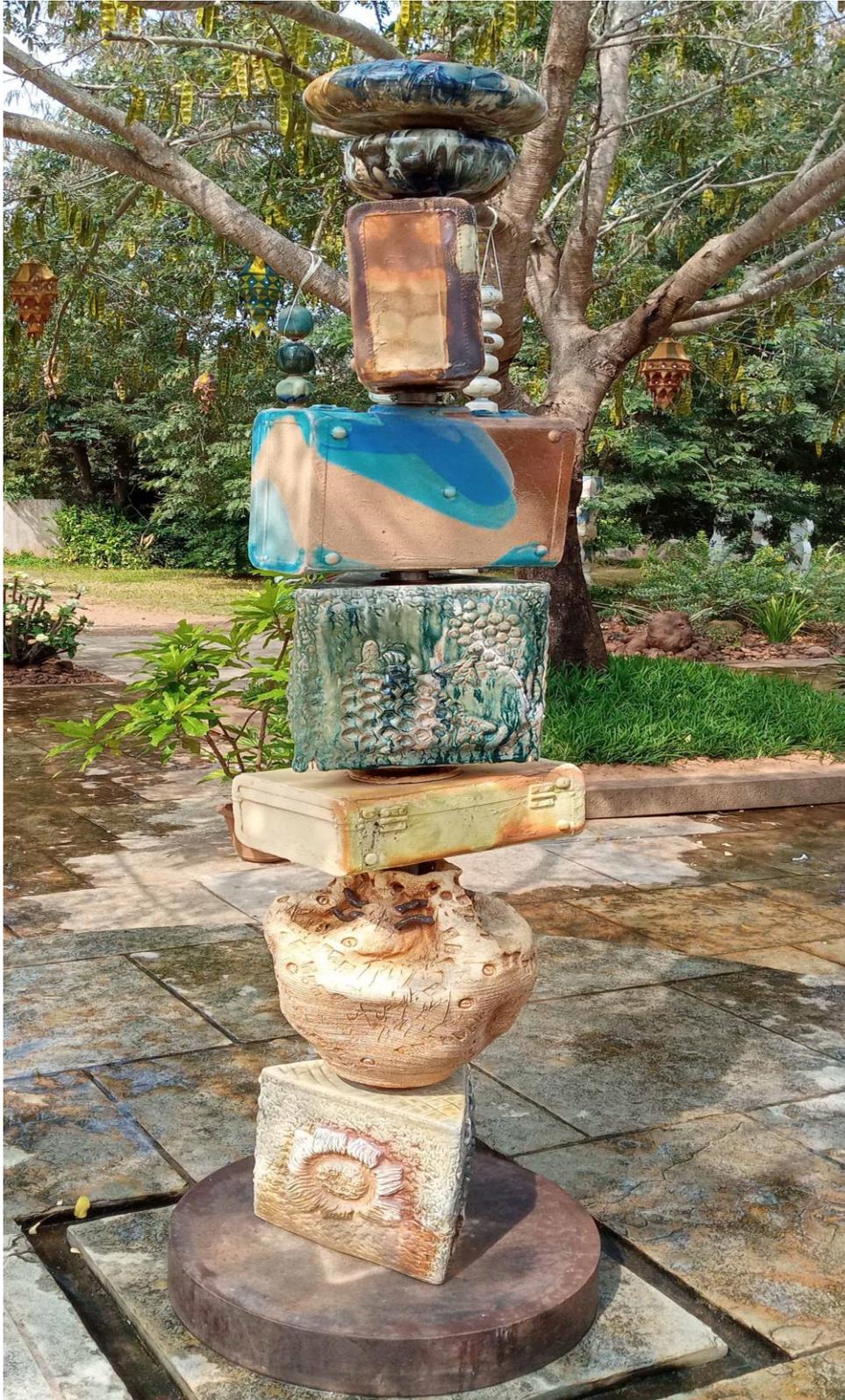


News and Notes

No 833

A weekly bulletin for residents of Auroville

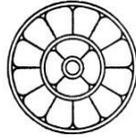
29th August 2020



Tranquility

Adil Writer

HOUSE OF MOTHER'S AGENDA



But this truth cannot be rightly seen and this kind of action cannot be rightly undertaken, cannot become real as long as man is governed by the ego, even by the half-enlightened unilluminated sattwic ego of the reason and the mental intelligence. For this is a truth of the spirit, this is an action from a spiritual basis. A spiritual, not an intellectual knowledge is the indispensable requisite for this way of works, its sole possible light, medium, incentive. First, therefore, the Teacher points out that all these ideas and feelings which trouble, perplex and baffle Arjuna, joy and sorrow, desire and sin, the mind's turn towards governing action by the outward results of action, the human shrinking from what seems terrible and formidable in the dealings of the universal Spirit with the world, are things born of the subjection of our consciousness to a natural ignorance, the way of working of a lower nature in which the soul is involved and sees itself as a separate ego returning to the action of things upon it dual reactions of pain and pleasure, virtue and vice, right and wrong, good happening and evil fortune. These reactions create a tangled web of perplexity in which the soul is lost and bewildered by its own ignorance; it has to guide itself by partial and imperfect solutions that serve ordinarily with a stumbling sufficiency in the normal life, but fail when brought to the test of a wider seeing and a profounder experience. To understand the real sense of action and existence one must retreat behind all these appearances into the truth of the spirit; one must find self-knowledge before one can have the basis of a right world-knowledge.

The first requisite is to shake the wings of the soul free from desire and passion and troubling emotion and all this perturbed and distorting atmosphere of human mind and arrive into an ether of dispassionate equality, a heaven of impersonal calm, an egoless feeling and vision of things. For only in that lucid upper air, reaches free from all storm and cloud, can self-knowledge come and the law of the world and the truth of Nature be seen steadily and with an embracing eye and in an undisturbed and all-comprehending and all-penetrating light. Behind this little personality which is a helpless instrument, a passive or vainly resistant puppet of Nature and a form figured in her creations, there is an impersonal self, one in all which sees and knows all things; there is an equal, impartial, universal presence and support of creation, a witnessing consciousness that suffers Nature to work out the becoming of things in their own type, *svabhāva*, but does not involve and lose itself in the action she initiates. To draw back from the ego and the troubled personality into this calm, equal, eternal, universal, impersonal Self is the first step towards a seeing action in Yoga done in conscious union with the divine Being and the infallible Will that, however obscure now to us, manifests itself in the universe.

When we live tranquilly poised in this self of impersonal wideness, then because that is vast, calm, quiescent, impersonal, our other little false self, our ego of action disappears into its largeness and we see that it is Nature that acts and not we, that all action is the action of Nature and can be nothing else. And this thing we call Nature is a universal executive Power of eternal being in motion which takes different shapes and forms in this or that class of its creatures and in each individual of the species according to its type of natural existence and the resultant function and law of its works. According to its nature each creature must act and it cannot act by anything else. Ego and personal will and desire are nothing more than vividly conscious forms and limited natural workings of a universal Force that is itself formless and infinite and far exceeds them; reason and intelligence and mind and sense and life and body, all that we vaunt or take for our own, are Nature's instruments and creations. But the impersonal Self does not act and is not part of Nature: it observes the action from behind and above and remains lord of itself and a free and impassive knower and witness. The soul that lives in this impersonality is not affected by the actions of which our nature is an instrument; it does not reply to them or their effects by grief and joy, desire and shrinking, attraction and repulsion or any of the hundred dualities that draw and shake and afflict us. It regards all men and all things and all happenings with equal eyes, watches the modes or qualities of Nature acting on the modes or qualities, sees the whole secret of the mechanism, but is itself beyond these modes and qualities, a pure absolute essential being, impassive, free, at peace. Nature works out her action and the soul impersonal and universal supports her but is not involved, is not attached, is not entangled, is not troubled, is not bewildered. If we can live in this equal self, we too are at peace; our works continue so long as Nature's impulsion prolongs itself in our instruments, but there is a spiritual freedom and quiescence.

– Sri Aurobindo . Essays on the Gita . Chapter XVI . The Fullness of Spiritual Action

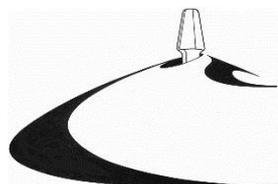
P.S. There's a HOMA page on the Auroville website: <https://www.auroville.org/contents/1085>



What the soul sees and has experienced, that it knows; the rest is appearance, prejudice and opinion.

~ Sri Aurobindo
Essays Divine & Human,
Part Four, p.424





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.

- The Amphitheatre Team

COVID 19 UPDATE

From the WC/CTF: We want to inform you that all the test results for the sample testing done on Tuesday, 18th August, have now been received. All 66 individuals who were tested, including the 12 primary contacts of Nicole, tested negative. This is a testimony to the generally balanced and respectful attitude that Auroville has upheld towards the pandemic situation. Although we know that not everyone agrees with or follows the protocols and precautions, we appreciate that so many residents have made great efforts to do so. Thank you once again to those who came forward to be tested, and to the community as a whole for your continued patience and support for the efforts being made by so many to keep Auroville and our surroundings as safe and calm as possible.

We would like to take this opportunity to share information about the tests that were carried out. The test that was used is called the RT-PCR test, which stands for real-time reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction test. If you want to know its accuracy level, here's an article that explains it in simple terms: <https://www.healthline.com/health-news/how-accurate-are-covid-19-diagnostic-and-antibody-tests>. You could also watch this video (3:44 mins) that explains the test: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vd38iS_W7ww. Additionally, here is a link to a document on the ICMR (Indian Council of Medical Research) website that gives more information about testing in India: https://www.icmr.gov.in/pdf/covid/strategy/New_additional_Advisory_23062020_3.pdf.

Even though all the tests are negative, this does not mean there is 100 per cent assurance that there is no exposure to the virus. Therefore, we request everyone to not be complacent and to continue to respect all the recommended protocols and precautions that have been decided by the Central and State governments and have been communicated to you in our various announcements. It is time to maintain prudence, especially in light of the growing number of cases in Pondicherry, which now has one of the highest rates of growth of cases in the country.

Lastly, we are very happy to inform you that Nicole was discharged from PIMS last Friday and is now completing her quarantine in isolation in a standalone cottage near her home in Gaia.

Sante is closed until further notice!

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



WORKING GROUP REPORTS

Working Committee Report - July 5th - August 23rd, 2020

The main issues in this period were as follows:

1) PM Modi remembers Auroville

At the occasion of India's Independence Day and Sri Aurobindo's birthday on August 15th, Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid public tribute to Sri Aurobindo. "Tributes to Sri Aurobindo on his Jayanti. He was synonymous with brilliance and courage. His thoughts and ideals, views on spirituality continue to motivate us. Here are my remarks at the Golden Jubilee celebrations at Auroville," Shri Modi tweeted, sharing his 2018 speech in Auroville. We have thanked the Prime Minister that, notwithstanding his immense workload with issues of national and international importance, he expressed his goodwill for Auroville at this momentous occasion.

2) Coronavirus Covid-19 update

a) The Working Committee together with the Task Force continues its reporting about new developments and shares government guidelines, now through a new Covid-19 bulletin and on the AuroNet. The decision to share this info through a new bulletin mailing list was taken when it came to our knowledge that quite a number of people are not receiving the regular mass bulletin.

b) We are grateful that the relevant authorities of Villupuram District have granted special permission to use Sharanam guesthouse in the Bharat Nivas compound as primary site, and the Tibetan Pavilion as secondary site if needed, for quarantining residents of Auroville (including registered guests and volunteers) who have tested Covid-19 positive. This implies that residents who are asymptomatic or with very mild symptoms can be in full isolation with medical supervision, as an alternative to sending our community members to government run Covid Care Centers. Patients with severe symptoms will have to go to a hospital as recommended by doctors.

c) Our call for random testing to see if any "community transmission" is happening in Auroville has been answered by 66 residents, who were tested on August 18th at Sante by a team organised by the Block Medical Officer. The tests done were the ICMR prescribed RT-PCR test. All have tested negative.

We would like to remind all individuals and guest facilities once again that for the time being no new guests/volunteers can be hosted in Auroville.

3) Meetings New Delhi

As requested by the Working Committee and the Acting Secretary, Auroville Foundation, Francois G. and Namrita met with the HRD Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal regarding Auroville's next Governing Board, the new Secretary and the new International Advisory Council; with Finance Minister Mrs. Nirmala Sitharaman regarding the request of the Auroville Foundation that donations to the Foundation can avail of 100% income tax exemption; and with the new Joint Secretary (Foreigners) of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Mr. Ashutosh Agnihotri, about pending visa cases.

4) **Aurovilians abroad:** The Working Committee has written to the Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, requesting that holders of an X3 visa issued for Auroville who are abroad may be allowed to return to Auroville.

5) **Developments on private land:** We had no further response to our request to the Governing Board about safeguarding the lands for Auroville, as mentioned in our previous report.

6) **The Auroville Entry Policy 2020:** We have requested the Residents' Assembly Service to organize a decision making of the Residents' Assembly on the proposed modifications to the internal document, the Auroville Entry Policy.

7) **Acts of vandalism at Sunship, Kalpana and at the police booth on the Bommaiarpalayam - Kulilapalaym road.**

a) A meeting was called by us on July 27th with about 30 youth to inform them of these acts and ask for their help in understanding the reasons and putting a stop to such acts in the future; members of the AV Council and Security Service also attended. We discussed the acts of vandalism at Sunship and Kalpana and the offensive graffiti drawn on the new police booth on the Bommaiarpalayam - Kulilapalaym road. One of the suggestions that came from a young resident was to write a letter to the DSP acknowledging the offense caused by the unknown culprits and expressing appreciation of the support received from him and the police towards Auroville. A few days after this meeting a small delegation of a few of the youth, members of the Working Committee and a Security Service representative visited the Deputy Superintendent of Police and read a statement from 10 young Aurovilians. This was a good meeting. The DSP offered to organize some sessions to inform and educate Aurovilians about various aspects of Indian law, including the role of the police in different situations. We are in the process of organizing these sessions.

b) We are also in process of organizing a meeting between some residents of Sunship and Kalpana and some youth to try to create a better understanding of the different perspectives and needs.

c) We have no proof as to the identity of those responsible for these acts.

8) No driving of motorcycles if below 18 / regularizing driving licenses /pollution-free certification/ vehicle insurance.

The Acting Secretary Mr. Srinivasamurthy has sent a notice reminding that:

a) All people driving a motorcycle or car should have valid driving licenses.

b) Any juvenile/minor (i.e. below the age of 18 years) driving a motorized vehicle (two-wheeler or four-wheeler) on Auroville roads or outside will be in violation of the Motor Vehicle Act. Such persons can be fined, vehicle may be seized and the individual may not get a driving license easily in the future.

c) All vehicles must obtain a pollution-free certification (PUC). Under the Central Motor Vehicle Rule, 1989, a PUC certificate is a mandatory document requirement for a vehicle. PUC is an abbreviation of "Pollution Under Control". It is a certificate that is given to the vehicle after having passed a PUC test. The certificate vets that the emissions passed from the vehicles meets the pollution control standards. Since the validity of the PUC certificate is only for six months, every vehicle owner needs to get their vehicle tested twice in a year. The Auroville Vehicles services is going to share the relevant information and organize to provide PUC tests without need for Aurovilians to go to Pondy or Tindivanam

d) In summary: All those who drive a vehicle need to carry along a valid driving license, the vehicle's PUC certificate, and the vehicle's insurance document. These documents can be demanded anytime by the police.

.. An overview of some of the fines for violations of the Motor Vehicle Act is published below.

9) Regarding dismissal of employees at Bharat Nivas.

a) We have extensively reported on the Bharat Nivas employees' situation in our previous report.

b) We regret that, notwithstanding many meetings held among the Trustees and Aurovilians of Bharat Nivas with the employees to resolve the dispute, no resolution was found. Members of the Working Committee and Funds & Assets Management Committee (FAMC) also attempted to intervene and seek a peaceful resolution, but to no avail.

c) As some of the employees continue to come to Bharat Nivas, the trustees have requested the police for assistance in clearing the Bharat Nivas campus in Auroville from trespassing by the retrenched employees. This follows an anticipatory notice sent to the police by the Acting Secretary of the Auroville Foundation

10) Waste in Kulilapalayam

We have once again written to the Collector, Villupuram District, requesting him to urgently look into the problem of the waste garbage piled up in Kulilapalayam village, which is becoming a health hazard for the population and activities in the area. We have requested the Collector to arrange to have the waste garbage removed, and set up a solid waste management center for this area.

11.) Selection process new members Auroville Council, Funds and Assets Management Committee, Working Committee, and possibly Town Development Council:

a) We have submitted a revised version of the interim selection process approved by the community in January 2020 (revisions based on feedback during and after the process) and have asked the RAS to publish it and ask for comments before it is submitted to the Residents' Assembly for a decision.

b) A sub-group has been formed by the WCom and AV Council to prepare a special selection proposal for Town Development Council.

12. Labour disputes:

We are in discussion with the FAMC and ABC research group about setting up a labour cell to address labour issues, particularly those related to employees of units and activities.

- The Working Committee

Carel, Chali, Jurgen, Partha, Ranjith, Sauro, Selvaraj

Some fines under Motor Vehicles Act 2019:

Section	Violation	Minimum Penalties
New 177A	Rules of road regulation violation	Rs 500
179	Non Compliance of orders	Rs 2,000
180	Unauthorized use of vehicles without license	Rs 5,000
181	Driving without license	Rs 5,000
182	Driving despite disqualification	Rs 10,000
183	Over speeding	Rs 1,000 for LMV Rs 2,000 for Medium passenger vehicle
184	Dangerous driving	Up to Rs 5,000
185	Drunken driving	Rs 10,000
189	Speeding / Racing	Rs 5,000
192 A	Vehicle without permit	Up to Rs 10,000
194 A	Overloading of passengers	Rs 1,000 per extra passenger
194 B	without Seat belt	Rs 1,000
194 C	Overloading of 2 wheelers	Rs 2,000, disqualification for 3
194 D	Without Helmets	Rs 1,000 disqualification for 3 months for license
194 E	Not giving way to emergency vehicles	Rs 10,000
196	Driving Without Insurance	Rs 2000
199	Offenses by Juveniles	Guardian/ owner shall be deemed to be guilty. Rs 25,000 with 3 yrs imprisonment. Juvenile to be tried under Juvenile
206	Power of officers to impound documents	Suspension of driving licenses u/s 183,



From the Residents Assembly Service

This is a friendly reminder about **two ongoing Residents' Assembly Decision-making processes (RADs): "FUTURE OF PTPS" and "ENTRY POLICY 2017 PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS"**.

The online voting will run until **Saturday, September 5**, on which day you'll be able to vote in person (if you haven't already done so online) at the RAS desk outside the Solar Kitchen (11 am - 2 pm). An offline voting form is also available from the RAS sounding board in Town Hall (opposite Financial Service) and can be handed over to the RAS members / resource persons (at the RAS desk) every Tuesday and Thursday between 10am to 12pm. With gratitude,

- Manoj K, Sathish A, Tatiana S



From the FAMC:

New Application Process for Creating an Entity

We want to inform you about the new application process for creating an entity. The FAMC has formed a small Applications Review Group (ARG) to help applicants understand and complete the application process whilst also providing a resource for those who are integral to new applications, such as Umbrella Unit Executives, and Trustees. Details of the membership of ARG are set out below.

The application process:

As the first step, ARG shall help applicants identify suitable Umbrella Entities (namely Trusts and Units) where the entity could be situated. It will be the responsibility of the identified Trust or Unit to inform the applicants of any internal standard operating procedures that they must comply with in order to be accepted by them. Further to the completion of the online application form, the ARG shall review it and decide whether it is ready for presentation before the FAMC. This in no way binds the FAMC regarding the decision they shall make regarding the application.

• FAMC Admin shall then:

1. invite the applicant to the FAMC office and provide him/her with a printed copy of the application form confirming formal recommendation and signature from the relevant Trustees (and where appropriate, of Umbrella Unit Executives).
2. The application form will then be submitted to FAMC for final decision or referral back to the applicant to gather further information.

Scope of Work- Applications Review Group (ARG)

• Why?

To facilitate and streamline the application process and provide one portal for the ease of applicants.

• What?

Provide the applicant with support and guidance in the application process and to help him/her to understand what it means to be an executive or manager within the Auroville context.

• How?

Help the applicants complete the application process smoothly within a reasonable period of time.

a) The ARG shall:

- i) Help the applicants to understand and fill out the essential questions in the Online application (Google) form;
- ii) Direct applicants to the relevant umbrella where the entity could be situated. The umbrella may help the applicant refine their application. The FAMC expects that the umbrella will inform the applicant of any internal standard operating procedures that they may have. Additionally, the umbrella may provide feedback to the FAMC, which the FAMC shall consider.
- iii) Further to the completion of the application form, the ARG shall review it and decide whether it is ready for presentation before the FAMC. This in no way binds the FAMC regarding the decision they shall make regarding the application.
- iv) The ARG may reach out and consider feedback, if received, from the Board of Trustees or any other body/individual whose advice may assist in understanding the application better.

b) FAMC Admin shall then:

- i) invite the applicant to the FAMC office and provide him/her with a printed copy of the application form confirming formal recommendation and signature from the relevant Trustees (and where appropriate, of Umbrella Unit Executives); and
 - ii) The application will then be submitted to FAMC for final decision or referral back to the applicant to gather further information.
- When? ARG will meet weekly to review applications.

How to request a new or additional electric service connection or enhancement of existing sanctioned load

Since the recent changes to the way Auroville pays for its electricity many households, units and activities have requested additional individual electricity connections. This enables their consumption to be accurately monitored to qualify for a lower TNEB tariff and in order to receive a larger Varuna subsidy. To help us and Auroville Electrical Service (AVES) manage the new requests we have developed a simple process.

Auroville residents, units or activities who are seeking a new or additional electrical service connection or additional load on existing connections need to file a request with Auroville Electrical Services (AVES). This request must include a copy of the TDC building NOC where the connection is supposed to be located. AVES will validate the information provided and submit requests to TDC for verification. Based on the verification, a connection may be approved by AVES. AVES in turn will notify applicants by email. The time needed to process and implement a request depends on the type of connection needed (TNEB overhead line, Auroville internal distribution system, single phase, three phase etc). For connections inside the city area no new TNEB overhead lines will be permitted. Connections will instead be made by underground cables to the nearest Auroville distribution switchboard/pillar. Expenses related to the application will have to be borne by the applicant.

Please also note that all electrical wiring must comply with the Indian National Electrical Code and the Auroville Specifications for LT Electrical Installations. Electrical installations that do not comply with the code and the specifications will have to be rectified before a request for a connection or for an additional load of an existing connection will be processed.

Finally, please note that for grid-connected solar PV systems TNEB approval has to be obtained through Auroville Electrical Service.

- * - * -

Survey Activity in International and Industrial Zones

As part of the process to update our building records, one of our team (Boobalan) will be visiting the International and Industrial zones in the coming days to survey all existing buildings. He will not require internal access to the buildings, but we wanted to let you know regarding his visit as you may see him working outside of your building if you live or work in these areas. This work will help ensure that our records and mapping are up to date with existing built structures.

- Saravanan and Sreevatsa, for the Auroville Town Development Council/ L'avenir d'Auroville

- * - * -

Reminder to complete Auroville's Housing Needs and Aspirations Survey

Many thanks to all those community members who have already completed our housing needs and aspirations survey. Our community is diverse, with many different needs and aspirations. It is important we hear as many perspectives as possible so we can plan for these in future. Each answer received helps us to see the full picture more clearly.

We want to hear from everyone - Aurovilians, Newcomers, Pre-newcomers, Friends of Auroville, those who are looking to move, to renovate and those who are comfortable in their homes. So if you haven't already responded to our survey please spare a few minutes to share your housing needs and aspirations. **The survey closes Monday 31 August and can be found at:**

- English - <https://forms.gle/J8Xg2wcUSJen6oy59>
- Tamil - <https://forms.gle/txvCdyGJbQ6UVQ3k6>
- French - <https://forms.gle/VvUzmaquX9gxdUxPA>

If you have specific questions, please contact Hari at hari-avenir@auroville.org.in or call her at the TDC office (2622170).



- Who? ARG membership consists of Luise, Marc, Nicole, Palani, Prabhu, with Mathan and Balaji providing administrative support

The FAMC is aware that:

- Trusts may have the need for information that is not contained in the FAMC application form, and the FAMC application process in no way prevents them from seeking this from applicants.
- Applying to create a new entity can be stressful and confusing. This new process is merely a step to help ease some of that stress and confusion. We do not claim it is perfect. With that in mind, please do let us have your suggestions on how to improve the applications process. Suggestions can be sent to: applicationsfamc@auroville.org.in.

Extension of Deadline for Proposals for Roma's Kitchen

We would like to extend the deadline for submitting applications for the use of the Roma's Kitchen facility.

Only those proposals submitted via the application form will be eligible, if you have already sent a proposal but not via the FAMC form, kindly do it again by filling in the application.

So far we have received applications from the following:

1. Mouttou and Kavitha
2. Costantino and Estee
3. Revathi (Handy Market)
4. Jocelyn (Certitude)

Our intention is to offer a fair chance to anyone who feels capable and ready to take on this opportunity, hence our announcement for an open call to the community. Please note that:

1. Proposals may be to continue Roma's Kitchen, another eatery, or other types of units;
2. The location is embedded within a residential community, Auromodele, and any proposed unit must be sensitive to noise, traffic, waste management and water needs.

The extended deadline is **4th September 2020**. The form can be found at this link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/12LYZKQ_LZW2eMSkmgWs2vM_RAIUTuOsqX8MSBkBPQMxc/edit

It will be automatically sent to the application review group of FAMC.

We encourage applicants to present a detailed proposal and give a complete overview of the business plan so it helps the panel to evaluate the proposal objectively. We look forward to receiving your proposal. Sincerely, the FAMC

Management of Emergency Responses in Auroville (MERA) COVID 19 - Emergency Fund Activity Narrative Report June & July 2020

1. Service Unit/Activities that received funds from MERA

- I. COVID 19 TASK FORCE
- II. FOODLINK
- III. BCC Temporary Emergency Maintenances

2. Activities carried out to by the activities/units with support of MERA

2.1. COVID-19 TASK FORCE:

Activity:

- a) Organise Covid-19 tests
- b) Supply daily needs to quarantined individuals and elderly
- c) Medical material
- d) Hygiene material

Objectives:

- a) Follow Government protocols
- b) Avoid/minimise the spread of the virus
- c) Support people in quarantine

Beneficiaries: Aurovilians, Newcomers, volunteers - ongoing



2.2 Foodlink:

Activity: Operation of supply and procurement of farm products

Objectives: Continued supply of Auroville farm products to the community during lockdown (home delivery of milk and dry goods).

Beneficiaries: Aurovilians, Newcomers

2.3 BCC:

Activity: Temporary emergency maintenances

Objectives: A temporary emergency maintenance (TEM) budget has been created under the BCC. The TEM will run from May to August 2020 and will be reviewed end of August. It is meant for Aurovilians working in activities, units or services who are no longer able to receive a maintenance from their unit or service due to the Covid-19 emergency, AND truly are in need. The maintenance will be the same as a half-time City Service maintenance.

Beneficiaries: for the month of May allotted to 20 Aurovilians and for the month of June allotted to 45 Aurovilians

3. Total budget allocated from MERA: April 1st to August 1st 2020: Rs. 27,51,160

4. Overview on Income and Expenditure

Donations by Designation:	Amount in Rs.
Income for General - Economy	33,40,517.00
Income for: Health & Sanitation	6,62,712.00
Income for BCC Emergency	16,18,003.00
Total Income	56,21,232.00
Total Expenses	-27,51,160.00
To be distributed	28,70,072.00
Donations by Source:	Amount in Rs.
Foreign Donation	24,61,502.00
Individual Aurovilians	10,60,806.00
Units	20,98,924.00
Total Donations	56,21,232.00
Expenses by Beneficiary:	Amount in Rs.
Sante	1,00,000.00
Sante/Ambulance	4,19,080.00
AV Health Service	36,950.00
Covid Task Force	3,95,562.00
Foodlink	1,99,655.00
BCC for TEM maintenances	4,87,250.00
BCC General: for City Services	11,12,003.00
Other: Bank Charges	660.00
Total Expenses	27,51,160.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS



SANTE IS CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Re-opening of Visitors Centre Cafeteria and Dosa Corner

The Cafeteria will reopen for breakfast, lunch and dinner, and Dosa Corner in the evenings, **from Tuesday 1st September**, for Aurovilians, Newcomers, and Volunteers in possession of an Aurocard only. We will welcome back our **lunch scheme regulars** - if you would like any change to your arrangements please let us know by Saturday 28th August so that we can cater for the right number of meals.

All tests on Nicole's primary and secondary contacts have returned negative results and they will all be finishing their quarantine by the end of this week. We would appreciate your cooperation in following the official hygiene protocols at all times: mask wearing, social distancing and hand sanitising. Thanking you for your understanding. We are looking forward to seeing you again.

HOUSING



Erratum: The Housing transfer listed in last week's N&N erroneously listed a unit in Sanjana, when it should have been Kalpana. There is one apartment available in Kalpana for a single or couple. Otherwise, follow the same instructions printed each time (also on Auronet). Sorry for any inconvenience caused.

AND

One more asset is currently available for transfer:

- Sacred Groves Community - Single or Couple

AND

Celebration Newcomer and Volunteer Complex

As many of you might know already, the Housing Service has been handling Celebration newcomer and volunteer complex in Celebration community opposite to Isaiambalam Guest House with:

- 8 single rooms with shared toilet / bathroom and a common kitchen.
- 3 shared bedrooms (1 double sharing and 2 triple sharing) with shared toilet / bathroom and a common kitchen.
- One newcomer unit for a couple.

Housing Service would like to keep the complex open for Aurovilians, Newcomers and Volunteers (only for singles) who are in need of temporary accommodation. Those who are looking for a short term accommodation (maximum 6 months), please write an email to housing@auroville.org.in to know more about the place and other details.

-The Housing Service/ Housing Board

From Nandini - We hope to find you well! Due to the current situation, the Nandini team wishes to offer our senior citizens, in addition to our current members, the possibility to give individual orders for garments and household items to be purchased from Pondicherry. Kindly send your request to nandini@auroville.org.in. You can also contact us at 262-2033 or pass by Nandini Distribution during our opening times. - Love, Angela, Chandra, Devi & Elizabeth



We are happy to inform you that Dreamers Cafe @ VC is open from 8 am to 5 pm every day, except Sunday. See you soon! - Dreamers team



UPASANA'S Boutique
We are having a sale at our store: Auroshilpam, Auroville.
UNTIL AUGUST 31ST, 2020
9 AM - 5 PM

LOST & FOUND

Keys - Lost Monday (24/8), my motorbike and side box keys between Prarthna and PTDC. If anyone found them please call 948 674 9317. - Swar

APPEALS

From the Puncture Service: Our CS Budget was cut!

As of August 2020, the BCC has cut our budget. The employees' salaries are still covered; however, maintenance of the service has been fully cancelled. We have given proof to BCC that in order to survive, we NEED the funds that have been cancelled. But BCC made us understand that have to ask the community for contributions. Therefore, we have started yesterday to ask whoever comes for repair (or needs our help at his residence) to please contribute. Of course, we would be happy to receive donations as well. Our account number is 251798 (AV PS Development). Thank you very much for your support. At Her Service,
- D. Arumugam, AV Puncture Service



WELCOME

FROM THE ENTRY SERVICE - ES # 047- 08-29-2020

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:

- Manikandan Ganesan (Indian) - staying in Daydream Farm (Sankalpa) and working at Isai Ambalam School & Daydream Farm
- Sriman KOTA (USA) - staying in Maitreye 2 and working at C3STREAM Land Designs (Stem Land)

NEWCOMER CONFIRMED:

- Helen Yasmin Magdalene KELLER (British)

AUROVILIAN ANNOUNCED:

- Girija Puthampuri MURALIDHARAN (Indian), staying in Petite Ferme and working at Matrimandir



Manikandan



Sriman



Girija

AUROVILIANS CONFIRMED:

- Kibum LEE (Korean)
- Sedhuraman MUTHUVEL (Indian)
- Sunmi KIM aka Miya (Korean)

RETURNING AUROVILIAN CONFIRMED:

Arumugam ASOKUMAR aka Ashok (Indian)

LEFT ON HIS/HER OWN:

Naomi SHTILMAN aka Omi (USA)

NOTE:

- The Newcomer probation year becomes effective only after
- the duration of the process cannot exceed 18 months from the date of confirmation.
- An Aurovilian 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 Aurovilian is the B-Form. An Aurovilian'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 Aurovilians who are registered in the RoR.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

March 2020 Interim Report of the Pour Tous For All Task Force can be found on Auronet at this link:

<https://auroville.org.in/article/81123>



Friday Food Market at Terrasoul
(near spirulina farm),
from 9:30 AM

Eat Local. Stay Healthy. Help the world.

TerraSoul Team +91 948 85 12 678 for info. See you there!



Building BLOCKS that Help REDUCE WASTE

The Eco service has come up with new building bricks using waste materials. The brick size is 120cm long, 45cm high & 15cm thick. To make these, we use shredder thermocol, non-recyclable plastic, cement and sand. They are good for making shed buildings and compound walls. We

have 20 pieces available at the EcoService at present and we're ready to make more if ordered. Please come and see the structures we have built using them, and ask Palani regarding the price. As the waste collection has slowed down, we have time to produce these at present. We need your support to keep the activity and workflow, so please take a moment to visit and see if these could be of any use for your building. Thank you!
- Palani and Kali, for Eco Service

Made with Love



"Meal train" for families with newborns - during the first few weeks after birth.

Nourishing home cooked meals are prized for new mothers especially, but gift of credit for delivery or take away from a restaurant is also welcome for well-wishers who don't cook.

TO PROVIDE a nutritious meal, receive announcements of births/sign:

- 1) Join whatsapp group: request at 805 688 8715, or
- 2) Join email list: abadyrotem@gmail.com

TO RECEIVE meals: If your family has just had a birth, contact Rotem at either of the above.

If you have a restaurant and you'd like to support new families through Made With Love by offering meals at special discounted rate, contact Kaliananda at 9787917469 or kaliananda@auroville.org.in and we'll list you in this description page and in mailings.

SOLITUDE FARM NEWS & UPDATES

Solitude Farm Cafe is open for breakfast and lunch, Monday to Saturday from 9:30am till 4:00pm. Thalys, dosas, idlis, smoothies, juices, teas, coffees and desserts. Come and enjoy our local, organic, vegan and gluten free food down on the farm. Aurovillians, Newcomers and Savi Volunteers discounts. Lunch Schemes available for everyone.

New Regular Events

Wednesday Jazz Café from 7:00pm to 10:00pm

Live jazz music with delicious local vegan and gluten free dinner farm to plate. Free entry (contribution for the musician will allow the event to continue)

Soap Making Workshop + Lunch - every Friday, 10:30 - noon

Learn how to make natural soap w/ local ingredients, understanding the importance of not polluting our water & soil.

Bookings and info: solitudepermaculture@gmail.com
Phone: 9843319260 - 7824975821

And see [the new workshop announcement](#) on pg. 14

American citizens wishing to vote in the upcoming election can request an absentee ballot at this website: FVAP.gov.

INTEGRAL HEALTH

Classical homeopathy hypnotherapy child care

We are providing alternative health care for Aurovillians, Newcomers and volunteers since 2001.

An introduction to homeopathy: a way to health with nature: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MXpp45i4Vrw&feature=youtu.be&fbclid>. Information on the 200 years' experience of homeopathy treating epidemic diseases available. We are also offering a short training in "Homeopathic First Aid" for accidents, fevers on Saturday 30th August 10 am in English and Tamil. On request in German and French.

Training in homeopathy

We hope to train new homeopaths: a medical interest/ background, an interest to study, and a desire to support people in

their healing and personal evolution are required. A course with Video classes, study with books, and training with Sigrid is offered to a committed group of students.

Team

Sigrid Lindemann, highly experienced consulting homeopath, also offers transformational sessions in integral regression therapy.

Malar has trained in homeopathy and provides homeopathic consultations in Tamil, homeopathic First Aid, providing follow up remedies etc. Malar can visit your women group, Service Unit etc. and present the Homeopathic First Aid and PC remedies.

First Aid Kits with 32 remedies w/ description in English, French, German and Tamil are available. Also available from our remedy box in the waiting area, 24-7, for free:

Arsenicum Album C 30, the remedy recommended by AYUSH to enhance immunity. Scientific studies on request.

PC Shock Trauma, PC Allergy, PC Diabetes, PC High Bloodpressure etc. and 70 more PC remedies for trauma, as well as **chronic diseases** are available

Harmony and Samata, remedies related to Mothers and Sri Aurobindo energy. Benefits are well established - no side effects.

Consultations are free for Aurovillians & Newcomers. Donations are requested from long-term volunteers, guests. Consultations are generally held in English, French and German, and Tamil.

You are welcome to contact us at integralhealth@auroville.org.in to enquire about the most suitable approach for your health or psychological issue.

Integral Health, Prayatna 2623669;

Sigrid sigrid@auroville.org.in, www.sigridlindemann.com

Malar malar@auroville.org.in 9080054843

MATRIMANDIR

Opening of Inner Chamber

Aurovillians and Newcomers only, 6 - 8 AM, Mon - Sat. To comply with Regulations, strict protocols must be followed. For full details: <https://auroville.org.in/article/80848>

- Matrimandir executives and Access team

LOOKING FOR

Anyone traveling to Germany who could take a simple letter to be posted from there? Cristo, cjm@auroville.org.in or 262-2356. Thank you!

Someone going to Paris - Centre d'Art Citadines is looking for someone who could take a parcel to Paris between now and the 1st September. The parcel contains catalogues for Dominique Darr's exhibition in Paris. The weight will be 3 kg maximum. In Paris someone will collect it. Thanks! 262-2699; centredart@auroville.org.in

Looking to trade a Bullet 350 for a cycle, or to just let it go for some contribution, I have lost the paperwork so it needs to be recovered. Mail me at: amos@auroville.org.in

A second-hand functioning gas oven, amos@auroville.org.in

Printer - for basic A4 b/w printing. I draw free portraits for parents, and it would help to have a printer at home. lvana@auroville.org.in or 709 434 4154.

Projector - To borrow for 2-3 months, for children (& grown-ups) of Aspiration. I would like to organize movie nights. Preferably with USB cable connection, but anything is welcome. Thank you for sharing joy - contact [+31634562467](tel:+31634562467) (WhatsApp) or anouke_jansen@hotmail.com

MIC, pocket mic and mic stand - We are looking to do online webinars and podcasts, and we need a good mic, pocket mic and a mic stand. In case you have a spare one you could share would highly appreciate it. We would love to contribute meaningfully - maybe help you create virtual classes or podcasts or with social media marketing.

Thank you dearly, Romel and Mimansha, 961 999 6080

AVAILABLE

Space at Aurelec - A well protected 47 sqm building opposite Aurelec, northern side, will be available from 1st November 2020. This space is ideal for office, workshop or show room, with generator back-up, 24 hours security, parking, provision for air-conditioners, high speed fiber internet access (BSNL and Aurinoco) and canteen facilities. Interested people may contact Mr. Siva at Aurelec in person, by phone at 2622293/2622294 or adps@auroville.org.in.

Experienced house helper - from Sanjeevinagar, very trustworthy & good natured. She has timeslots available PMs 2 or 3 X / week. If interested contact Kalaivani at +91 96267 40708 (Tamil), or Isha at +91 96555 34514

Tata Nano - 2012 w/ papers. Fully repainted, new seat covers. If interested, contact: 7639999317 or kaival@auroville.org.in

TVS Apache 160 RTR - blue, Sept 2017, TN registration, very good condition, single owner, 12 200 Kms used - Raju: 2623302, 9443074825 or avvehicle@auroville.org.in

Royal Enfield Classic 500 - black, TN registration, very good condition, 20,500 kms used, new battery, company serviced - Raju: 2623302, 9443074825 or avvehicle@auroville.org.in

TVS XL SUPER - green, 2008, (PY 01 - AR3061), available on an "as is where is" basis, by bid. Send your bid by 31-08-2020. FML, Angshuman Basu, Asst. Accounts Officer, Phone: 0413-2622414, 2622930; 2622222 or avfoundation@auroville.org.in



Same storm different boats

It is often said that the COVID pandemic is the Great Equalizer, that we now finally realize we are all in the same boat. But are we? How people perceive the cause, treatment and future of the pandemic - or the even greater climate emergency - varies enormously within countries, communities, and even in Auroville!

We're all caught in the same storm, but from our different boats we have different perspectives. Some look at the situation through the lens of faith and see a Bigger Plan unfolding. Others see conspiracies. Many see nothing unusual at all. Below these views lie structural differences: layers of privilege and inequality built over centuries, often referred to as *intersectionality*.

The lockdown laid bare divisions in class, gender and religion. Our most inconvenient truths. Migrant workers and middle class professionals working from home have a fundamentally different scope and range of options. We don't know how many died from hunger and exhaustion during the urban-rural exodus, but it's unlikely anyone died from an overdose of zoom calls. Different boats...

The other storm waiting around the corner is easily forgotten while dealing with the COVID chaos. Climate change is again perceived very differently in Auroville. If you are so inclined, long winded debates on this can be read on Auronet.

If we see the pandemic as a trial run for the impending climate crisis, what does this tell us? A shift in jobs away from tourism and entertainment seems likely. But how can the transition be made fairly? Firing all 5000 village workers in Auroville hardly seems fair. But ignoring the lack of resilience in the Business as Usual scenario seems ignorant. The economic system needs to change. The same goes for health, education, food and energy. Heard about the recent opening up of coal mines in Adivasi forest land? Short term profit continues to blind our leaders...

What if we would rebuild society on the foundations laid by citizens' initiatives, helping out in their own neighborhoods? We jumped with joy when our very own Babu Mathan was featured in the Ecologist/Resurgence magazine (see below). And our friends at the Vikalp Sangam launched a campaign sharing news about extraordinary acts by ordinary people. But is it not all too little too late? How many compost kits and kitchen gardens would it take to balance the emissions of one new coal mine or airport?

***** News Flash ***** On November 4, a day after the presidential election, the US will formally withdraw from the Paris agreement on constraining global heating. *** President Trump opened more than 1.5 million acres of Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil and gas drilling, undoing decades of federal protection. The refuge is home to polar bears, arctic foxes, caribou, and vast numbers of birds and other wildlife. *** Measurement in the Arctic and Greenland show that glaciers melt faster and drain 14 % more volume of ice than expected, causing more rapid sea level rise *** This month the highest global temperature ever was measured in Death Valley USA: 54.4 C! *****End of News Flash*****

To buy more time and create space for alternatives, we rely on activists like Greta Thunberg and Ridhima Pandey, and the many thousands of young people leading a growing, youth-led climate movement. School strikes on Friday afternoons went viral, and are now going online. Thunberg joined climate scientists, activists and celebrities in signing the letter that was posted on <https://climateemergencyeu.org>. The letter demands an immediate halt to all investments in fossil fuel exploration and extraction, a rapid phase-out of fossil fuel subsidies and binding annual "carbon budgets" to limit how much greenhouse gas countries can emit. It urged European governments to adopt a new crime of "ecocide" to prosecute people responsible for large-scale destruction of the natural world. "The longer we keep pretending that we are on a reliable path to lower emissions and that the actions required to avoid a climate disaster are available within today's system the more precious time we will lose," the letter read. It called for climate policies to be designed to protect workers and the most vulnerable and reduce economic, racial and gender inequalities, as well as moves to "safeguard and protect" democracy.

OPEN TENDER

We have decided to replace the main wooden door of Auroville Foundation Bhavan for an aesthetically appropriate glass door. The present wooden door is perfectly crafted on Burma Teak with Brass engravings in the traditional south Indian style costing **Rs. 1,50,000**. The entire unit measures 8ft, 10 in in height and 6 ft, 6 in in width. Anyone interested may send sealed quotation to Auroville Foundation Office by **31st August 2020 latest**. AUROVILLE FOUNDATION Autonomous body under the Dept of Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Auroville -605101. Tamil Nadu Ph. 0413-262-2414; 262-2222; 262-2930; avfoundation@auroville.org.in; Fax: 0413-2623496.



GREEN MATTERS



Water Saving Tip of the Week!

Spread mulch around your garden plants. This will help retain moisture and save water, time, and money. With love from the Water Group - helping Auroville become a water-sensitive city.

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

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Overview on Water Situation in Auroville by Giulio

Here's a link to his talk:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FaaL537lnEc>

~ * ~ * ~

Citizen's Assembly in Auroville | Water is Life -

Here's a link to a talk presented by Paul, Botanical Garden:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C5mCzxxz06o>

On 28 November 2019, the European parliament declared a [climate and environmental emergency](#):

“Over these last two years, the world has also emitted over 80bn tonnes of CO₂. We have seen weather changes and continuous natural disasters taking place across the globe. Many lives and livelihoods have been lost, and this is only the very beginning. Leaders are speaking of an “existential crisis”, yet when it comes to action we are still in a state of denial. The gap between what we need to do and what’s actually being done is widening by the minute. Effectively, we have lost another two crucial years to political inaction.”

Thunberg and her colleagues call on the rich to stop polluting. *“However, it’s a fact which most people refuse to accept. Just the thought of being in a crisis that we cannot buy, build or invest our way out of seems to create some kind of collective mental short-circuit. This mix of ignorance, denial and unawareness is the very heart of the problem,”* they said.

The trillions of dollars being spent by governments in response to the coronavirus pandemic are seen as a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to put the world on course to halt global heating, with [economists](#), scientists and [health experts](#) all saying the [benefits](#) would outweigh the costs. However, G20 governments’ rescue packages are giving [significantly more support to fossil fuels](#) than to low-carbon energy. Except Germany who earmarked [€40bn for climate measures](#) such as electric vehicles, public transport and energy efficiency, nation states are too slow and conservative. The policies of today are incompatible with the current best available science.

Scientists calculate that global carbon emissions must be cut by half by the end of this decade if humanity is to have a reasonable chance of keeping temperature rises to below 1.5C. Drops in emissions during coronavirus lockdowns are only a small blip in a long-term rising trend and will have a [“negligible” effect](#) on the climate crisis, researchers say.

“We understand the world is complicated and that what we are asking for may not be easy or seem unrealistic,” said the school strikers. *“But it is much more unrealistic to believe that our societies would be able to survive the global heating we’re heading for. We are inevitably going to have to fundamentally change, one way or another. The question is: will the changes be on our terms, or on nature’s terms?”*

It is urgent that we tell the world what this means, Fearless, independent reporting that addresses the climate emergency, helps sustain the freedom we have to present the information that is fact-checked, comprehensive and explain the details as they unfold, and interrogate the decisions made. We have to recognise the climate emergency as the defining issue of our times. We have to understand that [climate change, wildlife extinction and pollution deserve sustained attention and prominence](#). It should be a core part of journalism. A free press can inform citizens about threats, consequences and solutions based on scientific fact, not political prejudice or business interests.

Mathan in the [Resurgence / Ecologist](#)

Despite cultural taboos, social entrepreneur Babu Mathan is trying to find a solution to the waste problem. India generates around 62 million tonnes of waste each year, of which less than 60% is collected and 15% processed. Of this, nearly 50% is organic waste. Rubbish is not segregated until it reaches landfill, where families who earn a living reselling recyclable material pick out any useful bits. Landfill ranks third in terms of greenhouse-gas emissions in this increasingly urbanised country. What can individual families do to help tackle this?

One answer is home composting. Mathan, an engineer from the state of Tamil Nadu, learned about the problem first-hand while working as a project coordinator for a municipal solid waste management project. He set up [NALAN](#) (which means ‘wellness’ in Tamil) in 2018, making home-composting kits that can break down organic waste into nutrient-rich compost in just four weeks. The kits come with two terracotta pots and two bags of compost enricher (probiotics). It takes two weeks for the average family of four to fill one pot. Once it is full, the other pot is ready for use.

Mathan has sold 120 kits, converting around 1,000kg of waste into compost a month, and is encouraging communities to set up their own composting systems. *“Many users [have] already started creating terrace and kitchen gardens to grow chemical-free local greens and vegetables with the compost produced from the daily organic waste.”*

Sources: WHO, the Guardian, Reuters, Covid facts, Resurgence & Ecologist.

- Lisbeth & Gijs Auroville Green Center

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-weekly in the News & Notes and appears on Auronet.



Poster for Easy Waste Segregation

EcoService received a donation from an Aurovilian, (thanks much!) to give one free poster for each community to learn the easy way of “segregation” or sorting of waste. Sorting waste at source is a key solution towards reducing landfill. You can pick up this poster in EcoService (sign with your name & community) or email the EcoService Fairies, Agnes and Rena. If you need more info and/or help, we can meet and bring the poster to you, agnes@auroville.org.in, rena@auroville.org.in, ecoservice@auroville.org.in. Please help Auroville and the whole environment to avoid landfill.

- Eco Service

Beach cleanup team update

Our Beach cleanup group is making a positive impact on our beaches and in our community’s minds and hearts. We are a group of volunteers from different backgrounds, places and ages that come together to collect, sort and recycle or upcycle all kinds of trash. We have met regularly for several months to enjoy the ocean together and to do this beach cleanup karma yoga or service. We invite you, whether you are a resident or a visitor, Aurovilian or a local villager; a child, youth, adult or senior citizen, to join and share our passion for a cleaner beach and ocean, and a way of living more sustainably and restoratively on our beautiful planet earth.

We hope you will come to one of the fun beach cleanups: currently at Tanto’s beach (opp. PY University) **on Wed and Sat, 4 to 6 PM**. Please bring your own gloves, we have bags and we separate the waste on the beach. Also please come help our amazing **plastic sorting and recycling work at TerraSoul Farm’s Makers Space in Auroville, 10.00 AM to 1.00 PM except Sunday**.

Already now, in 2020, the number of plastics in the sea is said to be higher than the number of fish and every baby turtle in a sample of 100 is found to have plastic bits inside – and there are, of course, other forms of pollution to address. We want to stop these trends and groups all over the world are working on that but it will only happen if we all show up and work together.

To end on a positive note, remember that while ocean plastic pollution is an enormous issue, experts believe that if governments, NGOs, citizen-consumers, and businesses team up, it can still be solved. That’s because most of the plastic enters the ocean through five rivers in Asia, so increasing incentives for recycling, getting big companies to reduce their plastic footprint, and reducing plastic materials in rivers by about 20% over the next seven years would help revert ocean plastic levels to those of the 1990s. It’s a huge, but achievable, task. Please look at our poster, listen to the Auroville Radio podcast and check out our links for more information:

Auroville Radio: <https://www.aurovilleradio.org/the-interview-beach-clean-up-group/>; Facebook: Beach Clean Ups India

Instagram: zerowastebeach

For plastic recycling contact Minvayu Makerspace, at Terrasoul farm: minvayu@gmail.com.

For positive news on actions being taken to clean oceans:

<https://blueocean.net/ocean-pollution-update-positive-things-happening/>

For info about the global effect of plastics in our oceans: <https://www.condorferries.co.uk/plastic-in-the-ocean-statistics>

For info on marine habitat micro plastic studies in Tamil Nadu: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/tn-to-assess-micro-plastic-pollution-levels/article30448778.ece/amp>

BEACH CLEANUP - ZERO WASTE BEACH

OUR WASTE MANAGEMENT

RECYCLING AND UPCYCLING

	<p>BOTTLE CAPS, FISHING NETS AND NYLON- MINVAYU, TERRA SOUL</p> <p>LOCATION: Terra Soul, Allankuppam, Auroville.</p>  
	<p>GLASS BOTTLES: LIGHT-FISH</p> <p>LOCATION: Aurelec, Kuilapalayam, Auroville.</p>  
	<p>PAPER, FLIP FLOPS AND STYROFOAM: WELL PAPER</p> <p>LOCATION: Wellpaper, Kottakarai, Auroville.</p>  

@ZEROWASTEBEACH

MOBILITY IN AUROVILLE



ITS
Integrated Transport Services

Our Services

The Integrated Transport Service (ITS) office/charging station is now open to meet all your mobility requirements.

Charge your EVs - We have plenty of charging points so please feel free to charge your electric vehicles at ITS 24 hrs a day.

Share a Taxi - Shared Transport Service (STS) is now ITS. Share a taxi, save money and the environment.

Book a scooter for short term use - Try out our exciting new electric scooters that promote quiet and sustainable mobility in Auroville.

Get a scooter - ITS can help you with access to the best electric scooters in the market for your long term needs

Local Pickups and Drops - Need a ride to ECR, Kuyilapalayam, Pondy or anywhere in Auroville? ITS has the sustainable solution through our range of electric rickshaws and scooters.

Vehicle Repairs - Tired of travelling all the way to Pondy to get your electric vehicle fixed? Now bring your e-vehicle to the ITS workshop opposite Solar Kitchen.

Courier/Delivery Services - Need something to be picked up or dropped off? A parcel, groceries, a cheque...? Let ITS do it for you.

Courier drops from Amazon and other e-tailers - If you are tired of giving directions to delivery guys, you can get your couriers dropped off at ITS and pick it up from here or we can drop it off at your house.

For any further inquiries please come visit us at our office opposite Solar Kitchen. We are open from 9AM to 5PM. Closed on Sunday
Or contact us at +91 8098776644 | +91 9442566256 | or email us at its@auroville.org.in





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

- New Entry LIVE episodes:**
- The readings by Marlenka (Marlenka is back!!) Wed 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
 - [Capriole \(music\) with Luca](#), Tuesdays at 2pm
 - [The Best of What's Still Around](#) (music) with Dhani Muniz Wednesdays at 2:30pm
 - [The readings by Gangalakshmi](#) (en francais) Wed, 10:30am
 - [The Neo Urban Chronik](#) (opinion) with Froggy de Frenchy every Friday at 10:30am
 - [Tamil Literary Forum](#) (Tamil culture and literature - In Tamil) with R. Meenakshi every Friday at 11am
 - [Audible Weed Walk](#) (local food) w/ Nina, Fridays at 2:30pm
 - [Happiness, Love and Laughter](#) (wellness and well-being) Fif/MediClown Academy every Mon/Wed/Fri around 12 noon
 - [Soul Tracks](#) (music) with Jules and Matthew, Sat at 3pm

Other podcasts:

- Punk and around (music) with Wobbli> Listen at <https://www.aurovilleradio.org/punk-and-around-ep-1/> .
- [Mother's Questions and Answers](#) The essence of real freedom is the perfect realization of the highest consciousness.
- [The interview: Beach Clean-up group](#) Beach Clean-up group is making a positive impact on our beaches and in our community's minds and hearts.
- [Sri Aurobindo's Birthday special](#) Who is Sri Aurobindo? Is he a freedom fighter, a philosopher poet, a spiritual teacher and yogi, a Maharishi? The program explores these questions through his own words.

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

Write us if you need more information radio@auroville.org.in
STAY TUNED! Please write us for your suggestions :)

Hervé...

We had some time to prepare ourselves to his departure, yet it feels so strange to think that no longer will we see this elongated being unfolding himself from some stool or boulder on which he would occasionally be perched like a strange bird with folded wings. No longer will we get from him some story or another told with a twinkle as he had a special taste for the unusual or original manifestations of life. He could be very silent as well as talk a lot. Quite a bit gossipy at times but usually with no malice.

Hervé was the archetypal Companion, he would often form strong connections mostly around material work. Before coming to Auroville, he had been very much attracted by that community called the Companions, who form around the concept of excellence in material work such as carpentry or masonry, mostly very skillful artisan works. To become a

Companion, you had to follow a special process demonstrating your proficiency in your chosen field of work. Hervé had clearly the mystique of companionship and it reflected in his way of reacting to life situations.

During the special period when we had to defend Auroville's freedom, you could always count on Hervé to come and participate in any type of actions called by the circumstances, whether sit-ins, protests, occupations of sites or buildings. He was with me in the first group of prisoners in the Tindivanam jail but he was also in the group that was later arrested and sent to Villipuram. Hervé was surely made of the human material that makes the famed "good" French soldier, patient, resourceful, resilient, rather abstemious, tenacious. He was indeed Mother's soldier.

I had the privilege of helping him in his last passion in life, hand-made paper. Serge, another great companion in my Auroville life, was looking for ways to support Auroville Press, always in precarious survival mode. Serge told me of his idea to revive the activities of hand-made paper which had existed in the beginnings of Auroville but had gone extinct. It immediately inspired me and I promised to help. Sometime later, with Hervé, we used mixies in the food processing unit to make our first attempt at paper; we did two rather thick pancakes-like white paper, happy like kids. Afterwards, it was a long story of slowly recuperating the old HMP building, paying out old debts, purchasing small HMP machines to begin. I continued for some time to participate in the adventure but it was mostly Hervé who became passionate about paper, plunged deep into it, reading a lot of old and recent books, — I remember making photocopies of pages and pages of very old books in the Madras Central Library (Hervé would devour these pages). He was always looking for and making new experiments, including once paper with elephant poo. Together with Luisa, he built Auroville Papers to the level of excellence they have attained.

Hervé personal life has been solitary but he did not seem to suffer from it, maybe due to his otherwise intense partnerships in activities with different people. In a way he was like a tall grown-up kid and indeed he loved kids and had easy spontaneous relations with them. He once told me how marvelous he thought it must be to be a kid in Auroville. He was definite that in his next life he would come back as a kid in Auroville. He was surprisingly confident about it and it is again a manifestation of his way of relating to the Mother. I somehow believe that She will not disappoint him on this score, as She never failed to support him all along as he said himself in such a moving and simple way. Therefore, I would not be surprised if Hervé, or rather whatever new form his Being will choose, comes back here, sooner or later.

So, indeed there is some melancholy in seeing old companions go away. As Fred said, "It's getting lonely." The circle of first comers is shrinking and it will only accelerate in the coming years. Often I hear that the spirit of the newcomers is not what it was forty or fifty years ago. I am not sure about that. It may be different because the world has changed a lot meanwhile. But what has not changed is that the same Force is still doing Auroville — not us, surely, or so little, associated by sheer grace — and that Force is calling whoever is meant to be here or must be here as It did from the beginning. (I am not naïve. I know there may be some who are not really meant to be here and surely we did not manage to sustain very well Her protective shield all these years.) Yet She said Auroville will be and it is Her project. In Her project Hervé was a worthy foot soldier. Hervé had no doubt that the true Auroville would come, and that he would continue to move along with it, towards it. So long, Hervé. We shall meet again and again.

~ Submitted by Alain Bernard

Love Over Fear

I wrote this little piece in May, when the lockdowns and restrictions were just starting. Some months later, I still find it relatable and important, so I'm sharing it again in case it reaches someone who may find it helpful.

Self-Sustainable Decision Making: Whether we are feeling very at ease or under pressure, overworking or relaxed, struggling or flowing with the new rhythms that this lockdown has brought into our lives, now more than ever it is so obvious how our daily

personal decisions have a direct impact on the whole. The veil of separation is very thin now. A collective crisis is also a wonderful opportunity to align every thought, decision and action with the wise guide inside, that part of ourselves that is already connected to the Divine through trust.

Here I'm sharing 3 simple questions that I ask myself every time I need to make decisions. Some friends have found this helpful, so I'm just extending this little guide here to the wider community to whoever may resonate with it. It's a super simple recipe, and yet, not always easy to follow...

To make a decision, you need to ask yourself:

1. Is this thought-decision-action coming from love or fear? Always choose love, no matter how 'uncomfortable' it may feel to breakthrough it. Know that you know.
2. How am I loving, honoring, and providing myself with what I really need through this thought-decision-action? Always choose what is best for you at the present moment. The more you are healthy and whole, the more you are able to provide for the community, sharing your manifestations from that place. Take full responsibility for yourself in every level (psychic, physical, emotional, mental) instead of projecting, burden or blaming circumstances outside of you.
3. How is this thought-decision-action positively impacting and serving not only myself but the life of people around me? Think global, act local. Knowing that there's no separation, and whatever is good for your neighbor it is also good for yourself, and vice-versa. This may not seem obvious for the ego, but it is obvious in a wider level for the spirit.

Finally, you can always ask for help and advice, but the responsibility of all your manifestations is fully yours. Respect your No(s) and respect your Yes(s) and apply the same respect to other's decisions. Honor and be grateful for everything that you have manifested, for good or 'bad' (=learning). Check every time if these 3 criteria are positively met. Then it means it's a good decision, it will have a positive outcome, and you can't really 'make a mistake' with it. Even if it feels like you did, you did not: you are just patiently training yourself in the art of love-based sustainable decision making.

Thank you for receiving.

~ From Valentina Beatriz's blog Reprinted w/ permission

Enthusiasm

"Joyous enthusiasm: the best way of facing life" (The Mother).

In September 1991, I arrived in Auroville, visited Sri Aurobindo Ashram and met there Dmitrii Sergeevich von Mohrenshildt. He appeared in the Ashram for the first time in 1958.

Dmitrii was a retired American professor (Russian origin). He told me about the Mother with great enthusiasm. In America he met Montgomery. She was a chief of Integral Yoga devotees in US. Montgomery gave advice to Dmitrii: "If you want to visit Sri Aurobindo Ashram, write a letter to the Mother and put your photo in the letter." So Dmitrii wrote a letter to the Mother and put his photo in it. He received the invitation.

In Pondy, he lived for a month, but the Mother was very busy, he didn't meet Her. Montgomery was in Pondy too. One day she told to the Mother: "Dmitrii will return to America tomorrow." The Mother looked at Dmitrii. He said to me: "I never saw such eyes!" I asked Dmitrii: "What did you see in Her eyes?" - "In human languages there are not such words." - "Describe it only approximately." - "Maybe the objective love." She looked at him and he wanted to ask Her: "What is better for me: to live in Pondy or return to America?" He didn't ask, but She answered: "There is energy in any place of the planet, it is possible to move to perfection in any place."

Dmitrii returned to America but afterwards he visited again and again the Sri Aurobindo Ashram. He passed away in the Ashram on 9. June 2002, on my birthday. His age was 100.

I never forget his tales: "In Pondy there were only two cars. One belonged to the governor, second - to the Mother. Her driver was Pavitra, the great French scientist. Me and some of my friends asked him in the morning about Her outing. We reached before Her the first place where the car stopped. She came out of the car and smiled at us. It was the heavenly happiness!"

~ Submitted by Boris

Links to Prof Sehdev Kumar's webinars

Here are Youtube links to two webinars presented by Prof. Sehdev Kumar in Auroville on the 6th & 9th of August, with the assistance of a great technical and advisory team, in commemoration of 75th anniversary of the dropping of the atom bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki:

Session 1: Seven Steps to Peace: Ushering of Atomic Age & Its Moral Dilemmas - <https://youtu.be/dS7g8k0NSeQ>

Session 2: Seven Steps to Peace: A World Beyond Wars, - <https://youtu.be/piNMttw9SKk>

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES



AUROVILLE ART SERVICE - 'basket' for the week

1. **ACCESSIBLE HORIZON FILMS PONDICHERRY SHARES (TAMIL)** - A series on screenwriting in Tamil. This is not only for aspiring screenwriters or writers, but also anyone

who's interested or passionate about the filmmaking process.

Ep 1: <https://youtu.be/fzaxzUS-vdA>

Ep 2: <https://youtu.be/aOzKEgKqeLM>

2. **KOCHI BIENNALE FOUNDATION: LET'S TALK SERIES** - Invites you to a conversation between Samson Young (participating artist of the 5th edition of the Kochi-Muziris Biennale) and Shubigi Rao (curator of the 5th edition of the Kochi-Muziris Biennale) on September 3 at 6pm.

Live on <http://youtube.com/KochiMuzirisBiennale>

3. **CHENNAI PHOTO BIENNALE ONLINE EVENT** - Cinema and visual art went hand in hand in the Madras skyline. Today that history is being replaced by first look online poster releases, YouTube trailers and OTT release banner ads. An eminent panel delves into this phenomenon... 'Banners, cut-outs and posters - Tamil cinema's tryst with visual art', Saturday, 29 August, 5-7pm IST. https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/3615977509519/WN_IDZ9BOPwRhmfPUFXWjCduQ

4. **AMALGAMATION PROJECT** A free digital event, the Amalgamation Project by Vasiliki Anastasiou borrows and re-arranges traditional melodies from countries around the shores of the Mediterranean Sea and the Balkan peninsula and involves guest musicians from different backgrounds to create modern compositions. This is followed by a show by Luka Lesson, who is a poet and rapper engaging with the Greek mythology of his family homeland, both the fiercely political and the vulnerably self-reflective. 28th August, 4 - 5 PM IST www.greekfringe.com

5. **BOW DOWN: WOMEN IN ART HISTORY** - A podcast about significant women artists from the past. Women have been expressing themselves since the beginning of time. Yet, ask around and you'll find that most people struggle to name even one non-male artist from before the 20th century. For each 20-minute episode, Jennifer Higgie from the magazine Frieze invites an artist, writer, historian or curator to nominate an artist to whom we should all ... well, bow down. <https://frieze.libsyn.com/website>

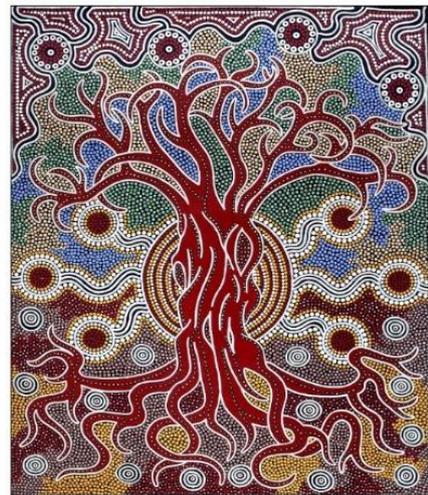
6. **REMBRANDT AND PORTRAITURE IN AMSTERDAM, 1590-1670** - An online tour of the exhibition. <https://www.museothyssen.org/>

7. **AV ART SERVICE - AN AUDIO INTERVIEW WITH GIORGIO MOLINARI PART 2**- Valentina Garozzo interviewed Giorgio Molinari on art in Auroville. Part 2 of a two-part series: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=63B9gkwmbuY>

8. **SHARED BY RUBEN: TUBE TAMBİ APP (STAY UPDATED ABOUT AV VIDEOS)** For everyone that has an Android phone, a simple app which takes you straight to the Auroville video playlist! Contact Ruben, tubetambi@zohomail.in



Songlines and Dreaming Tracks of Australia



aurelec

Cafeteria & Art Gallery
Open from 8 am to 5 pm

17th August to 17th September



Cinema Paradiso

Multimedia Center (MMC) Auditorium

PRESENTS

A FACILITY FOR AUDIO RECORDING

Dear Friends: Responding to the need of the time, Multimedia Center is offering the facility for audio recording needs that many of you have for your online programs/workshops. Currently we will have only two types of slots open for booking:

1. Programs 0-60mins
2. Programs >1hr to 2.5hrs

(with adequate time to set up and pack up)

Keeping with the safety regulations, our technicians will usher in maximum 3 people at the venue for each booking.

For details about the booking conditions/booking write to mmcauditorium@auroville.org.in

Take care, be safe
MMC-CP Team

CLASSES/WORKSHOPS



KoTree Yoga with Grace Tue, Thurs & Sat from 5 to 6.30 PM

From September onward, opening for 4 more students to join. In the Kolam Yoga Shala, Douceur Community on your way to Auromodel. Grace's classes are infused with TriYoga, Iyengar Yoga, Vinyasa, Release and Dance technique, giving you the opportunity to build a new norm of being in the Body. A monetary contribution is expected. For more information write to info@kolamyoga.com

Papier-mâché classes for seniors

Third Age and Wellpaper offer papier-mâché classes to seniors in Auroville. You will learn to make jewelry and serving bowls using papier-mâché (wet waste paper mixed with Maida glue), cartons, cloth, plastic bottles etc. No previous experience or talent necessary! The classes will be conducted weekly, over 8 Saturdays, from 10 am to 12 pm at Koodam (Kailash Building). Call 9786624784 for further details and to confirm your participation (in view of Covid-19, we will restrict to 5 participants). We hope to begin from 29th August or 5th September.

Road back to Nature, Sustainability & Well Being
Sat AMs, 5th September- 24th October, 10 to 12:30
(followed by a yummy lunch!)

Feeling your bare feet on the earth, your hands in the soil, the sunlight on your skin and the energy and fragrance of nature's lush and verdant gifts is deeply nourishing for your body, mind and heart. Learning how to grow food and feed oneself in a way that cares for and enriches the soil and ecosystems is a mutually satisfying dance. It doesn't merely have a zero ecological cost, it is enriching!

Learning how to grow and enjoy our food in this way has obvious ecological and economic benefits, in that it reduces centralised, industrialized & economic dependence, creates social, cultural and educational richness, and nourishes and sustains us. But there is an inner well being and beauty in the rightness of it all that can only be felt by experiencing it!

We invite you to come and explore how to grow, identify, harvest, prepare and cook local food. Integral to this is an understanding of the medicinal and nutritional values of these plants and how to use them to make your own soaps, detergents, toothpowder and Ayurvedic remedies.

Session 1 (5th September) "Growing Greens Learn to prepare the soil, plant and grow spinaches and other local edible plants

Session 2 (12th September) "Secrets of Our Salads

Session 3 (19th September) "Milling with millets": making dosa, idli and adhai using the traditional granite tools. Understanding slow food and it's implicit taste and nutritional value.

Session 4 (26th September) "Popeye's Power": Cooking mixed spinach greens that we learn to notice growing all around us.

Session 5 (3rd October) "Go Bananas": Juicing and cooking with banana stems and banana flowers. This important part of Tamil cuisine is so overlooked these days and yet with a little experience these foods can become a highly nutritious and tasty part of our diet.

Session 6 (10th October) "Sustainable Suds": Making Bioenzyme, bath soap and shampoo. Making our own soaps helps us to value waste water as a resource to grow our own food. It helps us to reduce our dependence on an industrialised economy and meet our needs in a very simple and sustainable way.

Session 7 (17th October) "Fill your belly without white rice!": cooking satisfying vegetables. Tapioca, yams, palm root, sweet potato, plantain and taro are all traditional foods that used to be eaten as daily staples. With the dominance of industrialised foods such as wheat, white rice and potatoes, these traditional plants that grow easily, have diverse tastes and nutritional values and an important cultural relevance have by and large been forgotten. But they can be revived simply by us cooking them and enjoying their wonderful tastes.

Session 8 (24th October) "Potions & Powders": Learn how to make your own medicinal powders and concoctions and use them as remedies and tonics for you and your family.

Contribution required. Concessions available.

Reserve your place now! Solitudepermaculture@gmail.com



Auroville Language Lab

New online German class:

Preparation for the A1 Level This class is for total beginners only!

Every Monday and Wednesday from 6.30 to 8 pm.
(September, October, and November 2020.)

- This class consists of exercises and assignments with teacher feedback and guidance at a common learning platform as well as online class life sessions (teaching) in small groups (Max. 6 students)
- The teaching sessions will take place twice a week for 90mins each session.
- This course is for students with no knowledge of German. We will work with the **textbook Netzwerk A1**.
- You will experience all four skills (reading, listening, speaking and writing) step by step with the book and in addition using other materials.

- You should be able to invest an average of 2-3 hours per week outside of class time.
- You will get information on how to access the relevant online learning platform once you register at: <https://register.aurovillelanguagelab.org/online-courses/>
- We have a special discount for Aurovilians, Newcomers, Pre-Newcomers and Savi **Volunteers**. You will have to enter a coupon code on the Payments page.
- Students registered at schools & colleges outside Auroville and Auroville employees also have a discount. You can email us, giving the name of your school or unit, or request their unit holder to write to us for the Coupon code. To get your codes, please write to info@aurovillelanguage lab.org with the headline "Request Code" and mention your status.

English course for young learners (age 11-15) at the Lab:
Mondays and Wednesdays 10: 15 am - 11:15 am

Our regular English classes w/ Asha are going on smoothly. Now we are open to young learners who are interested in learning English during their free time.

Course plan: Fun with English for learners

- storytelling
- picture description
- video discussion
- reading exercises and more

The rest of our regular and online classes are the same. For more info on courses please visit our website:

<https://www.aurovillelanguagelab.org/courses.php>

New students are requested to register at: <http://register.aurovillelanguagelab.org/> to join any language classes.

- We are looking for Aurovilians, Newcomers or long-term volunteers for Language teaching, especially for French and Italian. If Interested, please contact the Lab.

We request all those coming to the Language Lab premises for these classes and programs to respect all the Covid-19 guidelines.

Monday – Friday 9:00 am- 12:00 pm and 2:00 – 6:00 pm,
Saturday 9 am to 12 pm; Phone: 2623661,
4036920/22. Email info@aurovillelanguagelab.org

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