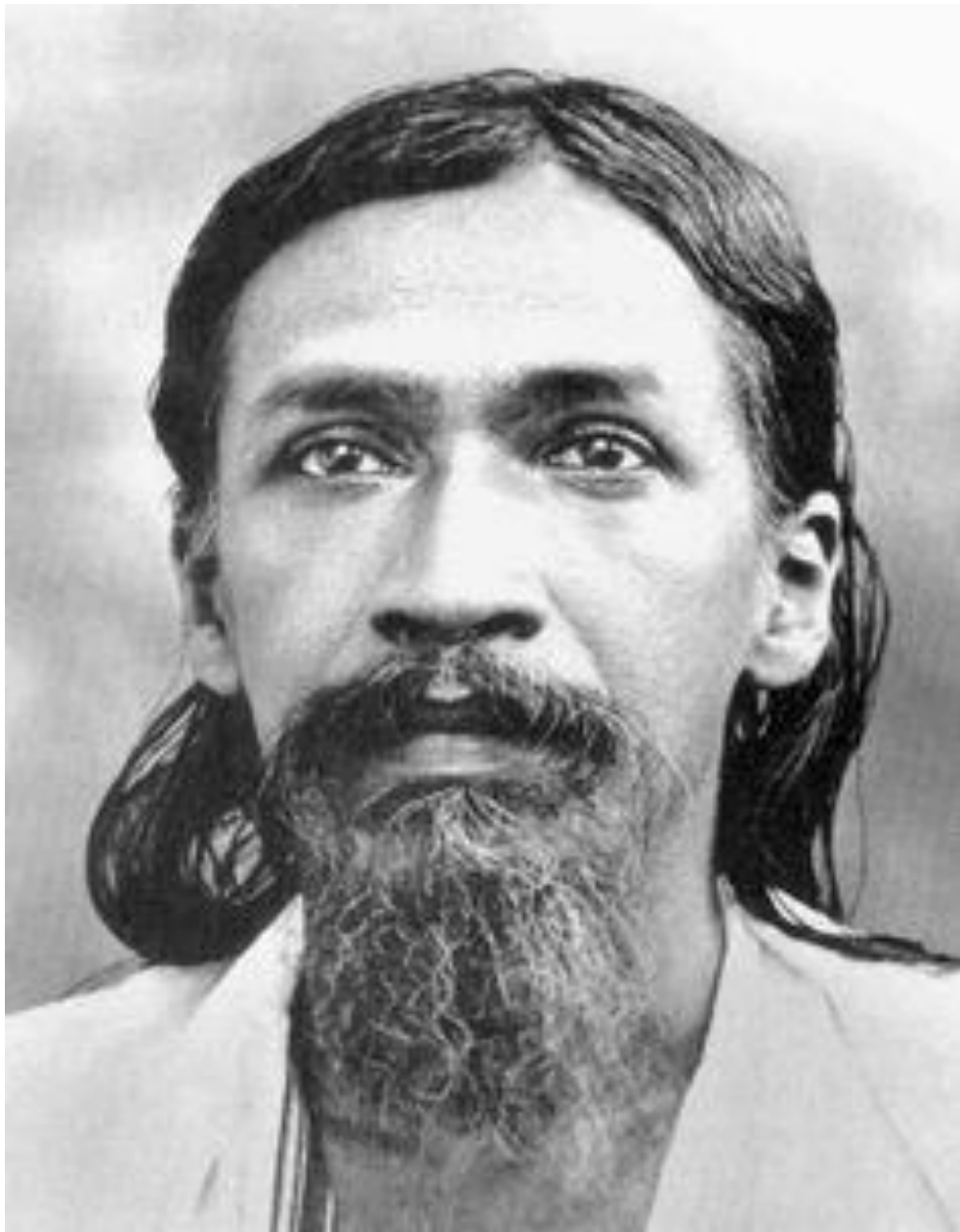


News and Notes

No 831

A weekly bulletin for residents of Auroville

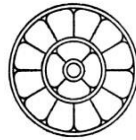
15th August 2020



His was a spirit that stooped from larger spheres
Into our province of ephemeral sight,
A colonist from immortality.
A pointing beam on earth's uncertain roads,
His birth held up a symbol and a sign ...

Savitri, Book 1, Canto 3, p 22

HOUSE OF MOTHER'S AGENDA



21 January 1967

(Then Mother shows two notes on Auroville.)

“At last a place where one will be able to think of nothing but the future.”

“Auroville is doing well and growing more and more real. But its realization is not progressing in the habitual human way, and it is more visible to the inner consciousness than to the outer vision.”

Soon afterwards

Something rather indefinable as yet is happening.

The body was in the habit of fulfilling its functions automatically, as something natural, which means that for it, the question of their importance or usefulness did not arise: it didn't have that mental, for instance, or vital vision of things, of what's "important" or "interesting" and what isn't. That didn't exist. But now that the cells are growing conscious, they seem to stand back (*gesture*): they look at themselves, they begin to watch themselves act, and they very much wonder, "What's the use of all this?" And then, an aspiration: "How, how should things truly be? What's our purpose, our usefulness, our basis? Yes, what should our basis and our 'standard' of life be?" To put it mentally again, we might say, "How will we be when we are divine? What will be the difference? What's the divine way of being?" And what speaks there is that whole kind of physical base entirely made up of thousands of small things absolutely indifferent in themselves, whose *raison d'être* lies only in their totality, like a support to another action, but which in themselves seem devoid of any meaning. And then, it's again the same thing: a sort of receptivity, of silent opening to let oneself be permeated, and a very subtle perception of a way of being that might be luminous, harmonious.

That way of being is still quite indefinable; but in this seeking there is a constant perception (which translates as a vision) of a multicolored light, with all the colors - all the colors not in layers but as though (*stippling gesture*) combined in dots, a combination of all the colors. Two years ago (a little more than two years, I forget), when I met the Tantrics, when I came into contact with them, I started seeing that light, and I thought it was the "Tantric light," the Tantric way of seeing the material world. But now I see it constantly, associated with everything, and it seems to be what we might call a "perception of true Matter." All possible colors are combined without being mixed together (*same stippling gesture*), and combined in luminous dots. Everything is as though made up of this. And it seems to be the true mode of being - I am not yet sure, but at any rate it's a far more conscious mode of being.

I see it all the time: with eyes open, eyes closed, all the time. It gives a strange perception (with regard to the body), a strange perception at the same time of subtlety, permeability (if I may call it that), of suppleness of form, and not exactly a removal but a considerable lessening of the rigidity of forms (the rigidity is removed, not the forms: a suppleness in the forms). As for the body, the first times it felt that in some part or the other, it felt... when it happens it's a bit lost, with the sense of something eluding it. But if one remains very quiet and waits quietly, it's simply replaced by a sort of plasticity and fluidity that seems to be a new mode of the cells.

It might probably be what, on the material level, must take the place of the physical ego; that is to say, it seems the rigidity of the form must give place to this new way of being. Of course, the first contact is always very... surprising. But the body is getting used to it little by little. What's a little difficult is the moment of transition from one way to the other. It's done very progressively, yet at the moment of transition there are a few seconds that are... the least we can say is "unexpected."

In that way, all habits are undone. It's the same with all the functionings: blood circulation, digestion, breathing - all the functions. And at the moment of transition it's not that one abruptly takes the place of the other, but there is a state of fluidity between the two which is... difficult. It's only because of that great Faith, a perfectly still, luminous, constant, immutable faith in the real existence of the supreme Lord - in the **SOLE** real existence of the Supreme - that everything goes on apparently as it is.

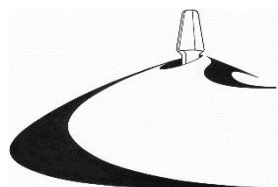
Volume 8. 1967 : Agenda of the Supramental Action Upon Earth

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



Courage and love are the only indispensable virtues;
even if all the others are eclipsed or fall asleep,
these two will save the soul alive.

- Sri Aurobindo
Essays Divine and Human, p.455



AMPHITHEATRE - MATRIMANDIR
Meditation at sunset with Savitri - read by Mother to Sunil's music
Every **THURSDAY, 6 - 6.30 PM** (weather permitting)

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. Thank you.



ACRES FOR AUROVILLE Land Campaign – 15 August 2020

Year 7 of our unity action to secure Auroville's designated material base!



We were much younger when the momentous event of the Inauguration of Auroville took place. Those who were there were deeply marked by the event, some of us participated right from the start, and over the 52 years of its existence, so many of us have helped Auroville grow, supporting The Mother's great vision of the City of Dawn with its inspiring goal of implanting of **"the consciousness of the One"**.

India, as the world's great spiritual wisdom source and evolutionary laboratory is the birthplace of Sri Aurobindo, the home for his Ashram, and so naturally, the host for Auroville, founded as The Mother's "next seeking". This City of Dawn is meant to be "a collective experiment for the progress of humanity" - a "first step" for developing the "organised and harmonious diversity" for world evolution that Sri Aurobindo said was both needed and inevitable. **Today, Auroville is internationally recognized as a showcase incarnating the multiple oneness of the Human Family, and as a site of dynamic efforts to support humanity's deep urge for unity and peace.**

"All that is needed is a little soil to let the plant grow" The Mother said - a material basis for anchoring this new creation in Matter. And so a land base on Earth for the Dream was designated by India. Consolidating this "Master Plan" area, around and protecting the Matrimandir, is an essential imperative for a solid, forceful whole. But today, Auroville's physical base is still incomplete. As Acres for Auroville embarks on its 7th year on India's landmark date of August 15th, we invite you to continue the effort with us, as we remember The Mother's words for the flower she named **"Success of Auroville"**:

"Power of Success - The power of those who know how to continue their effort"

Please specify your donations for **'ACRES FOR AUROVILLE'**: via check/ bank transfers to **Auroville Unity Fund**; via your country's AVI center www.auroville-international.org or online via www.auroville.com/donations/ **Donating/Deductions & Info:**

<https://land.auroville.org/a4adonations> **Our website: www.land.auroville.org**

Acres for Auroville is a collaboration of Auroville International & Lands for Auroville Unified
Quotes: *Collected Works of The Mother Volume XV page 51; Volume XIII pages 209 – 210 and page 281*



Lands for Auroville Unified (LFAU)

Auroville Centre for Urban Research,
Administrative Area, Auroville – 605 101, Tamil Nadu, India

India's 73rd Independence Day and Auroville

“The Soul of India is one and indivisible. India is conscious of her mission in the world. She is waiting for the exterior means of manifestation.” – The Mother, 6 June 1947 (CWTM. V.13, p.351)

The above words were written by the Mother two months before India's Independence from British rule. Then, on Sri Aurobindo's 75th birthday, on 15th August 1947 when India attained her long-sought Independence, Sri Aurobindo, at the request of All India Radio, wrote a message wherein he spoke of his five dreams, one of which was the spiritual gift of India to the world.

Some 21 years later in 1968, the founding of Auroville took place with the endorsement of UNESCO and numerous countries in the world thanks in part to the reach of Indian spirituality in the world – one of Sri Aurobindo's five “dreams”. Writes Suryamayi Aswini in her doctoral thesis on Auroville: *“The spirit and culture of the revolutionary era of '68 was in part informed by the concurrent discovery of Indian spirituality, popularised by contemporary artists such as The Beatles, which offered tools for the individual emancipation that was seen as necessary to accompany and realise the transformation sought for society at large.”*

In the quest for “tools” for individual emancipation and a transformed society, we believe Auroville brings the knowledge and vision from the two pioneers, Sri Aurobindo and the Mother, which far surpass the reason-born or the idealism-born knowledge and vision of founders of earlier utopian communities. The richness of experience with this depth and breadth of knowledge and vision make Auroville one of the most appropriate “exterior means of manifestation” for the soul of India. Anyone who studies the Mother's vision of Auroville with impartiality will agree that Auroville's vision, worldview, philosophy, approach to individual and collective life, and even the practical dimension of the town-plan, offer India an inspiration and roadmap to emerge into a future worthy of her great and divine soul.

Auroville has been welcomed and nourished in India and, in turn, Auroville nourishes the Indian renaissance. This truth needs to be better understood and strengthened so as to create *“the exterior means of manifestation”* for India's soul which alone can ensure India's glorious future, and the subsequent vastly beneficial impact on the world.

“Acres for Auroville” seeks to strengthen this truth by consolidating the planned Auroville area.

With trust in Auroville's bright future,

Aryadeep

Mandakini

Please specify “ACRES FOR AUROVILLE” (all Master Plan priority plots) for all donations via:

- Auroville Unity Fund (checks & bank transfers),
- Auroville Donation Gateway (credit & debit cards) <https://donations.auroville.com/>
- Auroville International www.auroville-international.org

Complete donation & tax deductibility information: <https://land.auroville.org/a4adonations>
<https://land.auroville.org/campaigns/acres/> <https://land.auroville.org/news/>

COVID 19 UPDATE

From the WC/CTF: We are communicating again to bring to your attention that there have been several large gatherings/ functions/ceremonies/parties taking place despite the government's lockdown restrictions. Many of these gatherings take place without our notice, or in non-Auroville facilities, but with attendance by a large number of Aurovilians. We do our best to communicate against having such gatherings, so we appeal to the community to inform us if they know of any like this happening in and around Auroville. Also, if you are invited to such events, we request you to be responsible for your and Auroville's safety and NOT attend.

Additionally, Coronavirus cases in Pondicherry are very high, and the city is currently going through a community transmission phase, where there are no traces of the contraction point of the new cases. Having said this, and looking at the rise in the number of cases each day (about 200) we strongly advise against anyone going to Pondicherry. If it is absolutely unavoidable and it is for an essential service, then ensure that all safety precautions are followed, and once the essential work is done you return to Auroville without much movement within Pondicherry. We look forward to continued support and cooperation from the community!
Wishing you all to stay happy and healthy. - The Covid Task Force & the Working Committee

Current GOI immigration/travel restrictions: <https://boi.gov.in/content/advisory-travel-and-visa-restrictions-related-covid-19-1>



WORKING GROUP REPORTS



L'avenir d'Auroville

Auroville Township Planning and Development Research Organization

BUILDING APPLICATION

The following applications have been reviewed and approved by L'avenir d'Auroville and feedback is now invited from the larger community. **The last date for your feedback is Saturday 29th August 2020.** Application forms, drawings, area maps and costing details for this have been [uploaded on the Intranet](#) in the application announcement posting. Kindly mail your feedback to application-avenir@auroville.org.in

Unity Pavilion - First floor, Utilities building. Final building NOC. Unity Pavilion had a site NOC (ref#2158 issued May 2017) and building NOC (ref # 2178 issued July 2017) to build a utilities building near to the pavilion structure. The ground floor was to have common toilets, storage & laundry facilities and the first floor was to have a caretaker unit. The total area for this ground plus one structure was 102sqm. The architect of the building is Piero and the works started on site as scheduled but Piero's ill health had prevented him from completing the full set of construction drawings so the first floor was not completed. Detailed construction drawings are now complete and as there are no changes to the design for which the earlier NOC was granted, the project holders will be issued a fresh NOC to complete the construction. The caretaker unit on the first floor is 36sqm. Estimated cost of construction 16,16,640/-

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR CONTRACTORS WORKING IN CONSTRUCTION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

We would like to let you know that we have initiated an Empanelment process for contractors undertaking any Construction and Infrastructure works in Auroville.

WHY ARE WE DOING THIS?: The empanelment is being introduced to support Auroville's vision of collective building of the city, and to be able to share across new technologies, innovations, knowledge etc. in the construction field. This is in hope of co-operation, collaboration and creating an environment of learning by fostering goodwill. The empanelment procedure is being initiated with the aim to:

- Aid *Project Holders* and *Consultants* with the easy identification of contractors suited for their projects.
- Keep contractors informed on upcoming projects in Auroville & relevant work standards, thus allowing for the upgradation of their professional skills and field knowledge.
- Upgrade and facilitate best practices to be followed in the construction sector of Auroville.

- Ensure free, fair and transparent processes in the construction & development field in Auroville.

We have undertaken this procedure based on various recommendations received.

WHAT ARE THE DETAILS?: This process is aimed more towards inclusion rather than selection/elimination. All contractors who apply shall be empaneled, unless there are any charges against them. Empanelment of a contractor does not imply allocation of projects by default.

Once empaneled, applicants will be notified by email. The list of empaneled contractors will be updated periodically. Those contractors who have been empaneled may update their credentials periodically with the Evaluation and Monitoring Cell (EMC) of TDC.

HOW TO APPLY FOR EMPANELMENT?: All Contractors interested in doing construction and infrastructure works in Auroville are invited to apply for empanelment. Contractors are advised and expected to empanel themselves to be able to execute Construction and Infrastructure works in Auroville. Please complete the editable pdf form below and send to us, for the process of empaneling yourself with TDC. The form also includes a summary of the Empanelment procedure. The editable pdf can be found on Auronet at <https://auroville.org.in/article/80884>. Simply click on the attachment in the post to download the form and kindly submit it by mailing to:

emc-avenir@auroville.org.in

You can also mail us at this address if you have any queries. Warmly, Saravanan and Sreevatsa

Anyone for poop?

As you may be aware, your septic tanks or wastewater treatment systems need to be emptied regularly: 1 to 2 years between desludging has to be respected for the treatment system to function and prevent blockage. When Pour Tous Water empties our septic tanks, the sludge has to end up somewhere. Up until now, Auroville has had temporary solutions, including dumping sludge in trenches (dug and then covered) at Botanical Gardens, then Forecomers, and most recently, the forest of Fertile. We are grateful to these communities for having Auroville's sludge dumped there. In November 2019, Fertile community members met with PTW and graciously extended their agreement for dumping in the area for six more months.

This prompted L'avenir to initiate a project to build a permanent and safe sludge treatment plant for Auroville. It is in process, but it takes time. In the meantime, we need to find a new temporary place to deposit our sludge. L'avenir has discussed this topic with the Forest Group, but to date we have not found a temporary solution. L'avenir and PTW will meet to discuss various options and settle on a choice very soon. The criteria to prevent pollution risks and nuisances (odors) are clear, including the potential locations which fit these criteria and the ones which cannot be retained. If you or your community can assist in any way with helping to find solutions, please email: water-avenir@auroville.org.in

Call for Contractors - Civil & Allied works for Utsav Project

Expression of Interest and Pre-Qualification Notice to Registered Auroville Construction Unit Holders for Civil and Allied works Tender of Utsav Project.

The Auroville Town Development Council will be inviting Civil and Allied works tender only from Auroville building and construction Unit and Activity Holders for the construction of the Utsav Project (Commercial and Residential Mixed-Use Project), in the Industrial Zone in Auroville. The pre-requisite requirement to respond to this limited tender enquiry is as follows:

- The Construction Unit Holder must be engaged in construction activity and has the technical ability to execute the work successfully.
- The construction Unit having executed, (a) Any one construction work within Auroville worth minimum Rs. 1.5 Crore. or (b) Completed various projects with a combined total of Rs. 3 crores over the last 7 years in Auroville.
- In no circumstances, the proposed construction project, if awarded to any Registered Construction Unit Holder, shall be sublet or executed by a sub-contractor.
- The Construction Unit or Activity should follow and implement the ABC Contribution policy.
- The Pre-qualification form should be filled in for selection.

Pre-qualifying form relates to the work experience, financial capacity and the technical ability of the Registered Unit Holder to carry out the proposed construction using both, traditional as well as innovative building technologies. Only the qualified contractors shall then be contacted and provided with the Tender Documents.

This link <https://auroville.org.in/article/80897> takes you to the tender announcement on Auronet, where the Pre-Qualification form is shared as an attachment. You can also send an email to emc-avenir@auroville.org.in to get this form. **The deadline for submission of the pre-qualification form (must be in hard copy) to L'avenir d'Auroville is 4:00 PM, Tuesday August 18th, 2020.**

For further assistance/info, please contact the office: The Auroville Town Development Council EMC (Evaluation and Monitoring Cell) Section, Town Hall, Administrative Area, Auroville - 605 101. emc-avenir@auroville.org.in; +91 413 2623568 or 262-2170 (AM only).

FAMC meeting with the GST Commissioner, Chennai

The FAMC met the GST Commissioner, Chennai and had a very informative and friendly exchange with him. The meeting concentrated on exploring solutions for obtaining an accredited exemption from a) the charging of GST by Auroville registered units to Aurovilians and b) by Auroville units between themselves. Auroville may be able to apply for an exemption for the first point and we will be pursuing the feasibility of this with him in the next few weeks.

On the second point, the Commissioner noted that if Auroville seeks exemption from paying GST internally between units, the way to achieve this is to further consolidate the sharing of GSTINs. He suggested that Auroville should ultimately strive for 1 GSTIN per state, and that we should now aim to reduce our GSTINs from the current 45 in Tamil Nadu to less than 10, and the 9 GSTINs in Pondicherry to 1. Such a consolidation can be done without any changes to our current Trusts structure; Trusts can share GSTINs if they so desire. This will reduce the GST that the conjoined trusts would otherwise collect from each other.

The Commissioner stressed the need for us to go forward with the Collective Accounting System, which the FAMC is presently working on, in order to manage such a shift. The advantages of such a system could be significant. It could also allow Trusts to maintain all of their accounts in one system rather than spread across many computers and files, which later need to be consolidated. Backup and security could be handled by our own internal service, such as BlueLight.

A collective accounting system also has the potential to streamline invoice management, simplify balance sheet

submission, consolidate Auroville accounts, provide up to date GST reports, calculate contributions, and improve asset management across all of the users of the system. Executives, if they would choose to use this system, would have full access to see their unit accounts; Trustees would have full access to see all of the unit accounts in their Trust; and accountants would have access to all of the units that they serve. As this system would be cloud based, those with access could see their accounts from any computer with internet access.

We will continue to dialogue with the GST Commissioner to achieve greater clarity and hope to report progress in the coming weeks.

Sincerely, FAMC

A note from the FAMC

Dear fellow Aurovilians,
Our community is undergoing severe economic pressures: income tax demands for over 20 crores and the severe financial impact on our economy as a result of the Covid 19 crisis are some of the major challenges we have to face. How we deal with these pressures, and how we can best structure Auroville's economy to meet the future pressures it will undoubtedly face, are subjects of intense interest. The FAMC welcomes this interest. We value the contributions from all in the Community on how best to deal with the challenges it faces. The strength of views expressed is indicative of the deep love Aurovilians have for Auroville. It is in that spirit that we, as members of the FAMC - and as fellow Aurovilians - wish to make clear that we do not find the language of 'conflict' helpful. We may, as a community, have disagreements, but the FAMC members emphatically do not regard themselves as being in "conflict" with any of the community it seeks to serve. We strive to do our best for all of the diverse participants in our economy. To the best of our ability, we do this with the intent to achieve Auroville's dream, without favour, and without losing sight of our duty to look at Auroville's economy holistically. We, as always, remain grateful for the trust the Community places in the FAMC. Yours, in solidarity ~ FAMC

From the FreeStore: We would like to remind you that at the Freestore, we provide our service to Aurovilians and Newcomers for the exchange of garments that are in good condition, with your fellow brothers and sisters. By good condition, we mean the items are newly washed, not broken or torn, etc.

"Gift for another; Joy of sharing; A deeper consciousness."

We are open Monday, Wednesday & Friday, 3pm to 5pm.

You can make an appointment by booking online:

www.picktime.com/aurovillefreestore or by calling us at 0413 262 3680, on those 3 days we are open. We thank you for your understanding, care and collaboration.

With Love & Light, Your Freestore Team.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Cafeteria at Visitors Centre will be OPEN on Sat. 15th August for Sri Aurobindo's Birthday/Independence Day

Aurelec Cafeteria is OPEN on Independence Day, 15th August @ 12 noon

Auroville Bakery & Cafe will be closed for Independence Day on Saturday, 15th August 2020
Please pick up your Saturday order on Friday (14th)
Happy Independence Day! ~ Auroville Bakery & Cafe Team

Auroville Library will be closed Saturday, 15th August for Independence Day / Sri Aurobindo birthday.

Wishing everyone a happy holiday.



New Life!

On the 26th of July our daughter **Rakshitha** was born in Pondicherry. We thank Hilde for her support during the process.
~ Suganya and Prakash, Sailam

August Open/Close at PTDC

We have entered the auspicious month of August. Sri Aurobindo's Birthday/Independence Day & Ganesh's Birthday "Ganesh Chaturthi" are both falling on Saturdays. To celebrate with you, we will adjust our regular closing days this month. Please mark the following changes for the month of August:

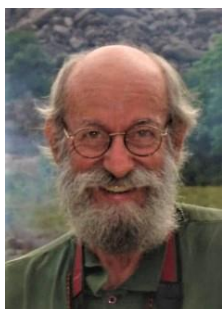
- **PTDC will be OPEN: WEDNESDAY 12th & 19th**
- **And CLOSED: SATURDAY 15th & 22nd, & WEDNESDAY 26th.**

We wish you peaceful and safe celebrations.
- Your PTDC team

Guest information Service Office

For guests, volunteers or newcomers staying in Auroville since the lockdown - The Guest Information Service located at the Solar Kitchen is now **open Monday to Friday, 9:30 to 12:30.**

OBITUARY



Giorgio Molinari

Our dear friend and brother, Italian Giorgio Molinari, peacefully left his body at 3.10pm in the afternoon of Monday 10 August at the age of 83 in his Arka apartment, succumbing to the heart problems that have been plaguing him for years.

Born in Milano, Giorgio was involved in photography from early age onwards while also developing interest in oriental philosophy. As a young man during the military service he functioned as ground assistant for aerial photography, after which he wholeheartedly entered the world of advertisement agencies, freelancing for record companies, theatre productions, architectural designs, often working with big names in the field. In 1980 he made an architectural photo study of Chandigarh, from where he visited Auroville, Matrimandir and the first true contact was made.

Then came the 'Auroville 35 years' festivity in UNESCO's Paris centre in 2003, during which he learned more about Auroville and met several Aurovilians. *His decision was made.* Even though he was stricken with cerebral hemorrhage and right-side paralysis during the very preparations to come here, he managed to fly in October 2004 to Auroville where he could convalesce in Arka. In December 2006 he became Aurovillian.

From the very onset, Giorgio was generously involved in the upgrading of Arka's infra structure and lived there as well. From there he did extensive photo studies of Savitri Bhavan, Matrimandir, and we saw him time and again during our meetings, at special events, in schools and at village occasions, cautiously but persistently negotiating the spaces and making photos wherever he could, always freely giving them to Auroville. He would merrily make marriage photos of friends in the village, providing them with CDs of the footage, and the Eluciole Circus would not be the same without him. In his studio, Giorgio trained various students, and endeavored to make AVians familiar with his Chronotype© technique.

Several years ago, Giorgio's beloved sister Graziella, who often came over from Italy and stayed with him in Arka, passed away, and since then Giorgio wasn't the same anymore. His health withered, and so did his humour and zest of life. He recently offered all his material and equipment to Auroville to constitute 'Studio Giorgio', currently temporarily housed in Citadines. The collection will now move to his Arka studio from where 'Studio Giorgio' can operate under guidance of his closest collaborator, Piero Cefaloni.

Thank you for having been with us, dear Giorgio, we will remember you through your many exquisite photos and touching images, and for your warm-hearted generosity and endearingly grinning smile. **OM-**

APPEALS

Laptop - I am Anandhi, daughter of Velu (Puncture Service) and Sudha. I was born and grew up in Auroville and I'm now studying law in Pondicherry. I need a laptop for my studies. If you are able to help by donating some funds or a computer you no longer need, or would like to have more info, contact Velu - 944-307-2499 or 7094358547, velusudha@auroville.org.in. If you would like to make a donation, please put it on FS acct #103983.

CD player - Third Age (a group for seniors) is looking for a CD player or any other small and simple-to-operate music player (w/ external speakers) for a senior who would love to be able to listen to music at home. If you have one to give away, contact 978 662 4784.

Shade structure fundraising and plants available at Savitri Nursery

At Savitri Nursery (in the Savitri Bhavan garden) for the last two years we have been growing and gifting plants whose flowers Mother gave spiritual significances to. We aspire to help to grow beautiful, colourful and fragrant gardens and people. We are all volunteers and welcome voluntary financial contribution, seeds and plants exchange, donations, and offers of voluntary work. We now need a more permanent shade with a strong roof for protecting the seedlings, cuttings and shade-loving plants which we are growing and taking care of. We also need some funds to buy nursery bags and a few basic gardening tools. We hope to build the shade in October, before the next monsoon season. For this, we need to raise funds amounting to around Rs. 17,000. Some people have already pledged contributions. We are appealing for help, financially or in kind (for example a donation of some 1.5' diameter steel pipes?) Would you like to have some plants for your home garden and/or work place in exchange?

Plants now available at Savitri Nursery (please click on the link to see their pictures and Mother's quotes):

Supramental Action (please sign up for a seedling Wish-list, and wait patiently for the seedlings to become ready for planting), *Sri Aurobindo's Compassion* (in multiple colours), *Psychological Perfection* (*plumeria*, grown from seeds and cuttings, in multiple colours), *Realisation*, *New World*, *Integral Wisdom*, *Immortality*, *Psychic Purity* (Jasmine), *Radiating Purity*, *Gratitude*, *Dynamic Power* (Hibiscus), *Imagination*, *Progress*, *Protection*, Aloe Vera, Desert Rose, Soursop.

Other plants in small quantities or now being grown which will become available:

- Other flowering trees, bushes, climbers, annuals, most of which Mother gave spiritual significances to;
- Trees, bushes with beautiful leaves, not named by the Mother;
- Vegetables (spinaches, tomatoes, chili and more);
- Fruit trees (various).

Savitri Nursery F.S. account: 251421. Come to the Savitri Nursery to get plants, to participate in gardening, making organic fertilizers and flower pots, or making donations at our **collective gardening time: every Wednesday 8:00-9:30 AM**

At other times, please contact:

Anandi Zhang: +91 89402 85201 (Whatsapp Only)
B: +91 99435 32829 (phone call or Whatsapp);
Prasad: +91 94428 59642 (phone call or Whatsapp)
Suresh: +91 97866 26952 (phone call or Whatsapp)

With deep joy and gratitude, the Savitri Nursery volunteer team

WELCOME

FROM THE ENTRY SERVICE - ES # 044 - 08-08-2020

Our team is happy to recommend the following individuals as Aurovilians, Newcomers and Friends of Auroville. Prior to "status confirmation", there is a community feedback period. For Newcomers, Associates and Friends of Auroville, this period is two weeks, and for Aurovilians and Returning Aurovilians, one month. Kindly forward your support or grievances to entryservice@auroville.org.in.

NEWCOMERS ANNOUNCED:

- Bernardo OSELLA (Argentinian) staying in Baraka and working at Auroorchard
- Seul Ki JANG (Korean) staying in Surrender and working at OK Upcycling Studio & Taste of Korea
- Wanjung KIM (Korean) staying in Surrender and working at FAMC



Bernardo

Seul Ki

Wanjung

NEWCOMERS CONFIRMED:

- Bondeepa PATOR (Indian)
- Cleo Tanja Marianne LUKKARINEN (Finnish)
- Fakeera MOHAN LAL VERMA (Indian)
- Kowsalya ASHOK (Indian)

AUROVILIAN ANNOUNCED:

- Aparajita BARAI (Indian) staying in Courage and working at CREEVA
- Ashok ANNADURAI (Indian) staying in SAIER Transport Service Caretaker house and working at SAIER Transport Service
- Deeptendu SARKAR (Indian) staying in Kriya Youth Housing and working at Youth Link
- Frederic LE COENT (French) staying in Harmony (SAIER staff quarters) and working at AV Library



Aparajita

Ashok

Deeptendu

Frederic

AUROVILIANS CONFIRMED:

- Claudia HARGESHEIMER aka Verena (German)
- Irena TASKOVSKI (British)
- Itzhak HELMAN (Israeli)
- Karan GAJENDRAN (Indian)

YOUTH TURNED 18 ANNOUNCED:

- Madhan MURUGAN (Indian) staying in New Creation Field
- Mathan SHAKTHIVEL (Indian) staying in Svedam
- Santhan SHAKTHIVEL (Indian) staying in Svedam



Madhan

Mathan

Santhan

SPOUSE / PARTNER / CLOSE FAMILY MEMBER OF AN AUROVILIAN ANNOUNCED:

- Poonam MOHANTHY (Indian) staying in Angiras Garden

NOTE:

- The Newcomer probation year becomes effective only after the NC kit has been completed and returned. Be aware that the duration of the process cannot exceed 18 months from the date of confirmation.

- An Aurovillian is a resident of Auroville, aged 18 and above, whose name has been entered in the Register of Residence (RoR) as maintained by the Auroville Foundation Office.
- The change of status from Newcomer to Aurovillian is the B-Form. An Aurovillian's name is entered into the RoR after he/she has met with the Secretary of the AVF with an appointment arranged by the Entry Secretariat. These appointments are fixed by the Entry Secretariat according to the availability of the Secretary, but not at any personal request of an individual.
- The Auroville Foundation processes issuing of ID cards only to the Aurovillians who are registered in the RoR.

TRAVEL



United Airlines US-India Flight Schedule August 2020

United Airlines announced additional special flights between USA and India through September 2, 2020. With due permission from Indian government, United Airlines resumed operations to India on July 17 as part of the US-India air travel bubble. United's US-India flight schedule which was over on July 29 has now been extended till September 2. [Mumbai](#) has been added to the phase two as the other origin of United flights from India to Newark (EWR). United will be operating three weekly Mumbai-Newark (BOM-EWR) flights from August 2 till August 30, 2020.

- Delhi-Newark: Daily flight from August 1 till September 1
- Delhi-San Francisco: Thrice a week (Mon/Wed/Sat) from August 3 till September 2
- Mumbai-Newark: Thrice a week (Wed/Fri/Sun) from August 2 to August 30

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Internal Delivery Service (IDS)

We are glad to see more and more people using the Internal Delivery Service, either as drop place for their online purchased goods or for delivery to their homes. For us to function well and do a good service it is important that the person placing the order (and gives the Internal Delivery Address) to send a mail to internaldelivery@auroville.org.in, indicating:

1. Order number of online purchased goods (order ID)
2. Your name
3. Phone number
4. If delivery wanted, community (specifications on flat etc)

Email is preferred, but a message/ phone call to 8531969746 will also work.

Delivery Address to be used when ordering online goods:

Full name: Internal Delivery Service (Service Area)
Mobile Number: 853 196 9746 Pin code: 605101
City: Auroville State: TAMIL NADU

Details to be sent to Internal Delivery Service:

(Order number/ ID, Name - Community - Phone Number)
Indicate if for pickup at UTS of delivery at home.

Timings for pick-up: 9.30 AM- 5 PM. Please phone in case you can not make it within the given timings.

Thank you for helping us to build up the Internal Delivery Service.

YouthLink Update



Hope you are all coping well in these strange times. YouthLink too has been going through a lot of changes. We have closed the office temporarily as it is a public space and no gatherings are allowed. Our team has also significantly reduced in number, as many international members have left.

We are currently in transition to a new management. We have 1 prospective candidate being trained to become "Executive" but we are looking for 1 more. We hope to be an example of regular succession, hopefully every ~5years.

We would like to seek your help to find a new office space (anything small and simple will do), and any recommendations for new management members.

As a small reminder for those who are confused about what YouthLink is: We are a Service Unit under ABS, and an educational activity under LEADs. Our main focus since 2015 has been to support one another (as young adults) to integrate into Auroville. This means we are a platform to incubate a variety of 'life projects', and we reach out to a wide mentor pool to do so. We also run many workshops or events that are in some way linked to these projects and youth empowerment in Auroville. We have mostly attracted a bioregional, volunteer, newcomer crowd as those are usually the young people who seem to need this platform the most.

Wishing you all well, Ankita, Michael and Kavitha on behalf of the YouthLink team (Ankita, Arul, Kavitha, Michael, Pierre, Sudipta, Tenzin, Tushita, Quentin)



Facts & Figures- August 2020

In our last report published in the month of July we presented the figures for Auroville farm produce received by Foodlink from

different farms. Now again we are coming back to you with the distribution details for the same items.

On the one hand, Foodlink manages the receipt of goods from farms, and on the other takes responsibility for distributing these to the different locations/needs/outlets in the Auroville community. In fact, one of the main objectives of Foodlink is to distribute the farm products among our community members. At present, Foodlink distributes to PTDC, PTPS & HERS, who further distribute to individual community members. Foodlink also distributes to the eateries like Solar Kitchen, VC Cafeteria and Sadhana Forest and serves individuals directly through their market.

We are very conscious about our role in the building of our city, and so we are always working on our functioning, strategies, infrastructure and human resources. In this report, we aim to bring awareness regarding the present consumption patterns in the community within the Auroville food economy. Each player connected in this unique circle of our economy, whether they are community eateries, retail outlets or individuals, has its own way of service to the community. Their consumption patterns cannot be compared.

Below are the highlights of Foodlink's distribution:

FRUIT: The majority of fruit distribution is to our retail outlets. PTDC (with 50% of Auroville residents as members) consumes more than 80% of the total fruit received by Foodlink. With an increase of 23% in total production of fruit compared to last year (Apr-June'19), retail outlets like PTDC have supported us by consuming more fruit. There was also a marginal increase in distribution to other retail outlets.

VEGETABLES: Solar Kitchen generally takes around 50% and PTDC 35% of vegetable received by Foodlink from AV farms. Due to the current pandemic, our eateries were unable to use such a large amount of vegetables. There was an option to shift in-kind to PTDC and as a result there was an almost 200% increase in distribution of vegetables to PTDC compared to last year (Apr-June). Solar Kitchen and the Cafeteria used fewer vegetables, and thus Foodlink's distribution of vegetables to these places was lower.

EGGS: The above trend continued in the case of eggs, as our main eateries consumed no eggs during April-June'20. That was a massive challenge for all of us to find places where we could distribute our supply. As we have explained in another article the cost of production and prices compared to outside eggs is higher because of our values and quality added to produce organic eggs.

DRY GOODS: The supply of rice to Solar Kitchen has reduced by up to 50%. Under this category we cover brown rice, red rice, boiled rice and raw rice. We were able to manage to cover this shortfall by taking online orders from individuals and providing home delivery.

DAIRY: Overall, there was an increased consumption of milk and dairy products during this period, maybe because of the

lockdown. The supply of milk to Foodlink increased by 61% compared to last year (Apr-June). During April-June'20, Foodlink received an average of 100 ltr of milk/day. To balance the demand and supply we started delivering milk to individuals from mid March. During April-June'20 Foodlink distributed an average of 60-70 ltr of fresh milk per day. Since the lockdown has been relaxed consumption has reduced. In the month of July'20, we distributed an average of 45 ltr fresh milk per day. Foodlink has also distributed Pasteurized milk to the leading outlets.

Please click to see the figures in detail https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1K367eYfMdHUUETb-6QfwXqj_nW_9Z0G6CqeMEyio90/edit#gid=0

IMPORTANT REFLECTIONS:

1. There are 23 farms in Auroville. These farms produce vegetables, fruits, milk, and various kinds of rice, pulses and millets for the Auroville community.

2. The figures stated in this report are based on the food that is supplied to Foodlink and distributed through Foodlink.

3. We don't know how much our community is spending on food coming from outside Auroville, or the volume and types of this food that is being consumed. We don't know how much of that food could potentially be produced in Auroville if community members were willing to switch from inorganic to organic food. Auroville farms, with the right financial and other support, have the potential to produce more.

4. The monthly budget for farms is less than 4% of our total City Services payments. In case the City Services allocation to the farms and Foodlink increases, it will help to boost investments in the farms. This will enable the growth that farms have been lacking as they have not had sufficient financial inputs to capitalize increased production. Farms will produce more of the community's food requirements and enable a new kind of economy to emerge. This will create a self-reliant, ecological and sustainable in kind economy through the food sector. This will also create and boost collective planning, understanding and integration of our community food needs. As a next step, Foodlink is planning to connect with consumers, farmers and other groups in order to understand the needs of the Auroville food system.

5. Will you help? You can:

- Use as much Auroville grown food as possible.
- Help to grow food (contact the Farm Group) and help in Auroville farms
- Become part of a long term coordinated team which will understand, plan and integrate the Auroville food system.

To order dry goods (rice, varagu) click here: <https://forms.gle/bUHFU2ekDvwXujHXA>

To order milk, curd, or paneer, send an email to foodlink@auroville.org.in. -FOODLINK TEAM - August 2020

Marc's Cafe Store Update

Our new timings (till next notice): Mon - Sat, 8 AM - 6 PM
Notice that we have started "back to basic" lunches that include a variety of: brown rice dosas from Annapurna Farm, with pesto made w/ basil from Buddha Garden, or simply with chutneys. We source our eggs & some seasonal fruits and vegetables from AuroOrchard, our vegan cheese (made w/ cashew nuts) from Evergreen and Milky Mushroom soup from Windarra. We also offer a Paleo salad with plenty of roasted nuts, chicken spinach and edible weeds.

Thanks to everyone for following the preventive Covid-19 measures. A special thanks to Nina Sengupta for her Edible Weeds book that inspired us so much, Krishna from Solitude for his support and advice, Ramanan and Gerard from AuroOrchard for their patience, and to all the Auroville farmers that work so hard to supply all of us with all these organic goodies.

WORK OPPORTUNITIES

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.

Caretaker - You take care of opening and locking up the premises at night and are present at times when staff is not present. You make sure the equipment is kept safe, give technical support at events, set up and clean up after events. Caretaker room available, there is a probation period, no maintenance.

Youthlink Executive/Manager - YouthLink is a service unit and educational activity that is set up as a platform/umbrella to incubate young adult's projects, to support their integration in Auroville. Anyone working in YouthLink is welcome to bring their own "life project" to the table, and is expected to help other youth with their initiatives as well. YouthLink engages many Aurovilians and international mentors. YouthLink also organises many workshops and events relating to youth projects.

You are responsible for and have some experience in: management, communication, reporting, accounting oversight, social media oversight, networking, fundraising, facilitating, coordinating a team. You will learn about yourself, learn about Auroville. Do what you love, with people who support you. Be in service of others. Bridge generations. Connect to various Auroville & international opportunities. Have the freedom and flexibility to try something new! You work within a team where you get to decide, together, how you want to design your life, and your work. Benefits available after a training period.

And other positions (please inquire about details):

- Customer Care and Website Maintenance
- Production Management
- Secretary (part-time)

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)

HEALTH

Health Freedom AV

Much curiosity has recently been expressed about this new group. With thanks for the diverse community responses and heartening show of inclusivity, a description of the group is offered here: <https://auroville.org.in/group/health-freedom-av>



JIVA - We offer workshops, classes, therapy sessions, retreats www.auroville-jiva.com contact@auroville-jiva.com Whatsapp 9626006961

We offer healing and transformation for all body - mind - soul connects, from the most physical, to psychiatric issues, to questions about the spiritual path. Our therapists are Aurovilians sharing their journey in integral yoga in their healing modality. JIVA is growing to a team of 8 therapists, teachers and workshop facilitators. *Please see the Regular Activities addendum for a full list of our offerings.*

MATRIMANDIR

Opening of Inner Chamber

Dear community,
It is proposed to open the Inner Chamber of Matrimandir on a very limited basis for **Aurovilians and Newcomers only**. The Inner Chamber would be open from **6am to 8am** only Monday to Saturday. To comply with Government Regulations and conditions required by the Covid 19 Task Force and the Working Committee, access will have to be very limited and strict protocols will have to be followed. [For full details, see Auronet.](#) ~ **Matrimandir executives and Access team**

Natural Impressions - Ambient Live Music by Nadaka

Enjoy this peaceful moment in the Matrimandir Gardens, by the Amphitheater every **Saturday from 5:45PM to 6:30PM**. Saturday 15th August will also include a specially recorded chant by Gopika. Note: SOP to be followed when visiting the Matrimandir area.

LOOKING FOR

Someone going to Paris-Centre d'Art Citadines is looking for someone who could take a parcel to Paris between 19th August and 1st September. The parcel contains about 50 catalogues for Dominique Darr's exhibition in Paris. The weight will be 3 kg maximum. In Paris someone will come and take it. Thanks!
2622699; centredart@auroville.org.in

French teacher - You are a French native speaker and enjoy teaching kids, we are looking for you. Kindly contact Ulrike Urvasi ulrikrishna@gmail.com or 9442069249 (SMS & call only)

Vienna contacts - I am Emanuele Scanziani, a long term Aurovillian, I am looking for some contacts in Vienna - Austria, for my daughter, Anama Kotlarevsky (she's living in Paris at the moment) to find a place where she can stay at a reasonable cost from September 2020 till June 2021. While she completes her studies at the Vienna University (Wien Universität) nearby the Rathaus. She currently has no contacts at all. If anybody knows someone trustworthy who could offer her a place to stay, please contact either me or her directly - Emanuele: lete@auroville.org.in or Anama Kotlarevsky: anamakotlaf@gmail.com. It would be SO helpful! Thanks!

Stones for our gardens - Work is currently underway at Unity Pavilion on developing our garden area. We will be very happy to receive any leftover stone slabs of any color/size available, for the pathways. If you have any, please contact us: 0413 262376 or unitypavilion@auroville.org.in

Piano - to use or borrow for our child's exploration of the wonderful instrument. If you have one that you hardly use, or are happy to lend it to us (contribution possible), Ulrike Urvasi, ulrikrishna@gmail.com or 9442069249 (SMS or call only)

Sewing machine - Having a bit of time these days, my mind collects images, designs, ideas, and dreams; I would really like to test and manifest some of these ideas. If there is a sewing machine that is gathering dust somewhere, I would gladly put it to loving good use - chandrag108@gmail.com

Blankets, sheets & towels - If you have anything you don't use anymore, +91 915-056-7003 or sarah@the-taiji-family.com

Household work for Poorani - she is currently working at Unity Pavilion. Due to budget cuts, we need to reduce our staff and their work hours. She is a good presence and efficient with her work, available halftime in the mornings. If you are looking for household help, contact Unity Pavilion 0413 262376 or unitypavilion@auroville.org.in

Baby-sitter - English speaking, for our 5 years old son. 2 hours per day 10AM to 12 PM - Contact Anamika 9345321570

Puppy - at least 8 weeks old for a friend (preferably Labrador)- Contact Anamika 9345321570

Sound box - Do you have a sound box that is not in use and you would like to gift it away? I'm looking for one, to play music... to plants at Savitri Nursery. Gratitude.
Anandi: +91 8940285201 (WhatsApp only)

Camera & Pressure cooker - Photo camera with good quality picture. Prefer one with an integrated battery with charger. huyslaure@gmail.com

Guitar - Anyone selling a guitar (acoustic/semi-acoustic/ electric) please contact G, sattvig@gmail.com, 8407997970. ☺

Digital camera - looking for a simple and small digital camera. If you have one laying around It would be much appreciated - Eden, 7598394821

Laptop - I am Raquel, volunteer in Auroville since last year. I need a laptop or computer to study and work from my house, to play music and write scores. I can offer a contribution.- WhatsApp: +34602260536 or raqueljoverpiano@gmail.com

AVAILABLE

Electric scooter in good condition. Older BSA classic "Roamer", made in Bangalore. New battery & tire. A small bike, but it can carry 2 people. Not speedy, but balanced and easy to ride. Parts and maintenance all available in Auroville from Govindaraj at the Qutee Electric Vehicle Service (next to Puncture Service). Call B at 9943532829 or email: bgr8ful@auroville.org.in.

Office Space: 13 sqm. closed office space located on the first floor inside Aurelec premises, with superb infrastructure, including generator, UPS System, air-conditioner, high speed fiber internet access (BSNL and Aurinoco), 24 hours security, parking and canteen facilities. Interested people may contact Mr. Siva at Aurelec in person, by phone at 262-2293/294 or e-mail: adps@auroville.org.in

German classes - German native speaker offers classes for kids of all ages. Please contact Ulrike Urvasi 9442069249 (SMS and call only) or ulrikrishna@gmail.com

Cashews - Come get your organic AV raised and processed cashews from AV raised and processed youth :) Limited quantity, so don't hesitate! Call or text Angeli at 9655688952

GREEN MATTERS



Water Saving Tip of the Week!

Retrofit your taps with aerated one. You can find these in Pondy - look for the Jaguar brand. The water savings can be up to 60%!

With love from the Water Group - helping Auroville become a water-sensitive city.

watergroup@auroville.org.in / www.aurovillewater.in

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COVID news from Greenpeace

Greenpeace has been lending support to farmers and daily-wagers during lockdown, as they report in their

newsletter which we edited for you below:

Food sovereignty: COVID-19 has led to food scarcity for millions of people. The UN warned of disruption of food supplies and further [loss of incomes and livelihoods](#) - affecting over 1.6 [billion](#) workers in the formal economy alone. Food banks and community organizations are doing their best to help, but as the pandemic collides with inequality and climate emergency, it's clear we need major changes in our approach to food and agriculture.

Farmers all over the world are effectively using ecological agriculture to build resilience to cope with climate change. The food system was broken long before coronavirus came along. The current crisis has exposed the fault-lines and [renewed urgency to tackle root causes](#). This means asking hard questions: how is it that 30% of food is wasted globally and unhealthy food is fueling [obesity](#) and diabetes, while [820 million people don't have enough to eat](#)? Why are millions being "forced to choose between [hunger or COVID-19](#)"?

The industrial and commodity-based food system has failed to adequately feed us. This isn't due to a lack of food but due to extreme inequality, and the wrong type of food being produced, traded and promoted by powerful corporations.

Changing our food system - An alternative vision is gaining momentum - of a more collaborative, socially just and ecological food system, based on community participation. As public money goes into economic recovery packages, some governments and organizations are pushing for systemic changes, so that communities can build back with greater resilience, better able to cope with future shocks. [Food justice](#) means "communities exercise their right to grow, sell, and eat healthy food" and acknowledges differences such as class, ethnicity, and gender. In some places, this [transition](#) has already begun.

Our right to food - Access to food and fair treatment of workers are human rights. Combined with respect for [ecological boundaries](#) these are the key ingredients for [food sovereignty](#).

We all -local and national governments, international agencies and cities- must shift towards [a sustainable food system](#) that can support us during the COVID crisis and beyond. Some of the changes required:

1. Food is a common good. For example, [Victoria](#), Canada has assigned parks staff to start growing food for residents. Let's encourage city networks, like [Milan Urban Food Policy Pact](#), [CityFood](#) and [C40](#), to ensure access to nutritious food for all (pour tous!).
2. Food justice. Food insecurity is linked to inequality, not lack of production. It's a question of justice. To ensure the right to healthy food for all, we need to adopt social measures like universal basic needs support (UBI or UBS) and redistribute wealth through progressive taxation.
3. Essential workers are valued & compensated. To cope with current & future shocks, we need to value all in the food industry as essential workers. People growing, producing, sharing, distributing food should receive a decent income proportionate to their vital functions. Taxes, subsidies, & procurement policies must be redirected to achieve these goals.
4. We use our power to accelerate change. In addition to holding governments to account, the changes we make at household level can shift how society values food and those producing food for the better. Here are practical actions we can take now as individual citizens for better food:

- Reduce food waste and shift our diet towards more local ecological, in season, and mainly [plant-based food](#).
- Use raw and fresh ingredients rather than packaging-heavy, highly-processed pre-made food
- Get our hands dirty and appreciate how difficult, but also rewarding, it is to grow food.
- Connect directly with local farmers and share with them the risks and rewards of growing food -through [community supported agriculture](#).

Let's not let this moment pass without planting the seed for a better food future for all. We all can join the food sovereignty wave!

Source: *Éric Daries a Food Strategist at Greenpeace International, based in Montreal, Canada.*

- Gijs & Lisbeth

The Green Column reports on green issues in Auroville, the bioregion and the wider world. It appears bi-monthly in the News& Notes and on Auronet. We like to hear your comments via avgreencenter@auroville.org.in



Hiroshima 75

The flash was short: one moment, like a bolt of lightning
Huge thunder crashed down and is echoing loudly still
As if it exploded today: all time is warped dumb
The Bomb melted homes, hearts, cars, streets:
burned moist flesh to dust

The rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air, gave proof
To all who had ears to hear that The End is quite near
Armies debated details: how best to end it all
Are they ready yet? Good to go? Cue the machines! NOW!

Shall we destroy all? Or will we learn, and live longer?
Three quarters of a century we have been planning
But what will the final Unity of Man look like?
The bombs are built, loaded, ready to send out flying
Or shall we dance together? Sing? Love? Share? Love? Laugh?
Love!

- Miko Sloper, volunteer teacher at AV Language Lab



Hello Auroville, your favorite radio is always growing! The stream channel can be heard here: <http://aurovillerradio.org:8000/av-radio-128.mp3>. It broadcasts mixed music and LIVE events 24/7 from our Town Hall studio.

New Entry LIVE episodes:

- [Tamil Literature Forum](#) (At Ilaingnarkal Education Centre, a few friends are gathering to discuss about Tamil culture & literature - In Tamil) with R. Meenakshi every Friday at 11am

Next LIVE episodes:

- [A Cup of Joy](#) (wellness) w/ Vega & Francesco, Mon, 2:30pm

- [Nutritional Cultural Redemption](#) (food and farming) with Krishna McKenzie every Tuesday at 10:30am

- [The Best of What's Still Around](#) (music) with Dhani Muniz every Wednesday at 2:30pm

- [The Neo Urban Chronik](#) (opinion) with Froggy de Frenchy every Friday at 10:30am

- [Happiness, Love and Laughter](#) (wellness and well-being) Fif/MediClown Academy every Mon/Wed/Fri around 12 noon

- [Audible Weed Walk](#) (local food) w/ Nina, Fridays at 2:30pm

- [Capriole](#) (music) with Luca, Tuesdays at 2pm

- [The readings by Gangalakshmi](#) (en francais) Wed, 10:30am

- [Soul Songs](#) (music) with Jules and Matthew, Sat at 3pm

All the programs are also available as podcasts (just click the title). All the recordings can be downloaded on the AurovilleRadio website www.aurovillerradio.org.

Write us if you need more information radio@auroville.org.in

Your favorite radio is constantly changing and evolving...
STAY TUNED! Please write us for your suggestions :)

Re: Selecting new members for L'avenir d'Auroville/TDC Interface Team

I understand that we are again rushing into selecting members for the new L'Avenir/TDC interface team without fully understanding the core issues, the covid-19 "situation" with relevance to the work, the GB directive, the relevant standing order and the existential polarities in this conversation/domain. It is crucial that before any "selection" happens, the community (whoever is interested) has a chance to chime in and express their viewpoints.

The primary role of the interface team, according to their current mandate, is to appoint the technical teams, take the recommendations from them and make decisions, on one side, and then coordinate with the community with regular information updates and interaction, on the other. THIS IS WHERE A LOT OF THOSE EXISTENTIAL POLARITIES, WHICH ARE UNADDRESSED, PLAY A HUGE PART.

I am not going to put any negativity or pressure on the few people who have been carrying this massive responsibility on our behalf. Since quite some time and currently, the setup in l'avenir d'auroville / TDC is not functioning with any level of clarity and a clear understanding of the roles and scope of work. There are 2 remaining members in the interface team, who have been co ordinating the "work" with an extensive technical team and administrative team (comprised of Aurovilians, volunteers and paid staff). The work requires a competent hybrid team, covering the different perspectives of visioning, planning, communicating with the community, and setting development priorities, keeping in mind the different sectors like city, forest, farm, industry etc.

But these tasks become exponentially more challenging for any new P&D team as there is no alignment of vision, mission, workplan, roles and responsibilities in the different areas of engagement. This is one of the main reasons why any team put in place for L'avenir d'Auroville gets into a big tangle in the first couple of months, resulting in the resignation of team members. We still have not addressed/updated the polarities that exist in the conversation. There have always been the 'Galaxy' supporters, the people who feel that the 'Master Plan' definitely does not represent or reflect the Galaxy model, others who believe in organic, participatory planning methods and another portion of our community who are completely

disconnected from this topic, as long as their individual requirements are met.

Now in 2020, can we at least have a clear process to look into where we are at with this whole conversation, regardless of how polarized it is, in order to lay a good foundation for current and coming generations to stand on and refer to? I am also aware we are in the middle of extraordinary circumstances where we can't gather/meet in person as a collective. It pushes for alternative/creative methods to be explored to "dialogue and decide" as a community (again, those who are willing to commit to the process, not just complain about it). The time has come to shift from the attitude of maintaining the status quo to actually coming up with clear, directional modalities, keeping in mind critical stages of population growth (5000,10000...)

The main issue for me is that everything we 'see' is basically just a smokescreen, while the real decisions get made behind the scenes. L'avenir's role is primarily as place-holder, although it does also play the role of absorbing most of the negativity from the community while it tries to address its legal responsibilities (e.g. continuing to lay roads which have been mandated in the Master Plan etc.)

I am addressing all those concerned about/connected to this topic. Before we rush into putting people into this 'group' (I fully understand that there are vacancies to be filled and we need to 'keep the ball rolling'), let's please start a series of clear and conscious discussions, related to these different aspects with our community/collective, and see what emerges. I am more and more certain that 'competent' people will not join the L'avenir d'Auroville/TDC team without addressing the "elephants in our community" related to this topic. We are in a pivotal transitional phase on so many levels, and the specific topic of L'avenir d'Auroville needs to be addressed clearly NOW. For me band-aid fixes are not the need of the hour, especially in this transitional phase. This time is really a golden opportunity to shift something powerfully. This is why I would request the AVC, WC & RAS to consider, brainstorm and organize accordingly.

The alignment of a common vision, the Governing Board/Foundation's role, the NTDA, special status with the town and country planning act and other possibilities of land protection, the impact of giving a legal statutory recognition to the existing Master Plan, the dangerous implications of the district authorities including Auroville in their regional plans without recognizing the RA/GB approved Auroville Master Plan, land use plans (forest, farm, industrial, international zones, etc), TOR (needs to be worked on and ratified), DDPs, financial support system required to run and manage a fully functional L'Avenir d'Auroville, will be some of the topics to be addressed in these series of General Meetings. (If it's not possible in person, then at least virtual GMs). Another possibility is to organize a workshop (efficiently facilitated) and make an open invitation to which the people who are interested in/connected to this topic would respond, (hopefully). Ideally during this workshop, all these different issues are addressed and consolidated clearly and then a selection could follow and the wider community is kept informed. When I suggest this option, I am also aware that we are not "allowed" to gather in substantial numbers, but we have to find a way. Other options are also welcome. I am positive, more people would consent to serve in L'avenir d'Auroville and the TDC if these issues are addressed clearly.

I also understand that because the budget for L'Avenir d'Auroville has been reduced/cut, it is now dependent on BCC to financially support the entire setup and its functioning. And that in the face of the financial impact of the Covid 19 'pandemic'. This creates an additional strain on the collective funds and also discourages people to join L'Avenir. All this creates a unique situation where we will be only able to "afford" only a small set up, with a limited budget.

I am fully aware that all these 'tremors' are part of the churning phase, but I still feel that if we are sincere in our individual and collective push, the 'Grace' will support.

- Aurovik



"Open us. Transform in us everything that is not you"
- The Mother

A Prayer to Sri Aurobindo

Open eyed
Fill us through and through
your Presence
your Light
your Consciousness

Made us crystal
in the center
Golden
with your symbols

Let everything in us
Be You
- Anandi-a

From Discipline Community

We hereby express a correction to what the Auroville Council report stated concerning the Discipline farm issue, as published in the New and Notes 08.08.20 edition. Our experience was this:

The basis of the conflict started at the beginning of 2018 on the return of the ex-steward, who had been on a two-year hiatus. The long-term farm team, mostly residents, who had successfully developed the farm further were not welcomed to participate anymore. After a year the ex-steward left again and since then the Discipline community is resisting parties who have no understanding of this place, with unreliable and unrealistic interests. We urge the Auroville Council to rectify their post. If anyone wishes further information, please contact the residents at: discipline@auroville.org.in

- Bärbel, Edzard, Frank, Joster, Karin, Lisa, Meike, Murugan, Nithya, Petra, Sami, Sandeep, Theresa, Tom

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

A Boost for Analog Photography

A new darkroom attached to Centre d'Art, Citadines was inaugurated on Friday 8th August. The darkroom is to be used for the processing of film and for printing of analogue photographs. It is primarily funded by Centre d'Art, which was founded by Dominic Darr, herself an analogue photographer, who spent a large chunk of her life in Auroville documenting the development and evolution of the city, especially the construction of the Matrimandir. Hence this darkroom is also to help preserve her legacy and also that of Giorgio Molinari, who also spent an inordinate amount of time documenting the important happenings in Auroville, initially through analogue and later and through digital photography. He, along with several other Aurovilians, were instrumental in donating a lot of equipment and chemicals for this darkroom.

Analogue photography is fading fast due to the advent of digital cameras and mobile phone cameras. However, any photographer who has done any analogue photography will attest to the importance and beauty of this process. There is a whole generation born during the digital era that are discovering this form of image-making and are fascinated and curious to learn more. For them this darkroom will hopefully kindle interest in this wondrous process and help create a solid foundation in this medium.

Thanks to the Centre d'Art team for holding onto and prolonging yet another medium from disappearing from the face of this earth.
- Sasikant Somu



AUROVILLE ART SERVICE - 'basket' for the week

1. **IFA CELEBRATES 25 YEARS OF GRANT-MAKING - CALL FOR PROPOSALS** - IFA offers small grants to individual artists who would like to create an online intervention celebrating 25 years of internet in India. Deadline is Monday September 7. <https://indiaifa.org/whats-new/call-proposals-25x25-marking-25-years-grantmaking-ifa-deadline-september-07-2020.html>

2. **INKO CENTRE - ONLINE PHOTOGRAPHIC EXPOSITION**
The Inward Eye, Photographs by Honghee Kim at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nagQ38XWFd4>

3. **CENTRE D'ART CITADINES - A NEW DARKROOM** - Funded by Centre d'Art, a new darkroom was opened on the 8th of August, with generous donations of equipment and chemistry from several Aurovilians, including Giorgio Molinari. To know more, and to use it, contact centredart@auroville.org.in

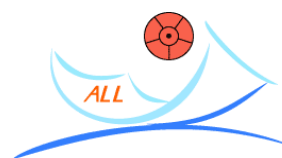
4. **MOHANAM PROGRAM - A COURSE IN HANDICRAFTS** - Interested in pursuing a study in a traditional handicraft right here in Auroville? For details, contact mohanamprogram@auroville.org.in

5. **STREAMLINE ART VIDEO** - Daily on Facebook, Streamline Art Video posts live art lessons by a variety of artists in a plethora of media. <https://www.facebook.com/StreamlineArtVideo>

6. **APPROACHING MUSIC THEORY: MELODIC FORMS AND SIMPLE HARMONY** - Interested in the technical as well as aesthetic details of music? This free course from CALARTS will allow you to study the relationship between the two, not by looking at the theory, but by hearing, seeing, and writing music. <https://www.coursera.org/learn/melodic-forms-simple-harmony>

7. **EDIBLE WEED WALK 6 WITH NINA AND KRISHNA MCKENZIE**
The calming effects of the Ganges Primrose
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w7C5UP9sdWU>

CLASSES/WORKSHOPS



Auroville Language Lab New classes:

(Only for Aurovilians, Newcomers, pre-Newcomers & guests who have been living only in Auroville during lockdown)

It turns out that Miko has several other qualities other than teaching English and his heart's love, Esperanto, that includes a deep love of astronomy. So Miko, along with Esperanto and intermediate English, will be teaching "The Language of Astronomy".

Astronomy Introduction - You will study the basic movements of the planets and the history of our understanding of these movements. At least an intermediate level of English is required.

Introduction to Esperanto - This international language is a tool for unifying the human race through neutral communication, which gives advantage to no nation in particular. It is easy to learn and pretty in the ear. Please contact us with your preferred days and timings, so that we can arrange a time appropriate for all students.

Intermediate Esperanto - Open to those who have taken the introduction course either here or online.

Tamil Beginner class - Saravanan is starting a regular Tamil class. This time it's going to be a 3-month course, twice a week.

Hindi Beginners class - Puja will be teaching Hindi for beginners twice a week for 2 hours.

Spanish Beginners class - Mila, who is already teaching an intermediate level class, now proposes to start a beginner level class too. Starting from Tuesday the 18th of August.

French class for children: Stephen Kumar est prêt à donner des cours de Français pour les jeunes pendant la période de confinement. Il sera disponible 3 fois par semaine tous les **Lundi, Mercredi et Vendredi de 10h à 11h.**''

Le niveau : 5^{ème} , 4^{ème} , 3^{ème} (Brevet)

1.	Lecture et prononciation
2.	Grammaire de base selon le niveau
3.	Vocabulaire essentiel de base
4.	Compréhension de texte
5.	Voir des documents intéressants
6.	Écrire des phrases

Apprenons ensemble et soyons ouverts à l'inconnu.

- New students are requested to register at: <http://register.aurovillelanguagelab.org/> to join any language classes at the Lab.
- You are welcome to check out our **Mediatheque**, which has excellent Software, Audio and Video material that you can work with, either on your own or as a guided study.

The Language Lab is open Monday - Friday 9:00 am- 12:00 pm and 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm, Saturday 9 am to 12 pm. Location: International Zone, after the Unity Pavilion and Pump House. Phone: 2623661, 4036920/22; info@aurovillelanguagelab.org

Somatic Movement w/ Maggie
Online live intensive for every body!
Saturday & Sunday, 22nd and 23rd August
Timings: 2.00 - 5.30 PM each day

Neuromuscular re-education (mind-body training) Workshop in the tradition of Thomas Hanna. Somatic education is a system of slow, mindful movement. It improves the function of the nervous system, creating more ease and freedom within ourselves. Somatics teaches up to recognise and release holding patterns, resulting from pain, injury, stress or habituated posture. This work enhances any kind of exercise such as a yoga, dance sport or just moving through life.

Over 2 afternoon sessions you will learn how to release tension in the body and learn a daily practice in order to maintain better flexibility, coordination, balance and wellness, resulting in a decrease of aches and pains commonly attributed to stress, injury and ageing.

Open to anyone whether you are completely new to this work or want to rediscover the basics, however a good understanding of English language is essential as is a commitment to attend both sessions. Please sign up by emailing maggie@auroville.org.in and I will send you full details. Feel free to contact me by email or call+9486623465 w/ any questions.

Maggie presents on behalf of SoMagic, consultancy activity under LEAD, a Unit under the Auroville Foundation



Transformational Yoga w/ Lakshmi -
Wednesdays (from 19th Aug), 5 - 6:30 PM,

Transformational Yoga is inspired by the Integral Yoga teachings of Sri Aurobindo, and goes far beyond physical practice. You will learn and practice Hatha Yoga asanas, Pranayama breathing, mantra chanting and meditation techniques as tools to make a difference in your everyday life. This collection of yogic systems aims to awaken all aspects of the being's nature and chakras, in order to experience a continuous state of physical health and stamina, emotional balance, and higher mental guidance. Spaces are limited, so **please register in advance by calling +91 848 976 4602.**

For your safety, all COVID-19 precautions are adhered to.

Be sure to have a look at the **Regular Activities Addendum** for classes and treatments that have restarted.

Aurinoco Webinars presents:

Pranayama with JV

7 AM - 8AM, 16th to 18th August (Sun-Tues)

This webinar is free and open to all. No registration is required. Please have your breakfast only after the Pranayama session.

How to join? - You can join the webinar on your computer, laptop or Android or Apple smart phone using Google Meet. Chrome browser and Google Meet app required. **To join the webinar** click on <https://meet.google.com/voc-agde-hdn>

About the Facilitator JV lived in Auroville from 2007 to 2016. He has been facilitating workshops & retreats in Auroville since 2008.

Aurinoco Webinars is an initiative to leverage the internet and fiber optic network of Auroville in the current situation to bring opportunities for 'unending education' directly into your residence.

⇒⇒⇒ **PLEASE GO PAPERLESS!**

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It comes 2 days sooner and is in color! Subscribe at

newsandnoteslist+subscribe@auroville.org.in

or click directly on this [link](#)

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: Hit or Miss. Call first or email for appointment.

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

News & Notes, Media Centre, Town Hall. Phone:

0413-2622133, email: newsandnotes@auroville.org.in