

News and Notes

No 823

A weekly bulletin for residents of Auroville

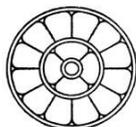
20th June 2020



The Light of Purified Power (white hibiscus)

photo by Sven

HOUSE OF MOTHER'S AGENDA



(continued from last week)

This the Teacher tells Arjuna at the close, "That which in thy egoism thou thinkest saying, I will not fight, vain is this thy resolve: Nature shall yoke thee to thy work. Bound by thy own action which is born of the law of thy being, what from delusion thou desirest not to do, that thou shalt do even perforce." Then to give another turn, to use some kind of soul force, spiritual method and power, not physical weapons? But that is only another form of the same action; the destruction will still take place, and the turn given too will be not what the individual ego, but what the World-Spirit wills. Even, the force of destruction may feed on this new power, may get a more formidable impetus and Kali arise filling the world with a more terrible sound of her laughters. No real peace can be till the heart of man deserves peace; the law of Vishnu cannot prevail till the debt to Rudra is paid. To turn aside then and preach to a still unevolved mankind the law of love and oneness? Teachers of the law of love and oneness there must be, for by that way must come the ultimate salvation. But not till the Time-Spirit in man is ready, can the inner and ultimate prevail over the outer and immediate reality. Christ and Buddha have come and gone, but it is Rudra who still holds the world in the hollow of his hand. And meanwhile the fierce forward labour of mankind tormented and oppressed by the Powers that are profiteers of egoistic force and their servants cries for the sword of the Hero of the struggle and the word of its prophet.

The highest way appointed for him is to carry out the will of God without egoism, as the human occasion and instrument of that which he sees to be decreed, with the constant supporting memory of the Godhead in himself and man, *mām anusmaran*, and in whatever ways are appointed for him by the Lord of his Nature. *Nimittamātram bhava savyasācin*. He will not cherish personal enmity, anger, hatred, egoistic desire and passion, will not hasten towards strife or lust after violence and destruction like the fierce Asura, but he will do his work, *lokasaṅgrahāya*. Beyond the action he will look towards that to which it leads, that for which he is warring. For God the Time-Spirit does not destroy for the sake of destruction, but to make the ways clear in the cyclic process for a greater rule and a progressing manifestation, *rājyam samṛddham*. He will accept in its deeper sense, which the superficial mind does not see, the greatness of the struggle, the glory of the victory, – if need be, the glory of the victory which comes masked as defeat, – and lead man too in the enjoyment of his opulent kingdom. Not appalled by the face of the Destroyer, he will see within it the eternal Spirit imperishable in all these perishing bodies and behind it the face of the Charioteer, the Leader of man, the Friend of all creatures, *suhrdam sarvabhūtānām*. This formidable World-Form once seen and acknowledged, it is to that reassuring truth that the rest of the chapter is directed; it discloses in the end a more intimate face and body of the Eternal.

– Sri Aurobindo. Essays on the Gita. Chapter 10 - The Vision of the World-Spirit. Time the Destroyer

P.S. There's a HOMA page on the Auroville website: <https://www.auroville.org/contents/1085>



Work as if the ideal had to be fulfilled swiftly & in your lifetime; persevere as if you knew it not to be unless purchased by a thousand years yet of labour. That which you dare not expect till the fifth millennium, may bloom out with tomorrow's dawning, and that which you hope and lust after now, may have been fixed for you in your hundredth advent.

– Sri Aurobindo
Thoughts and Aphorisms #311

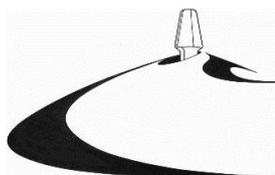


AMPHITHEATRE - MATRIMANDIR

**Meditation at sunset with Savitri -read by Mother to Sunil's music.
Every THURSDAY (weather permitting), 6.00 to 6.30 pm.**

For the time being, access is limited to Aurovilians, Newcomers and Pass Holders. Enjoy the beautiful open space, the immense sunset and 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 not to bring/use cameras, i-pads, cell phones, etc. Please carry your pass with you. Access only for the Amphitheatre from 5.45 pm. Please be seated by 5.55 pm. After the meditation is over, the gardens will close so everyone must return to the gate and our vehicles at that time. Thank you. ~ ~ Amphitheatre Team



COVID-19 UPDATE

Borders sealed: Puducherry, Cuddalore & Villupuram

"Boundaries of Puducherry with Cuddalore & Villupuram (both in Tamil Nadu) to be sealed from Wed, 17th June. People to be allowed only for medical services. E-passes from Chennai will not be allowed here." Puducherry CM V Narayanasamy

SOP's for Restaurants/Eateries from GOI & Tamil Nadu:

<https://auroville.org.in/file-download/80003/29681>;
<https://auroville.org.in/file-download/80003/29682>

State-wise Travel Regulations:

https://auroville.org.in/sites/www.auroville.org.in/files/article_attachments/Travel%20Regulations%20Covid.pdf

Excellent article about the Covid-19 situation in India:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-53018351>.
(Thanks to Isha for posting this on Auronet)

The link for the Tamil Nadu Govt guidelines for people entering/returning to TN from outside of the state and outside of India is: <https://stopcorona.tn.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Covid19-Tamilnadu-Advisory-19.05.2020-3-Pages-English-634KB.pdf>

From the Travel Shop/Inside India

Special Relief Flights - We can assist to reach one of the below or any other operated international flights. Be aware that this is not a normal summer travel with return after a short time, but leaving India for an unknown duration.

Lufthansa is pleased to announce Special Relief flights, from Mumbai to Frankfurt and Delhi to Munich and beyond as per the following schedule:

Mumbai Frankfurt - Flight Number : LH0757
Departure Dates: 19, 21 and 23 June 2020
Departure Mumbai: 02:25 (LT); Arrival Frankfurt: 07:50 (LT)

Delhi Munich: Flight Number : LH0763
Departure Dates: 18, 20 and 23 June 2020
Departure Delhi: 00:55 (LT); Arrival Munich: 05:25 (LT)

As per the approval by the Director General of Civil Aviation, following persons are eligible for transportation on these Lufthansa relief flights:

- All German and EU Nationals
- All German and EU Residents
- All other Foreign Nationals transiting through a Lufthansa Hub, Frankfurt or Munich and/or the spouse/children of such persons, whether accompanying or otherwise, e.g. US Nationals and/or spouses/minor children of US Nationals
- INDIAN Nationals holding US green cards or Canadian Permanent Residence status are only permitted on this special repatriation flight if he/she is a spouse of US/Canadian National.

We would request you to inform your customers that they are personally responsible to comply with the regulations and must also check transit regulations for Germany, where applicable. Also, **All passengers have to comply with health and sanitization measures applicable by the origin & destination countries.**

International Flight Ticket and Hotel bookings - 2622078, travelshop@auroville.org.in

Domestic Flight Tickets -2623030, domestic@inside-india.com
Domestic Hotel bookings: 2622047 insideindia@auroville.org.in

For late-breaking info on repatriation flights:

<https://auroville.org.in/article/80033>

WORKING GROUP REPORTS

L'Avenir d'Auroville - Building Permission

L'Avenir d'Auroville is functioning with a reduced staff and therefore applications that we had not started actively reviewing before end of January 2020, have been put on hold. The below application is one that was taken up before the above-mentioned announcement. Application forms, drawings & area maps for the below application have been uploaded on the Intranet in the application announcement posting. We await two weeks feedback from the community for the below application. Kindly mail any feedback before the 30th June 2020 to application-avenir@auroville.org.in

House Extension - Suhasini - application for final Building NOC This is an application to build an extension of 35sqm to the existing house of in Prarthana of 93sqm. Total built up area of house after extension would be 128sqm. The extension is in the back area of the existing house and is not attached to the house. It is intended for this space to be used as a home office & library. The extension would be used by two plus any visiting family/ friends and will be privately funded. The NOC will be granted with the condition that neither the extension nor the existing house shall be used as a paying guest/home stay facility at any time. **The project holder/applicant can begin construction on site only after picking up the signed NOC document from the TDC office.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The events calendar on Auronet has been reactivated!

For the time being, it is accessible only from within Auronet, and not from the login page. Auroville does not yet allow visitors and guests to come, and for that reason we ask everyone to avoid marking their event "visible to the public". We have unpublished all the physical events that were there from before the lockdown, and request those who have resumed their classes etc. to check **My Events** (top right of the events calendar page). There you will find your events and can edit and republish as needed. Warmly, -Auronet team

Birthday Meditation at Sri Aurobindo Ashram

Meditation around the Samadhi is now permitted on birthdays. Procedure:

- Register your name the previous day at the Ashram Reception.
- Wait outside the Ashram main gate at 11:15am on your birthday.
- The meditation around the Samadhi will last for about 15 minutes.
- Please follow all instructions (wearing face mask, sanitising, social distancing etc.)

Please note: Sri Aurobindo's room will not be accessible.

The Visitor's Centre Information Service will be open from Mon, 22nd June, Mon & Thurs, 10 AM to 12.00 noon for Aurovilians, Newcomers and guests who wish to come and see the exhibition in the main hall or purchase books and postcards. Transactions can only be made through AV account or Aurocard. If these timings are not convenient for you, please send us an email to arrange another time and somebody will be there to attend to you. The usual health precautions will be required. We thank you in advance for your cooperation. Looking forward to serving you again,
~ The VC Information team



MGEcoduties in Reve is now fully open! 9 - 12 AM & 1- 5 PM, Mon - Sat.

We have hand sanitizer for everyone, both refill system and 100 mL glass bottle spray presentation. We expect adherence to the usual precautions. -MGEcoduties Team

THANK YOU!



Thank you for your support!

The Auroville Safety and Security Team would like to thank all of you who have volunteered with us during the last months and helped at the checkpost or patrolling on their cycle / bike. We firmly believe that Auroville's safety should be in the hands of its residents and are glad you responded to our call.

A big thank you to the AireMask team as well who have been supporting us for the last few years. Your masks have helped our team protect themselves against dust and allow us to stay functional during the present lockdown.

Thanks to all of you for your messages of support, donations of masks, donations of fruits / cake / biscuits... Moral support is too often underrated ;) - Samuel, for the Team

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The Calling the Future survey

The survey, which focused upon Auroville during the lockdown, closed on 6th June, and we would like to thank the 254 people who took the time to fill in the form. The survey team is now examining the responses and will present a report of their findings to the community soon. However, this is only the first step. While a great deal of interesting and valuable material has been collected, certain sectors of the community are very under-represented. As we would like to hear from them too, we are considering how to get their inputs.

We are also considering how the community could concretely take forward the suggestions for new initiatives contained in the survey as there seems to be considerable support for changes in many sectors of our society.

-Dan, Amy, Dominique, Isha, Laurence, Satish, Fred, Mael, Alan



Lata Iyer

Since many people in Auroville and Ashram have been working with Ms Lata Iyer, Chartered Accountant from Goa (*not to be confused with Aurovilian Lata Iyer of Certitude*), we here inform that Ms Iyer recently quite suddenly passed away due to organ failure. She was around 60 years old

and had been living in Auroville. She was a capable and independent woman whose many friends and colleagues in both Pondy and Auroville will miss her. OM-

Francis (Citadines) mobile number - The wrong number was printed in the new directory. The correct # is 7598146288. Please make a note of it.

Automatic Hand Sanitizer Dispenser



At Talam, CSR, we have developed an automatic hand sanitizer dispenser in-house at low cost, by modifying the standard water purifier box (the outer plastic body) to cut down costs.

This holds 12 litres of sanitizer. The cost can be further lowered if we are able to buy the plastic case in bulk, or modify the design using PVC pipes or polycarbonate pipes (the ones used in water treatment in Auroville). If you are considering buying an

automatic dispenser for public places or units in Auroville, please consider buying it from us, so that we can keep the cost low and to keep the money circulating within Auroville, strengthening our local economy. We can custom design the dispenser for any size ranging from 500ml to 15 litres. If interested, contact Azha, +91 95781 36291 (WA), +91 83003 38874 or talam@auroville.org.in. Thank you for your consideration!

- Shankardevy, for Talam, CSR

Naturellement News - just a quick reminder; **our restaurant is open again, 7 days a week, 9 am-5 pm.** To be sure to get your favorites - lasagne, hummus etc. You can place your order the day before. Our "Power bowl" is available daily at a very affordable price (AV complete rice, organic roasted sesame seeds, naturally fermented cabbage, ginger and garlic, two kinds of sprouts, rucola, extra virgin olive oil, natural coconut vinegar, himalayan salt.) In our factory outlet we have a range of our products at a 50% discount for Aurovilians, Newcomers and volunteers; (peanut butter, tahini, jams, marmalades, syrups, pickles, chutneys and breakfast cereals.) Welcome!

From To Be Two - Striving to retain our entire team of amazing workers, we decided to open at half capacity with half salary and maintenance, in order to support our basic needs. Hence, we are proposing a **discount of 50%** on all our offerings. We are also presenting beautifully crafted fabrics from Jaipur and Delhi, all these available only in our showroom in Auromode premises. Come visit us!

Monday-Wednesday, 9-12 AM & 1-4 PM

The usual health precautions are expected to be followed.

- Anyuta, 805-635-4355



The **FARMER'S MARKET** happens **FRIDAYS at TERRASOUL from 9.30 on.** A few farms will offer their fruits & vegetables, jams, kimchi, mango pickle. Please bring your

BAGS and EMPTY JARS,

and please respect the rules (masks, distance, spray).

APPEALS

Appeal to Scholarship and Educational Fund beneficiaries for loan repayment

Please begin to repay your SEF loan as soon as possible. This can be done in any amount. It can be done in one-time payments or as regular account deductions. Please make all payments to account number 240001, mentioning "for SEF".

As you may know, the Scholarship and Educational Fund (SEF) was established in 2008 to provide financial help to students of Auroville who want to pursue their higher education outside of Auroville. All financial assistance is given in the form of an interest-free loan which is repayable as soon as the beneficiary is financially able to start repaying. To date we have handed out support totaling approximately one crore rupees.

Our aim is to create a revolving fund that is big enough to help all Auroville students in need. But this can only be done if beneficiaries repay their loans regularly. While some of you have repaid your loans in total (thank you for that!), most of you have not, and we find it very difficult to recover from you. This is a general appeal to the community; we will also address you individually.

Please note that all non-specific contributions to the SEF are used for student loans only. To date no administrative expenses or maintenance have been paid from these funds. At present the SEF team consists of Auralice, Chali, Davaselvy, Devi, Lucas, Palani, Suryagandhi and Vennila.

We trust in your understanding and appeal to your goodwill towards this community effort to create and maintain the SEF revolving fund for all students now and in future.

Thank you, -the SEF team

Wanted: Old Android phones for Thamarai - for learning calls with village children

Since Covid 19 has started, our after school facilitators have been on daily calls to the children in Annai Nagar and Edayanchavadi villages, offering check-in and learning calls covering the general school curriculum and learning activities. One challenge we have faced is that 50% of the families we deal with do not have android phones, so we are reliant on voice only and not able to send educational links, homework sheets, or use camera facility. **Would you have an old android phone at home that could be given to our project so we can enhance the quality of education we can give to our children?** If so, please contact Hedia 94489852375 or Bridget 9442270640 or email thamarai@auroville.org.in and we are happy to collect the phone from you. To learn more about Thamarai:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=4&v=b4NJ6iFH6t4&feature=emb_logo. With gratitude,

- Hedia and Bridget, for the Thamarai team

AV ART SERVICE Is looking for an office space - .and we don't have money to pay as rent. Thanks in advance for any offers/suggestions! - Krishna, aurovillearts@auroville.org.in

WORK OPPORTUNITIES

Graphic Designer

We are currently looking for an experienced Graphic Designer with over 1 year of experience with specialization in report layout designing. Skills: Layout design, Brand identity, infographics designs, Web/app designing (front end). Please note we are not looking for freelancers at the moment. send your CV to hr@aurovilleconsulting.com to apply.

HR 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.

Secretary (part-time) - You prepare meetings, take care of our office's correspondence, prepare drafts and reports and keep in touch with other working groups. You have good written and spoken English communication skills, good organizational skills and have good knowledge of MS Office and Google Drive. Part-time, maintenance provided.

Production management - You are interested to join our unit long-term, managing the production, sales, invoicing and preparing accounts for our products. You have basic skills in website management and graphic design. You are responsible, good at working both independently and in a team, take initiative, have good communication skills and an interest in education /games. Part-time, maintenance provided.

And other positions (please inquire about details):

- Customer Care and Website Maintenance
- Ecofemme Ambassador Co-ordinator

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. hr_hub@auroville.org.in
~ HR Initiative (Angelo, Joel, Siv, Stephanie)

AVAILABLE

Three nice things ready to go: **Mac Air laptop computer** in great condition, **TVS Moped model XL Super Heavy Duty** runs perfect, **Classic BSA Roamer Electric scooter with new battery** (light and slow model best for local use not for trips outside Auroville). B: bgr8ful@auroville.org.in or 9943532829

Office Space - Aurosarjan Complex, Auroshilpam, for registered units or activities:

* small office of about 23 sq mtrs

If you are interested please make an appointment with Stephan, stephan@auroville.org.in



Two cycles available. One suitable for children below 5 years; the other used & refurbished. Supriya, 992-032-2351

LOOKING FOR

Wooden table - medium or big. If someone has one they don't need, I am happy to give it a good life. Isora, 9385336187, isiauroville@gmail.com

Long-term housesitting - This is Valentina and Pablo (son) from Kriya community. We are looking for long-term house sitting and we would love to take care of your home and pets. I also love gardening, so could take care of your garden as well. Contact: valentina@auroville.org.in or +91 949-889-6117. Thank you for your consideration. Love and Light!

Housesitting - I am Lakshmi, Newcomer. I'm looking for a long term or any other possibility to housesit. I feel very connected to nature, plants, flowers and animals, and would be happy to take care of your garden and house. Contact: 848-976-4602 or lakshmiprem369@gmail.com. - Love & Gratitude. Lakshmi

GREEN MATTERS



Water Saving Tip of the Week!

Leaky faucets that drip at the rate of one drop per second can waste up to 10,000 litres of water each year. Be sure that there are no leaky taps in your house or your community.

With love from the Water Group, helping Auroville become a water-sensitive city. watergroup@auroville.org.in

Our Water Table and Dairy

We all know that water levels are precarious and we should do something about it before it's too late. If we want to solve the problem, we need to act at the level of the root cause. Auroville was built on barren land thanks to reforestation efforts and bunding which raised the water table. Now our forests are regressing because of new buildings and increasing population in Auroville and the surroundings. Yet in some places such as Sadhana Forest, water levels have been increasing as a direct result of reforestation and conservation.

Today India is estimated to have 28 trees per capita - one of the lowest in the world. The answer might lie in our "bovine density". India has 12% of the global livestock population. It's the #1 producer of dairy & also, a top beef & leather exporter. **India's "bovine density" is the highest in the world** and not concentrated in any one corner of the country - rather, it's scattered all over.

Here too, in Auroville, we have seen the forest cover diminishing in favor of grazing land. We have seen our bovine density grow alarmingly over the years due to our high demand for dairy products. This means less water, too, as the huge bovine population not only results in less forests but also needs water. Plant based milk options are increasing all over the world as a solution to this problem and these are simple enough

to make at home in minutes with the help of a good blender. Tetrapaks are not required.

According to the Climate Healers website - which is definitely worth exploring - only 7% of the land on the planet is unused forests. Humans use 31% of the land for animal agriculture. It's well known that animal agriculture is the leading cause of climate change. Will Auroville be able to meet her own water needs if we do not change our ways?

-submitted by Dr. Nandita Shah



The Vedanthangal controversy

Two weeks ago, reports surfaced that the Forest Department of Tamil Nadu has forwarded a proposal to redraw the boundary of the world's oldest bird sanctuary, Vedanthangal, to be reduced by 40% for commercial use. The [New Indian Express wrote](#) "the proposal to de-notify 2 km around the lake has been forwarded to the National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) for approval." It mentioned that Sun Pharma wanted to expand in the area, and that officials allowed heavy industrial activity. Local farmers complained about industrial water pollution and said the ancient synergy between agriculture and wild birds had disappeared.

The site is dear to many Aurovillians, as it's a regular destination for school trips. Many of us saw our first painted storks, flamingo's, spoonbills and pelicans here. Year after year, 40,000 birds (including 26 rare species) come back from their migration to faraway places such as the Himalayas, Europe and Africa, to this special lake. "Vedanthangal" means "hamlet of the hunter" and it is the oldest water bird sanctuary in India. This area was a favourite hunting spot of the local landlords in the early 18th century, attracting a variety of birds because it was dotted with small lakes that acted as feeding grounds. The British government made it a sanctuary in 1798.

Currently, the protected area includes the actual lake plus 5 km radius around it. There are two versions of the story: one says that 2 out of the 5 km is proposed to be opened up for industry. The other version says that the Forest Department is just clarifying the different zones: the core area, buffer area and Ecologically Sensitive Zone (ESZ), as is common around tiger reserves. Chief Wildlife Warden S Yuvaraj of Tamil Nadu Forest Department wrote in his inspection report (January 23rd) "*de-notifying the outer 2 km zone would not have any negative impact on birds (...)* Also, *this will bring back local people for the cause of conservation of birds*".

Sun Pharma denied plans to build "inside the sanctuary" but applied for a license to expand and be exempted from Environmental Impact Assessments or public hearings, a policy introduced to support economic recovery after COVID19.

Human? Nature? Human Nature? (Part II of World Environment Day report)

While environmental laws and norms are loosened to speed up commercial recovery in many countries, including India, activists propose stronger environmental protection to #buildbackbetter. Their plans include the following:

- invest in "nature's infrastructure" for climate regulation: wetlands, forests, mangroves;
- keep wild spaces wild, stop deforestation and restore degraded land to protect biodiversity, boost food production and store carbon;
- make agriculture biodiversity positive;
- refit built infrastructure to be more energy efficient, reduce climate impacts and increase biodiversity;
- shift fossil fuel subsidies towards renewable energy;
- invest in public transport and bicycle paths.

All this could generate millions of "green collar" jobs, as calculated in many green policy proposals. When making policy decisions, are we including the full value of a healthy

ecosystem? And the full costs of ecological damage? COVID19 has killed hundreds of thousands of people and shrunk the global economy by trillions of dollars. The cost of climate change, pollution and biodiversity will be much higher and last much longer. The International Labour Organisation (ILO) expects 72 million full-time jobs will be lost by 2030 due to heat stress alone.

Meanwhile, here is a gist of how nature benefits human society:

- Around half of global GDP depends on nature;
- Our oceans and forests sustain billions of people and four billion people rely primarily on natural medicines;
- 86 million green jobs come from forests alone, and a shift to a greener economy could create 24 million new jobs globally by 2030;
- Natural climate solutions - such as afforestation and using greenery to cool our cities and buildings - can provide around one-third of the emissions reductions needed to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement.

* Sources: WAD, ILO, New Indian Express, The Wire and UNDP For AV Green Center - Lisbeth & Gijs

We report on Green issues in Auroville, the Bioregion and the wider world. We like to hear from you : avgreencenter@auroville.org.in. The Green Column is published bi-monthly in the News & Notes and on Auronet

Link to an illuminating article on self-reliance in India, and how the pandemic has highlighted its importance:

<https://www.thehindu.com/society/what-does-self-reliance-really-mean-amazing-stories-emerge-from-indias-villages/article31756580.ece?homepage=true>

Auroville Green Practices webinar - see p 8 for details



Hello Auroville, your radio is still alive!

During the lockdown we were working hard to give you a renewed service. The stream channel is working again and it can be heard here: <http://aurovillerradio.org:8000/av-radio-128.mp3>. It broadcasts mixed music and live events from our studio. Last podcasts produced:

- [Sea ploggers - Interview with Satya and Andrea](#) by Radio Team
- [Journey of the Soul - Day Three, Through The Mental Planes into The World Soul](#) by Loretta
- [The Best of What's Still Around - ep.1](#) by Dhani
- [A Cup of Joy - ep.1 "Insomnia"](#) by Vega and Francesco
- [The Best of What's Still Around - ep.2](#) by Dhani
- [Journey of the Soul - Day Four. Through The Cave Of The Heart To The Soul.](#) By Loretta
- [A Cup of Joy - ep.2 "You like to move it, move it!"](#) by Vega and Francesco
- [The Best of What's Still Around - ep.3](#) by Dhani
- [A Cup of Joy - ep.3 "Grand! That's how we want to be! Getting inspired by our green ancestors"](#) by Vega and Francesco
- "A Cup of Joy" new live episode every **Monday at 2:30pm**
- "The Best of What's Still Around" new live episode every **Wednesday at 2:30pm**
- A new live program by Krishna McKenzie will be broadcasted every **Tuesday at 11:00am**

A more detailed calendar will be available in the next few days. All the recordings are available and ready to be copied on your memory stick at the AurovilleRadioTv premises in Town Hall, opposite the Financial Service. Please visit our website www.aurovillerradio.org. FMI: 0413-2623331 or radio@auroville.org.in

The ABC Research Group has obtained permission from Claude and Abha (Shradhanjali) to publish their feedback on the Code of Conduct (CoC). It is available here:

<https://auroville.org.in/group/av-board-commerce-abc>

Priority to engage Auroville units

We are aware that some unit executives choose to use an outside vendor for a service that could have been done by a unit within Auroville. We understand that a unit executive will be conscientious about expenses however we ask unit executives to consider two important aspects: 1. Providing an opportunity to an Auroville unit (income-generating or service) may be weighted equally to financial considerations; 2. Support to the healthiness and robustness of Auroville's internal economy as a whole may be a priority over giving work to an outside vendor. Thank you all for talking about this amongst yourselves, and perhaps choosing differently next time.

- Auroville Service Trust (Amy, Anne, Joseba, Ponnusamy, Ulrich)

[Ed. Note: There is an extensive discussion on this topic on Auronet, if you care to follow it]

A Loving Reminder

To all dear sisters and brothers
From the heart, a loving reminder
that we are no other
than the Universe Itself
experiencing One as another.
Each a beautiful co-creator
and a horrible co-destroyer.
Each a unique aperture
with unimaginable power
to manifest a future
of a paradise or whatever.
So, Penultimate Chooser
look deep into the eyes
of your earth brothers and sisters:
Realise that They each
are That who You are.

~Palawan

THE STORY OF MAHABALI

Auroville is a place for the practice of Evolutionary Yoga of Nature or the Supramental Yoga. The story of Mahabali illustrates well several features of the Vedic System of Existence which would enable Aurovilians to understand the involutory or the evolutive process of manifestation in the Universe. There are seven planes of consciousness in the universe, corresponding to seven bodies of consciousness in man. The Vedic Rishis have also divided the Universe into three major divisions in terms of consciousness: Upper Superconscious, Middle Conscient, and Lower Inconscient. The Supermind, the World of Bliss, the World of Tapas, and the World of Satya are present in the Superconscious. Heaven consisting of Mind, Intuitive Mind, and Intuitive Overmind come under Middle Conscient. Earth, having Physical and Vital part of Existence, is included under Inconscient.

Devas (gods) and Asuras (demons) are overmental beings in heaven; they are created by the Supreme Divine Shakti. Powers are delegated to them and they could increase their illumination (knowledge) to an infinite extent; they do not enter into the cycle of birth and death, but the dissolution of their form is possible. They cannot ascend to the planes of Superconscious (the Divine Usha is an exemption). On the other hand, man enters into the cycle of birth and death. His soul

(jeevatma) is one of the multiplicities of the Supreme Divine. At the time of birth, the soul of man enters into the fetus of a mother. It is born as a child in the Inconscient Existence and evolves into a mental being in a living body. It can ascend to the planes of Superconscious by practicing Yoga.

Mahabali was an Asuric King. He had conquered heaven and earth. All the devas, who were slaves to him, were tortured in prison. They narrated their misery to Mahavishnu (the universal self) who had promised to free them soon. Mahabali used to give gifts to his subjects once a year. Mahavishnu came to his court in the form of very short Vamana. He asked Mahabali to give him three feet of land; it was granted. Vamana grew vertically and horizontally into a gigantic figure called Thiruvikrama who measured earth in one step. He was looking at the infinite extent of heaven and covered it with his second step. Mahabali was struck with awe and wonder. Thiruvikrama said, 'Look Mahabali, you don't have any more territory; where shall I place my third step'. Mahabali bowed down before Thiruvikrama and said, 'Please place It on my head'. Thiruvikrama placed His third step on his head and absorbed him into his being.

The Mother says that man is mental being; he would not rest content with mental knowledge which is half knowledge and half ignorance. He could ascend to overmental truth, but it is limited serving for true but limited creation. He could aspire to get the supramental truth which is self-determining infinite consciousness. In one of her Darshan messages during 1972 the mother has said, 'Let us take one step forward'. What she actually means is that we should attempt to ascend to supramental consciousness which is just above the overmental consciousness and adds that the best way to show our gratitude to Sri Aurobindo is to manifest supramental consciousness in our life. Sri Aurobindo is always present in the subtle physical plane of consciousness ready to help those who aspire to get the supramental truth.

~ submitted by Somasundaram

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES



AUROVILLE ART SERVICE - 'basket' for the week

1. PRO HELVETIA NEW DELHI: NOW ON

Now On is a grant open to literature, visual arts, dance, theatre, design and interactive media, music and interdisciplinary. The proposal can come from an individual artist or a collective or an arts organization. The last date is 12 July 2020. To know more and to apply, visit <https://prohelvetia.in/en/dossier/nowon/>

2. NILA HOUSE JAIPUR: NAVRANG CHALLENGE - A nationwide competition inviting all artists, artisans and designers for creating handcrafted posters to communicate health and safety measures that prevent the spread of the coronavirus. Posters should be made using any craft technique (example: embroidery, applique, hand painting, collages et) and available materials at home. To know more, visit <https://www.nilajipur.com/competitions>

3. NEEKOEE FOUNDATION: ARTIST GRANT - Offers 2 grants for 1.5 lakh each to artists using the medium of: painting, sculpture, theatre, video, photography, sound, performance, software/code, dance, public sites, internet, or any other. FMI: visit <https://www.facebook.com/neekoeefoundation/>

4. FREE BELLY DANCE CLASSES - Online at <https://essencebellydance.com/> with varying durations and levels.

5. FREE MUSIC LESSON ON TURKISH MAKAM -
Thursday 4.30pm IST on Zoom
<https://www.facebook.com/events/260974715178805>

6. FIRSTSIDE: ART IS WHERE THE HOME IS - FirstSide invited well-known artists to contribute art activities to their Art Is Where The Home Is project. Meant for all ages, but especially for children. <https://firstsite.uk/art-is-where-the-home-is-programme/>

7. KRISHNA MCKENZIE AND NINA SENGUPTA - Present Nina's book Edible Weeds and Naturally Growing Plants. <https://youtu.be/Ne39EwOffOU>

CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

Auroville Green Practices offers a free webinar
Wednesday, 1st July, 11:00 AM - noon

Auroville Green Practices is curating a webinar with architect Manu Gopalan from Sacred Groves on "How to Build A Home with Net-Zero Investment", explaining the "Build-Free Collective". This webinar will help people inspired to build a small, simple and low-cost home with materials of low carbon footprint. The process & technology is simple and easy to learn. In short, "anyone" can build themselves a cozy, low-cost home! The webinar is free to all Aurovilians, Newcom-ers, registered guests and volunteers. info@agpworkshops.com or WhatsApp to +91-8608217030 to register.



Lockdown Stress? Anxiety? Family Stress?

Discover Inner Freedom during this webinar
using Auroville's therapies and modalities

22nd -26th June, 4.30- 6 PM

This is a first teaser to the work we offer. Benefit from a short session window into what is possible! Get to know us, and what we offer online:

- *Happiness with Horses* - with Mirrabelle
- *Yoga Nidra* - with Egle
- *Nature and You* - with Sigrid
- *Inject your vaccine of laughter* - with Fif

You will hear more from us!

A cooperative endeavor of *JIVA* and *MeDiClownAcademy*
www.auroville-iva.com; <http://www.mediclownacademy.org>

Organized by: *Jiva - your journey in healing and transformation*
 Phone: 9626006961; email: contact@auroville-jiva.com



English of Savitri classes
 are now online

In view of the present situation, the Savitri Bhavan team has decided to offer continuation of the weekly 'English of Savitri' classes on-line only, every Thursday from 4 to 5pm. If interested, please email savitribhavan@auroville.org.in and the relevant link to our YouTube channel will be sent to you. ~ *Savitri Bhavan Team*

Online classes with Bonnie Brainbridge Cohen

Bonnie Brainbridge Cohen, who developed the Body-Mind Centering approach, is a movement artist, researcher, educator and therapist. Bonnie will be offering a series of online classes on "Exploring the embodiment of cellular consciousness through movement". There is a fee for the classes but Bonnie will be offering them on a "pay what you can basis"..To know more about this aspect, email DeviNamasivayam@auroville.org.in. FMI about the classes, visit <https://bonniebrainbridgecohen.com/>



See the Regular Activities addendum for our current offerings!

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⇒⇒⇒⇒ **PLEASE GO PAPERLESS!**

RECEIVE THE NEWS&NOTES by EMAIL weekly!

It comes 2 days sooner and is in color! Subscribe at
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or click directly on this link

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EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Auroville Emergency Contact Numbers
Save them in your phone now!

Auroville Safety and Security Team: 9443090107;
04132623400; security@auroville.org.in
Ambulance: Auroville: 9442224680
PIMS: 0413-2656271/72
Farewell: mobile number: 8903836246. reachable 24/7
Emergency Service of India: 108
JIPMER hospital 2278380 / 2272389
General Hospital 2336050
Puducherry helpline: 104
TN COVID helpline: 044-29510500

Important information about News & Notes

Hard deadline for submissions or cancellations: Tuesday 5pm
FOR THE ISSUE to be published that SATURDAY (though the digital version generally goes out on Thursday)

The contents of *News & Notes* are a reflection of the growth process of this community towards its ideals of harmony, goodwill, discipline and truth. Editing of submissions, mainly for reasons of space and clarity, is done according to an established policy. **How to submit material:** Material (no pdf files, please) may be sent (in English only) to: newsandnotes@auroville.org.in.

Please do **NOT** send submissions and inquiries as a "Reply" to the digital subscription mail. There is NO guarantee that anyone will see communications sent this way!

Please try your best to send your announcements, reports, film schedules whenever they are ready. Any modifications of submitted *News* items must be sent to the editors before Tuesday 5pm. Please do your best to submit copy that is ready for printing (i.e. Word shows you typos, extra spaces, punctuation errors, etc - don't make us do all the work!).

We regret not being able to attend to visitors on Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thurs AM due to work pressure.

Articles for the Notes section should ideally be no longer than 500 words.

Visiting hours: MON 9-4; TH PM 2-4:30; FRI & SAT mornings 9-12

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

News & Notes, Media Centre, Town Hall. Phone:
0413-2622133, email: newsandnotes@auroville.org.in



Late submission: TVS Pep+ purchased Nov 2018 (1.5 years old) with 3.5 years insurance paid. Contact Supriya at 9920322351