403

Essenian Healing	Patrick
Self-Healing based on Craniosacral Therapy	Kirtan
Shamballa Reiki	Pierre
Shiatsu	Ulrike

About our healing spaces:

- **Essenian Healing:** Essenian treatments offered by Patrick are a therapeutic approach that uses the healing power of light and sound as well as the massage of energy points with the aim of maintaining or restoring a harmonious balance between body, soul and spirit. The healing acts by restoring the flow of energy that has been disrupted by stress, illness, negative thought forms and the difficulties of everyday life.

- **Self-Healing based on Craniosacral therapy:** Self-Healing sessions offered by Kirtan are a non-medical healing approach based on Craniosacral Therapy. It is a way for you to experience your True Self in a profoundly deep, practical, and lasting way, by attuning you to your own blueprint for health. It calls forth your natural re-alignment, resonance and healing forces.
- **Shamballa Reiki:** Pierre is offering treatments for those who are open to using the Universal Energy, we call Reiki, to keep us aligned during the immense shift we are all going through. In his observation “the cosmic clock is turning; the Universal Energy remains the same”.
- **Shiatsu:** The Quantum Shiatsu practised by Ulrike Urvasi for over 20 years follows an understanding which is multi-dimensional and holistic, reminds of and activates the self-healing forces in each one of us.

We have a newsletter mailing group! If you wish to receive our program of activities by email, please write to us: info@pitanga.in

See you at Pitanga, with a smile! Andrea

SERENDIPITY: ACTIVITIES AND TREATMENTS UPDATE



Center Field, Auroville—605101

Landline: +91 (0)413 2965693

Mobile/WA: +91 9385623342

Email: serendipity@auroville.org.in

<https://serendipity.auroville.org>, [Facebook](#)

Hatha Yoga with Ramesh

- **Every Thursday from 5:30 to 6:30pm, drop in class.**

Ramesh offers hatha yoga classes with some vinyasa flow and include pranayama, traditional sanskrit mantra chanting, and meditation. The style is gentle, adaptive and progressive where passive, gravity-assisted poses are mingled with dynamic vinyasa-style flow as needed. He places a lot of focus on breathing and body-mindfulness during the practice. It is ideal for beginners to intermediate-level practitioners. You will be exposed to authentic Sanskrit terms and their correct pronunciation. The practice will be rejuvenative and restorative. These specific classes will be on donation basis even for guests.

Traditional Sanskrit Mantras with Sonia

- **Every Friday from 5 to 6 pm, drop in class.**

In the recitation of Sanskrit Mantras the sound is very important and the specific pitches and strict rules of intonation and syllabic length should be learned according with the tradition of the great masters of the past, who figured out how to use the voice to calm the mind and attune the practitioner to the more subtle levels of the “sadhana” or spiritual path. Through the harmonic rhythm, repetition and participation in the singing, the mind reaches more clarity, concentration and tranquillity.

Head & Shoulders Marma Massage with Bala

- **On appointment only (+91 9892699804)**

Marma points means “vital points that hold life force energy”. In this massage the practitioner uses fingers and hands to press (isometric / constant pressure) the specific point in head, face ,neck and shoulders .This massage is based on the principles of Ayurvedic and various martial art traditions. Marma massage can help in relieving deep-seated tensions and improving circulation and energy flow.

Shiatsu Massage with Sara

- **On appointment only (+91 9443617308)**

Shiatsu is a manipulative therapy developed in Japan and incorporating techniques of anma (Japanese traditional massage), acupuncture, stretching, and Western massage in order to maintain physical and mental well being, treat disease, or alleviate discomfort. It involves the uses of kneading, pressing, soothing, tapping, and stretching techniques and is performed without oils through light, comfortable clothing.

Serendipity



VÉRITÉ JUNE INTENSIVE & CLASS

Phone: +91413 2622045, 2622606,

Mobile: 7867805812

programming@verite.in,

treatments@verite.in, www.verite.in

Registration required for the following intensives

Somatic Movement Workshop: Feel & Move Better! with Maggie

- Saturday, 30 July, from 9:30am to 5pm

Learn how to release tension in your body and a daily practice to improve flexibility, coordination, balance, and wellness, resulting in a decrease of aches and pains commonly attributed to stress, injury and aging. Somatics allows you to move through life with more comfort, so you can enjoy the activities you love to do. (Side effect: you may become happier!) Somatics enhances any kind of exercise such as yoga, dance or sport and will improve your performance. Somatics is a system of gentle, mindful movements based on neuroscience and accessible to all.

Resuming Weekly Class:

Somatic Explorations with Maggie

- Wednesdays from 5 to 6:15pm

Mind-body training in the tradition of Thomas Hanna. Somatics is a system of slow, mindful movement. It improves the function of the nervous system, creating more ease and freedom within ourselves. A gentle, easy and effective way to gain more ease in the body, better posture, flexibility, coordination, wellness, and balance, resulting in a decrease of the aches and pains commonly attributed to stress, injury and aging.

Vérité Integral Learning Center Apprentice

Position for an Auroville Youth, as an Apprentice Trainee at Vérité. Financial support available.

Apprentice's qualifications.

- Auroville Youth seeking a training / work position in Auroville
- Basic computer literacy (Word, Excel, social media)
- Fluent in written and spoken English.
- Enthusiasm for learning, self-development, and gaining new skills

You will gain direct working experience in:

- **Programs coordination and development skills:** booking, promotion, hosting and administration of classes, workshops, meetings, special events, as well as new programs development etc.
- **Financial Management skills:** Handle payments, income and expenses.
- **Facilities management skills:** Supervise staff on facilities maintenance.
- **Hospitality skills:** learn essential aspects of guest relations: booking, reception, customer service, payments, etc.
- **Entrepreneurial management skills:** Potential career paths such as event planner, conference coordinator, guest house management, spa management, customer service, sustainable tourism, develop and organize retreats and seminars etc.

*Shantha,
for Vérité Programs*

EDUCATION

NEWS FROM AUROVILLE LANGUAGE LAB



Please remember to put your mobile phones on flight mode and switch off all wireless and bluetooth devices before you enter the lab, since it is a wireless-free space

Looking for a receptionist (short-term)

Our dear Enzo is still in Italy and will be back with us in September. Meanwhile, we are looking for a receptionist for three months. If you love people and are happy to meet visitors and coordinate between students and teachers, get in touch with us asap! We need someone who has computer skills and a good organizational sense.

Tomatis

There are spaces available for both language & therapeutic programmes!

Please contact 4036922 or email us at tomatis@aurovillelanguage.org to schedule your Listening Tests & Consultations

For more information about the Tomatis program, please have a look at the following links:

- <https://www.aurovillelanguage.org/tomatis-method.php>
- <https://www.aurovillelanguage.org/tomatis-kids.php>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wnpXprTI3m0>
- <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeTIG0y-sBMly-wZNdZcAng/videos>
- <https://www.listenwell.com/>

Summer Language Courses at ALL

New: French with Jean-François

Our long-term volunteer, language-enthusiast & training expert, Jean-François Claude, is conducting two new courses:

- **French Conversation:** For those of you who know a bit of French, this is the perfect course to get more fluent, expand your vocabulary, and speak without inhibition in a diverse & fun group! Jean-François would explore a range of topics like food, sports, travel, philosophy, news, literature, and more.
 - The course started on 11 July 2022. Classes take place Mondays & Thursdays, 2pm to 3pm.
- **Beginner French:** Exciting news for all those wanting to join a French course but finding themselves too busy through the week! Our Beginner French Course is deliberately planned for Saturdays! The classes are highly interactive and are structured around the "French in Action" modules developed by Professor Pierre Capretz of Yale University.
 - The course started on 16 July 2022. Classes take place Saturdays, 2:30pm to 4:30pm, for 3 months.

Please register at <https://register.aurovillelanguage.org/>

New: Hindi with Vatsla

Vatsla's current Hindi Beginner Course will conclude soon. We have always received great feedback on her course! She will start a new batch in September. This three-month course is a blend of grammar and conversation, poetry and songs. We invite you to come and relish the beauty of the Hindi language. Enquire now to join!

- Classes will take place Saturdays, 10:00am to 12:00noon, for 3 months.

Spoken Tamil with Saravanan

This course is now closed to new registrations.

For all the current and old students, we will soon be offering Practice sessions in Tamil on Saturdays. It would be a space where you could practise what you learned over the previous week. All are welcome! Watch this space for more details.

English Conversation with Ramesh

Our long-term volunteer, Ramesh, is ready to take your English-speaking skills to a new level. Yoga trainer, YouTuber, and Excel expert, Ramesh brings a range of experiences to his classes. Ramesh has started offering English Conversation Classes for students who already know a bit of English. The feedback is excellent. Ramesh prepares his classes painstakingly and covers grammar as well.

- Classes take place Tuesdays & Fridays, 2:30pm to 3:30pm. Enquire now to join!

Beginner and Pre-Intermediate English with Rupam

Rupam's morning English classes have re-started after a short summer break. Classes are a mix of discussion on current topics, and grammar as necessary. You are welcome to try out a class and see if it fits your needs.

- Classes take place Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10:15am to 11:15am. Enquire now to join!

Tamil Written and Spoken with Murugesan

Our teacher, Murugesan, is ready to start a new Beginner Written & Spoken Tamil Course, as soon as we have a minimum of 4-5 students

- Classes will take place Tuesdays & Thursdays, 4pm to 5pm, for 3 months.

To join or enquire:

Please [fill out our form](#) to join or inquire about any language classes at the Lab! You can drop us an email to info@aurovillelanguagegelab.org, or call us at 2623661

- **Please Note** Registration (correct contact details on our database, plus payment/contribution) is important when joining a course with us. Please see our team member at the front desk to ensure this is complete before joining a course, thank you!

Current Schedule of Classes

Language	Level	Time	Day(s) of Classes
English Always Ongoing	Beginner & Pre-Intermediate	10:15am–11:15am	Tuesday & Thursday
	Beginner & Pre-Intermediate, Group 2	TBA	TBA
	Pre-Intermediate & Intermediate, Started on 25 May	02:30pm–03:30pm	Tuesday & Friday
French	Beginner, Started on 16 July 2022	02:30pm–04:30pm	Saturday
	French Conversation, Group 1	02:00pm–03:00pm	Monday & Thursday
	French Conversation, Group 2	03:15pm–04:15pm	
German	A1 Beginner, Started on 16 June 2022	9am–10:30am	Tuesday & Thursday
Hindi	Beginner, Started on 23 April 2022	10:00am–12:00pm	Saturday
Tamil	Spoken Beginner, Started on 15 July 2022	09:30am–10:30am	Tuesday & Friday
	Written & Spoken Beginner, To start August	03:00pm–04:00pm	Tuesday & Thursday

Language	Level	Time	Day(s) of Classes
Sanskrit	Beginner, To start July	TBA	TBA
Spanish	Beginner, To start July	TBA	TBA
	Spanish Conversation, To start July 2022	TBA	
Japanese	Beginner, To start July	TBA	TBA
Italian	Beginner, To start August	TBA	TBA

The Language Lab's Opening Hours

Monday—Friday:

9:00am—12:00pm & 2:00pm—5:00pm.

Saturday:

9:00am to 12:00pm.

Location: International Zone, after Unity Pavilion & Pump House.

Phone: (0413) 2623 661, 4036920/22.

Email: info@aurovillelanguagegelab.org

Find us on    @aurovillelanguagegelab
Auroville Language Lab Tomatis Research Centre

CINEMA

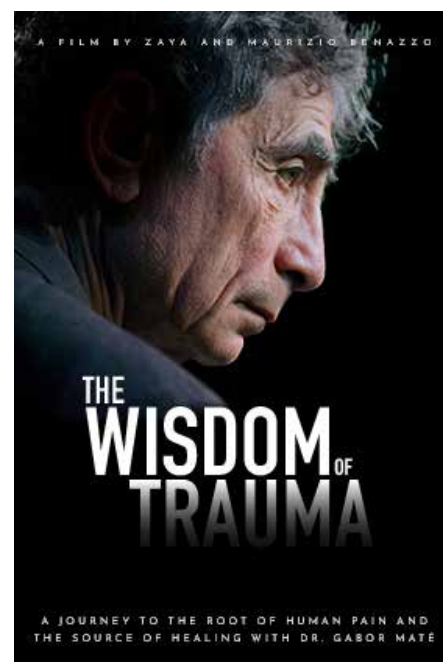
AVFF2022 THURSDAY AT CINEMA PARADISO

Thursday, July 21, Cinema Paradiso, Town Hall, 8pm

The closing screening for the Auroville Film Festival 2022 will take place on Thursday, July 21 at Cinema Paradiso, Town Hall from 8pm onwards. It will be our last screening for this year. See you in 2024!

THE WISDOM OF TRAUMA

2021, Canada, United States, Documentary, English, 1hr 28min
Trauma is the invisible force that shapes our lives. It shapes the way we live, the way we love and the way we make sense of the world. It is the root of our deepest wounds. Dr. Maté gives us a new vision: a trauma-informed society in which parents, teachers, physicians, policy-makers and legal personnel are not concerned with fixing behaviors, making diagnoses, suppressing symptoms and judging, but seek instead to understand the sources from which troubling behaviors and diseases spring in the wounded human soul. Don't miss it!



Directors/Producers: Maurizio Benazzo, Zaya Benazzo

Cast: Dr. Gabor Maté, Russell Brand, Tim Ferriss, James Doty, Fritzi Ho



At Mmc/Multi Media Center, Town Hall
Friday 24 June, 8pm

Reminder: Friday 22 July, 8pm "Run Lola Run" by Tom Tykwer, Germany, 1998

Friday 29 July, 8:00 pm

"BRAZIL"

Directed by Terry GILLIAM, UK- USA, 1985

With: Jonathan Pryce, Kim Greist, Robert De Niro, Katharine Helmond, Ian Holm, Bob Hoskins, Michael Palin

Synopsis: Sam Lowry is a harried technocrat in a futuristic society. He dreams of a life where he can fly away from technology and overpowering bureaucracy, and spend eternity with the woman of his dreams. While trying to rectify an unfortunate typo, Lowry meets the woman he is always chasing in his dreams, Jill Layton. Meanwhile, the bureaucracy has fingered him responsible for a rash of terrorist bombings, and Sam and Jill's lives are put in danger... By a Monthly Python genius, a dystopique satire and classic movie one has to have seen –and see again!

Original English version with Eng. Subtitles. Duration 2h23'

- **Note:** on Saturday 30 July, Cine-Master-Class on 'Brazil', led by Philippe May, 5pm at Aurofilm, Kalabhoomi. See announcement in next issue of News and Notes! Come see the film and join us for a presentation and discussion the next day!

ON-LINE: INIYAN

Saturday, July 30, 8:30pm



Join us for a live premiere of Iniyam and a Q&A with filmmakers on Saturday, July 30! **Iniyam**, based on a legend written by Aurovilian Ruud Lohman, tells the story of an elderly Tamil man who traces his lineage back to Lemuria, an ancient island civilization that sank beneath the Indian Ocean many thousands of years ago. Iniyam tells Ruud that he carries secrets from the past, awaiting a time when they can be linked to the future of humanity.

Aurovilian filmmakers Yatra Srinivassan and Aurelio wrote and produced the short film. They will be joining us for a short intro and after the screening to discuss the process of making Iniyam and to answer any questions.

- Saturday, July 30
- 8am Los Angeles—11am New York—4pm Paris—8:30pm India

Register for the event at aviusa.org/inियan by making a minimum donation of \$5 or equivalent local currency. If you aren't able to make a minimum \$5 donation but want to attend, please email info@aviusa.org.

Best,
Alana

ECO FILM CLUB

Every Friday at Sadhana Forest

Schedule of Events:

- 16:00 Free bus from Solar Kitchen to Sadhana Forest for the Tour
- 16:30 Tour of Sadhana Forest
- 18:00 Free bus from Solar Kitchen to Sadhana Forest for the Eco Film Club
- 18:30 Eco Film Club begins with "pre-views" of short Sadhana Forest films
- 20:00 Dinner is served
- 21:15 Free bus from Sadhana Forest back to Solar Kitchen



Before the movie, at exactly 16:30 you are welcome to join us for a full tour of Sadhana Forest and an update of our most recent work! After the film, you are welcome to join us for a free 100% vegan organic dinner!

The bus service is operated by Sadhana Forest. For more information about the bus service please contact Sadhana Forest at 8525038274.

****Note:** Families and children are welcome! Dinner for children will be served at 19:00:)

Friday 29 July

Our Planet: Frozen Worlds

2019 / 53 minutes / Sophie Lanfear



Experience our planet's natural beauty and examine how climate change impacts all living creatures in this ambitious documentary of spectacular scope. In this episode: On the unforgiving frontier of climate change, polar bears, walruses, seals and penguins find their icy Edens in peril.

Narthaki presents AuroApaar's
MANIFEST DANCE-FILM FESTIVAL '22
Screenings, Discussions
Masterclasses And Q&A's

Alliance Francaise de Pondicherry
29th to 31st July
Cinema Paradiso Auroville
30th July

OPEN FOR ALL
Register (free) as a Delegate, get your Viewing Pass and Program details.
<http://auroapaar.org/registration/>
email: contactapaar@gmail.com

Supporting Partners



CINEMA PARADISO
Multimedia Center (MMC) Auditorium
 Film Program
 25 July 2022 to 31 July 2022

Cinema Paradiso-Multimedia Center is now in operation at 100% seating capacity. It is open to all. However, **temperature check, registration and Mask (and not scarves etc.) is a must** even now. Please come prepared and enjoy the films. To organize seminar/program please contact us via email. If as per regulation, there are any changes we will let you know.

Indian- Monday 25 July, 8:00 pm:
BRAHMA JANEN GOPON KOMMOTI
(Brahma knows the secret deed)

India, 2020, Dir. Aritra Mukherjee w/ Ritabhari Chakraborty, Manasi Sinha, Soma Chakraborty, and others, Drama, 127mins, Bengali w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR (PG)

This lauded debut film by the director revolves around a woman's right to priesthood, dealing with menstrual taboos and standing up against the archaic but still practicing ritual of "Kanyadan" where a daughter is literally given away by a male guardian to the husband during a marriage. The protagonist Shabari is a lecturer, performing artiste and priest. She meets and eventually marries Vikramaditya from a conservative family and suddenly Shabari finds her world change drastically. Will she be able to stand her ground?! *Watch to find out!*

Italian- Tuesday 26 July, 8:00 pm:
NAPOLI VELATA (Naples in Veils)

Italy, 2017, Dir. Ferzan Özpetek w/ Giovanna Mezzogiorno, Alessandro Borghi, Anna Bonaiuto, and others, Mystery-Romance, 113 mins, Italian w/ English subtitles, Rated: R

During an occult ceremony, medical examiner Adriana has a torrid one-night affair with a young man who later turns up as a corpse on her examining table. Police inspectors report to her that the deceased photographed her naked during sleep. Wanting to figure out what is happening, Adriana decides to conduct her investigation.

Interesting - Wednesday 27 July, 8:00 pm:
THE NEED TO GROW

USA, 2019, Dir. Rob Herring & Ryan Wirick w/Erik Cutter, Rosario Dawson, Douglas Gayeton, and others, Documentary, 96mins, English w/ English subtitles, Rated:NR (PG)

With only 60yrs of farmable soil left on Earth, the film offers an intimate look into the hearts of activists and innovators in the food movement. The film highlights, among other things the importance of healthy soil – revealing not only the potential of localized food production working with nature, but our opportunity as individuals to help regenerate our planet's dying soils and participate in the restoration of the Earth. *Given the food inflation globally, such film becomes more important.*

AVFF 2022 - Thursday 28 July, 8:00 pm:
THE WISDOM OF TRAUMA

USA-Canada, 2021, Dir. Maurizio Benazzo, Zaya Benazzo w/ Dr. Gabor Maté, Russell Brand, Tim Ferriss, and others, Documentary, 88 mins, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR

Trauma is the invisible force that shapes our lives. It shapes the way we live, the way we love and the way we make sense of the world. It is the root of our deepest wounds. Dr. Maté gives us a new vision: a trauma-informed society in which parents, teachers, physicians, policy-makers and legal personnel are not concerned with fixing behaviors, making diagnoses, suppressing symptoms and judging, but seek instead to understand the sources from which troubling behaviors and diseases spring in the wounded human soul.

International - Saturday, 30 July, 8:00 pm:
BOZE CIALO (Corpus Christi)

Poland-France, 2019, Dir. Jan Komasa w/ Bartosz Bielonia, Aleksandra Konieczna, and others, Drama, 115 mins, Polish w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR (PG)

The story of a young man who experiences a spiritual transformation in a Youth Detention Center. The crime he commits prevents him from applying to the seminary and after his release on parole he is sent to work at a carpenter's workshop. However, he has no intention of giving up his dream and dressed as a priest he decides to – minister a small-town parish

Children's Matinee - Sunday, 31 July, 4:30 pm:
ASTERIX AND THE VIKINGS



France, 2006, Dir. Stefan Fjeldmark, Jesper Møller w/ Paul Giamatti, Brad Garrett, Evan Rachel Wood, and others, Animation-Adventure, 78 mins, English, Rated: G

The chief's nephew is sent from Parisium to the Gaulish village to become a man, and Asterix and Obelix are assigned to train the youngster; But the Vikings come to Gaul and kidnap him. The chief sends Asterix and Obelix up north to get him back.

Gus Van Sant Film Festival @ Ciné-Club

Sunday 31 July, 8:00 pm:
MY OWN PRIVATE IDAHO

USA, 1991, Dir. Gus Van Sant w/ River Phoenix, Keanu Reeves, and others, Drama, 104 mins, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: R.

In this loose adaptation of Shakespeare's "Henry IV," Mike Waters is a gay hustler afflicted with narcolepsy. Scott Favor is the rebellious son of a mayor. Together, the two travel from Portland, Oregon to Idaho and finally to the coast of Italy in a quest to find Mike's estranged mother.

Rating codes we often use are from Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA): G=General Audiences, PG=Parental guidance suggested, PG-13=Parents strongly cautioned, R=Restricted (equivalent to Indian rating: A i.e. for Adults), NR=Film Not rated, Rating awaited, or Rating not available.

For scheduling programs at MMC/CP venue: please email us at mmcauditorium@auroville.org.in. We appreciate your continued support. Pl donate to "Cinema Paradiso" (account #105106) or set up for a monthly contribution. We need it now more than ever.

Thanking You,
 MMC/CP Group Account# 105106,
mmcauditorium@auroville.org.in

ACCESSIBLE AUROVILLE PUBLIC BUS

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Auroville TO PONDICHERRY

	Trip 1	Trip 2	Trip 3	Trip 4
Svaram	7:00	9:30	14:15	17:00
Verite Udayogam Junction	7:02	9:32	14:17	17:02
Auroshilpam Youth Center Junction	7:04	9:34	14:19	17:04
Town Hall Parking	7:06	9:36	14:21	17:06
Mahalakshmi Home	7:10	9:41	14:27	17:11
Vikas Radial Junction	7:11	9:43	14:30	17:13
Solar Kitchen (Round About)	7:12	9:44	14:32	17:14
Certitude Enterance	7:15	9:47	14:34	17:17
New Creation Road	7:19	9:52	14:39	17:22
SBI Bank / Kuilapalayam	7:20	9:54	14:41	17:24
Handy Market (ECR Junction)	7:24	9:59	14:46	17:29
Quiet Healing Center—Junction	7:27	10:04	14:49	17:33
Lotus Hotel, SV Patel Road	7:37	10:16	15:01	17:50
Ashram Road Junction	7:40	10:20	15:05	17:55
Ashram Dinning Hall	7:45	10:20	15:05	17:55



Pondicherry TO AUROVILLE

	Trip 1	Trip 2	Trip 3	Trip 4
Ashram Dinning Hall	8:00	13:00	15:30	18:10
Ashram Road Junction	8:02	13:02	15:32	18:14
Lotus Hotel, SV Patel Road	8:06	13:06	15:36	18:18
Quiet Healing Center—Junction	8:18	13:18	15:48	18:30
Handy Market (ECR Junction)	8:21	13:21	15:51	18:33
SBI Bank / Kuilapalayam	8:26	13:26	15:56	18:38
New Creation Road	8:28	13:28	15:58	18:40
Certitude	8:35	13:35	16:03	18:45
Solar Kitchen (Round About}	8:38	13:38	16:06	18:48
Vikas Road Junction	8:39	13:39	16:07	18:49
Mahalakshmi Home	8:40	13:40	16:08	18:50
Town hall Main Parking	8:45	13:45	16:13	18:55
Auroshilpam Youth Center Junction	8:47	13:47	16:17	18:57
Verite Udyogam Junction	8:49	13:49	16:19	18:59
Svaram	8:50	13:50	16:20	19:00

- Monthly Rs.550 (Aurovilians & New comers)
- Rs.100 one way for Aurovilian & New comers
- Rs.150 one way for Guest

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Ambulance (24/7):

- Auroville—9442224680
- PIMS—0413 2656271

Security (24/7):

- Auroville Safety & Security Team—9443090107
- Auroville Police Station—0413 2677318
- Kottakuppam Police Station—0413 2236148
- Vanur Fire Station—0413 2677368

Health

- Health Center—0413 2622123
- Santé—0413 2622803 / 0413 2623937
- Farewell—8903836246

Mental health 24/7 support:

- Mattram—9487746051

India Emergency Response Service (24/7)

- 108

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT NEWS & NOTES



Hard deadline for submissions or cancellations: Tuesday 3pm

The content of News & Notes is a reflection of the growth process of this community towards its ideals of harmony, goodwill, discipline and truth. Editing of submissions, mainly for reasons of space and clarity, is done according to an established policy.

How to submit material:

- Max size of the published poster is 9cm x 9cm independently of the size you sent. The bigger posters will be reduced.
- Please AVOID CAPS letters
- Material (no pdf files, please) may be sent in English only to newsandnotes@auroville.org.in.
- Articles for the Notes section should ideally be no longer than 500 words.
- Please do not send submissions and inquiries as a “Reply” to the digital subscription mail. There is no guarantee that anyone will see communications sent this way.
- Please try your best to send your announcements, reports, film schedules whenever they are ready. Any modifications of submitted News items must be sent to the editors before Tuesday 3pm.
- We regret not being able to attend to visitors on Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thurs AM due to work pressure.

Visiting hours: call or email for appointment.

Disclaimer: The views expressed on these pages are those of their respective authors or work groups and do not represent the position of the editors or of the community as a whole. The News & Notes serves as a channel for the publication of material coming from trusted sources within Auroville. The editors cannot be held accountable for any alleged misinformation given or offence caused. In case of any dispute, the Auroville Council may be consulted and publishing of disputed material suspended.

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