

NEWS and NOTES

No 837

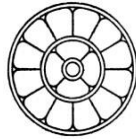
A weekly bulletin for residents of Auroville

26th September 2020



Paintings on stone at Pitchandikulam
(Courtesy Pitchandikulam Forest Consultants)

HOUSE OF MOTHER'S AGENDA



This summary enumeration begins with a statement of the primal principle that underlies all the power of this manifestation in the universe. It is this that in every being and object God dwells concealed and discoverable; he is housed as in a crypt in the mind and heart of everything and creature, an inner self in the core of its subjective and its objective becoming, one who is the beginning and middle and end of all that is, has been or will be. For it is this inner divine Self hidden from the mind and heart which he inhabits, this luminous Inhabitant concealed from the view of the soul in Nature which he has put forth into Nature as his representative, who is all the time evolving the mutations of our personality in Time and our sensational existence in Space, –Time and Space that are the conceptual movement and extension of the Godhead in us. All is this self-seeing Soul, this self-representing Spirit. For ever from within all beings, from within all conscient and inconscient existences, this All-conscient develops his manifested self in quality and power, develops it in the forms of objects, in the instruments of our subjectivity, in knowledge and word and thinking, in the creations of the mind and in the passion and actions of the doer, in the measures of Time, in cosmic powers and godheads and in the forces of Nature, in plant life, in animal life, in human and superhuman beings.

If we look at things with this eye of vision unblinded by values and oppositions of nature, we shall see that all things are in fact and can be nothing but powers of his manifestation, vibhūtis of this universal Soul and Spirit, Yoga of this great Yogin, self-creations of this marvellous self-Creator. He is the unborn and the all-pervading Master of his own innumerable becomings in the universe, *ajo vibhuh*; all things are his powers and effectuations in his self-Nature, vibhūtis. He is the origin of all they are, their beginning; he is their support in their ever-changing status, their middle; he is their end too, the culmination or the disintegration of each created thing in its cessation or its disappearance. He brings them out from his consciousness and is hidden in them, he withdraws them into his consciousness and they are hidden in him for a time or for ever. What is apparent to us is only a power of becoming of the One: what disappears from our sense and vision is effect of that power of becoming of the One. All classes, genera, species, individuals are such vibhūtis. But since it is through power in his becoming that he is apparent to us, he is especially apparent in whatever is of a pre-eminent value or seems to act with a powerful and pre-eminent force. And therefore in each kind of being we can see him most in those in whom the power of nature of that kind reaches its highest, its leading, its most effectively self-revealing manifestation. These are in a special sense Vibhūtis. Yet the highest power and manifestation is only a very partial revelation of the Infinite; even the whole universe is informed by only one degree of his greatness, illumined by one ray of his splendour, glorious with a faint hint of his delight and beauty. This is in sum the gist of the enumeration, the result we carry away from it, the heart of its meaning.

God is imperishable, beginningless, unending Time; this is his most evident Power of becoming and the essence of the whole universal movement. *Aham eva akṣayaḥ kālah*. In that movement of Time and Becoming God appears to our conception or experience of him by the evidence of his works as the divine Power who ordains and sets all things in their place in the movement. In his form of Space, it is he who fronts us in every direction, million-bodied, myriad-minded, manifest in each existence; we see his faces on all sides of us. *Dhātā 'ham viśvato-mukhaḥ*. For simultaneously in all these many million persons and things, *sarva-bhūteṣu*, there works the mystery of his self and thought and force and his divine genius of creation and his marvellous art of formation and his impeccable ordering of relations and possibilities and inevitable consequences. He appears to us too in the universe as the universal spirit of Destruction, who seems to create only to undo his creations in the end, – “I am all-snatching Death,” *aham mṛtyuḥ sarvaharaḥ*. And yet his Power of becoming does not cease from its workings, for the force of rebirth and new creation ever keeps pace with the force of death and destruction, – “and I am too the birth of all that shall come into being.” The divine Self in things is the sustaining Spirit of the present, the withdrawing Spirit of the past, the creative Spirit of the future.

(to be continued next week)

- Sri Aurobindo, Essays on the Gita, Chapter 8, God in Power of Becoming

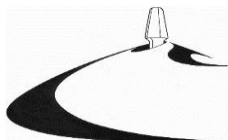
P.S. There's a HOMA page on the Auroville website: <https://www.auroville.org/contents/1085>



It is not really on the capacity of the outer nature that success depends, (for the outer nature all self-exceeding seems impossibly difficult,) but on the inner being, and to the inner being all is possible.

~ Sri Aurobindo
Letters on Yoga, Vol. 23, p.552





AMPHITHEATRE - MATRIMANDIR
Meditation at sunset with Savitri

- read by Mother to Sunil's music -Every Thursday (weather permitting)

The season is changing, so the timing:
From Thursday October 1st: 5.30 to 6.00 pm

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 cell phones, cameras, tablettes, etc... Access is still limited to Aurovilians, Newcomers and Pass holders (have it with you) from 5.15 pm. The Gardens are open until the meditation ends.

- The Amphitheatre Team

COVID 19 UPDATE

From the WC/CTF - We are writing to inform you that an Aurovilian who was a primary contact of the last positive case, has also tested positive, although she was asymptomatic. This can be understood better as: Friend of Auroville (mild symptoms, tested Positive) -->Primary Contact of FoA (Aurovilian, mild symptoms, tested Positive) --> Primary Contact of Aurovilian (Aurovilian, asymptomatic, also tested Positive). The source of infection is not known. They are not comfortable with their names being posted on the mass bulletin, and we respect that. Contact tracing has been carried out and all 3 individuals are now in home isolation and doing well.

In addition, today we were informed that a spouse of an Aurovilian, living in Auroville, has tested positive after having had some mild symptoms. She will be shifted to Sharanam for isolation while the other family members are being tested. The total number of people with positive tests now in Auroville is 4, all of them with mild or no symptoms.

We would like to remind you all that there is still a high number of cases in Pondicherry, hence please limit movement to Pondicherry as much as possible and discourage visitors from Pondicherry and from outside of the Auroville area. When you move around and are out in public places, please remember that it is required by law to wear masks and restrictions on a gathering of more than 5 in public places are still in place, whatever our individual opinions may be. In general, continue to practice all due precautions and if you show any Covid-related symptoms, please call a doctor for a teleconference or contact the Covid Task Force. *Thank you for your continued support and attention. Stay Safe!*

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



WORKING GROUP REPORTS

From Auroville Service Trust on Pour Tous Purchasing Service (PTPS)

In the Service Trust we are extremely happy with the results of the RA decision regarding PTPS. It is a clear and overwhelming decision supporting that PTPS should continue as a service. We view this decision as a reinforcement also of the concept of a "Prosperity System" in Auroville. It is a clear indication to us that we need to continue to support and develop even more this system in the economic fabric of our community.

To begin the exploration of how to reorganize fully the activity of PTPS, over the coming weeks Service Trust is going to meet the executives of this service and people that are interested in developing PTPS and the concept of a central Purchasing Service. We will keep all of you informed of the progression of these changes which will take some time while we are certain of the Grace leading us all the way.

- Amy, Anne, Joseba, Ponnusamy & Ulrich, Trustees, AST



Finding a home for our poop - an update

The search for a temporary site to host Auroville's sludge continues. Several suggestions have been made for sites, but each one needs to be carefully evaluated for issues of accessibility and infrastructure, potential risk of pollution or contamination, community concerns of nuisances, etc.

In the meantime, Fertile residents have graciously extended their deadline for dumping sludge until the end of September, with requests in place to address some of their concerns about dumping. Pour Tous Water has created a type of screen to filter out trash before it goes into sludge pits. It is still in the experimentation phase. The work on a permanent sludge treatment plant continues, including talks on fundraising for the project. We appreciate everyone who recognises that this is a collective issue to deal with and is assisting in actively searching for solutions.

From the Light for All, PT Task Force

The PTF has been confronted with the publication of the work we have so painstakingly started and managed to keep confidential (the need for which you would appreciate if you were in their position). At this link on AuroNet you find our response, the full document and a form in which we ask you for your guidance for the next steps: <https://forms.gle/mnWGMT9xrMZSr4ct5>. We hope you will take the trouble to help us help the Community. <https://auroville.org.in/article/81371>

Appeal Processes: Outcomes of the processes conducted by the appeal bodies can be seen at <https://auroville.org.in/article/81570>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Auroville Library closed next week
Wed. 30th Sept., Thur. 1st & Fri. 2nd Oct. for inventory
and Gandhi Jayanthi. **Open as usual on Sat. 3rd Oct.**

We'd also like to remind library users to please return their books on time and not to pass on books to other people. Remember that you can come and browse our collection of over 60,000 eBooks and 3000 movies.

"Hangout" gathering for seniors and friends on October 3rd, 2.30- 5 PM, Center Guest House

With the lockdown restrictions easing more and more we are now organizing our next Third Age "Hangout" gathering. Just drop in anytime you like, it's very informal.

Like the last time we will have all sorts of yummy cookies and cakes with juices and coffee and tea. This time we are organizing it a little differently so as to be a bit less 'formal' and with special attention to having several smaller tables set up with various games (chess, backgammon, go, checkers ...). Space will likely still need to be a bit limited so please let us know as far in advance as possible if you'd like to be with us. thirdage@auroville.org.in, 91599 00709

- Don and Shivaya (Third Age group)

Photo-Book release: Auroville 80 by Nadia Loury



Auroville Press Publishers is happy to announce the release of Auroville 80. The book is very aptly subtitled The Poetry of Daily Life. When living in Auroville in the 80s, Nadia caught unexpected moments of the community's daily life, and from these shots a beautiful impression of naturalness and spontaneity emerges. 120 pages. Bi-lingual French/English. On display at our bookshop at the Visitors Center. Special discount for Aurovilians



We are happy to announce that we are restarting our Organic Tempeh production. Call us at 0413-2623809 to check availability.

Udhavi Kindergarten Extension

We are happy to share the news of the completion of an extension of our Kindergarten building. It has been built with **grants from Bajaj from their social responsibility funds.** It consists of six large rooms, which were needed due to an increase in the number of children we are admitting. Here is a link to photographs of the rooms: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/gHhyMimWASsWtvj68> - Davaselvy, Principal Udavi School

LOST & FOUND

LOST - AV Art Service is missing two of its credit card machines. If you have them please do let us know at aurovillearts@auroville.org.in

LOST - My big special hat that protects me from the sun, greyish color, cotton mix, on Friday 18th around 3.30/ 4 pm at MM or on the ride back home to Newlands. I would be extremely happy if someone found it or knows where it is. Thanks. 948 960 1312, shivaya@auroville.org.in



LOST - Missing since 14th Sept. His name is **Yogi**, light brown color with a black snout, slim build and he has an injury on his left hind leg. His owners are desperately looking for him. Any help would be greatly appreciated. 960 082 9832.

APPEALS

From: AV Public Bus

The Accessible Auroville Public Bus has been running for more than 4 years, offering a daily bus service between Auroville to Pondicherry for all. Those who traveled regularly with this service were happy and felt safer than traveling in a two wheeler and felt cheaper than traveling in a Taxi. In a way they were part of supporting the community collective transport. Also they took a part in reducing the Carbon dioxide.

Since we need to meet certain fixed expenses, every year in the beginning of October towards yearly maintenance of the Vehicle like, Renewal of fitness certificate, Renewal of Insurance, Replace of tires (2 tires), Renewal of Tamil Nadu permit (Once in every 5 years), battery etc, Even though our service is temporarily suspended due to Tami Nadu government restrictions for Covid-19, this work should be done in order to avoid penalty in the future. Therefore, we are kindly requesting for donations to keep the vehicle in order to use it in the future, once the lockdown is relaxed on public transportation. We need Rs.94,000 (Rupees Ninety four thousands only) in total to cover all the above said expenses.

Currently we are supporting our driver Sivakumar by paying him 50% from his regular salary to support his family. Though he is not driving the vehicle now, we want to support him during this difficult period; he was giving us his best service and being honest in his work.

Thanks for your cooperation towards a collective transport. Kindly transfer or deposit your donations to our account no. 251675 / AV Accessible Public Bus. Thank you in advance for your support. With Gratitude,
- AV Accessible bus team, Raju, Sauro, Susmita
avbus@auroville.org.in; +91 9443074825



The EcoService Fairies need your collaboration.

AV's EcoService has free posters to facilitate the sorting of your personal waste. We realized that to post these posters without your support and participation is too difficult for us. Please e-mail or WhatsApp us to make an appointment. We welcome your support. AgnesR: agnes@auroville.org.in or WApp 97878 74081; Rena: rena@auroville.org.in / WApp: 75981 23660
We are available: Sunday 10-11am, Thursday 3-4pm or Saturday 11-12am

Unity Pavilion Garden Area

Work is currently underway at Unity Pavilion on developing our garden area. Due to the Covid situation, we are working with minimal funds, reusing and recycling material we have as well as receiving materials and plants from within Auroville. We would be very happy to receive **any leftover stone slabs of any colour/size available and are also looking for granite pillars measuring anywhere between 150 -220 cms/ 5 feet to 7 feet long, as well as any stones that can be used in the landscaping.** If you have any of these items not in use and willing to give, we are very happy to come and take them. Please contact Megha, Rajan or Nidhish for the Unity Pavilion Garden Team. Thank you!

Unity Pavilion : 0413 262376; Unitypavilion@auroville.org.in

Pastimes for Quarantiners

Are you doing or willing to do an online activity that quarantined Aurovilians can join? If yes, please do send the details to aurovillearts@auroville.org.in. Thank You!

Secluded, connected spot? - The weekly embodied voice circle I facilitate online has been wonderful and alive, but I struggle with my connection each time. Does anyone have reliable internet in a secluded spot to offer me? I'm looking for this on Tuesdays, 2pm to 4pm. write.shalini@gmail.com, or WhatsApp 9489586348)

WELCOME

FROM THE ENTRY SERVICE - ES # 051- 26-09-2020

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

NEWCOMERS CONFIRMED:

- Agila VENGADESAN (Indian)
- Allan Lawson BENNETT (British)

AUROVILIANS ANNOUNCED:



Brian

• Brian HIGGINSON (British) Staying in Sunship and working at Sante

Saranraj PONNUSWAMY (Indian) staying in Dehashakti and working at Puncture Service.



Saranraj

AUROVILIAN CONFIRMED:

- Santosh SHANMUGAM (Indian)

NOTE:

- The Newcomer probation year becomes effective only after
- 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 Aurovilians who are registered in the RoR.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

From the FreeStore - We are happy to share with you that the FreeStore will be open from Monday to Saturday, every morning, 9 AM to 12:30 PM, beginning Monday, 28th September. There will be no more online bookings, but please understand we must maintain all the necessary safety/hygienic precautions during the currently imposed paradigm. We request that you come only with the absolute need for our service, not for casual/habitual outings, or as a means to pass time. Consider using the service **not more than ONCE a week.**

We would like to remind you that Freestore provides a service to Aurovilians and Newcomers for the exchange of garments that are in **good condition**. By good condition, we mean the items are **freshly washed**, not damaged or torn, etc. We do not accept clothing that are unusable and dirty; we are not here for waste disposal. Any found will be returned.

Mending Service Restarting: Our Mending Service is also to resume for Aurovilians and Newcomers, **maximum 3 items** per person/per month. Remember to bring items washed and in your own bag. Thank you for your understanding, care and collaboration, - **Your Freestore Team.**

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

Darkali Fitness Track Open Hours

6 - 8 AM (on request) & 4.30 - 6.15 PM

If you would like to come in the morning, please send a message to Alyona 786 808 4307.

Remember to come half an hour before closing time.



We are delighted to inform you that Integrated Transport Service is happy to help people who are struggling to sell their petrol bikes. You can exchange your old petrol scooter/bike to a new

electric scooter. The value of your petrol scooter will be reduced on the price of your new electric scooter.

For further information please contact us on +91 8098776644, +91 9442566256 or its@auroville.org.in

VC Cafeteria - Evening Home Deliveries available now

- Every evening except Mondays. Please phone by 6pm for a delivery around 7pm and by 7pm for a delivery around 8pm. Cafeteria number is 2622 248. You will need to leave your number so the driver can reach you. Kindly tie up your dogs around delivery time.
 - Basic charge for delivery is Rs 50/-. You may be charged some extra if the order or the distance is big.
 - Ordering over the phone is possible only for Financial Service account holders. Guests and Volunteers will need to come to Cafeteria with their Aurocard and place their order in person. This can be done earlier in the day.
 - We are minimizing the packing charges - and environmental impact- by relying where possible on trusted banana leaves and jars.
 - Regular Cafeteria items such as soup, vegetarian and vegan bakes, pizza, momos, roast chicken, and chicken curry, naan/roti, and Indian vegetarian dishes are available. Dosa Corner items are not available for home delivery! Enjoy!
- Your Cafeteria team

CARPENTRY AND REPAIR WORK

I have 20 years of carpentry experience in Auroville. If you would like to have custom furniture made, broken furniture mended, or any sort of carpentry work, I can do it at affordable price. Contact: Iyanar 8778180971



Long-term Volunteers: As Auroville is slowly opening up to long-term volunteers, we encourage you to take advantage of our special rates for registered volunteers with SAVI ID or letter from your workplace. Auroville residents really appreciate seeing you ride around the City in silence and without air or noise pollution.

NEW! E-cycles: If you want to purchase your e-cycle, this is now possible at KINISI. We have different models available and we are constantly looking to expand our offer.

Conversion of bicycles into e-cycles: If you love your bicycle but need some pedaling help, this is the way to go! We have developed our expertise over the past years, and we can convert most models to electric. We still need to see your cycle before we commit.

3-wheel electric scooters: We had several requests from residents to purchase an electric 3-wheeler, and we have found some wonderful models. We offer these for rental or sale.

Electric scooters: We can help you purchase an electric scooter. The Tesla of e-scooters and most trustworthy brand we have found so far is the Ather 450, with the best specifications on the Indian market.

Electric motorbikes: We can help you purchase an electric bike, the Revolt RV 300 and RV 400. We have a few of these e-bikes already in Auroville.

Conversion of lead-acid to lithium battery: We can also convert your lead-acid battery Humvee or e-scooter into a lithium battery vehicle. This will increase its lifetime and autonomy/range.

We are proud to offer top-notch servicing to all electric 2- and 3-wheelers. Just call us a bit in advance to reserve your slot.

For more info, have a look at our website kinisi.in, contact us at 8300460679 or kinisi@auroville.org.in

- Your KINISI team

Rangoli is open! You can visit the atelier to find all of our beautiful Rangoli creations from the VC. We also have our new breathable, reusable face masks available. For those who didn't know, the atelier does bespoke tailoring (sur-mesure), so if you're hard to fit off-the-shelf you have one more reason to visit. Please make an appointment to visit by contacting me on WhatsApp or phone. +91 94433 62528. Prema

WORK OPPORTUNITIES

Apprenticeship opportunity for Tamil Researchers

Ilaignarkal Education Centre is looking for an Auroville Youth to be apprentice in Tamil research. S/He will be trained by experts and scholars across Tamil Nadu for a period of 1 year. Some of the topics to be covered during this period will be anthropological, sociological, political, cultural, ecological, history of Tamil land through ages - antiquity to modern times.

Apprentice maintenance available through HRT for full-time apprentice (35H /week) between the age of 18 to 21, who require financial assistance. Adults over the age of 21 can be considered on a case by case basis. If interested, send an e-mail with your details to tamil@auroville.org.in

Experienced Metal Fabricator/Welder/Blacksmith

needed. 2 or 3 positions available. Interested people can contact: Mohan, 9585550709 or auroyali@auroville.org.in

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.

Day Care - You take care of the daily needs of an elderly Aurovillian, chat with him, help him move around, prepare snacks and drinks, help him in the bathroom etc. You are strong (preferably male). You speak and read English and/or French, are patient, friendly and caring, any nurse type experience would be a plus. You are practical and can take quick decisions, you have a cell phone with WhatsApp. Timing 7:30 am till 5:30 pm. Full time or two people part time. Maintenance available.

Marketing, production & sales - You co-create and execute the marketing, the preparation for production and production of a line of design objects both online and via stores. You have experience with AutoCAD, design and architecture, in marketing, social media marketing, website design and sales. You will be the driving force in marketing and facilitating the

selling of the design products. Part-time or full time, flexible timing, half or full maintenance available.

And other positions (please inquire about details):

- Customer Care and Website Maintenance
- Production Management (part-time)
- Youthlink Executive/Manager
- Web Assistance
- Graphic Designer and Video Editor

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

MATRIMANDIR



Opening of Inner Chamber

The Inner Chamber is now **open from 4:30 - 6:30 PM with prior booking** (Aurovilians, Newcomers & long term volunteers holding a valid MM pass, **15 people per sitting** in the Inner Chamber. Mat will be folded after one use.

The Petals are open from 7 to 8am. (No booking required). **1 person per petal** (12 petals open). After concentration, the petal will be closed. For details on protocols, SOPs etc, see Auronet: <https://auroville.org.in/article/81400>

Given all the above strict conditions, if you would like to come to the Inner Chamber for concentration, please inform the Matrimandir Access team at mmconcentration@auroville.org.in.

(**Note: You will first get the public auto-response regarding closure, but this is for visitors who write to this address. The email of all Aurovilians will be answered in any case.**)

Prior booking is not needed for the morning Petal visit. A/C will be off, but will be used to cool the room before your visit. Please give your Name and Community and what evenings you would like to come and how long you would like to sit. As the number of places is very limited you will be informed by email of the date/s and time/s when you can come. Every effort will be made to meet your request/s.

You are reminded that the **Park of Unity is open everyday from 6 am to 8 am (for Aurovilians and Newcomers only) & 4:30 pm to 6.30 pm every day (for Aurovilians, Newcomers and Volunteers holding a valid Matrimandir Pass)**

Thank you, - Matrimandir Executives and Access team

COHERENCE

Full Moon, THURS. 1st October 2020, 6:45 - 7:45 PM
Matrimandir Amphitheatre
Masterpieces Selected from Indian & World Classical Music
(Curated by Chandra Pai)

A ritual bath of soothing moonlight,
A gentle gathering of musical delight
Resonances that only music can create
Leaving silence to behold and meditate

LOOKING FOR

Used Guitar - in good condition **AND in-home Guitar lessons.** I am a 41 yr old male living near Aurelec in Kuliapalyam. Pawan: 91197 62631 or mitpawan@gmail.com

The book "PRINCE CASPIAN" (Nr 4 of the Narnia series). Please, please lend this book to us if you have it. Story reading is such a wonderful experience! We couldn't find this book in any library and are longing to read it. Thank you so much. Ulrike Urvasi, Sanjana, 9442069249(sms), 00491745803786 (whats app), ulrikrishna@gmail.com

AVAILABLE

Living Space - in Adventure community, for a single person (AV/NC/Volunteer) w/ equipped common kitchen. FMI: pauli@auroville.org.in or 9488239348 (WhatsApp only).

Accommodation - A 2 unit studio house is available up to 30th November at AuroAnnam. Kipaak Homestay for guests. Registered, volunteers, Newcomers and Aurovillians may also apply. 1 unit has 2 large BRs, a single room, kitchen and bathroom. 2nd unit has 1 large BR, kitchen w/ dining hall and bathroom. Contact: 852 391 5031, Mawite.

Yamaha electric piano P-45B. niva@auroville.org.in, or 984 319 1370.

Capers from Ladakh - Dry, slightly salty and very aromatic. They will be available in PTPS in 80g pouches or you can order 250g pouches directly from our unit, by emailing joyfoods@auroville.org.in. - Steffen

House & office items & construction equipment - Sofa set (3 seaters and 2x 1 seater). 1 Coffee table. 2 Office desk tables 6x2,5x2,5'' (each sit 2 people comfortably). 4 Office chairs w/o wheels. 2 foldable tables (desk size). 2 ceiling light fixtures with 2 long led tubes 20W each. 2 monitor stands. 1 kitchen robot/blender/juicer set. 1 juicer. 1x 16L pressure cooker. 1 aircrete foam machine and hand-held concrete mixer. Joseph WhatsApp +917094027046; joartault@gmail.com

Reva car - Requires new battery & charge controller. Willing to donate to project that could benefit. Martin@auroville.org

Helmet - For motorbike, brand new, sleek black matte-finish. Contact G sattvig@gmail.com or 8407997970. Cheers :)

House helper - Ambiga from Edeyanchavadi is looking for part time household work - 2 AMs & 6 PMs. She is a good worker who needs precise instructions and a few reminders in the beginning. If you need her services, contact her directly 9943575709 (Submitted by Joy, Dana)

House helper - Angama from Edayanchavadi is looking for full or part time work. She is cheerful, very friendly, 100% reliable, very good with kids, experienced and hardworking. sonialalitadevi@gmail.com or +91894028809 (WhatsApp)

GREEN MATTERS



Water Saving Tip of the Week!

Use a broom instead of a hosepipe to clean patios and sidewalks.

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

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



David Attenborough's latest documentary, and different reports on the status of wildlife

It is not difficult to find catastrophic news regarding our environment and ecosystem collapse. We would love to report more good news, but sometimes the sad news is actually a bittersweet sign of awakening.

Sir David Attenborough returns with a hard-hitting documentary: **Extinction: The Facts**. The tone of the program is very different from his usual work. For once the world-famous naturalist is not here to celebrate the incredible diversity of life on Earth but to issue a stark warning about species extinction. "We are facing a crisis, one that has consequences for us all." What follows is a shocking reckoning of the damage our species has wrought on the natural world. There are the stunning images of animals and plants you would expect from an Attenborough production, but also horrific scenes of destruction. Of the estimated eight million species on Earth, a million are now threatened with extinction, one expert warns. With a million species at risk, what do we save?

Many people think of extinction as an imaginary tale told by conservationists. Species have always come and gone, that's how evolution works. But now it is **happening at 100 times the natural evolutionary rate** - and is accelerating. Since 1970

vertebrate animals, birds, mammals, reptiles, fish and amphibians - have declined by 60%!

"Over the course of my life I've encountered some of the world's most remarkable species of animals," says Sir David, in one of the most moving sequences in the film. "Only now do I realise just how lucky I've been - many of these wonders seem set to disappear forever."

This is a crisis in the natural world - Sir David is at pains to explain - that isn't just about losing the magnificent creatures featured in the hundreds of films he has made over 60 years. It's a humanitarian disaster too. The loss of pollinating insects could threaten the food crops we depend on. Trees and other plants regulate water flow and produce the oxygen we breathe. Meanwhile, the seas are being emptied of fish. **There is now only 5% of trawler-caught fish left** compared to the turn of the 20th century.

The current pandemic provides the most immediate example of the risks of our ever-increasing encroachment into the natural world. The program tracks the suspected origins of coronavirus to populations of bats living in cave systems in Yunnan province in China. We see the Chinese "wet market" in Wuhan which specializes in the sale of wild animals for human consumption and is thought to have been linked with many of the early infections.

What about hope?

The documentary is uncompromising in its depiction of the crisis in the natural world, but does not leave the audience feeling that all is lost. Sir David makes clear there is still cause for hope. His aim is not to try and drag us into the depths of despair, but to help us find out what is driving these issues so that we can address them.

The program ends in iconic style: we see the moment in the 1970's, Sir David met a band of 250 gorillas in the mountains on the border between the DRC and Rwanda. The program's makers have been back to Rwanda. We learn that the Rwandan government has worked with local people to protect the gorillas which are thriving: now there are more than 1,000. It shows, says Sir David, what we can achieve when we put our minds to it. "I may not be here to see it," he concludes, "but if we make the right decisions at this critical moment, we can safeguard our planet's ecosystems, its extraordinary biodiversity and all its inhabitants." His final line packs a powerful punch: "**What happens next is up to every one of us.**"

New modelling evidence suggests we can halt and even reverse habitat loss and deforestation if we take urgent conservation action and change the way we produce and consume. "Doing so will require systemic shifts in how we produce food, create energy, manage our oceans and use materials," he said. "But above all it will require a change in perspective. A change from viewing nature as something that's optional or 'nice to have' to the single greatest ally we have in restoring balance to our world."

A report of the WWF and research published in the journal *Nature* suggests that to turn the tide we must transform the way we produce and consume food, including reducing food waste and diets with a lower environmental impact. Conservation actions alone won't be sufficient to "bend the curve on biodiversity loss". The WWF reports on the catastrophic decline: "*Wildlife is 'in freefall' as we burn forests, over-fish our seas and destroy wild areas. We are wrecking our world - the one place we call home - risking our health, security and survival here on Earth. Now nature is sending us a desperate SOS and time is running out.*"

Three key problems caused by habitat change



Source: WWF



The UN report 'Humanity at a crossroads' says that since the **Aichi Biodiversity targets** were agreed in Japan in 2010 most goals have been missed. The 20 Aichi targets are broken down into 60 separate elements to monitor overall progress. Of those, seven have been achieved, 38 have shown progress and 13 elements have shown no progress. The world has failed to meet a single target to stem the destruction of wildlife and life-sustaining ecosystems, from tackling pollution to protecting coral reefs. More than 60% of the world's coral reefs are under threat, especially because of overfishing and destructive practices, and a 2015 target to minimize threats was missed. It was also missed in 2020, with the climate crisis, ocean acidification and coastal development blamed for their poor state. Moreover, \$500bn of environmentally damaging government subsidies have not been eliminated.

The report comes as parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity negotiate the targets for the next decade. The final round of negotiations is expected to take place in May 2021. A significant part of the draft describes the proposal to **protect 30% of the planet.**

Sources: UN-/Living Planet 2020/ Global Diversity outlook /WWF reports /Aichi targets and Biodiversity reporters Phoebe Weston and Patrick Greenfield

The Green Column appears bi-monthly in the N & N and on AuroNet. We invite you to participate and comment on green issues in Auroville, the bioregion and the world

~ Gijs & Lisbeth for avgreencenter

You can write to us avgreencenter@auroville.org.in.



Here's the news from your favorite radio! You can listen to the stream channel here: <http://aurovilleradio.org:8000/av-radio-128.mp3>. It broadcasts mixed music and LIVE events 24/7 from our Town Hall studio.

Last published podcasts:

- [Presentation about new Prosperity study](#)

For the last few months the Prosperity Team has done an in depth study about the Auroville organisation starting with what The Mother had envisioned.

- [Mothers Questions And Answers, April 3, 1957](#)

"All would change if man could once consent to be spiritualized. The Spirit is the truth of our being. Its realization and manifestation will bring the spiritual revolution which will determine the next evolutionary cycle of humanity."

- [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**

- [Punk and Around](#) (music) w/ Wobbli & Dudy, **Tues @ 2.30pm**

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

- [Marlenka's Weekly Offering](#) (literature) **Wednesday, 11 AM**

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

- [The Neo Urban Chronik](#) (humour) 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**

- [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**

- [Soul Tracks](#) (music) w/ Jules and Matthew, **Saturday at 3pm**

All the recordings can be downloaded on the AurovilleRadio website www.aurovilleradio.org. Write us if you need more information or with suggestions: radio@auroville.org.in

Your favorite radio is changing and evolving - **STAY TUNED** :)

General Meetings during Covid & post-Covid

I created the following proposal which I invite everyone to sign online at proposals.auroville.org.in: "It's time for the community to meet at large, via Zoom if not possible otherwise, to discuss how WC, Covid-19 Task Force, and other working groups and teams have dealt and still deal with this crisis. We have very different points of view in Auroville on this topic, and I see a disconnection of these groups and the community as a whole. Also, it's time we discuss all together, openly--and not only in small rooms in Town Hall--where we want to go next, in the post-Covid era. Do we want to be an example to the world, or following the mass?"
- Giovanni P.

Orchids

"The term shola has ancient Tamil origin, derived from the word "cholai", meaning the thickets or grove"

(P. Selva, A. Venkatesh.) Scholas of Kalakad Tiger Reserve: Biodiversity and Conservation", Chennai, 2018 p. 2.

We have in Auroville the thickets and groves but that is the second nature - created by people among semi-deserted landscape. There are many exotic plants in our city. But shola is a real natural ecosystem - for example near Kodaikanal, not far from Auroville's nature camp. A lot of orchid species are in the sholas. In Auroville there is a rich collection of orchids in the Botanical Garden.

The orchids are a big family among the plants. They prefer rainforest. Auroville's climate is too dry for them. Here they can exist if somebody cares for them. Many people like orchids very much, for example Narad who organised the nursery of plants for Matrimandir gardens. From the ancient times the lovers used orchids for the flower language: the white orchid is the symbol of purity, elegance; the yellow one - friendship; red - enthusiasm. I think that every orchid means agape - love of the Lord to earth, to humanity.

Some orchids live on trees - on trunks, branches. Others grow on the ground. Not so far from Auroville's nature camp near Kavunji village, I found an orchid which was predacious - it hunted insects. There are the fantastic tales about the orchids - man-eaters.

The Mother's name for the orchid is "Attachment to the Divine". She commented: "Wraps itself around the Divine and finds all its support in Him so as to be sure of never leaving Him." In Sanskrit there is the expression: "Tat vam asi" - "That's You (God)." But other word in Sanskrit - "neti" (no). About the orchids without doubt one can say: yes, they are representative of the God.

For twelve years I visited the Auroville's Nature Camp: for 3 years near Berijam Lake and for 9 years near Kavunji village. Many times we were trekking in sholas and saw a lot of orchids. But two years ago the Forest Department banned the trekking in sholas because of woodfire happened often. Such a pity!

- submitted by Boris

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES



AUROVILLE ART SERVICE - 'basket' for the week

1. EVERY THURSDAY WITH AV ART SERVICE (FOR AGES 6 - 16) - Join the online story building session w/ Rashmi, Thurs @ 11am. Message 94482 35935 to get the meeting details.

2. AUROVILLE CITY EXHIBITION PRESENTS AUROVILLE CITY CONVERSATIONS #2 - Participate in the online series of Auroville City Conversations by emailing aurovillecityconversations@gmail.com. Link to #2: <https://youtu.be/wpsBCGRxqR8>

3. ACCESSIBLE HORIZON FILMS PONDICHERRY SHARES (TAMIL) EPISODE #6 - 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. This episode discusses 3 practical tips on how to attract your Muse. Ep 6: <https://youtu.be/BFm21uSD3JI>

4. INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE ARTS PRESENTS THE WORK OF A. K. COOMARASWAMY - https://www.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=245529903369955&id=293302312515&scmts=scwspdd&extid=ko5qZ544yVY1R9k

5. PLATFORM FOR ARTISTS - NEXT FLEA MARKET - The next flea market is slated for Diwali. To participate and sell your artwork

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdjjjEkOYXkrvjfVERsi43zfC2LCW2A5pJgE8laHoGDTLxg/viewform?gxids=7628>

6. THE WRITE LIFE COMMUNITY - An active and supportive Facebook group for writers to connect and share their struggles, questions or work. www.facebook.com/groups/TheWriteLifeGroup

7. FABIO CEMBRANELLI'S FLORAL WATERCOLOURS - Technique and demo videos. www.youtube.com/user/fabiocembranelli

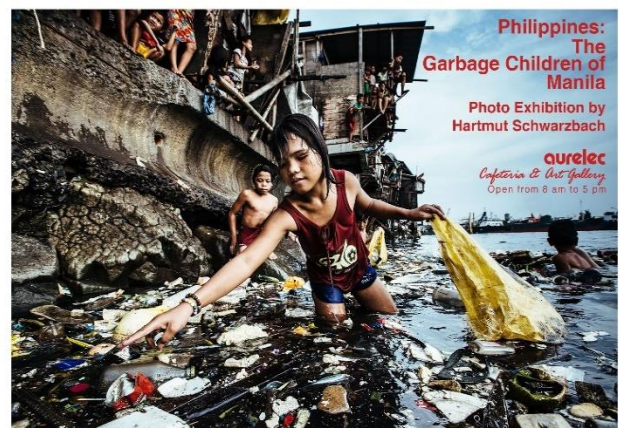
8. EMBODIED VOICE CIRCLE FOR WOMEN - Continues for three more weeks, facilitated by Shalini. www.bit.ly/voicecircle

9. MUDRA CHI w/ ANANDI - NOW ONLINE FOR THOSE IN QUARANTINE anandi7@auroville.org.in and CC aurovillearts@auroville.org.in (Please write "mudra chi" in the subject line)

10. THE SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY MUSEUM MANCHESTER: OFFERS FOR QUARANTINED CHILDREN - Take your children through an online journey of discovery and explore the objects on display at the Science and Industry Museum telling the story of Manchester's scientific past, present and future.

<https://collection.sciencemuseumgroup.org.uk/search/museum-of-science-and-industry>

11. QUARANTINE LISTENING - The Twelve Qualities - words from The Mother, music composed by Pushkar Carlotto. Performed by Auroville Choirs and Instrumental Ensemble (2002). <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u4lwCur5JpA>



21st September to 21st October

In the port of Manila, minors live by fishing and selling plastic bottles and other garbage from the dirty water. A German photojournalist accompanied them.

The small huts in the Tondo district in the port of Manila are temporarily held together by corrugated iron, cardboard and wood. Children jump into the cloudy water and repeatedly fish out plastic waste that they collect and then sell to local junk and recycling stores. With luck, they get around 50 Philippine pesos for a whole day's work - not even 90 cents. The children cannot buy much more than a kilo of rice from the money. But that helps a lot of families in Manila's largest and poorest slum.

An estimated 20 million people live in the metropolitan region of the Philippine capital Manila. According to the Ministry of the Environment, around 9.3 million kilograms of waste are produced every day in cities and suburbs. Much of it does not end up in garbage cans or containers, but in the water and thus in Manila Bay. And a lot of the waste in the water is collected by children. Because although child labour is prohibited, many girls and boys in the slum have no choice.

AFRICAN PAVILION

Peace family, see what's coming up next at African Pavilion!

Activities ·



Taste of Africa - Fundraiser Lunch

Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays - Noon to 2:30pm
We really want everyone in AV to taste these specialty homemade vegan recipes from Africa and give us honest feedback because we intend to open a real café in the future. But, we understand finances are tight. Reach out to us so we can make sure that ya belly & ya pockets stay full.



African Drum Course with Prakash

Fridays - 4pm to 5pm

Classes are really jamming and we might have a drum crew emerging. But, **we don't have enough djembes to grow right now**. If you or a friend has a djembe you are willing to lend to us for one hour on Fridays, we will be grateful and we promise to treat it with utmost care & respect.



Sinema Ya Sinema - African Film Night

Saturday - 7pm to 9pm

Join us for a night under the stars to enjoy a classic African film, Hyenas (1992), on the big screen. We hope to make this a regular event so we can continue to share our rich cinema with you. Please let's stay healthy, humble & aware so we don't give the Corona folks nothin' to fuss about.

Space Available at African Pavilion - Our Community Hall is open to anyone by reservation one day ahead. It can accommodate 25 people. Circular, open space, great for dancing, meditations, performances, and other gatherings. Reservations: Malcolm +91 90801 59721

⊘ **NO SMOKING** or **ROLLING ANYWHERE** at African Pavilion ⊘
Please stay updated on Covid regulations & keep yourself safe.

FMI: [+91 90801 59721](tel:+919080159721) / africa@auroville.org.in

www.AfricanPavilion.org, [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Auronet](#)

Contributions to AP can be made using *FS Account*: 252260

CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

Auroville - A Journey of Sustainability 29th September 2020 from 4-6 pm

Where are we headed? Join us for a panel discussion on the 29th September 2020 from 4-6 pm IST, hosted by Auroville Green Practices, on the big questions related to sustainability in Auroville, India, and the world. Let us deepen the conversation that matters most at this moment, and ask the question: "How can Auroville better contribute to India's sustainability agenda?"

Panelists: Mr Mohan Chunkath, IAS (Retd.); Mr N. Bala Baskar, IAS (Retd.); Mr Toine van Megen - Auroville Consulting; Mr Aromar Revi - Director, Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IIHS); Dr Jayshree Vencatesan - Managing Trustee, Care Earth Trust; Mr Arun Krishnamurthy - Founder, Environmentalist Foundation of India (EFI); Mr Vijay Kumar Vaddadi- Auroville Consulting.

Free admission - for more info & registration, visit: <https://agpworkshops.com/workshops/auroville-a-journey-of-sustainability/?startDate=29-09-2020>

Third Age Activities

Papier-mâché: Third Age and Wellpaper offer papier-mâché classes to seniors. 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 3 pm to 4.30 pm** at Koodam (Kailash Building). Call 9786624784 for further details and to confirm your participation (restricted to 5 participants in view of Covid-19).

Zentangle: We invite seniors to join to learn how to draw a Zentangle. Zentangle is an easy-to-learn, relaxing, and fun way to create beautiful images by drawing structured patterns. Almost anyone can use Zentangle to create beautiful images. It

increases focus and creativity, provides artistic satisfaction along with an increased sense of personal wellbeing. YouTube 'zentangling' to find many examples of this kind of drawing. **Saturday from 10 to 11.45 am, starting from 3rd October** at Koodam (Kailash Building). Material provided, just bring your smile. FMI: Christel, michielsenchris@gmail.com or WhatsApp 9384460576.

Free Webinar on
ASTROLOGY IN EVERYDAY LIFE
by
Mr. VIKRAM DEVATHA
Author, Data Analyst,
Life Coach & Astrologer
www.allthingsvedic.in

Date: SUNDAY, 27 September 2020
Time: 5PM IST

Webinar is open for
Q & A after the talk

For registration contact
+91 9946400027
or log onto
www.lyfistry.com

Why attend the webinar

- Do you think Astrology is a superstition?
- How can Astrology help us in everyday life?
- How can the Celestial bodies influence us?
- Does Astrology really work?

Introduction to Vedic Astrology

Philosophy & rationale behind it, how and why it works, how it can benefit us in our everyday lives, etc. FMI: +91-984 394 8288, Vikram

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; 0413-262-2133