



News Notes

#954 A weekly bulletin for residents of Auroville 22 December 2022



He who knows this Self who is the eater of the honey of existence and the lord of what is and shall be,
has thenceforward no shrinking.

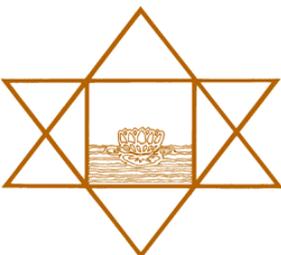
Katha Upanishad

Whence shall he have grief, how shall he be deluded who sees everywhere the Oneness?

Isha Upanishad.

He who has found the bliss of the Eternal has no fear from any quarter.

Taittiriya Upanishad



Pondering

The ascent of Life is in its nature the ascent of the divine Delight in things from its dumb conception in Matter through vicissitudes and opposites to its luminous consummation in Spirit. The world being what it is, it could not be otherwise.

*The Double Soul in Man,
Life Divine by Sri Aurobindo*

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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)

(continued from last week)

Thou hast come down into a struggling world
 To aid a blind and suffering mortal race,
 To open to Light the eyes that could not see,
 To bring down bliss into the heart of grief,
 To make thy life a bridge twixt earth and heaven;
 If thou wouldst save the toiling universe,
 The vast universal suffering feel as thine:
 Thou must bear the sorrow that thou claimst to heal;
 The day-bringer must walk in darkest night.
 He who would save the world must share its pain.
 If he knows not grief, how shall he find grief's cure?
 If far he walks above mortality's head,
 How shall the mortal reach that too high path?
 If one of theirs they see scale heaven's peaks,
 Men then can hope to learn that titan climb.
 God must be born on earth and be as man
 That man being human may grow even as God.
 He who would save the world must be one with the world,
 All suffering things contain in his heart's space
 And bear the grief and joy of all that lives.
 His soul must be wider than the universe
 And feel eternity as its very stuff,
 Rejecting the moment's personality
 Know itself older than the birth of Time,
 Creation an incident in its consciousness,
 Arcturus and Belphegor grains of fire
 Circling in a corner of its boundless self,
 The world's destruction a small transient storm
 In the calm infinity it has become.
 If thou wouldst a little loosen the vast chain,
 Draw back from the world that the Idea has made,
 Thy mind's selection from the Infinite,
 Thy senses' gloss on the Infinitesimal's dance,
 Then shalt thou know how the great bondage came.
 Banish all thought from thee and be God's void.
 Then shalt thou uncover the Unknowable
 And the Superconscient conscious grow on thy tops;
 Infinity's vision through thy gaze shall pierce;
 Thou shalt look into the eyes of the Unknown,
 Find the hid Truth in things seen null and false,
 Behind things known discover Mystery's rear.
 Thou shalt be one with God's bare reality
 And the miraculous world he has become
 And the diviner miracle still to be
 When Nature who is now unconscious God
 Translucent grows to the Eternal's light,
 Her seeing his sight, her walk his steps of power
 And life is filled with a spiritual joy

And Matter is the Spirit's willing bride.
 Consent to be nothing and none, dissolve Time's work,
 Cast off thy mind, step back from form and name.
 Annul thyself that only God may be."

Thus spoke the mighty and uplifting Voice,
 And Savitri heard; she bowed her head and mused
 Plunging her deep regard into herself
 In her soul's privacy in the silent Night.
 Aloof and standing back detached and calm,
 A witness of the drama of herself,
 A student of her own interior scene,
 She watched the passion and the toil of life
 And heard in the crowded thoroughfares of mind
 The unceasing tread and passage of her thoughts.
 All she allowed to rise that chose to stir;
 Calling, compelling nought, forbidding nought,
 She left all to the process formed in Time
 And the free initiative of Nature's will.
 Thus following the complex human play
 She heard the prompter's voice behind the scenes,
 Perceived the original libretto's set
 And the organ theme of the composer Force.
 All she beheld that surges from man's depths,
 The animal instincts prowling mid life's trees,
 The impulses that whisper to the heart
 And passion's thunder-chase sweeping the nerves;
 She saw the Powers that stare from the Abyss
 And the wordless Light that liberates the soul.
 But most her gaze pursued the birth of thought.
 Affranchised from the look of surface mind
 She paused not to survey the official case,
 The issue of forms from the office of the brain,
 Its factory of thought-sounds and soundless words
 And voices stored within unheard by men,
 Its mint and treasury of shining coin.
 These were but counters in mind's symbol game,
 A gramophone's discs, a reproduction's film,
 A list of signs, a cipher and a code.

(to be continued next week)

Sri Aurobindo, Savitri —A Legend and a Symbol,
 Book 7: The Book of Yoga, Canto 6
 Nirvana and the Discovery of the All-Negating Absolute

https://sri-aurobindo.co.in/workings/sa/2829/0039_e.htm

With love and gratitude, Zech
 For and on behalf of Gangalakshmi (HOMA)

Townhall Speaks

REMINDER: APPROVAL NEEDED FOR PLANTING TREES



L'avenir d'Auroville

Dear residents, this is to inform you that no tree plantation should be undertaken without explicit written approval of L'avenir d'Auroville. Please remember that the land does not belong to you. Any resident found to be planting without permission shall face consequences.

Kind regards, Lieve for L'avenir d'Auroville/ ATDC

COMMUNICATION OF EVENTS

Dear Community, with the email communications to the Community becoming more and more challenging over the past months, the RAS has often been approached by individual residents and/or groups of residents, requesting them to post event information over the RAS massmail channel.

The Council believes that the massmail channel of the RAS should only be used for their mandated purpose, namely sending information concerning:

- General Meetings (GM)
- Information related to Resident Assembly Decisions (RAD) & Meetings (RAM)
- Selection Process
- Working Groups' reports

The mass bulletin mailing system is expensive and limited. That is why it is reserved to send out only important working group updates and reports and emergency communications concerning the wider community.

For events and other announcements, please use the News&Notes and other channels.

We are thanking you for your understanding and cooperation on this matter.

Warm Regards, Auroville Council
(Balaji, Claudine, Julia, Philippe,
Samrat, Shiva, Shivaya, Suryan, Sven)

CAUTION DURING THE CROWN WORKS



L'avenir d'Auroville

Dear residents, we are receiving feedback on the status of the alternative roads by mail. While we will ensure that the alternative roads are usable by fixing them wherever possible, we urge you to drive at not more than 15 kmph, which is the speed of driving within Auroville. This will avoid many incidents.

Also, we are still seeing young children on mopeds and scooters. We urge parents to act responsibly and not indulge in this practice.

Kind regards, Lieve, for L'avenir d'Auroville

EVENTS ON THE ACUR PREMISES

Dear residents of Auroville, we want to remind everyone that to organize events on the ACUR premises (the buildings called "Town Hall" and "Multimedia Centre", linked by the building that presently accommodates "Le Morgan" and "Youth Link", and all the outdoor spaces and small structures on the compound, from the MM-CSR road up to Foundation Bhavan), permission needs to be gotten in writing, at least one week in advance, from the ACUR management, by writing to acur@auroville.org.in.

At Her service, Balu, Lieve, Venkatesh,
ACUR executives

L'AVENIR D'AUROVILLE/ ATDC

Application Announcement 22-12-2022



Auroville
Town
Development
Council

L'avenir d'Auroville

The following projects have received Preliminary Design Approval (feedback requested before 5 January 2023 to application-avenir@auroville.org.in):

Selvam Perumal & Navaneetham—PDA No. 2586

- **Applicant/s:** Selvam Perumal & Navaneetham
- **Location/area:** Celebration/ Industrial Zone
- **Area for which approval is sought:** 68.17 sq.m
- **Project brief:** The extension is happening on the 1st floor to achieve the minimum usage of the land areas.

This is a Preliminary Design Approval, to be followed by a Building Approval.

For more details, please see our AuroNet post

- <https://auroville.org.in/article/93827>
- **Constructive feedback guidelines:**
 - a. So far, while giving permissions, we have asked the project team to include approval from the neighbors. This has no resonance with the ideals of Auroville where we are supposed to be headed towards a life guided by no desire, no preferences and no sense of ownership. We will no longer request this approval.
 - b. Similarly when we publish projects for approval, we will discard all personal feedback with respect to "neighbors choosing neighbors" or "neighbors choosing development guidelines".
 - c. All other feedback is welcome and will be part of the process.

The following application has been received and approved (information only):

New borewell—Djaima—No. 2591

- **Project:** Borewell
- **Project Holder:** Boobalan, Symeon & Djaima
- **Location:** Djaima/ Outside Master Plan
- **Project Brief:** The drilling depth of the new borewell in Djaima should not exceed 60 meters. Drilling should be with a rotary drill.

Thanks, Lieve for L'avenir d'Auroville/ ATDC

FOREST GROUP MEETING 2.12.22

D.Segar, R.Kannyappan pitchandikulam, Arun Revelation, Island Espace, Julien Revelation, Giri Fertile east, Eric Baraka, Agnes Darkali, Glen Anusuya, Christoph Bliss/Anusuya, Vikram Infinity, Rita Center field, Andrey Infinity, Yuval Eternity (Chair), Hans Abri, Vengatesh Abri, Archana Siddhartha, Edzard Discipline, Natasha Evergreen, Matthew Hermitage, Amos Evergreen (notes).

- As part of our regular routine and at the end of the year, we would be taking the coming month to peer review and update our plans including the different typology of forest, water management etc.
- The topic of land clearing along the Fertile—Udumbo stretch was brought up with much concern to the nature of the indifferent clearing and the purpose of it. We are observing the matter and the legal processing involved with hope of change.
- A TNEB connection was installed in Adventure forest, being in the green belt, in contradiction to the Forest Group policy.
- Next forest group meeting, at the first of the new 2023 year will be held at Aurodam.

We wish everyone a happy new year and a happy Christmas.

CALL FOR UPCOMING SELECTION PROCESS

(for Tamil translation [click here](#))

Dear residents, the call for the selection of potential new members in the working groups, namely the Admission Committee (AKA Entry Board), the Auroville Council, and the Funds & Assets Management Committee (FAMC) is ongoing until the 24th December. As per the RAS's announcement and membership details there are currently:

- 3 members to be selected for the Entry Board
- 2 members to be selected for the Auroville Council
- 6 members to be selected for the FAMC

The Auroville Council is holding this event and the RAS is organising it according to the Selection Process approved by the Residents' Assembly.

Today, maybe more than ever, the working groups need to be strengthened with new members who believe in the importance of the Residents' Assembly to organise itself, bringing fresh energy, more integrity, dedication, and skills in all fields.

We are all aware that the Residents' Assembly faces new challenges. This situation impacts the functioning of its working groups, who may not be able to fully address their mandates given by the RA, but nevertheless have work to do and responsibilities to carry. The new members selected by the residents for these working groups might experience a different environment, work conditions and unforeseen challenges, while also seeing opportunities for positive change and movement. This might be the right time to join, as the future of Auroville depends on our collective capacity to evolve, reform and reinvent our collective in these special times.

It is also important that many aspects of the community are represented, beyond our origins, personal opinions and affinities.

Therefore, please consider coming forward to nominate yourself and/or other community members. Please check with the individuals whether they are willing to become a working group member before nominating them.

- [For nominations, please click here.](#)

Important Information

Before nominating yourself or others, you might want to read the mandate, job-description and specific needs of the relevant working group(s). Please check the links below. The ongoing members and number of seats to be filled are also listed.

Reference documents

- [Auroville Council Mandate](#)
- [Auroville Council Job Description](#)
- [Entry Board Mandate & Job Description](#)
- [FAMC Mandate](#)
- [FAMC Selection Process Presentation](#)
- [FAMC Additional Details](#)

Membership Details

- **Auroville Council**
 - Number of members to be selected: 2
 - Shivaya and Julia resigned before their 3-year term is over.
 - Ongoing members: Balaji, Claudine, Philippe, Samrat, Shiva, Suryan and Svenja.
- **Admission Committee (aka Entry Board)**
 - Number of members to be selected: 3 (to be updated)
 - Dheena, Matriprasad, Rama Narayana their term is over and will leave when the new team is selected.
 - Ongoing members: Alain, Aurore, Jayanthi, Lakshmanan, Matilde and Swadha
- **Funds & Assets Management Committee**
 - Number of members to be selected: 6

- Ranjith has resigned; Amy B., Elodie, Palani are resigning before their 3-year term was over.
- Ongoing members: Bobby P., Danny, Mita R.

At the service of truth,

Working groups selected by the Residents' Assembly

Auroville Council (Balaji, Claudine, Julia, Philippe, Samrat, Shiva, Shivaya, Suryan, Svenja)

FAMC selected by the RA (Amy B., Bobby P., Danny, Elodie, Mita R., Palani)

TDC selected by the RA (Allan B., Anan, Divya L., Dorle, Fabian, Island, Lata, Meera N., Natasha S., Tom G.)

Working Committee selected by the RA (Aravinda, Bharathy, Chali, Hemant, Maël, Sauro, Valli)

RESPONSE TO COMMUNICATION

**dated 15.12.2022 by ATDC
re 'Caution During the Crown Works'**

Auroville



L'avenir d'Auroville



Auroville Town Development Council

Dear Community, we—TDC—have repeatedly written to the CPWD and AVFO regarding the lack of proper safety measures on the dismantled roads and the temporary bypasses that currently mostly go over cycle paths (see links below). It is increasingly worrisome that there is apparently a total disregard to the safety of road users, especially children and elderly people. The seeming inability to properly plan construction in phases and in a manner which would allow for traffic to be rerouted to cause least possible disruption impairs the freedom of movement of many of our more vulnerable residents. The current safety issues as well as the total lack of signage and safety measures also cause danger to many employees that have to navigate near unusable roads daily to get to and from their workplaces.

These safety issues can not and will not be solved by simply cautioning to reduce speed. These issues would never have occurred if the resolution passed by the RA in January 2021 to **pause all permanent development on the Crown, Radials and Outer ring road until proper plans had been agreed upon by the RA**, had been respected by the group put in place by the AVFO. With proper phased planning to construct Auroville and the crown, this nonsensical destruction and waste of GOI funds would have been avoided.

- [2022 10 28: letter to CPWD re road safety.pdf](#)
- [2022 08 15: letter—CPWD Delhi—reg road quality.pdf](#)
- [2022 07 26: CPWD—letter.pdf](#)
- [2022 07 12 22.003: TDC letter to AVFO.pdf](#)

In Service, L'avenir d'Auroville

TDC Town Development Council

Allan B, Anan, Dorle, Divya L, Fabian, Island, Lata, Meera N, Natasha S, Tom G

FAMC CASE WITH THE MADRAS HIGH COURT

Dear Community, on Monday 19 December 2022, the Madras High Court heard a petition that was submitted in July 2022 regarding the appointment of a new FAMC by the Office of the Secretary and the Governing Board. After careful consideration and with the advice of our legal counsels it was decided to withdraw the petition, in order to submit a new one with updated information.



WORKING COMMITTEE
of the Residents' Assembly
AUROVILLE FOUNDATION

We fully trust the work of our lawyers and we are confident that the best results will ultimately be achieved for Auroville.

*With gratitude for your support,
Your Working Committee*

Aravinda, Bharathy, Chali, Hemant, Maël, Sauro, Valli

CEASE LAND EXCHANGE TALKS IMMEDIATELY

Letter to Dr. Jayanti Ravi & members of the Land Board

Dear Community, we would like to share with you the below letter sent by the four Working



WORKING COMMITTEE
of the Residents' Assembly
AUROVILLE FOUNDATION

Groups (Working Committee, FAMC, TDC, AVC) selected by the Residents' Assembly to Dr. Jayanti Ravi, Secretary to the Governing Board, members of the Land Board and copying the Chairman & Governing Board Members, the International Advisory Council and the Residents' Assembly requesting to cease land exchange talks immediately.

**Dear Dr. Jayanti Ravi
& members of the Land Board,**

We are reliably informed that the Office of the Secretary, Auroville Foundation, with the support of some residents of Auroville appointed by the Office of the Secretary, and cooperation of the Land Board, is in talks about land exchanges in and around Auroville. We have also come to know that land exchanges are in process and at least two have been finalised over the last months. According to different sources, these exchanges have resulted in huge financial loss to Auroville. The most recent land under consideration for an exchange is Auro Annam.

The current Land Board has ceased to communicate with and relate to the Residents' Assembly (RA) as per its mandate and has refused all cooperation with the undersigned legitimate representatives of the RA. Its membership is highly questionable as four of its RA-selected members have either finished their term, resigned, or been banned by the Office of the Secretary from accessing the Land Board offices, email inboxes and data, and replaced by two non-Aurovilians.

One example of a huge financial loss to Auroville concerns a land exchange in October 2022 involving 1.50 acres of highly valuable Auroville land located on the Tindivanam highway (Survey no TC 173/1). This was exchanged for 2.15 acres of farmland without access located within the Master Plan area (Survey no IR 312/1 for 1.19 acres and IR 328/3B1 for 0.96 acres, totaling 2.15 acres). The Auroville land located on the highway is worth approximately Rs. 7.5 Crore while the land purchased inside the Industrial Zone of the Auroville Master Plan is approximately worth Rs. 1.5 Crore for the 2.15 acres. Based on the information available to us, this is a financial loss of approximately 6 Crores to the Auroville Foundation. In a similar transaction in 2017 on the same highway, 1.03 acres of Auroville land were exchanged for 10.37 acres (plus Rs 21 Lakhs) within the Auroville Master Plan area, a favorable ratio of about 1:10. With this in mind, the unreasonable and unprecedented exchange ratio of this recent transaction raises grave concerns.

Given the current circumstances and the fact that Auroville lands are at high risk, all talks regarding land exchanges must cease. Until such time as there is transparency from, and due process (see 7 page due diligence attachment) being followed by the Office of the Secretary, Auroville Foundation, and the Land Board, we, the four working groups selected by and therefore rightfully representing the Residents' Assembly, one of the three legally recognized authorities in the Auroville Foundation Act, demand that any and all land exchange considerations stop immediately. There is no precedent for the Office of the Secretary, Auroville Foundation to take it upon itself, without the consultation of the RA through its duly-selected Working Committee and Funds and Assets Management Committee, to exchange any Auroville land.

We look forward to an early acknowledgment of this communication.

Sincerely,

Working Committee selected by the Residents' Assembly (Aravinda, Bharathy, Chali, Hemant, Mael, Sauro, Valli)

FAMC selected by the Residents' Assembly (Amy B., Bobby P., Danny (TOS), Elodie, Mita R., Palani)

Town Development Council selected by the Residents'

Assembly (Allan B., Anan, Dorle, Divya L., Fabian, Island, Lata, Meera N., Natasha S., Tom G.)

Auroville Council selected by the Residents' Assembly (Balaji, Claudine, Julia, Philippe, Samrat, Shiva, Shivaya, Suryan, Svenja)

Cc:

- The Chairman and Governing Board Members, Auroville Foundation
- The International Advisory Council, Auroville Foundation
- The Residents' Assembly, Auroville Foundation

Excerpt from the Due Diligence Procedure for land purchase and exchange document:

Due Process reference

- **Land to Exchange (AV owned land)**
 1. Check Land Board records for correct Sale Deed, Partition Deed, Settlement Deed Mother
 2. Document/ CTC request from Vanur, Patta, Chitta, Adangal, EC (Encumbrance Certificate for last 60 years from the A-Register) Heir Certificate if applicable/needed.
 - Land Board site visit and survey
 - a. Check for encroachment, if any
 - b. Check General condition of plot
 - 3. Land Price Calculation Document Completed with justification for rates presented
- **Presentation to FAMC & Wcom**
 - a. Land Board presents due diligence verification to FAMC
 - b. Meeting with the FAMC to present the proposed deal. WCom is informed at the same time
 - c. Approval/Objection from the FAMC
 - d. If approved, request an Authorization letter from WCom to Auroville Foundation.
 - e. WCom forwards requests to AVF.
 - f. Authorization letter from Auroville Foundation
 - g. FAMC informs Unity Fund to make payment (DD/ Cheque)
 - h. Registration
 - i. Letter to FAMC, TDC Map update
 - j. Original document scan sent to Foundation
 - k. Patta transfer
 - l. Verification by the Land Board that all records are correctly entered in LB database.

**POOL OF VOLUNTEER ATTENDANTS
for emergency hospitalisations**

In emergency situations that require hospitalisation, be it after an accident or illness, 2 people are needed to accompany the injured/ ill person to the hospital.

If family members or friends are available all is fine.

In cases where there are no family/friends, the Auroville ambulance team struggles to assure proper follow up with the patient once he/she is brought to the hospital.

Each hospitalisation requires 2 people that can take care of:

- presence next to the patient and
- necessary paperwork and other procedures for patient admission.

The Auroville Council is calling for Aurovilians to step forward to be part of a pool of volunteers for such emergency situations. A brief training will be given to all willing to help with this.

If you have some spare time or possibly a job/ occupation that allows you to take off for community work once in a while, please contact the Council (avcouncil@auroville.services). It will be much appreciated.

In Service to the Auroville community,
Balaji, Shiva, Ganesh, Shivaya

SELECTION PROCESS 2023

Dear Residents, as requested by the Auroville Council, the Residents' Assembly Service launched the Selection Process 2023. We invite Aurovilians and Confirmed Aurovilians to nominate themselves and/or others for the Auroville Council, Admission Committee (aka Entry Board) and FAMC:



Nomination Form

- https://auroville.formstack.com/forms/working_group_nominations_2023

Attention

If you want to nominate another person, you have to seek the approval of the nominee before nominating him/her.

More details

- <https://mailchi.mp/auroville/sp-2023-nominations-1001186>

As of today, this is the list of nominees

Self-nominated

- Romel Chhadva (Felicity), self-nominated for FAMC;
- Aurokala Kumar (Djaima), self-nominated for FAMC;
- Ashwini (Petite Farm), self-nominated for Auroville Council;
- Grace (Pumphouse), self-nominated for Entry Board;
- Anbu. V (Windarra), self-nominated for Auroville Council;

Here is a list of residents nominated by others.

If interested, they have to complete the nomination form: https://auroville.formstack.com/forms/working_group_nominations_2023

- Torkil (Swayam), nominated by a resident for FAMC;
- Robert (Luminosity), nominated by a resident for the Entry Board;
- Sonja (Aurodam), nominated by a resident for the Entry Board;
- Surya (Kalpana), nominated by a resident for the Entry Board;
- Susan (Swayam), nominated by a resident for the Entry Board;
- Rakhal (Samasti), nominated by a resident for the Entry Board;
- Mila (Luminosity), nominated by a resident for the Entry Board;
- Alexei (Auromodele), nominated by a resident for the Entry Board.
- Sundar Rajamani (Douceur), nominated by a resident for the Entry Board;
- Renu (Mango Field), nominated by a resident for the FAMC;
- Riju (Courage), nominated by a resident for the Auroville Council;
- Laurence (Baraka), nominated by a resident for the Auroville Council;
- Claire (Sukhavati), nominated by a resident for the FAMC;
- Raju (Grace), nominated by a resident for the FAMC;
- Danny (Sve Dame), nominated by a resident for the FAMC;
- Suryamayi (Gaia), nominated by a resident for the Auroville Council;
- Elaine (Auromodele), nominated by a resident for the FAMC;
- Kalsang (Tibetan Pavilion), nominated by a resident for the Entry Board;

For more information on the nominees, please follow the link <https://www.ras-auroville.org/main-wgs-2023/>

If you want to update your email ID in our mailing list, please (1) write to the Resident Service (resservice@auroville.org.in), since the RAS refers to their database; (2) copy your request to RAS (raserviceauroville@gmail.com).

To subscribe to the RAS Telegram channel [please use the following link](#) (you need to install and register the Telegram application on your device).

Warmly, For the Residents' Assembly Service,
Giovanni P, Sathish A, Tatiana S

ON RECENT ANNOUNCEMENTS by so-called 'ATDC'

Dear community, Some of you may have seen [the announcement dated 17.12.2022](#) from those calling themselves the 'ATDC' regarding events on the proposed Crown RoW.



WORKING COMMITTEE
of the Residents' Assembly
AUROVILLE FOUNDATION

Our understanding is that this announcement refers to the Youth Center fair that took place between 16th and 18th December 2022. We find extremely disturbing and strongly disapprove of the continuous harassment by the Office of the Secretary and their 'ATDC' targeting the youth of Auroville.

Please note that:

1. The Youth Center team had informed the Working Committee selected by the RA about their annual fair, and had received our support and encouragement.

2. Based on the 13 October judgment of the Hon'ble Madras High Court, the legitimacy of the constitution of this 'ATDC' is questionable.

3. We would also like to remind all Aurovilians that announcements published through massbulletin@auroville.org.in are not managed by any of the groups recognised by the Residents' Assembly. Please contact avmassbulletin@auroville.services to receive updates from the duly-selected groups of the Residents' Assembly. Feel free to ignore communications received through massbulletin@auroville.org.in, including the latest statement by the questionable 'ATDC' claiming that "no tree plantation should be undertaken without explicit written approval of L'avenir d'Auroville". This statement is baseless and may be discarded. If you have any questions or doubts on the matter, please contact the TDC selected by the RA: tdc@auroville.services.

We would also like to state again that those who have dismantled all areas of the Crown currently under "work" without following any proper planning, process and security standards are accountable for any accident that occurs on the dangerous pathways created by their lack of diligence. We are concerned that in spite of our many warnings, the so-called 'ATDC' refuses to acknowledge any of its responsibilities, deflecting them by blaming others and especially the youth.

We thank the International Youth Center for organising an event for the entire community that brings joy and togetherness amidst the churning Auroville is currently going through.

In community,

*The Working Committee selected
by the Residents' Assembly
(Aravinda, Bharathy, Chali,
Hemant, Maël, Sauro, Valli)*

*The TDC selected by the Residents' Assembly
(Allan B., Anan, Divya L.,
Dorle, Fabian, Island,
Lata, Meera N., Natasha S., Tom G.)*

FROM THE ENTRY SERVICE –ES # 161

Dated: 22-12-2022

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 auroville.entryservice@gmail.com. We thank you in advance.

NEWCOMER ANNOUNCED:

- **Kalpana RADHAKRISHNAN** (Indian) staying in Celebration and working at Isai Ambalam GH
- **Velmurugan PAZHANI aka Chinraas** (Indian) staying in Celebration and working at Nine Palms



Kalpana

CHILD OF NEWCOMER:

- **Preethika RADHAKRISHNAN** (Indian) born on 18/12/2011 (daughter of Kalpana RADHAKRISHNAN)
- **Moshika RADHAKRISHNAN** (Indian) born on 16/10/2017 (daughter of Kalpana RADHAKRISHNAN)



Chinraas

NEWCOMER CONFIRMED:

- **Annora SARAF** (Indian)
- **Daniel GRINGS** (German)
- **Jules ARINDAM** (USA)
- **Meenatchi MOORTHI** aka Sharmila (Indian)
- **Rohan RAJ** (Indian)



Saipriya

AUROVILIAN ANNOUNCED:

- **Saipriya CHANDRAMOHAN** (Indian) staying in Citadine and working at AV Radio

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 Board

(Alain, Aurore, Dheena, Jayanthi, Lakshmanan, Matilde, Matripasad, Ramanarayana and Swadha)

ABOUT NEW AUROVILIANS

not entered into the Register of Residents

Dear Community, we would like to inform you that it has come to our attention that there are over 100 individuals who have completed their Newcomer process and been announced as Confirmed Aurovilians but who have not been invited to meet the Secretary and therefore have not yet been entered into the Register of Residents (RoR). Some of these individuals have been waiting for over a year.

On the 23 November 2022, the Working Committee selected by the Residents' Assembly sent a letter to the Secretary bringing this to her attention and requesting her to take action to complete the process of entering these new Aurovilians into the RoR as a matter of urgency. No response was received thus far.



WORKING COMMITTEE
of the Residents' Assembly
AUROVILLE FOUNDATION

We would like to clarify that those residents who have completed their Newcomer process and have been confirmed as Aurovilians by the Entry Board, even if not entered into the Register of Residents, are members of the Auroville community and are welcome to participate in Residents' Assembly Decision-making processes (as per the current [RAD policy](#)). The responsibility of admitting people into Auroville and the Register of Residents rests solely with the RA as per the Auroville Foundation Act, 1988, Section 19(2):

"The Residents' Assembly may: (a) allow the admission or cause the termination of persons in the register of residents in accordance with the regulations made under section 32;"

In our view, the status of those having been accepted by the Residents' Assembly, through its Newcomer process and by its Entry Board (aka Admissions Committee), cannot be undermined by a lack of diligence from the Office of the Secretary in carrying out what is simply an administrative task.

We urge those who are still waiting for their B-forms to be signed by the Secretary and for their names to be entered into the RoR to write to or visit the Foundation Office to remind them to complete this step and request reasons for the delay.

In community, Auroville Council (Balaji, Claudine, Julia, Philippe, Samrat, Shiva, Shivaya, Suryan, Svenja) Working Committee selected by the RA (Aravinda, Bharathy, Chali, Hemant, Maël, Sauro, Valli)

Community News



Christmas

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

At Unity Pavilion

24 December, 2—7pm



- **Christmas Decorations**—DIY bringing in the festive spirit (materials provided)
- **Christmas songs and dance as a community**—the joy of togetherness
- **Circle Dances and singing**—the oneness of everything
- Making together the Christmas snacks, pudding—the fun and laughter of doing it as one
- **And a lot more of fun activities** for adults and children

ALL ARE INVITED

Please join us. We look forward to celebrating Christmas like we always did

Regards, Arun

**SANTA CLAUS IS GOING TO VISIT US
in CRIPA, 26 December, Monday, at 5pm**

Dear children, mamas and papas, Santa Claus is going to visit us in CRIPA on 26 December, Monday, at 5pm.

- We will have a nice program for him.
- And He will have nice presents for us!
- After the event we will have a big potluck dinner.

Please bring the food you like and share with others.

Let's have a beautiful and magical time together!



Love and Light!, Shakti

Festivals

SEEDS OF UNITY FESTIVAL

Solitude Farm, 23 December, 4—10pm

Dear community, In the spirit of togetherness and healing, we present—Seeds of Unity festival. Intended as an offering to Her and to Auroville through its people, its neighbors, and very much its land, Seeds of Unity is a humble attempt to celebrate our unity and diversity through music, art, laughter, and food! We look forward to having you join us in an evening of dance and prayer, song and fire, stories and art, a live concert by Emergence, and an offering of delicious local food for 1000 people at Solitude Farm Auroville on 23 December, 4pm—10pm.



Solitude Farm

The schedule for the event

- 4—5 pm: welcoming activities—acoustic music, folk dance, art, storytelling, and more.

Please come at that time, and gather your energies to be present in the Havan/Agni Homa, starting 5 pm sharp.

- 5pm: Agni Homa, body art performance
- 6—6:30pm: laughter yoga with Monet
- 6:30—7:15pm: spiral dance with Prem Shakti
- 7:15—7:45pm: heart opening meditation with Samrat
- 7:45—8pm: collective singing with Antoine and Choir
- 8—10pm: Emergence & Friends Music performance
- Food will be served for free from 6pm

To keep this event true to its intention as an offering, it is completely non-commercial and fully free and open to all who come with open hearts.

We would be grateful to receive the help of the community through contributions (monetary, in kind and/or in work), to make this celebration happen.



We are in need of about 20 volunteers to help with venue preparation and cleaning, food preparation and serving+cleaning, and also filming. Everyone is welcome to join in the morning of 23th

- Please contact us on +919361618654 if you can help.

Joy is infectious. The healing we need is within us, we just need to create opportunities to help it flow out of us and surround us.

“Let us give joy to all for joy is ours.” (Savitri, Book XII)

Love, Priscila, Seeds Unity team

Auroville Matters

HAVEN'T YOU HAD ENOUGH?

“(From a conversation between Mother and a disciple about Auroville.)

One needs to have an absolutely transparent sincerity. Lack of sincerity is at present the cause of difficulties.

Insincerity is in all men. There are perhaps a hundred totally sincere men on earth. Man's very nature is what makes him insincere. It's very complicated, for he is constantly cheating with himself, hiding the truth from himself, finding excuses for himself. Yoga is the way to become sincere in all the parts of one's being.

It is difficult to be sincere, but one can at least be mentally sincere—this is what one can demand from Aurovilians.

The Force is there, present as never before; what prevents it from descending and being felt is men's insincerity. The world is steeped in falsehood, all relationships between men have so far been based only on falsehood and deceit. Diplomacy between nations is based on falsehood. They claim they want peace and on the other hand arm themselves. A transparent sincerity in man and between nations will alone permit the coming of a transformed world.

Auroville is the first attempt in the experiment. A new world will be born if men consent to strive for transformation and the search for sincerity—it can be done. It took millennia to evolve from animal to man; **today man, thanks to his mind, can accelerate things and will a transformation towards a man who will be God.**

This transformation with the help of the mind, through self-analysis, is a first stage; afterwards, vital impulses must be transformed—which is far more difficult; then, most of all, the physical: each cell of our body will have to become conscious. It is the work I am doing here. It will allow the conquest of death. It's another story; that will be the future mankind, perhaps in centuries, perhaps sooner. It will depend on men, on people.

Auroville is the first step towards this goal.”

The Mother, Agenda, February 28, 1968

https://sri-aurobindo.co.in/workings/ma/agenda_09/1968-02-28-01_e.htm

“...perhaps sooner. It will depend on men, on peoples.”

After 54 years of progressively hastened and intensified Supramental churning we can observe that those “perhaps a hundred totally sincere men on earth” have already increased!

And refocusing on Auroville, the City of Dawn:

Haven't you had enough of the insincerity and falsehood? Go, go Auroville!

Zech, 2022.12.18

Remembering

THEY WENT WITH OUR LOVE...

By Light we live and to the Light we go



In the last days of the year, we remember those of us who departed in 2022. Warm and deeply felt memories and gratitude go out to our comrades on the path who proceeded to lighter spaces.

This year they are

B. Chitra, E. Krishnamoorthy, Saraswati Ch., Axel, Aamit Bawa, Sanjeev A., Bryan W., Luigi Z., Bhaga, Peter Holl, Auralee, Laura M., Marion M., Daniel Brewer, Shraddhavan, Bruce E., Doris vK, Christine B, Francis M., R. Ramalingam and Bob Lawlor.

We also remember and honour here **Rajpal Karun, Eric Ramanujam, Teresa Pasetti, Trini Blanch, Dakshina and Marisa Giorgini.**

We will meet again!

For a last visit, see

- <https://auroville.org/category/passings-2022>

Mauna

Awakening Spirit

AMPHITHEATER—MATRIMANDIR

Meditation with Savitri read by Mother to Sunil's music



5:30 to 6pm, every Thursday at Sunset

We follow the sun and the timing changes with the season...

We are restarting from Book 1. 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, laptops, cell phones, etc. No Photos.
- **Dear Guests,** please carry your Guest Card with you
- **Access only for the Amphitheater from 5:15pm.**

Thank you, Surya & Velmurugan, Amphitheater team

DAILY PEACE MEDITATION

Unity Pavilion, Peace Hall

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 6 to 6:45pm

Thursday 5 to 5:45pm

Daily meditation

Venue :
Unity Pavilion Peace Hall

Timings :

- Thursday from 5PM to 5h45PM
- Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 6PM to 6h45PM

LIFE AFTER LIFE

Monday, 26 December 2022, 4pm, at Savitri Bhavan



Duration: 67 min.

This film by Peter Shockey is based on the research by Dr. Raymond A. Moody involving more than 2000 people who experienced clinical death, and "went to the other side" and were subsequently revived.

Six people are telling about their personal out-of-body experiences, their journey to the other side and return. The causes of their near-death experiences, NDE, were: lightning, suicide, complications after surgery, double lobar pneumonia, multiple bee stings and assassination by the KGB. They describe their experiences as *out of body*. They talk of *angels and ecstasy, soul travel, tunnel leading to the light, life preview and return.*

On the other side and in light and unconditional love, they often see their relatives or friends. And often they see a panorama which consists of everything they ever have done in their lives, from their birth until the time they call death.

All who come back have a new value system. It is based on loving others and seeking love-based relationships. And they have no more fear of death. They know the importance of Love through experiences of unconditional Love and Wisdom on the other side.

About the importance of Love, Albert Einstein wrote the following in a letter to his daughter, 'This universal force is LOVE' and 'Love is God and God is Love' —and he asked to keep this secret until humanity is ready for it.

The film is also available on Vimeo when searching for *Life After Life* by Peter Shockey.

With love and gratitude..... and in offering all to Mother's and Sri Aurobindo's Supreme guidance...

Margrit

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

**A New Series on Auroville...
"Exploring the Spirit"
Fulfilling Auroville's Purpose
by Loretta**

Venue : Bhumika Hall - Bharat Nivas
Day : Thursday 22nd December 2022
Time : 5 pm to 6.30 pm

The Spirit of Auroville.

BHARAT NIVAS
भारत निवास
The Pavilion of India, Auroville

INTRODUCTION TO THE INTEGRAL YOGA

of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother

Tuesday, 27 December, 9am—12noon

Introduction to the Integral Yoga of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother on Tuesday, 27 December, at 9am—12noon

Focus: The Inner being, **Led by:** Ashesh Joshi

Place: Mirabelle Education Centre, Auromodele

Contact: 9489147202. **All are Welcome, Ashesh Joshi**

For Your Information

LIST OF HOLIDAYS FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR – 2023

S.E.W.A (Small Employers & Employees Welfare Administration) recommends that all Employees be given a choice of 10 (Ten) holidays from the list given below. **Republic Day, May Day, Independence Day** and **Gandhi Jayanthi** should be considered as mandatory holidays and should be paid even if it falls on a Sunday.

Sl. No. Name of the Festival Date of the Festival Day of the Festival

1	New Year's Day	01.01.2023	Sunday
2	Pongal	15.01.2023	Sunday
3	Thiruvalluvar Day (Pongal)	16.01.2023	Monday
4	Uzhavar Thirunal (Pongal)	17.01.2023	Tuesday
5	Republic Day	26.01.2023	Thursday
6	Masi Magam (Regional Festival)	06.03.2023	Monday
7	Tamil New Year's Day	14.04.2023	Friday
8	May Day	01.05.2023	Monday
9	Ramzan (Idu'l Fitr)	22.04.2023	Saturday
10	Independence Day	15.08.2023	Tuesday
11	Vinayakar Chathurti	17.09.2023	Sunday
12	Gandhi Jayanthi	02.10.2023	Monday
13	Ayutha Pooja	23.10.2023	Monday
14	Deepavali	12.11.2023	Sunday
15	Christmas Day	25.12.2023	Monday

S.E.W.A recommends that the Employees (on completion of 12 months' service) are granted **Leave with Pay** for any unanticipated events or personal exigencies up to a maximum of **12 days** in a calendar Year. Further, that they be granted **Paid Leave** on account of sickness up to a maximum of **12 days** in a Calendar Year.

S.E.W.A recommends the following Salary/Wage increase for the year 2023

- 10% for Workers earning less than or equal to Rs. 250/- per day
- 8% for Workers earning more than Rs. 250/- per day and less than or equal to Rs. 400/- per day
- 5% for Workers earning more than Rs. 400/- per day

For any Information, Clarifications or Assistance with regards to Labor issues, please write to sewa@auroville.org.in. You can call us at 0413-2622709

With Warm Regards, Santhini on behalf of S.E.W.A

Health Care

AURO VISION IS LOCATED IN THE HEALTH CENTER

Only recently I found out that for changing glasses there is no need to go up and down to Pondy a few times. Auro Vision is located in the Aspiration Health center, and you can pay by FS account too.



- **Open 9am—1:30pm and 3—5pm daily except Sundays.**

They have modern optometry and deliver within 48 to 36 hrs.

By Anton, Saylam building

AURODENT—DENTAL CLINIC



Dental Clinic
Auromode, Auroville.

For Appointment please contact us

Email: aurodent@auroville.org.in

Phone: 0413-2622063 What's up: 9629199328

Working hours

Monday – Friday (9am – 1 pm & 2pm – 6 pm) Saturday (9am – 1pm)

Books

FOR ITALIANS WHO LOVE POETRY

“La Luna in pieno giorno”

The new book of poems by Paola De Paolis, “La Luna in pieno giorno” is now available at the Library and the Laboratory of Evolution.



Paola

The Arts

THE DIVINE SEED

Opening 6th January 2023 at 4.30 Pm

THE DIVINE SEED

Saravana Deivasegamani

6 Jan - 20 Jan

mon - sat 10am - 1pm / 2pm - 5pm SUNDAY CLOSED



Centre d'Art Gallery, Auroville invites you to an exhibition “The Divine Seed” by Saravana Deivasegamani

- **When:** Exhibition opening on Friday, 6 January, at 4:30pm
- **Exhibition Dates:** 6—20 January
- **Gallery hours:** Monday to Saturday, 10am—1pm, 2—5pm. Sunday is closed
- **Where:** Centre d'Art Gallery, Citadines, Auroville.

Please Park at town hall.

Free pickup and drop from the visitors Center on Friday and Saturday from 2:30 to 4:30pm.

The Divine Seed

Saravana Deivasegamani’s love of nature drives his passion for sculpting. The seed has a special place in his inner meditations. It is not an inert object but a spiritual symbol that connects the human with the divine.

Saravana’s solo exhibition, The Divine Seed, is an ode to nature. In this show, the Aurovillian artist presents a set of evocative sculptures and installations inspired by the many forms and manifestations of the natural world. Made of wood, metal, and reclaimed natural material, Saravana’s carefully constructed, structurally balanced and visually alluring artworks prove his technical competence, ingenuity, as well as conceptual understanding of man and nature.

Artist’s Bio

Saravana (b. Puducherry, 1984) is essentially a self-taught artist. He began his career as a metal craftsman and decorative grill designer. Over time, he honed his skills in fine art sculpting through self-study, experimentation, and vigorous practice. His first major exhibition was held in 2016 at Gallery Square Circle, Kala Kendra (as part of a two-person show with eminent painter and fellow-Aurovillian Juergen Puetz). The same year, his sculptural installation titled ‘Creators’ made entirely of natural Palmyra seeds won the National Award of the Lalit Kala Akademi. His award-winning work was displayed at the 58th National Exhibition in the National Gallery of Modern Art, Bangalore. He was also invited to the national artists’ conclave in February —March 2017. Since then, Saravana has participated in a number of group exhibitions, artists’ camps and workshops in Puducherry, Chennai, Bangalore, New Delhi, and Hampi. He has also conducted lecture demonstrations on how to convert scrap/found material into evocative art objects.

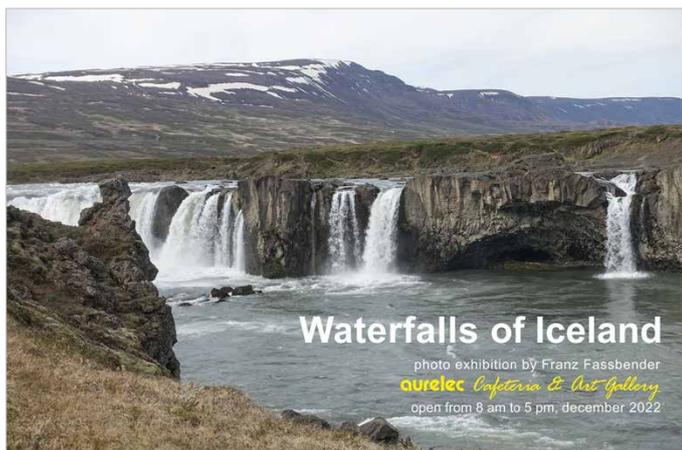
Artist Statement

I am a nature artist. For me, the concept of ‘Nature’ is intrinsically linked to both my life and work. I have seen, felt and learned how nature can nourish as well as affect human existence. Without Nature, there is no life, no humanity, and no existence. I spend most of my waking hours in the wild —watching and being one with nature and its glorious manifestations. In my art, I give shape to my reflections, experiences, and wonder of being with Nature. The recent pandemic has made me introspect on the connection between man-made creations and the natural world. In my work, I seek to express my concerns and also find answers to our present dilemmas. I firmly believe in what Sri Aurobindo once said: ‘What Nature is, what God is, what man is can be triumphantly revealed in stone or on canvas.’

Saravana Deivasegamani
Warm Regards, Centre d’Art Atelier

WATERFALLS ON ICELAND

Photo Exhibition by Franz Fassbender
Aurelec, December 2022, 8am—5pm

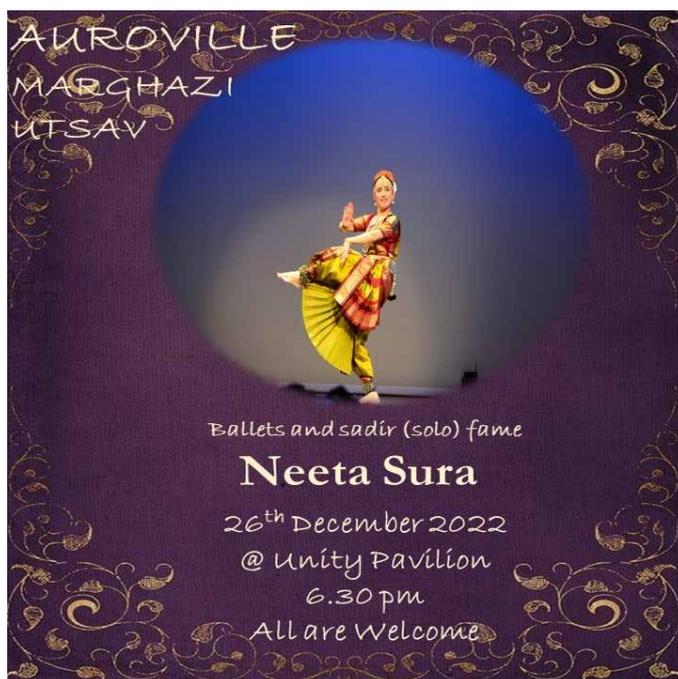


DANCE PERFORMANCE

BY NEETA SURA

26 December, 6:30pm, Unity Pavilion

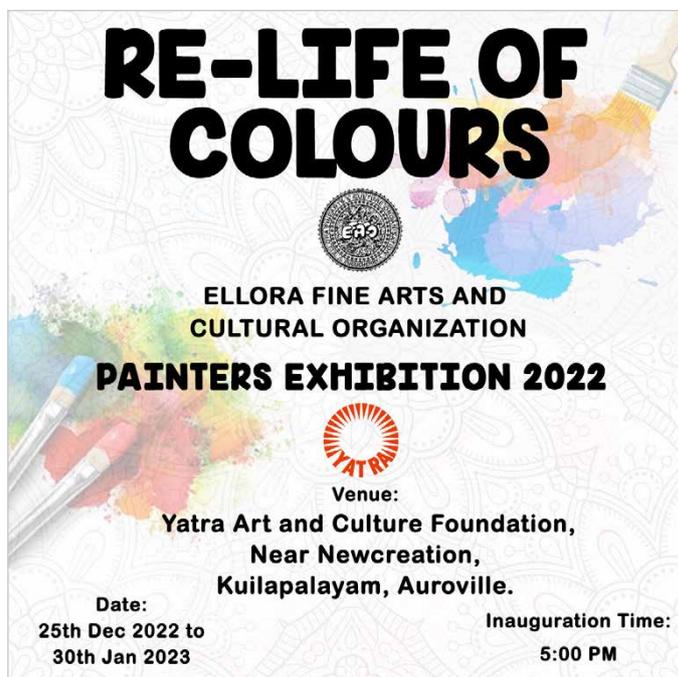
All are Welcome



Thanks, William

RE-LIFE OF COLORS

Ellora Fine Arts and Cultural Organization
Painters Exhibition
2022



- Venue: Yatra Art and Culture Foundation, Kuilapalayam, Auroville,
- Date: 25 December 2022—30 January 2023
- Inauguration Time: 5pm
- Gallery Time: 10am—5pm

Thank You,
Yatra Srinivassan
99943 62336

NAGARASANKIRTANAM
By Dr. Jayanti S.Ravi,
IAS

accompanied by
Krupa Ravi (Vocals)
& **Adit Ravi (Flute)**

23 December, 6:30pm,
Unity Pavilion



Green Column

ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION

More on the UN Biodiversity Conference

There has never been a more urgent need to revive damaged ecosystems than now. Without halting and reversing the degradation of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, 1 million species are at risk of extinction. [Ecosystems](#) support all life on Earth. The healthier our ecosystems are, the healthier the planet and its people. [Ecosystem restoration](#) will only succeed if everyone (states, companies, organisations and individuals) joins a worldwide movement to prevent, halt and reverse the degradation of ecosystems. How are we doing so far?



Leaders have been meeting in Montreal, Canada at the COP15 to hammer out a policy framework to salvage what is left of non-human life. They even launched a **#GenerationRestoration** initiative to give people a banner under which to show they care. However, much of the cause of the current ecological crisis is deeply tied into the modern way of life, in our definitions of success and in our sense of security. How many hashtags does it take to change our attachment to a fundamentally destructive civilisation?

The [United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration](#) started in 2020 and runs until 2030, which is also the deadline for achieving the [Sustainable Development Goals](#) (social targets such as zero hunger, poverty and preventable diseases). At the current rate of progress we are on track to reach these targets by 2092. If there is still a society left by that time... The combination of epic inequality and ecological disaster is known to be toxic and volatile, triggering non-linear feedback loops. Extreme weather for example causes food shortage which causes instability and war. War drives up carbon emissions that cause extreme weather.

There is reason to be cautious and avoid ecological instability: prevention is much cheaper than having to pay the price for ecological collapse after it's too late. But who cares as long as the reward for extraction keeps outweighing that for protection? It seems that until we change the structure of our economy all we have to hope for is some sort of moral awakening. The UN is rife with bureaucracy and infighting, but it's the only body with enough legitimacy to table these concerns (sounds familiar?) and it's going all out to give us hope for Christmas :)

- **Smiley fact # 1:** Scientists say [restoring only 15% of ecosystems](#) in priority areas can cut the number of species going extinct by 60 per cent. So we can make a difference!

- **Smiley fact # 2:** Ten ground-breaking efforts from around the globe were declared World Restoration Flagships. Together, they aim to restore more than 68 million hectares—an area bigger than Myanmar, France or Somalia—and create nearly 15 million jobs. See details below.

Here is the boss of the UN Environment Program, Inger Andersen: *“Transforming our relationship with nature is the key to reversing the triple planetary crisis of climate change, nature and biodiversity loss, and pollution and waste. These 10 inaugural World Restoration Flagships show that with political will, science, and collaboration across borders, we can achieve the goals of the UN Decade of Ecosystem Restoration.”*

[Trinational Atlantic Forest Pact](#)

The Atlantic Forest once covered much of Brazil, Paraguay and Argentina. But it has been reduced to fragments by centuries of logging, agricultural and urban expansion. Hundreds of organizations are active in the decades-long effort to protect and restore the forest in all three countries. Their initiatives include wildlife corridors for endangered species, like the jaguar and the golden lion tamarin, securing water supplies for people and nature, building resilience to climate change, and creating thousands of jobs. Some 700,000 hectares have already been restored with the 2030 target at 1 million hectares and the 2050 target at 15 million hectares. After defeat of Bolsonaro and World Cup victory this region has one more thing to celebrate.

[Abu Dhabi Marine Restoration](#)

To safeguard the world's second-largest dugong population the United Arab Emirates aims to restore seagrass beds—the sea cow's preferred food—coral reefs and mangroves along the Gulf coast. The project also benefits four species of turtle and three kinds of dolphin. Local communities will benefit from the revival of some of the 500 species of fish, as well as greater opportunities for eco-tourism. Abu Dhabi hopes to protect its coastal ecosystems in what is already one of the world's warmest seas. Some 7,500 hectares of coastal areas have already been restored with another 4,500 hectares under restoration for 2030. No comment on the irony of a fossil fuel based nation seeking to cool its local seas...

[Great Green Wall for Restoration and Peace](#)

This is an ambitious initiative to restore savannas, grasslands and farmlands across Africa to help families and biodiversity cope with climate change and halt desertification. Launched by the African Union in 2007, this flagship impacts millions in the Sahel region by creating a belt of green and productive landscapes across 11 countries. Their 2030 goals are to restore 100 million hectares, sequester 250 million tons of carbon and create 10 million jobs.

[Ganges River Rejuvenation](#)

Restoring the health of the sacred Ganga will cut pollution, rebuild forest cover and bring a wide range of benefits to the 520 million people living around its vast basin. Climate change, population growth, industrialization and irrigation have degraded the Ganges along its 2,525-kilometre course from the Himalayas to the Bay of Bengal. Launched in 2014, the government-led Namami Gange initiative aims to rejuvenate, protect and conserve the river and its tributaries, reforesting parts of its banks and promoting sustainable farming. It aims to revive wildlife species including river dolphins, softshell turtles, otters, and the hilsa shad fish. The initiative involved 230 organisations, with 1,500km of river declared as restored to date. Afforestation covered 30,000 hectares so far, with a 2030 goal of 134,000 hectares. Critics have called out the lack of transparency and obsession with sewage plants instead of hydrology.

[Multi-Country Mountain Initiative](#)

Mountain regions face unique challenges. Climate change is melting glaciers, eroding soils and driving species uphill—often toward extinction. The water that mountains supply to farms and cities in the plains below is becoming unreliable. This initiative in Serbia, Kyrgyzstan, Uganda and Rwanda showcases how projects in three diverse regions use restoration to make mountain ecosystems more

resilient. Uganda and Rwanda are home to one of only two remaining populations of mountain gorilla. Thanks to the protection of their habitat, gorilla numbers have doubled in the last 30 years. In Kyrgyzstan, herders are managing grasslands more sustainably so that they provide better food for both livestock and Asiatic ibex. Snow leopards are slowly bouncing back. In Serbia, brown bears have returned to the forests, where restoration is also helping ecosystems recover from wildfires.

Small Island Developing States Restoration Drive

Focused on three small island states –Vanuatu, St Lucia and Comoros– this flagship is scaling up ridge-to-reef restoration of unique ecosystems and tapping blue economy growth to help island communities rebound from the COVID-19 pandemic. Goals include a reduction in pressures on coral reefs, which are vulnerable to storm damage, so that fish stocks can recover. Ecosystems under restoration also include seagrass beds, mangroves and forests. This flagship amplifies the voice of island nations facing rising sea levels and intense storms as a result of climate change.

Altyn Dala Conservation Initiative

Like many grasslands around the world, the vast steppes of Central Asia are in decline due to overgrazing, conversion to arable land and the shifting climate. In Kazakhstan, the Altyn Dala Conservation Initiative has been working since 2005 to restore the historic habitat of the Saiga, a critically endangered antelope. Saiga population had plunged to 50,000 in 2006 but recovered to 1.3 million in 2022. The initiative also helped conserve wetlands that are a vital stopover for an estimated 10 million migratory birds. Among the key bird species are the sociable lapwing, the red-breasted goose, the white-headed duck and the Siberian crane.

Central American Dry Corridor

Exposed to heatwaves and unpredictable rainfall, the ecosystems and peoples of the Central American Dry Corridor are especially vulnerable to climate change. As recently as 2019, a fifth year of drought left 1.2 million people in the region needing food aid. Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama are tapping traditional farming methods to combine productivity with biodiversity. For example, agroforestry systems integrating tree cover with crops like coffee, cocoa and cardamom can boost soil fertility and water availability while sustaining original tropical forest species. By 2030, the goal is to have 100,000 hectares under restoration and create 5,000 permanent jobs.

Building with Nature in Indonesia

Demak, a low-lying coastal community on Indonesia’s main island of Java, has been plagued by erosion, flooding and land loss caused by the removal of mangroves for aquaculture ponds, land subsidence and infrastructure. Rather than replanting mangrove trees, this innovative World Restoration Flagship has built fence-like structures with natural materials along the shore to calm waves and trap sediment, creating conditions for mangroves to rebound naturally. In return for letting mangroves regenerate, farmers have been schooled in sustainable techniques that have increased their shrimp production. With mangroves providing habitat for a plethora of marine organisms, fishers have also seen their near-shore catches improve.

Shan-Shui Initiative in China

This initiative combines 75 large-scale projects to restore ecosystems, from mountains to coastal estuaries. Launched in 2016, these projects work at the landscape or watershed scale, include agricultural and urban areas as well as natural ecosystems, and seek to boost multiple local industries. Examples include the Oujiang River Headwaters Project in Zhejiang province, which integrates scientific knowledge with traditional farming methods, like slope terracing and combining crops with fish- and duck-rearing. Some 3.5 million hectares have been restored so far. The 2030 target is 10 million hectares.

This being the last Green Column of the year we wish our readers a wonderful Christmas and a New year that will be healing for all of us, for Auroville and planet Earth. With a clear harmonious and positive vision towards the way forward in 2023

Gijs and Lisbeth

The Green Column reports on green issues in Auroville, The Bioregion and the wider world. It appears bi-monthly in the News and Notes. We like to hear from you!

avgreencenter@auroville.org.in
avgreencentre@gmail.com

Overview of some of the Sustainable Development Goals

 1 NO POVERTY	Goal 1 = No Poverty	 2 ZERO HUNGER	Goal 2 = Zero Hunger
 6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION	Goal 6 = Clean Water and Sanitation	 7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY	Goal 7 = Affordable and Clean Energy
 12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION	Goal 12 = Sustainable Consumption and Production	 13 CLIMATE ACTION	Goal 13 = Climate Action
 14 LIFE BELOW WATER	Goal 14 = Life below water	 15 LIFE ON LAND	Goal 15 = Life on Land

Submitted by Gijs

Activities

TANGO DANCE CLASS

Every Monday group class
Cripa, Auroville



2 month commitment for group class,
Every month's new batch for beginners and
intermedium, every Monday
private class by appointment for any day's
Place:cripa, Auroville

Mani :+918637633696

2 month commitment for a group class. Every month a new batch starts for beginners and intermediate. If they want to learn private class for Tango dance any day by appointment.

Mani, +918637633696, In: bakisata_dance

CREATIVE WRITING PLAYGROUND



Creative Writing Playground weekly updates: hello, this week a new short podcast episode of I "Just Wanna Write!" on AVRadio: writing in stressful times.

For other creative insights on writing, please subscribe to the Creative Writing Playground blog. It's for Aurovilians and Newcomers only and it's for free. You can find it on gatedreams.com. Enjoy! Francesca

Thank you very much, Francesca

AUOGAMES SESSION AT HUMASCAPE

Sessions with Aurogames games help develop concentration and memory. Open to all ages from 6 year old on. The sessions take place in small groups, for a better stimulation of the children. For individual sessions, it is best to make an appointment.



- Sessions take place at **Humanscape**, the community building
 - Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 4—5pm
- Limited places, please reserve and confirm your venue.
- Possibility of private session on appointment only.
 - Free of Charge

Geetha 7094688421, Veronique 9488512678

WALK WITH US

REVELATION FOREST

Guided Forest Walk

Monday to Friday 07:00 AM

Reporting Point - Parking Opposite Auromode Apartments

CONTACT US

revelation_forest +91 99580 84473 (Only WhatsApp)

Rains are here—A rainy day is a perfect time for a walk in the woods. Join us for a curated walk in one of the densest forests of Auroville. Connect with nature through all your senses!

Also, learn about one of the most successful reforestation projects which brought back a thriving tropical forest from scratch.

- **Time:** Monday to Friday—7 am
- **Venue:** Parking area opposite CSR and Auromode Apartments
- **Duration:** 1 hr
- **Special Instructions:** Please wear full sleeves and full pants to prevent mosquito bites. You may also carry some mosquito repellants. Carry a raincoat or an umbrella if it's rainy.

Contact +91 99580 84473, WA only
Regards Arun

FOOD FOREST TOUR

EVERY SUNDAY from 9:00 to 11:00
at La Ferme Community (5min from AV Bakery)

with
Raw Vegan Ice Cream

Limited to 7 people - sign up closes Saturday 8pm

Contribution
300rs Av/Nc, 500rs volunteer,
700rs guests.

Sign up whats app Sarah 9047421044
sarah@auroville.org.in

SALSA DANCE CLASS

Every Tuesday group class
New Creation Sports Ground, Auroville

Salsa dance class

2 months commitment for group class
Every month's new batch For beginners and intermedium, every Tuesday
private class by appointment for any day's place: New creation sports ground, Auroville
Mani: +91863763369

2 month commitment for a group class. Every month a new batch starts for beginners and intermediate. If they want to learn private class for Salsa, Bachata and Kizomba Dance any day's by appointment

Mani : +918637633696, In: bakisata_dance

SWIMMING CLASS

Any age kids and Any age adult by appointment.

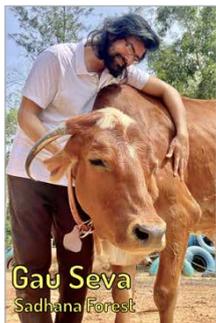
Kids (6+) & Adults
Courses from beginners to advanced level

To book contact
Mani
+91 8637633696

Mani, +918637633696

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

NESS SCHOOL LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

New Era Secondary School (NESS) near the Aspiration Community is affiliated with CBSE and an Auroville Outreach school is looking for volunteers for:

- Sport programs
- Cultural programs (visual/performing) —art, drawing, singing, dancing, music, etc.

We have approximately 200 students from grades 6 to 12 from Auroville, Pondicherry and the bioregion.

If you have skills, experience and enjoy teaching children, please consider contacting us at ness@auroville.org.in or nesscoregroup@gmail.com

We look forward to hearing from you.

NESS Core Group, Elaine Catherine



Work Opportunities

HR HUB INITIATIVE



HR Hub Initiative is a service which helps individual Aurovilians and Newcomers who are looking for suitable work to find it, and to help Auroville units and services who are looking to fill positions to find the right individuals to step in

Accountant (full time)

A Service of Auroville is looking for an accountant. The person needs to have good knowledge of Tally and xls, and a good command of english. It is a full time position with maintenance.

Please contact us for more information and if you are interested in any of these work opportunities or if you are looking for something else. You can find us at hr.hubauroville@gmail.com.

Warmly, Sara

Looking For

Looking for a Gardener

Looking for a gardener for every Friday full day from 23 December, Friday, on from 1 of January

Contact Lisbeth in Madhuca, WA
 +91 9442032047



Looking for a portable CD Player

Please contact Friederike: 9943247326

*Thanks a lot,
 Friederike*



Needs Winter Clothes



Winter Clothes for 10 yrs Girl. In case you have some to kindly give or lend for some time:
ulrikrishna@gmail.com, 6975151390 WA, Signal, Telegram
 Ulrike

Available

Tuition classes available



Tuition classes available for subjects from grade 1 to grade 8. Contact 8270512606 WA for more details. *Thank you, Ashwini*

Lost and Found

Medical Glasses Lost



They have medical lenses and a purple frame. They have some tape on the bridge of the nose. Lost between Invocation, Town Hall and Afsaneh guest house. Please call 0413 2623820 if you found them. I will be forever grateful.

Marlyse

Taxi Sharing

To Chennai Airport, December 24, 2pm



Taxi sharing to Chennai airport on December 24 at around 2pm. Please contact +447732859431 WA

Drop me a line! Larisa

Help Needed

THE SEASON OF GIVING IS HERE

Support Aurokiya Eye Care to gift vision to school children, our beloved employees and friends from Auroville and Bioregion

Gift Vision



Aurokiya Eye Care vision is to eliminate blindness in Auroville and bioregion. Aurokiya has actively been doing school screening programs and workplace screening to identify and treat eye problems. We are in need of support to run the eye care programs.

If you wish to support these initiatives, donate to FS Acc. No 251595 Or

Join the Matching Donations Campaign for Auroville by AVI USA and support Aurokiya <https://aviusa.org/?form=aurokiya>

*Wishing You Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,
 Aurosugan*

SEEKING TUITION FEE

Dear friends, my name is Bouthan, born and brought up in Auroville. I have passed my 12th grades at New Era School in Science stream and I am now pursuing 3rd year in B.Sc in Microbiology at The Hindustan College Coimbatore. Both my parents have been giving their service to Auroville for the past 16 to 26 years. My mother Suguna is a teacher at Deepanam School and my father Velu is working at the Auroville Security Service. Both my parents are receiving Auroville Maintenances.

I am right now looking for support for the study fees of my last semester of the 3 years. Luckily the fees and hostel for the first semester of the 3rd year got covered by the Scholarship and Educational Fund. I also received enough for the hostel and need now only to fundraise for the study & exam fees.

By mid January I will need to pay **Rs.33,000/-** (tuition fee) and **Rs.3000** (exam fees) for the second semester of 3rd year.

After completing this semester I will graduate and might continue with higher studies as well. My studies are very interesting and the subjects fascinate me. I am very excited that I will be able to do some field research on biodegradable products made in Auroville and for this a small team from my university (including me) will be visiting Auroville in between December and January.

I am immensely grateful for your financial support. Donations can be made on **FS #251777, Bouthan Study**

Thank you, Sincerely Bouthan

ANAND NEEDS SUPPORT

Dear friends, this is to inform you that **Anand** had a severe heart attack a few weeks ago and had to undergo angioplasty surgery in PIMS.



On top of the ongoing medical expenses, the family of Anand had to take another burden to pay for the angioplasty surgery. The Auroville health fund has told us that the maximum limit that they can help for Anand is **Rs 1,50,000** and it was offered for his operation planned for December. Now, as the angioplasty surgery had to be done, the doctor has advised to postpone that operation for the one portion of his skull to January or February 2023. So the amount **Rs 1,50,000** (One lakh and fifty thousands) offered for his skull replacement operation will be paid for his angioplasty operation bills.

We are requesting the community again to come forward to help Anand and his family to pay for the operation that is expected to happen in January or February. They do not have enough fund as they have already spent a lot beyond their capacity so far.

The minimum expected amount for the operation for his skull replacement is **Rs 2,50,000** (Two Lakhs and Fifty thousands).

Anand needs support, please give your contribution to the **FS account 251019**.

Thank you, Matrimandir executives and coordinators

PAD FOR PAD PROGRAM

Dear Friends, this Christmas, Eco Femme is asking for your support to sustain our Pad for Pad program which provides free menstrual education and cloth pads to girls from low-income backgrounds in India.



Our international sales which sustain this program have fallen short of target this year—Covid has hit us hard. For the first time since launching the program in 2012, it has become necessary for us to actively fund-raise in order to be able to keep on running this program. This year's target is 15,000 girls. We have distributed 9000 cloth pad kits and we have 6000 to go.

How can you help?

1. You could give either Rs. 95 (1 pad) or Rs. 550 (1 cloth pad kit).
2. Spread the word with your friends and family.

Donation gateway options

1. For donations over Rs.500: <https://avivusa.org/?form=EcoFemme> (Auroville International USA doubles your donation impact throughout December!)
2. For donations under 500 Rs: <https://donations.auroville.org/ecofemme>

In Eco Sisterhood, Laure, Team Eco Femme

Foods, Goods and Services

TRAINING SESSION FOR UNIT EXECUTIVES

Financial Management

Saturday, 21 January



Flourish (a unit under Service Trust) is organizing a training course to help those running units in Auroville to understand key aspects of financial management. Topics covered will include budgeting, pricing, break-even analysis and financial monitoring.

It is intended for unit executives and any others who make critical business decisions for the Unit to help them in ensuring the success of their units.

Whilst the session has been developed for the units Flourish is working with (as part of their ongoing research into the support needed to help AV's units grow) there will be a few places open to executives from any AV units. These will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis.

- The training will be held on Saturday, 21 January 2023.
- Timings are still to be decided but it is likely to be around 6 hours including lunch and breaks.

If you are interested to attend please email

- flourish@auroville.org.in

Warmly, Helen & Manjula for Flourish

SERVICES OFFERED

Hi, This is Mukul Mantri offering my services pro-bono (no contribution required) to units and activities in Auroville in the following areas:

- Sales and Marketing
- Idea evaluation
- Filling up application forms
- Concept preparation
- Project Proposal preparations

Contact: mukul.mantri@gmail.com

Regards, Mukul Mantri, +91 9830849001

VISITORS CENTRE CAFETERIA

Christmas Eve Dinner



7 - 9.30pm, Saturday, 24 December

- Choice of Traditional, Seafood or Vegan menus, Please see details on Auronet.
- Bookings welcome
 - cafeteriavc@auroville.org.in, 9043004919 WA

Come and enjoy!

A happy and peaceful Christmas to all, Love, Nicole

SAKURA SUSHI REMAINS OPEN



A unit of Auroville, Auroville Main Road, opposite New Era Secondary School
Phone & WhatsApp: +91 94 873 861 72, +91 94 880 473 68

Dear all, **Sakura Sushi will remain open** during all the holidays for the rest of this year.

• Our usual closing day is on Tuesday.

For those who celebrate, we wish you a nice time.

• For orders & deliveries: +91 9487386172

Ravi Borchardt

RAPID CARE SERVICES

Dear Community, thank you very much for your support of Rapid Care Services.

We have a well-experienced and equipped team to resolve all your repairs and maintenance requirements.

Our team is prepared to take up all aspects of the repairs and maintenance activities in our community.



List of services provided by Rapid Care Services

- Aluminum channel work
- Welding
- Carpentry
- Masonry
- Plumbing
- Painting
- Insect Treatment
- Fencing
- Electrical
- Washing machine repair & installation,
- A/c repair and installation,
- Inverter repair and installation,
- Dth repair and installation and
- Furniture purchase assistance

By choosing Rapid Care Services you are supporting an Auroville activity managed by youth and contributing to the community while growing the Economy of Auroville.

Kindly do give us an opportunity and call us for all your repairs and maintenance needs.

Best regards, Arun & Balaji
Arun, 7639810621,
Balaji, 8270071581

rscrapidcareservices@gmail.com
rapidcare@auroville.org.in

ECO FEMME OPEN HOUSE

Every Thursday morning from 10:30am

Dear friends, join our open house at our office in Auroshilpam every Thursday morning from 10:30am. Come and learn about sustainable menstrual products and our not-for-profit programs and pick up discounted cloth pads, cups and cloth nappies.



See you soon!

The Eco Femme Team'

AUROMODE HIVE OPEN HOUSE

Friday, 23 December, 10am—5pm

Dear All, Auromode Hive would like to invite you to an Open House on Friday, 23 December from 10am to 5pm. We will have free internet! All are welcome to try out our coworking space, Free of Charge!!!

Auromode Hive
Coworking space

20% Off Aurovillians Newcomers Volunteers

Productivity, Focus, Ecological, Control, Collaborative, Economical, Easy, Available, Sustainable, Accessible, Smart, Development, Community, Affordable, Reliable, Flexible, Creative, Network

Hi-Speed internet
Fully AC
Conference room
Video projector
Color printing
Self serv. Kitchen

Auroshilpam
Auroville 605101
Tamil Nadu, India

70921 97375
auromodehive@auroville.org.in
[auromode_hive](https://www.auroville.org.in/auromode_hive)

For more details regarding our Plans check out our catalog at our WA Business No. 7092197375

Dhesh, on behalf of the Auromode Hive Team

LATEST NEWS FROM INSIDE INDIA—TRAVEL SHOP

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



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

Under the revised guidelines of the health ministry, the submission of self-declaration forms on the online Air Suvidha portal stands discontinued.

E-Visa portal gets upgraded and it is now again possible in the UK and Canada to apply for the same. Maybe the situation with E-Visa in other countries will also improve with the same upgrade. If not working we recommend to get the Visa directly from the Indian Embassies.

Aircraft of most of the Airlines are fully booked and its advisable to make bookings well in advance. Lufthansa will have daily flights from April onwards.

For travelers who accept flexible flight dates: there is a chance to get international flight tickets for only about 15% higher price than in the past. But if one books late and has a fixed itinerary it could be 40% or even double.

- Etihad airways special fare is available to Rome, Milan.
- Oman airways has special fare to Zurich, London and Paris
- Vistara airline competitive fares are available to Paris, Frankfurt and London.
- Qatar airways good fares are available to Stockholm, Munich, Zurich, Rome and Milan.

Joster

Auroville Poetry

IN THE THICK OF IT ALL

You say "Surrender"
 "Bhakti to the Supreme"...
 But who
 Or what is this "Supreme"?
 Ahohoho...
 Any human unawoke
 Creates its own god,
 Whatever acts as goad:
 Goons, guns, gold,
 Fame, fortune, objects of vanity
 Temptations of the ego mentality;
 Money, power, sex,
 Ooh all sorts, whatever works,
 To ask, hope for or even beg
 From the altar of falsehood,
 To possess through whatever means.
 The Asuras, Raksashas and Pishachas
 Are more than willing to dispense...
 For a life's price, of course.
 For the awakened these are no worries
 Seeming contradictions they are integrally seen
 As complementary evolutionary schemes
 To progressively chisel and hammer
 The too rough and unreceptive Matter
 For it to also eventually supramentally awake.
 The One Supreme wears infinite masks.
 But until the Supramental Consciousness-Force
 Is embodied, the Truth-Unity amply established,
 And the Divine Manifestation happens,
 There are still those we call the chosen ones
 Whose unique roles in the Great Cosmic Game,
 Their swabhava and swadharma,
 Are to uphold the dharma from adharma,
 The Divine Truth from undivine falsehood.
 Fully surrendered to the Supreme,
 Their blazing blades and armours,
 Bows and arrows in deeds and words,
 Are emblazoned with the Mandate of Heaven.
 This Mandate is no doubt transitional
 As we co-learn from experiences historical,
 Depending on the Divine Need in space and time,
 Bestowed appropriate to whomever is Called.
 And so the Gita's Battle of Kurukshetra
 Is an eternal symbol
 Of the Warrior Bhakta
 Flowing effortlessly within
 The perpetual Dance
 Of The Two Who are One.
 Samarpana, Surrender,
 Bhakti to that One Supreme,
 Is the key to inner peace and equality
 In the thick of it all...

Om Namo Bhagavate
 Zech, 2022.12.19

Voices and Notes

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

- [I just wanna write —Ep.3 "Writing in stressful times"](#) (Creative writing)
- [Savitri, B. I, C. V, Part 1](#) (Integral Yoga)
- [Sri Aurobindo, La Vita Divina —Cap. 15](#) (Sri Aurobindo)
- [Soul Tracks —Se.4, Ep.21 "A Solo Matt Rides Again"](#) (Music)
- [I just wanna write —Ep.2 "One word a day"](#) (Creative writing)
- [The Auroville Choir —Spirituals and Gospel Songs 2022](#) (Music)
- [Une série hebdomadaire de lectures par Gangalakshmi—422](#) (Integral Yoga)
- [Sri Aurobindo, La Vita Divina —Cap. 14](#) (Sri Aurobindo)
- [Kadhaj Ketpoma-Ep.13 \(Literature\) "நீ நதி போல ஓடிக்கொண்டிரு"](#)
- [Soul Tracks —Se.4 Ep.20 "Mad as a Box of Frogs"](#) (Music)

Last Youtube live videos

- [Get Lost—A Miraculous Productions play](#)

...and more! on www.aurovillerradio.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

Regards, Wobbli

HIDING IN THE BUSHES

A couple of weeks ago, as a reaction to my recent articles on N&N, a friend sent me a link to a YouTube video of Vandana Shiva being interviewed by Russell Brand. This video brought back some old memories.

Fifteen years ago I was sitting at a cafe in Kulilapalayam enjoying a watermelon juice and a salad with a friend, when he showed me an article of Vandana Shiva in the newspaper. Vandana Shiva, for those who haven't heard of her, is an environmental activist and food sovereignty advocate. She is based in Dehradun and runs agriculture courses based on native seeds. Her project is called Navdanya.

For months after reading that article, I kept looking for more articles by Vandana Shiva, and article after article I felt like I was starting to learn something.

Have you ever heard of the Green Revolution? In a nutshell the Green Revolution was a movement which brought agricultural changes all over the world. It started in the West in the late 1960s, and continued globally until the late 1980s. Farmers were introduced to High-Yielding Varieties (HYVs) of cereals, especially dwarf wheat and rice. Agriculture began also moving towards the usage of chemical fertilizers, pesticides, and mechanization.

The Green Revolution in India commenced in 1968 in Punjab, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh. Vandana Shiva says that

this caused environmental and financial problems like soil deterioration from the use of chemicals, rural indebtedness and farmer suicides.

I'm not going into it in this article. It would be too long and too depressing.

The point which should concern us in Auroville is how to work towards achieving food sovereignty. So, what is Food Sovereignty?

This is the best description I found:

Food sovereignty is a food system in which the people who produce, distribute, and consume food also control the mechanisms and policies of food production and distribution. This stands in contrast to the present corporate food regime, in which corporations and market institutions control the global food system. Food sovereignty emphasizes local food economies, sustainable food availability, and center culturally appropriate foods and practices.

Isn't this exactly what we need in Auroville?

Back to my story. Fifteen years ago, after reading a few Vandana Shiva's articles, I asked PCG (Project Coordination Group) to help me go and meet Vandana Shiva. In the application form I explained that I wanted to learn more about food sovereignty, and I wanted to see if I could help create a liaison between Vandana Shiva's project in Dehradun (Navdanya) and Auroville.

Imagine, this was fifteen years ago!! Do you think my request got approved? Of course not, and they didn't even send someone else instead of me. Otherwise by now we would have got a seedbank and a nursery specialized in propagating native edibles, and perhaps by now we would have food sovereignty in Auroville. But no, no progress whatsoever in the agricultural sector of Auroville.

None of my project proposals ever got approved by the way. My educational videos project on Local Edible Variety was rejected (see previous article All That Glitters Is Not Gold); this Vandana Shiva project was also rejected, and the Learning Center which I built with my own funds has never had electricity to this day, and therefore I still can't run it (but everybody else has electricity in my community except me).

Some great philosophers say that our worst enemy is hidden deep inside of us.

In Italian the verb **imboscarsi** means = *to enter a forest or a bush, to hide away*. And we also have the word **imboscata** which means = *ambush*. The two are related.

The same verb exists in French: **Embusqué** = *hide to avoid being seen*. **Bosque** = *forest*. **Embuscade** = *Maneuver by which a troop is concealed in a suitable place, to surprise and attack the enemy*.

In English there is only **ambush** = *a surprise attack by people lying in wait in a concealed position*. In old times the meaning of ambush was = *to hide in the forest/bushes prior to attacking by surprise*.

Auroville is surely more than just a settlement for "smart" people. Auroville is meant to be a project which amongst other things should include research and education, and should aim at evolution.

Has the original Auroville project been attacked in an ambush? When are we going to start collaborating with each other and use our potential in a more creative way? When?

Gino

PS Somebody will probably say that we already have a seedbank somewhere like in Pebble Garden. Oh, so Pebble Garden is already doing it. How wonderful. And where is the food sovereignty for Auroville? Why are we still buying food from outside? Auroville farms can't produce more than 17% of the food we consume because we don't cultivate the native edibles (it's actually way less than 17%). I don't mean to criticize anybody, Solitude is doing a great job, and so is Pebble Garden. But what they are doing is quite far from what I'm talking about. In Auroville we often say this: "oh this is already being done by such as such". But the reality is that we don't have much

as a community. We are a bunch of privates minding each their own business. Otherwise we would be growing our own sesame seeds and produce our own oil. Not buying the seeds outside, press them and sell the oil as Auroville oil. If we didn't think that Auroville is a "too far fetched" dream, we would be growing and eating our own food by now. Maybe we are confusing "Living in the Present Moment" with 'living as if there was no tomorrow'.

Classes, Workshops & Healing Arts

MUDRA-CHI



Our last class of the year will be on

- December 24 at 4:30pm.

Everybody, welcome!

Anandi-ayūn

**AUROMODE YOGA SPACE
January 2023 Activities**



Date/ Day	Timings	Event description
Thursday & Fridays	10am to 11:15am	Vinyasa flow —Dynamic Yoga Sessions with Bala
Tuesday & Wednesday	10am to 11:15am	Animal Flow movements. Bring out your inner spirit animal and improve your strength & stamina with Bala
Saturdays	4pm to 5:15pm	Hatha Yoga with Live Tibetan singing bowls —Jean luc & Bala
December 31, Saturday	3:30pm to 5:30pm	Welcoming new year & letting go through sound & yoga. We will use fire drum, gongs, tibetan singing bowls to enable you to let go of your past emotions, stabilize your chakras & start a new year with joy and gratitude—Jean Luc & Bala
January 4 to January 18	6:30am to 9:30am and 3pm to 7pm	Hatha/ Vinyasa Yoga Retreat We invite you to join us for the first 2 weeks of the new year to develop a discipline of self practice. We focus on Asanas, Pranayama, chanting, meditation Yogic philosophy, local culture, kalaripayatu and more Optional—You can continue for one more week from 18 to 25 January, if you like to develop your skills of teaching others.

- **Venue:** Auromode Yoga space, Auromode Apartments, Near CSR

Bring your own yoga mat & towel. Registration must for the yoga retreat. All other classes are drop in & no need to register. Contribution Required. Right of Admission reserved.



Contacts

- WA only + 91 98926 99804
- contact@auromodeyogaspace.com
- balaganesh.siva@gmail.com

Merry Christmas and a happy new year to you

Best Regards,
Balaganesh SIVA

AD ASTRA ASPERA



Arohanam working on the inputs from mentors and advisors has evolved into being from now onwards as Ad Astra Aspera—to the stars through hardships.

Path to the stars.

Regards, Surajkiran
9884204918, Voice and WA

AN UPDATE ON SATVIC MOVEMENT IN AUROVILLE

We had a beautiful session earlier this month with Subah and Harsh (co-founders of the Satvic Movement) in which they shared their life and startup journeys: The event was organized and hosted by Shilpa at Bharat Nivas and here is a [video recording of the same](#).

Satvic Movement team will be facilitating a couple of on-line workshops in January 2023 for collective practices on Yoga and Health for teenagers and youth (of all ages) You can know more about it in the 'Workshops' sections of their website satvicmovement.org

If there is a group in Auroville which would like to take the workshop together and connect with a harmonious aspiration of collective yoga and integral health, please share on deven@auroville.org.in and I'd be happy to explore organizing it in Auroville.

With Love, Deven

ATB: TRAINING WITH AMIR & LISON

- **ATB2: Monday, 26—Wednesday, 28 December.**

Deepening the contact with ways of self-discovery, self-sensing, Collective exploration and the effect of emotion on the physical...



- **ATB3: Saturday, 14—Monday, 16 January.**

Deepening the embodiment of the ATB principles.

- **Basic Tools of ATB: Sunday, 22 January.**

Exploring the steps forward into awareness in Kindergarten age; To set the foundation for the ability to "Listen" and self-regulate. Cultivating the contact to the Inner-Child, and unfolding potential from within. All the training is from 9am-5pm at the ATB hall in Transition School. Open to people that are familiar with ATB or similar practices.



For more information:

- awarenessthroughthebody.org
- atbwithamir.com

To Sign up:

- connect@atbwithamir.com
- Amir +919751257709 WA

Thank you, Love, Amir

AUTHENTIC RELATING GAMES

Tuesday, 27 December, 5:30—7:30pm
At Bharat Nivas Harmony hall

AUTHENTIC RELATING GAMES



Do you desire to go beyond the surface & connect deeply & authentically with others in a safe, playful environment?

**JOIN US IN HARMONY HALL, BHARAT NIVAS
27TH DEC 5:30-7:30PM**

open to all (not only couples)
 BHARAT NIVAS
 ભારત નિવાસ ભારત નિવાસ
 The Pavilion of India, Auroville
 invite friends
 suggested donation ₹250

The intention of this offering is to create a safe container for heart centered, authentic expression that leaves us more alive and resourced, so we carry the light into the world.

Authentic Relating is a practice using exercises, or games, to teach the skills necessary to quickly create deep, meaningful human connection. It steers people towards a greater sense of wholeness—a defragmentation of the self into a more cohesive whole—through freely expressing our true experience in the company of others. It is an approach to cultivating more genuine, fulfilling, and mutually rewarding relationships.

Please bring comfortable clothes and your presence.

With love & authenticity, Prem Shakti

PLAYHOOD

Every Tuesday, 5—6pm, Centerfield

Play
Jingle all the way*

Tuesday, 20th December
 5 p.m to 6 p.m
 Centerfield, Auroville

Come play.
 WhatsApp
 Natasha ::: (+91) 84520 86689

Playhood: Outdoor games for grownups—a space to play, connect and get energized.

Every Tuesday, from 5pm to 6pm at Centerfield.
Free activity.

To register: +918452086689, WA Natasha

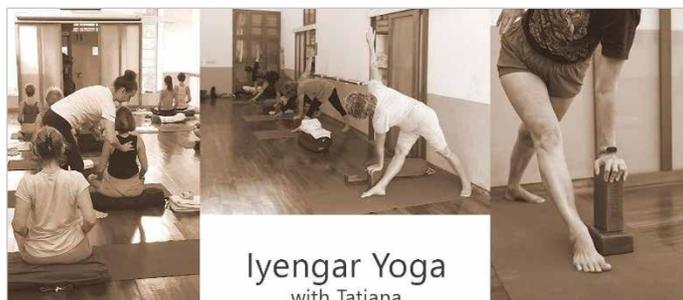
PITANGA



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

Iyengar Yoga restarts

Participation with prior registration only!



- **Tuesdays, 4:30—6pm, Yoga for the Spine, Drop-In**
This class is open to residents and guests also. It is not a medical class. Participants can join if they have spine problems but need to be able to fully take care of themselves, carry their own props etc.

- **Thursdays, 4:30—6pm, Mixed level, Regular practitioners only**
This class is also open to residents and guests if they are practicing regularly already.

- **Saturdays, 9—10:30am, Restorative Yoga, Level 2-3, Regular practitioners only**
This is a class for Aurovilians only and, like before, a practice for the very advanced students.

- **Saturdays, 11am—12pm, Pranayama, Regular Open for residents only.**

For any Iyengar Yoga practitioner who is practicing regularly

New healing modalities at Pitanga

(For appointments, please contact Pitanga’s reception desk)

Bio-Resonance (with Bi-Com machine) w/ Afsaneh

Bio-Resonance therapy is a complementary or alternative medicine therapy. It uses a device to determine the frequency of energy wavelengths emitted by the body. These measurements are then used to provide a diagnosis of a disease.



All body cells emit electromagnetic vibrations. During illness or injury these vibrations become disharmonious. The Bi-com equipment can read these vibrations and transmit complimentary electromagnetic vibrations to restore harmony in the body. The Bi-com equipment has computerized programs to make an energy diagnosis and to determine which therapies are appropriate for specific symptoms, organs, and meridians. Bio-resonance therapy can be used for both diagnosis and treatment.

Chiropractic Adjustment with Afsaneh

Chiropractic is a health care modality that emphasizes diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of mechanical disorders of the musculoskeletal system, especially the spine. The main chiropractic treatment technique involves manual therapy, including manipulation of the spine, other joints, and soft tissues; treatment also includes exercises, and health and lifestyle counselling. Most who seek chiropractic care do so for lower back pain. This healing modality offers at the same time a journey to discover oneself and the deeper functioning of our emotions.

Foot Reflexology with Sheida

Foot reflexology is an ancient technique based on the stimulation of reflex points located on the sole of the foot. These points mirror the organs and bodily system. By pressing these points vital energy flows through the recipient’s body, reaching the corresponding areas. Thus, it brings the organs or a body area back into balance and harmony so that the body can heal itself. Foot reflexology revitalizes the body, harmonizes the vital functions, releases the stress and the nervous tensions. It improves the blood circulation, activates the lymphatic system, provides relaxation, helps to relaxing muscles. Please note that there are some contraindications with foot reflexology: If you suffer from traumas, feet inflammations, recent cardiac diseases, circulatory disorders (phlebitis, thrombosis), and for the first 3 months of pregnancy you are advised to avoid reflexology.

Thai Yoga Massage for Ladies with Sheida

Thai Yoga Massage is a deep, full-body treatment, which includes both stretching of the joints and muscles, and applied pressure on the Sen lines. Traditionally Thai Massage was not only used to treat illnesses, but also to maintain health and well-being. A session is a flowing dialog between the client and practitioner. The client is passive and completely supported by the therapist in all positions.

Sheida offers Thai Yoga Massage for ladies. Male persons interested in Thai Yoga Massage may check with us for an appointment with Bernardo.

Workshop: Advanced Massage and Bodywork, Professional Training, Part 2 by Shari

• February 6—March 29, 2023
Mondays and Wednesdays, 10am-1pm

We will be working on all levels of therapeutic massage and bodywork including anatomy, the body/mind/spirit as the vehicle for doing bodywork, intimacy and moving deeply into the essence of healing. This will include deep listening, integration, and loving/compassionate touch. We will explore techniques for treatment of specific conditions including the most often requested work on neck, upper back, thoracic and lower back conditions, and contraindications. This is the second in a series of four eight-week courses with the intention of going deeply into what it means to be a successful professional in this field. Certificate of Completion will be offered.



- The class size is limited to 6 students.
- Contribution requested.
- Please register with Shari at 9500822629 or aloha-sharisunshine@gmail.com

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!
Submitted by Andrea, for Pitanga





ARKA
WELLNESS CENTER & MULTIPURPOSE HALL
 Regular activities, December 2022

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, Only by Appointment.
Iyengar yoga	Olesya, 9159052743	Monday, Wednesday, Saturday, 6:30-8am. Monday, Thursday, Saturday, 5-6:30pm.
Qigong Yang Style, self-massage	9600094875, +353877420282	Monday to Saturday, 8:30-9:30am, by Appointment only
Chakra Breathing Meditation	(WA), Marco	Friday: 7:30-8:30am
Heartfull Meditation	Avanthika, 6380238326	Tuesdays 9:30am to 10:30am
Sound Chakras healing	Lakshmi, 8489764602	Only by Appointment

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, Hennacolouring	Meha, by appointment, 9443635114	Monday to Saturday
Shiatsu, Thai Yoga Massage, Osteothai, Somatic Bodywork. Only by Appointment	Marco, WA +353877420282 9600094875	Monday to Sunday
Chinese Fire Cupping and Moxibustion Therapy	Chun, 8098900708	Monday to Saturday
Tarot, Oracles and Akashic Records Reading	Valentina: 9791719387, +39346225804, WA	Monday to Friday (Morning)
Acupuncture, Only by Appointment	Dr. Mohammad Sahel, 9994208068	Monday to Saturday
Psychospiritual Introspective Tarot Reading, Deconditioning Self Inquiry. Also in French	Antarjyoti: 0413 2623767, antarcalli@yahoo.fr	Monday to Sunday

Thanks & Regards, Ramana, Arka



www.auroville-jiva.com, WA 9626006961
contact@auroville-jiva.com, [Facebook](#), [Youtube](#)

Natural Horsemanship

- Individual and group sessions ongoingly

Mirrabelle offers webinars, classes and workshops in Natural Horsemanship. Natural Horsemanship focuses on body language of horse and human, which is universal, by effectively using intention and centered presence to communicate clearly, with purpose, and without violence. This is the key to building a vocabulary with the horse, your partner.



Experience yourself beyond words! 7 horses and ponies of all sizes and temperaments are curious to know you!

Natural horsemanship improves your self confidence, your trust, your skills in nonverbal communication—and it's just fun time to BE with a sensitive, naturally trained horse! Mirrabelle lives with horses since she was 3 years young. Past 10 years she fulfills her life's dream to bring children, adults and horses together in a healing way, in Auroville, Sharn-ga Guesthouse. Mirrabelle has studied human and horse psychology, and offers consultancy on all aspects of horse care—hoofs, nutrition, psychology, care, riding and therapy!

- Sessions afternoons 4—6pm or mornings 8—10am

Contact: WA 9626565134, contact@auroville-jiva.com

New: Webinars Natural Horsemanship with Mirrabelle

- Horse Care and Management (5 lessons)

- Basic needs
- Basic anatomy
- Feed needs
- Deworming
- Basic medical terminology

What we can learn from horses about leadership (5 lessons)

- History of horses and humans, and its significance
- Basic needs: similarities and differences
- Different kinds of intelligence and what they mean
- Non-verbal communication and energy levels, how to find neutral
- Setting yourself up for success, value-based Teamwork!

- Contact Mirrabelle directly: 919626565134 WA or contact@auroville-jiva.com

Inner Child Work Webinar

- 21 December, 6 —7:30pm

Inner Child Work is an effective therapy modality to address issues of self confidence, relationship problems and recurring reaction patterns which originate from early childhood experiences. The early imprints in the first 7 years usually keep replaying and these can be made aware, as well as healed through a session of 2 hrs in "Inner Child Work". Inner Child Work is one of the modalities of "Integral Regression Therapy", and can create surprising shifts in the clients relationships and professional life.



- Trainer Sigrid Lindemann

Experienced faculty in Integral Regression Therapy, and classical homeopathy (Sensation Method Dr. Sankaran), in Germany and Auroville.

- Webinar 21 December, 6 —7:30pm, via Zoom

• contact@auroville-jiva.com, WA 9626006961

Workshop in Holotropic Breathwork

- 1—5 January and 8—12 January



Facilitated by **KC Tomas**, (Grof Transpersonal Work representative India, Thailand and Sri Lanka, has guided over 1400 breathwork sessions), “Holotropic states of consciousness, then, are those non-ordinary, expansive, states that invite and support this innate movement towards wholeness. In the words of Grof: “Holotropic states bring to consciousness that which has a strong emotional charge in us already. Something that is psychodynamically relevant at the time and is most available for us for conscious processing.” When we enter a holotropic state with the intention of healing and self-discovery, it invites a kind of inner radar that scans our unconscious and brings to consciousness that material to which we most need to attend and heal. “

- Each of the 5 day workshops can be booked separately to empower your personal healing.
- At the same time, the 2 workshops are the first two of a 6 module facilitator training in JIVA Breathwork

All info and registration contact@auroville-jiva.com, WA 09626006961

Integral regression therapy training

- Webinar Modul 1, 27 & 28 December, 6—9pm

Integral regression therapy and energy work based on Sri Aurobindo and The Mothers integral Yoga, integrating trauma therapy, past life regression therapy, inner child work, NLP, and a client centric approach.



Watch [Sigrid's interview with Jim Garrison](#), Ubiquity University, San Francisco, California on “Integral Yoga applied: Heal and transformation with Integral Regression Therapy”

For those wishing to practice Integral Regression Therapy, 3x 3 days practice days are offered in between theory modules.

An in-depth training is offered through a series of 4 webinars detailing the theoretical backbone of this deeply healing modality. Therapists wishing to integrate this approach in their psychotherapeutic or body—mind—healing work shall come for 3 practice workshops in between theory modules, each 3 day workshops in Auroville, The practice and personal experience will enable them to practice facilitating the 2hrs therapy sessions, and their own personal transformation.

- This is the first of 7 modules, consisting of 2 webinar sessions, and it will take place on 27 & 28 December at 6—9pm,

For those wishing to practice Integral Regression Therapy, 3x 3 days practice days are offered in between theory modules.

All info: Sigrid contact@auroville-jiva.com, WA9626006961

Journey of the Soul, 31 December, 10am—2pm

- Venue: Sharnga Guest House Yogahall

A 1 day workshop to explore the “Layers of the heart”, an inner journey described by the Mother, and more recently by Soleil Lithman, a long term associate of Auroville. After a short Intro, we will follow a guided meditation. This workshop is an opening toward the dimensions of inner work proposed by The Mother. A workshop for all.



Facilitator Sigrid Lindemann, an Aurovillian researcher for over 20 years, international faculty in integral regression therapy.

Venue Sharnga Guesthouse Yogahall

contact@auroville-jiva.com, WA 09626006961

Transforming trauma, 14 & 15 January with Sigrid

How to identify trauma and posttraumatic stress disorder? How to recover a person's full potential, energy and zest for life—and even integrate the wisdom of it all? 2 day workshop with theory and interactive exercises, A toolbox of techniques to apply in your therapeutic work.



The workshop is designed for therapists of body and mind, psychologists, and all who work with trauma.

Facilitator: Sigrid Lindemann, international faculty in integral regression therapy, Sensation method homeopathy, trauma therapy in Auroville for 20 years

- **Time:** 14 & 15 January, 9—5pm.
- **Venue:** Sharnga Guesthouse Yogahall, www.sharnaguesthouse.in
- **Jiva Venue:** Sharnga Guest House, www.sharnaguesthouse.in

Niyati offers Reiki Healing Sessions

- **Reiki:** The Science to Realize the Absolute



An easy therapy to bring body, mind and soul in unison and as a result bestow on oneself naturalness, awareness and totality or completeness of life & living.

“Rei” means Omni Present and “Ki” means Life Force. Reiki therapy is channeling the abundant life force to a concentration of healing. Reiki energy works with the chakras of the body, healing the tangible & intangible aspects of life.

What Reiki can give in abundance is awareness: Awareness of your body, of your mental health, of your emotional health. When you have some mental and emotional issues you're fighting, it's like your companion, bringing back your natural flow.

- Book a session for a healing experience.
 - www.auroville-jiva.com
 - 9626006961WA, contact@auroville-jiva.com

Explore your mind

- 3 day workshop in hypnotherapy
- 23, 24, 25 December

“The answers you seek never come when the mind is busy, they only come when it is still” What is hypnosis? How do the right and left brain function practically? How do conscious and subconscious interact? Explore the depths of your mind and relax! Meditate with ease! Expand your therapeutic toolbox!



Apply Selfhypnosis Workshop combining experiential learning and “Theory of the Mind” Certified course from EKAA www.ekaa.co.in

- **Friday, 23 December, 4—7 pm**
- **Saturday & Sunday, 24 & 25 December, 9am—5:30pm** at Sharnga Guesthouse Yogahall
- **Info meeting 21 December, 5—5:30pm.** at Sharnga Guest House Terrace

Trainer: Sigrid Lindemann Certified Faculty in Hypnotherapy, Regression Therapy and Classical homeopathy, Germany and Auroville

Venue: Sharnga Guesthouse Yogahall, www.sharnaguesthouse.in

Register with Sigrid, 09626006961 WA, contact@auroville-jiva.com

Our Venue Sharnaga Guesthouse

- www.sharnagaguesthouse.in

Sharnaga Guesthouse is a green oasis, with a huge Banyan Tree, horses, birds, a lively tropical garden, with a small pool, gym and rooms from simple to AC, single to family units. A Yoga Hall, AC lounge with big screen, and the great service and international cuisine make it a perfect spot.

YEP We do offer adventure camps with kids programs, <https://www.facebook.com/YEPAV> parallel with wellness and healing sessions for parents: forest walks, camp fire, visits to various activities in Auroville, Yoga and TaiChi, art sessions, bird watching, etc! WA 09626565134

- We offer transformational practices addressing all issues of body, mind, emotion and soul, for conscious evolution. Acupuncture, Shiatsu, QiGong, TaijiQuan, Energy work, Fasting Natural Horsemanship, Horse Assisted Therapy, Medical Clowning, Yoga Nidra, Gentle Birth & Peggancy, Integral Regression Therapy, Trauma Therapy, Advanced Classical Homeopathy Systemic Constellation & Family Constellation

QUIET HEALING CENTER



www.quiethealingcenter.info/quiet@auroville.org.in

+91 9488084966

Somatic Yoga Classes with Linda Lee

- Saturday 24 and 31 December 2022
10:30am—12noon

Somatic yoga classes are designed to:

- learn how to use Somatics as a preparation for yoga asanas;
- experience ease, comfort, joy and stability that flows from inside out;
- include somatic preparations for Sun Salutations;
- lay down movement pathways for a seamless flow, which establish stability and safety, and stimulate courage, compassion and contentment.



- Group sessions: Saturdays, 10:30am—12pm
- Individual sessions: on request

Liquid Flow Essence with Dariya & Daniel

- Tuesday 10—Monday 16 January 2023
8:45am—6pm + one evening, 50 hours

Liquid Flow is an aquatic bodywork modality given in a warm water pool (ideally 35°C). Developed at the Quiet Healing Center, Auroville, Liquid Flow is inspired and based on the forms and qualities of Watsu, OBA, Healing Dance, and WaterDance.

This intense course with the main Liquid Flow sequence is for students of different aquatic bodywork modalities, who wish to dive deeper into their practice. In combination with practices on land, you will experience the profound effects of this powerful, yet softening, work.

Liquid Flow Essence is a favorite elective of many students. It offers a wonderful new sequence of essential bodywork movements laced together in a graceful, continuous flow. Along with a deepening presence and unconditional holding, this course improves your therapeutic work and leads towards the essence of any aquatic bodywork: being deeply in touch with one's essence, and experiencing a sense of timelessness and connection with ALL.

- Prerequisites: Watsu & Liquid Flow Basic or Watsu & OBA Basic.

Heartfull® Meditation Classes with Avantika Nirupama

- Sunday 25 December 2022, 9:30—10:30am

"Concentrate in the heart. Enter into it; go within and deep and far, as far as you can. Gather all the strings of your consciousness that are spread abroad, roll them up and take a plunge and sink down. A light is glowing there, in the deep quietude of the heart. It is the Divinity in you —your true being. Hear its voice, follow its dictates." The Mother

- Connect to the Light in your own Heart Center
- Surrender mind energy to your Heart Center to transform the mental aspect of your existence
- Surrender pelvic energy to your Heart Center to transform the vital aspect of your existence

Come learn and practice the sacred techniques of Heartfull® Meditation. Heartfull® Meditation techniques will help you understand Sri Aurobindo's dictum "All Life is Yoga" and connect you to his teachings in a deeper way.

Avantika has been studying Sri Aurobindo and the Mother's teachings, and Heartfull® Meditation, for twenty years. She has a 500-hour yoga teacher's certificate and translated some parts of Savitri in Marathi and Hindi. As mainstream schooling cultivates mind and ignores body and spirit, she home schooled her daughter after reading Sri Aurobindo's understanding of human existence to keep the connection with the Light.

- Questions? Contact Avantika at avantikalight@gmail.com

Watsu® 1 Transition Flow (TF) with Dariya & Daniel

- Monday 26—Friday 30 December 2022,
8:45am—6pm, 34 hours

In this follow-up course, you'll be taught to connect the basic movements and positions you have learned in Watsu Basic with long, gracefully flowing transitions and to adapt this work to people of different sizes, shapes, and dispositions. You'll also learn about your own body mechanics and how to support and move each person as effortlessly as possible. On land, you'll be introduced to both Co-Centering and Tantsu, and explore what being held means to you and others.

- Prerequisites: Watsu Basic

OBA® 1 with Petra

- Tuesday 3—Sunday 8 January 2023,
8:45am—6:30pm, 50 hours

Developed by Kaya Femerling & Nirvano Martina Schulz, OBA is a deeply relaxing form of aquatic therapy, which takes place in a warm water pool. It combines elements of soft stretching movements, aquatic deep tissue massage, and joint release, as well as energy and breath work in a unique way above and below water. Especially designed movements allow your whole spine to swing and energy to flow again.

OBA 1 focuses on learning more complex techniques, refining your intuitive responses and preparing for working with people in water. You will also learn about your own body mechanics and how to support and move each person as effortlessly as possible. Successful completion of the course enables you to give individual sessions to friends and acquaintances.

- Prerequisites: OBA Basic or Liquid Flow Basic or Watsu 1 or Healing Dance 1 or WaterDance 1.

Guy for Quiet Healing Center

Languages

CLASSES: TAMIL AS FIRST AND SECOND LANGUAGE



Please Call/ Text/ Email for Details

- Shankar, 8940193339,
- shankar@auroville.org.in

**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 Volunteer

- To complete the identification and site-mapping of the trees surrounding our building in AutoCad. The work would require a week or so.

Tomatis

Thank you to all those who have contacted us. We will get back to you one by one!

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

- <https://www.aurovillelanguagelab.org/tomatis-meth-od.php>
- <https://www.aurovillelanguagelab.org/tomatis-kids.php>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wnpXprTI3m0>
- <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeTIG0y-sBMlly-wZNdZcAng/videos>
- <https://www.listenwell.com/>

Current Language Courses at ALL

New: Sanskrit with Kaushal

Great news for Sanskrit learners! We are going to start a new Sanskrit Beginners Course with Kaushal this January!

Growing up in a traditional environment with exposure to Sanskrit texts, Kaushal pursued his interest in Sanskrit more actively later in life. He is now interested in helping others reach a good basic understanding of this rich, extraordinary language. This two-month course will take you through the sounds and the alphabet, and shall explore simple words, conversation, and chanting of select mantras.

- The course will start on 5 January and classes will take place every Thursday, 2:30pm to 4:30pm.

New: Beginner Italian

Great news for Italian learners!

Our new Beginner Italian course is slated for early January, 2023! As always, spaces are limited. You are welcome to enquire with us and reserve your spot!

New: Tamil Written and Spoken with Murugesan

Our teacher, Murugesan, is ready to start a new Beginner Written & Spoken Tamil Course. This course is for those who wish to enrich themselves with the complex beauty of the Tamil written alphabet and speech. Murugesan will explore the difference between spoken & written Tamil, and focus on developing listening & reading skills through songs & lyrics. Grammar will also be taught with an emphasis on practical usage. The new batch will start in November.

- Classes will take place Mondays & Thursdays, 10 to 11am.

The course will start as soon as we have a minimum of 5 students. It will run for three months comprising 24 hours of teaching.

New: Intermediate Spanish with Susana

Our long-time teacher, Susana is offering an Intermediate Spanish course for students who are already familiar with the various verbal modes in Spanish language (Infinitive, Indicative, Conditional, Subjunctive, and Imperative). The course will focus on polishing the conversational skills of the students and will also dive into the rules of grammar. This is a monthly course.

- This course started on 22 November and classes take place every Tuesday, 2:30 to 4pm.

New: English for Total Beginners with Rupam

If you can read this, then obviously this course isn't for you! But, if you know someone who could use some basic, everyday English in their daily lives, feel free to pass this along. This one-month semi-intensive course will begin with the alphabet and take the students through basic nouns, verbs, and simple sentence structures.

- Classes will take place Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays 11am to 12noon.

German with Verena

• **A1.1 Beginner German**

Verena's A1.1 Beginner German Course started this week! Verena has been trained through the Max Mueller Bhavan, Chennai/ Goethe Institute, and she brings a variety of interactive tools and offbeat approaches to her classes. We have always got excellent feedback on her course! By the end of this three-month course, you would be able to carry out simple conversations in German like introducing yourself, talking about your work, your family, your hobbies, and ask & answer questions about everyday things like shopping, restaurants, holidays, etc. No previous knowledge of German is needed for this course!

- Classes take place Mondays & Wednesdays, 11am to 12:30pm.

Course started on 28 November comprising 36 hours of teaching over three months.

• **A1.2 Beginner German**

This course is for students who have already taken a Beginner Course with Verena in the past or have a basic knowledge of German. The course is meant to deepen the basics previously learned and further advance the learner's German language skills.

- Classes take place Mondays & Wednesdays, 9am to 10:30am.

Course started on October 31 comprising 36 hours of teaching over three months.

French with Jean-François

Jean-François is offering four 3-month (24-hour) courses:

• **Beginner French**

This course is 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 delving into French vocabulary of everyday life and the basics of grammar. By the end of the course, you would be able to make simple sentences useful for interaction, and talk about your work, hobbies, daily life, etc. in a simple way.

- This course started on November 5. Classes take place Saturdays, 2:30 to 4:30pm.

• **Beginner French for Teens**

This course is for students between 13 to 16 years of age. The course is based on exercises that use many mediums like videos, games, role-playing, etc. to make learning both fun and effective. By the end of the course, students will have an immersion in the French language and will be able to express themselves in a simple way.

- The course started on November 12, and classes take place Saturdays, 11am to 12noon.

We have 3-4 spots left.

• **French Conversation (Pre-Intermediate)**

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! Each lesson covers a theme of daily life (work, family, hobbies, shopping, projects, etc.) and is aimed at developing the students' ability to express themselves and interact in French. Jean-François will also review the grammar useful for basic conversation.

- This course started on November 21. Classes take place Mondays & Thursdays, 2 to 3pm.

• **French Conversation (Intermediate)**

This course is for those who have a good level in French. In this course, the basics of public communication like expression, understanding, argumentation, meeting participation shall be deepened. Jean-François would explore a range of topics like food, sports, travel, philosophy, news, literature, economics, social sciences, theater, and more. At the end of the course, students will also have reviewed the grammar useful for interaction.

- This course started on November 3. Classes take place Mondays & Thursdays, 3:30 to 4:30pm.

English Conversation with Ramesh

Ramesh’s classes are ideal for pre-intermediate and intermediate level English speakers. The course aims to equip students with day-to-day conversation skills in practical situations, improved vocabulary and pronunciation, idiomatic expressions, building listening comprehension, fluency and confidence in speech. Ramesh will also touch upon basic grammatical concepts.

• **Ramesh runs two groups:**

- Mondays & Thursdays, 2 to 3pm and
- Tuesdays & Fridays 3:30 to 4:30pm.

This is a monthly course.

Beginner and Pre-Intermediate English with Rupam

Rupam continues to offer morning English classes. Her 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. However, please note that this is not a drop in/walk in class but is meant for students committed to joining the course.

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

A note to present and past students

- *If you’ve borrowed any of our books, please bring them back! We are cataloging our reference library.*
- *If there is a language you would like to learn, and it’s not on our list, please send us a query!*

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@aurovillelanguagelab.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!

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@aurovillelanguagelab.org

<p>Find us on    @aurovillelanguagelab Auroville Language Lab Tomatis Research Centre</p>
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Vismai
for Auroville Language Laboratory
& Tomatis Research Center

Current Schedule of Classes

Language	Level	Time	Day(s) of Classes
English	Beginner & Pre-Intermediate	10:15—11:15am	Tuesday & Thursday
	Total Beginners, To start soon	11am—12noon	Monday, Wednesday, Friday
	English Conversation, Group 1: Started 7 November	2—3pm,	Monday & Thursday,
	English Conversation, Group 2: Started 8 November	3:30—4:30pm	Tuesday & Friday
French	Beginner, Started 5 November 2022	2:30—4:30pm	Saturday
	Beginner for Teens, Started 12 November	11am—12noon	
	French Conversation 1, Started 21 November	2—3pm	Monday & Thursday
	French Conversation 2, Started 3 November	3:30pm—4:30pm	
German	A1.1 Beginner, Started 28 November	11am—12:30pm	Monday & Wednesday
	A1.2 Beginner, Started 31 October	9—10:30am	
Hindi	Beginner, To start soon	10am—12noon	Saturday
Tamil	Spoken Beginner, Started 1 November	9:30—10:30am	Tuesday & Friday
	Written & Spoken Beginner, To start soon	10– 11am	Monday & Thursday
Sanskrit	Beginner, To start 5 January 2023	2:30—4:30pm	Thursday
Spanish	Beginner: Group 1, Started 3 October	2:30—3:30pm	Monday & Wednesday
	Beginner: Group 2, Started 3 October	3:45—4:45pm	
	Intermediate , Started 22 November 2022	2:30—4pm	Tuesday
Japanese	Beginner, To start February 2023	TBA	TBA
Italian	Beginner, To start January 2023	TBA	TBA



CINEMA PARADISO
Multimedia Center (MMC) Auditorium
Film Program
26 December 2022 to 1 January 2023

Cinema Paradiso-Multimedia Center is now in operation at 100% seating capacity. Maintaining standard Covid protocols, i.e. temperature check, registration, and Mask (and not scarves) etc. are a must even now. Please come prepared. To organize seminar/program please contact us via email.

We continue to have issues with our projector. It is getting repaired, and we will continue the program with an older alternative. Clearly it is time for us to look for a new one. If you are able to kindly donate at MMC's FS Account for this

Indian- Monday 26 December, 8pm:
LAST FILM SHOW

India-France, 2022, Dir. Pan Nalin w/Bhavin Rabari, Richa Meena, Bhavesh Srimali, and others, Drama, Gujarati w/ English subtitle, Rated: NR (G)

When the magic of movies conquers nine-year young Samay's heart; he moves heaven and earth in pursuit of his 35mm dreams, unaware of the heartbreaking times that await him. *This film was screened in Auroville prior to its release with the director presenting. Since then, it has received many accolades and awards. We are responding to a lot of requests to rescreen. A perfect film to end this year's screening. If you have not watched it, don't miss!*

Italian—Tuesday 27 December, 8pm:
DIABOLIK

Italy, 2021, Dir. Antonio and Marco Manetti w/ Luca Marinelli, Miriam Leone, Valerio Mastandrea, and others, Action-Thriller, 133 mins, Italian w/ English subtitles, Rated: PG-16

The title of the film refers to a ruthless thief whose real identity is unknown. He has struck again, escaping the police with a clever trick. Meanwhile, the heiress Lady Eva Kant brings with her a famous pink diamond, which does not escape Diabolik's attention. *A delicious campy euro thriller paying homage to the 60s fumetto original.*

Interesting—Wednesday 28 December, 8pm:
THE BEATLES AND INDIA

UK, 2021, Dir. Ajoy Bose & Peter Compton w/ Magic Alex, Shankara Angadi, Jane Asher, Documentary-Music, 96 mins, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR (G)

A unique historical chronicle of the enduring love affair between The Beatles and India that started more than half a century ago. Rare archival footage, photographs and eyewitness accounts, along with location shoots across India, bring alive the fascinating journey of George, John, Paul and Ringo from their high-octane celebrity lives in the West to a remote Himalayan ashram in search of spiritual bliss; a time that inspired an unprecedented burst of creative song writing. This is the first serious exploration of how India helped shape the evolution of the iconic band, and how they helped bridge two cultures.

German—Thursday 29 December, 8pm:
KOKON (Cocoon)

Germany, 2020, Dir. Leonie Krippendorff w/ Lena Urzendowsky, Jella Haase, Lena Klenke and others, Drama, 95 mins,

German w/ English subtitles, Rated: G

In collaboration with Goethe Institute/Max Mueller Bhavan. Seductive coming-of-age tale of sexual awakening in the 2018 summer of love in Berlin Kreuzberg. The shift in perspective of this coming out story of 14-year-old Nora can be vital for those seeking understanding and presentation through queer cinema. (Rescheduled from an earlier date)

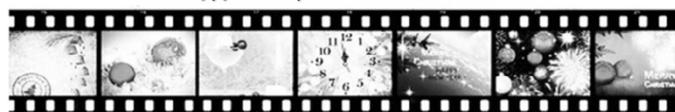
Saturday, 31 December & Sunday 1 January:
Annual Break: NO FILMS SCHEDULED FOR THESE TWO DAYS



'... let all thyself be light.
 This is thy goal.'
 Sri Aurobindo



Multimedia Center- Cinema Paradiso Team Wishing you a healthy, peaceful, and harmonious New Year!



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
 Thanking you and wishing you—a Happy,
 Nina For MMC-CP

Cinema



presents at Multi Media Centre Auditorium (MMC, Town Hall)

Reminder

- **Friday 23 December** at 7:30pm
 Special program for Christmas Time "The Snowman" and "Minuscule: Valley of the Lost Ants"

Friday 30 December, 8pm

- **"Hallelujah: Leonard Cohen, A Journey, A Song"**

Directed by: Daniel Geller and Dayna Goldfine, US, 2021

Synopsis: The documentary describes the story of singer-songwriter Leonard Cohen, focusing on his song "Hallelujah". The film is based on Alan Light's 2012 book *The Holy or the Broken*. Approved for production by Leonard Cohen just before his 80th birthday in 2015, the film accesses a wealth of never-before-seen archival materials from the Cohen Trust including Cohen's personal notebooks, journals and photographs, performance footage and extremely rare audio recordings and interviews.

Original English version with English Subtitles. Duration 1h55'

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 "previews" 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, 30 December
Cuba—The Accidental Eden

2015 / 53 minutes/ Spark

Cuba has been called the "Accidental Eden" for its exceptional biodiversity and unique historical development. The island nation and its archipelagos support thousands of plant and animal species, many of which are endemic, making Cuba the most naturally diverse Caribbean nation and a destination for biological scientists and ecotourists.

Guidelines



News Notes

Hard deadline for submissions
TUESDAY 3pm

The content of News & Notes is a reflection of the growth process of this community towards its ideals of Harmony, Goodwill, and Truth.

Editing of submissions, mainly for reasons of space and clarity, is done according to an established policy.

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.

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 offense caused. In case of any dispute, the Auroville Council may be consulted and publishing of disputed material suspended.

Roy & Agnijata, News & Notes,
Media Centre, Town Hall,

NewsAndNotes@auroville.org.in, 0413-262-2133

Accessible Auroville Public Bus

avbus@auroville.org.in, +91 94430 74825



Auroville TO PONDICHERRY

	Trip 1	Trip 2	Trip 3
Svaram Musical Center	7:00	8:50	14:50
Veite Guest house—Junction	7:02	8:52	14:52
Town Hall—Main Parking	7:06	8:56	14:56
Solar Kitchen (Round About)	7:10	9:00	15:00
Certitude Enterance	7:12	9:02	15:02
New Creation Road	7:17	9:07	15:07
SBI Bank—Kuilapalayam	7:19	9:09	15:09
ECR Junction—Aroma Guest House	7:23	9:14	15:14
Quiet Healing Center—Junction	7:26	9:17	15:17
Lotus Hotel—S.V Patel Salai	7:36	9:30	15:30
Ashram Road Junction	7:38	9:33	15:33
Ashram Dinning Hall	7:40	9:35	15:35



Pondicherry TO AUROVILLE

	Trip 1	Trip 2	Trip 3
Ashram Dinning Hall	8:00	12:15	18:10
Ashram Road Junction	8:02	12:17	18:12
Lotus Hotel—S.V Patel Salai	8:07	12:22	18:17
Quiet Healing Center—Junction	8:17	12:32	18:27
ECR Junction—Aroma Guest House	8:20	12:35	18:30
SBI Bank—Kuilapalayam	8:25	12:40	18:35
New Creation Road	8:27	12:42	18:37
Certitude	8:32	12:47	18:42
Solar Kitchen—Round about	8:34	12:50	18:44
Town hall Main Parking	8:38	12:54	18:48
Verite Guest House—Junction	8:42	12:58	18:52
Svaram Musical Center	8:45	13:00	18:55

- o Monthly Rs.800 (Aurovilians & Newcomers/ No validity)
- o Student Pass Rs.1200 per month/ 24 days round trip.
- o Rs.150 Round trip for Aurovilians & New comers
- o Rs.200 Round trip for guests.
- o Bus passes are available at Auroville Vehicle Service, Town Hall, Auroville, 0413 2623302

Emergency Services

Ambulance (24/7): Auroville—9442224680

- o PIMS—0413 2656271

Security (24/7):

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

Health: Health Center—0413 2622123

- o Santé—0413 2622803
- o Farewell—8903836246

Mental health 24/7 support:

- o Vandrevala Foundation +91 9999666555

India Emergency Response Service (24/7): 108