

News and Notes

No 841

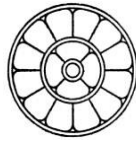
A weekly bulletin for residents of Auroville

24th October 2020



Karan Gajendiran, a young new Aurovilian, practising Taekwondo at Repos beach.
Photo taken by his friend, Aurovilian Jagan Loganathan.

HOUSE OF MOTHER'S AGENDA



(continued from last week)

The way of Bhakti is supposed often to be necessarily inferior because it proceeds by worship which belongs to that stage of spiritual experience where there is a difference, an insufficient unity between the human soul and the Divine, because its very principle is love and love means always two, the lover and the beloved, a dualism therefore, while oneness is the highest spiritual experience, and because it seeks after the personal God while the Impersonal is the highest and the eternal truth, if not even the sole Reality. But worship is only the first step on the path of devotion. Where external worship changes into the inner adoration, real Bhakti begins; that deepens into the intensity of divine love; that love leads to the joy of closeness in our relations with the Divine; the joy of closeness passes into the bliss of union. Love too as well as knowledge brings us to a highest oneness and it gives to that oneness its greatest possible depth and intensity. It is true that love returns gladly upon a difference in oneness, by which the oneness itself becomes richer and sweeter. But here we may say that the heart is wiser than the thought, at least than that thought which fixes upon opposite ideas of the Divine and concentrates on one to the exclusion of the other which seems its contrary, but is really its complement and a means of its greatest fulfilment. This is the weakness of the mind that it limits itself by its thoughts, its positive and negative ideas, the aspects of the Divine Reality that it sees, and tends too much to pit one against the other.

Thought in the mind, *vicāra*, the philosophic trend by which mental knowledge approaches the Divine, is apt to lend a greater importance to the abstract over the concrete, to that which is high and remote over that which is intimate and near. It finds a greater truth in the delight of the One in itself, a lesser truth or even a falsehood in the delight of the One in the Many and of the Many in the One, a greater truth in the impersonal and the Nirguna, a lesser truth or a falsehood in the personal and the Saguna. But the Divine is beyond our oppositions of ideas, beyond the logical contradictions we make between his aspects. He is not, we have seen, bound and restricted by exclusive unity; his oneness realises itself in infinite variation and to the joy of that love has the completest key, without therefore missing the joy of the unity. The highest knowledge and highest spiritual experience by knowledge find his oneness as perfect in his various relations with the Many as in his self-absorbed delight. If to thought the Impersonal seems the wider and higher truth, the Personal a narrower experience, the spirit finds both of them to be aspects of a Reality which figures itself in both, and if there is a knowledge of that Reality to which thought arrives by insistence on the infinite Impersonality, there is also a knowledge of it to which love arrives by insistence on the infinite Personality. The spiritual experience of each leads, if followed to the end, to the same ultimate Truth. By Bhakti as by knowledge, as the Gita tells us, we arrive at unity with the Purushottama, the Supreme who contains in himself the impersonal and numberless personalities, the qualityless and infinite qualities, pure being, consciousness and delight and the endless play of their relations.

(to be continued next week)

– Sri Aurobindo. *The Synthesis of Yoga. Part III: The Yoga of Divine Love. Chapter I: Love and the Triple Path*

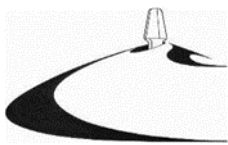
P.S. There's a HOMA page on the Auroville website: <https://www.auroville.org/contents/1085>



The Divine Grace and Power can do everything, but with the full assent of the sadhak.
To learn to give that full assent is the whole meaning of the sadhana.

~ Sri Aurobindo, *Letters on Yoga*





AMPHITHEATRE - MATRIMANDIR

Meditation at sunset with Savitri - read by Mother to Sunil's music
Every **Thursday, 5.30 to 6.00 PM** (weather permitting)

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, tablets, 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



Opening of Inner Chamber

The Inner Chamber is now open from
6:00 - 8:00 AM without prior booking
(Aurovilians and Newcomers only) &
4:30 - 6:30 PM with prior booking
(Aurovilians, Newcomers & long term

volunteers holding a valid Matrimandir pass)

15 people per sitting in the Inner Chamber. Mat will be folded after one use.

If you would like to come to the Inner Chamber for concentration in the evening, 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).

Please give your Name and Community, the date & time 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 to 8 am** (for Aurovilians and Newcomers only) & **4:30 to 6.30 pm** (for Aurovilians, Newcomers and Volunteers holding a valid Matrimandir Pass) Thank you, ~ Matrimandir Executives and Access team

WORKING GROUP REPORTS

Working Committee report, Aug. 24th to Oct. 15th, 2020

The main issues in this period were as follows:

1. **Meeting of the Governing Board** - We have been informed that the 56th meeting of the Governing Board will be on-line and will be held on November 7th. All reports have been submitted to the Board and can be accessed on the AuroNet at <https://auroville.org.in/article/81780>. The Chairman has responded that there is no need to take decisions on all the items except the ones that need immediate attention, and that the rest, as suggested by Madan Gopal ji, can be postponed for the first meeting of the new Governing Board.

2. Auroville Foundation

- The term of office of the present members of the Governing Board ends on November 23rd. We have not been informed about the appointment of any new members.
- The appointment of the Secretary of the Auroville Foundation is still awaited.
- The appointment of new members of the International Advisory Council is still awaited.

3. Selection process for members of working groups

We would like to thank the community for offering suggestions on our final proposal for the selection of members of the Working Committee, Auroville Council, Funds and Assets Management Committee and Entry Board; this proposal is a refined version of the interim selection process which the community approved in February 2020.

We have amended the proposal taking feedback into account. The main amendments are:

a. Regarding feedback on candidates. All feedback will now be sent to the RAS which will send it to the confirmed participants in the selection process. The feedback will not be published on the AuroNet or in the News and Notes. The participants commit to treat all feedback as confidential and not publish or circulate it and only use this feedback for information and reflection while selecting nominees.

b. Regarding the method of selecting. The earlier proposal has been simplified:

- For each vacancy each participant in the selection process (called the selector) gets one selection card.
- Each selector can only use one card per candidate, or discard a card. EG, if there are 3 candidates, A, B, and C., the selector can submit one card for A, one for C, and deposit the third card in the discard box. The selector can also deposit all cards in the discard box in case the selector is of the opinion that none of the candidates are suitable to fill the vacancies.
- To be selected, a candidate needs to have the trust of a minimum of 51% of the selectors. A candidate will not be selected, if this quorum has not been reached.
- If there are more vacancies and more than one candidate has passed the quorum, the candidate who has gained the most trust will be selected, followed by the next etc.
- The cards in the discard box will not be counted.

4. **TDC membership** - As there is no clarity yet about a selection process agreed by the community, and also as we have proposed to the Board that former Governing Board member of the Auroville Foundation and former Chairman of the Town Development Council Dr B.V. Doshi is invited through his organization to do an assessment of the present status of planning in Auroville and to propose a way forward including a suitable organizational structure, we have decided to strengthen the present two-member team of the TDC by nominating at least three interim members to join the TDC. This decision is based on the Governing Board's Standing Order constituting the TDC that requires the Working Committee to fill vacancies. An announcement inviting qualified people to propose themselves has been circulated in the community. We hope to complete the process in 3-4 weeks.

5. **Coronavirus Covid-19 update** - The Working Committee together with the Task Force continues its reporting about new

developments and shares government guidelines. We are aware that some community members have principal objections to the wearing of masks; however, we are bound to follow government instructions. We request all those who visit public places in Auroville to respect these instructions and the need of fellow Aurovilians for a sense of safety and use masks where requested. Please treat the staff and volunteers in these places with respect, even if you do not agree with this requirement.

5. Aurovilians abroad.

a. As mentioned in our previous report, the Working Committee has written to the Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, requesting that holders of an X2 or X3 visa, (a special type of visa which are issued only for Auroville) who are abroad may be allowed to return to Auroville.

b. François G. has been so kind to discuss the issue with the relevant government officials during his last visit to New Delhi.

c. We have not supplied François, as he requested, a list of all those who are abroad and want to return to Auroville, as this list is incomplete and people will be left out. We have asked François to stress that a decision could be made on the basis of the special type of visa issued for Auroville. We believe that approaching the government with a list of names may lead to exclusion of some people and will not include the people who are leaving Auroville in the near future and need to return. Moreover, there are several lists that are circulating and might create confusion. We feel therefore that the best approach is to continue to look for a general recognition that Aurovilians are people with their primary residence and life in India, are not occasional travelers, and therefore they should have the same right to return as other permanent residents.

6. Developments on private land.

a. We have had no further response to our request to the Governing Board about safeguarding the lands for Auroville, as mentioned in our report over the months of April-July 2020.

b. Jointly with the FAMC and Land Bard we are in the process of employing an empaneled evaluator to evaluate the value of lands and buildings which we would like to purchase.

7. The Auroville Entry Policy 2020 / Entry and Exit Regulations / Exit Policy.

a. The RAD called by us to approve the proposed new Entry Policy failed due to lack of quorum.

b. We are reviving the work of finalizing the (internal) Auroville Exit Policy, which had come to a standstill due to the Covid situation. This will soon be presented to the community for feedback.

c. We are also reviewing once again the proposed amendments to the Exit Regulations (approved by the GoI) and feedback that was received about these proposed amendments.

d. We intend to organize a decision of the Residents Assembly on all issues to do with Entry and Exit, e.g. the proposed amendments to the official Entry and Exit Regulations passed by the Government of India; and the two internal documents, the Entry Policy and the Exit Policy.

8. **Light For All - Pour Tous Task Force** - On July 17th 2020, we thanked the members of the Light For All - Pour Tous Task Force for all the work done and informed them that as its report has been sent to the Chairman of the Governing Board of the Auroville Foundation who has sent it to the HRD Ministry for further action, for the time being no further action of the Light For All PTF Task Force will be required. We understand that the Light For All PTF Task Force would like to try to bring closure to all those involved in the allegations. However, since the mandate of the original Task Force was to solicit and compile responses from those accused and not investigate as such, any continuation of work on these cases would have to be considered a 'next phase'. This would require a new iteration of the Task Force with a new membership, a new scope of work that is clearly defined, including clarity on reporting intervals and review of progress, and clarity on the date when the work of the Task Force is ended. This should be done in collaboration with the Working Committee and/or the Auroville Council. However, it is too early for this new phase to start, as we have to await the response of the HRD Ministry. For these reasons we consider the work of the PTF as finished.

9. **Sri Aurobindo's 150th anniversary** - We intend to appoint a core team to organize the celebrations for the 150th

anniversary of Sri Aurobindo's birthday on August 15th, 2022. Those who are interested to participate in the organization of these celebrations are kindly requested to **send an email to wcoffice@auroville.org.in**.

10. Waste in Kuilapalayam - The Block Development Officer has written to the Project Director, Villupuram, asking for a site to be located where the heaps of waste next to and opposite the Auroville bakery can be deposited. This is being followed up by one of our members.

11. Auroville Child Protection (AVCP) - Last year the Auroville Council and Working Committee initiated an effort to create a new Child Protection Service since the old one had ceased functioning some years ago. A few individuals with experience in the field were invited to work on reviewing the old draft Auroville policy for Child Protection and through this process a small team has emerged to coordinate awareness programs, finalize the internal policy and address issues and cases regarding the safety and protection of children in Auroville, including those in Outreach schools and activities. The new AVCP will be publishing a separate announcement shortly.

12. DSP visit to Auroville - The Deputy Superintendent of Police has agreed to visit Auroville and address a small group of Auroville youth and adults to explain the law and the involvement of the police in certain circumstances. As the number of participants must be limited due to Covid restrictions, those interested to attend this presentation are kindly requested to send an email to wcoffice@auroville.org.in.

13. Contacting Indian officials - We would like to remind all Auroville working groups and residents that it is the function of the Secretary, Auroville Foundation, and the Working Committee on behalf of the Residents' Assembly, to interact with Indian officials when representing Auroville. This reminder is necessary as recently one working group sent a long letter demanding action to a long list of officials in Tamil Nadu. We have advised the Secretary to inform the officials concerned to ignore this letter. Any working group or resident who needs to contact officials are requested to do so via the Secretary and/or the Working Committee.

14. Filming - Rumours have it that Vikram Ram is planning to make a docudrama similar to 'Wild Wild Country' about Auroville, in collaboration with known film-makers in India. We request anyone who is contacted for any kind of filmed or recorded interviews, or anyone who sees filming going on in Auroville to inform Outreach Media (outreachmedia@auroville.org.in).

16. Speeding and rash driving - There have been numerous complaints from residents about other residents driving very fast and in an unsafe manner on Auroville roads. We request everyone to please respect other road users and their sense of safety and security by driving at moderate speeds and with consciousness of others.

~ The Working Committee

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



From RAS: GM+ to review the present Code of Conduct (CoC)

In response to a petition from over 60 residents the Resident's Assembly Service (RAS) will be hosting a General Meeting on its GM+ platform on the topic of reviewing the present Code of Conduct (CoC) document, and through a Resident's Assembly Decision (RAD) the creation of a taskforce to prepare an alternative document to be presented to the RAD.

WHEN & HOW?

You can participate in this GM+ digitally using the link <https://www.ras-auroville.org/> and in person - an exhibition will be organized in Town hall from Saturday, 24th of October till Sunday, 1st of November.

As a part of the GM+ an interactive ZOOM session will be arranged on Friday, the 30th October, 4 PM - 6 PM. Zoom meeting ID will be available through town hall physical exhibition, in Auronet and in the RAS mailer.

The GM+ will provide a space for community members to voice their thoughts and feelings about the changes in the CoC and

the proposed creation of the taskforce. If needed, subsequent General Meetings will be called, so that everyone - community members and working group members - have opportunities to be adequately heard.

WHY?

The Petition's proposal is to create a taskforce made up of income-generating and service trustees/executives & members of FAMC to review the present Code of Conduct (CoC) document, and prepare together an alternative document to be presented to the community for ratification. This GM+ may form part of a Residents' Assembly Decision making process (RAD) on this topic.

~ With love and care, Residents' Assembly Service

From Auroville Service Trust: Update on Pour Tous Purchasing Service

On 18 September 2020 we informed you of our initial action to start the transition at PTPS. Since then we have talked a couple of times with Kala and Kumar, we've met with the team of Easy Procurement Solutions to ask for advice and seek their inputs and we've dialogued several times with Ann R., Jocelyn B., and Olivier of the Prosperity Team. On 3rd October we initiated a Transition Team with a detailed scope of work and expected outcomes. From the participants we've requested a time commitment of 6 months; some of the actions include: attend a facilitated meeting to explore and agree on "What do we mean by a 'service'?" after reviewing the work on the ground, recommend to the Service Trust the roles and responsibilities of a four members executive team; hold the process of inviting Aurovilians to express their interest in serving as an executive in a particular role with clear responsibilities; recommend to the Service Trust new executives; study and recommend a new product pricing scheme; develop a proposal to establish a Centralized Purchasing Service, etc.. We will facilitate an audit with the Trust accountant, and ensure that a full inventory of products is conducted as soon as practically possible.

This is an example of the 1st phase of work to be done. We recognize the fact that there is a lot to learn, many questions to be asked and much documentation to be done. We also see that this is a great opportunity to openly explore what wants to emerge.

We will continue to keep you informed about the progression of these initiatives and actions. There is a lot of work to do. We will invite more of you, the entire community in some ways, to participate. To support a healthy transition, this will unfold over several months. We ask you for your patience and understanding as we take these next bold steps towards the future

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Foodlink - NOW OPEN!

Foodlink wishes you all good health and safety. We would like to thank you all about the strong support given to us since the beginning. Because of Covid- 19, Foodlink was closed. Now with the relaxation and strictly following the protocol of covid- 19, we welcome you **Monday to Saturday from 9.30 am to 1pm**. We thank you for the continued support and wishing you all once again a happy shopping at Foodlink.

Auroville Library closed on **Sat. 24th Oct** for Saraswati puja.

YOUTHLINK IS NOW AT A NEW LOCATION!

After being closed to public due to Covid-19 we are back with new energy & ready to take on 2021. You can visit us every **Mon to Friday between 10AM to 1PM** at our office in Town hall, below Le Morgan cafe. We would like to say a big thank you to ACUR team for supporting the Youth of Auroville and letting us use this space! Write to us at Youthlink@auroville.org.in for appointments or any other Youth related queries in Auroville. To know more about us kindly visit -www.youthlink.org.in

~ Youthlink Team, (Michael, Kavitha, Tenzin & Ankita)



OBITUARY



Akash Nandkumar

We have sad news to share, which many of you already know. Akash Nandkumar, a gentle soul who always meets everyone with a smile, is no more with us.

He came for Swadharna 5, July-Aug 2018 and after the programme continued to live in Auroville, developing Hempcrete. He was from Kerala, Palakkad, and had done Civil Engineering from Anna University. Hempcrete became his life's passion and he was working with Auroville Earth Institute (& later with Tom Mo) and pioneering a difficult research and development work. During the lockdown, everything had practically slowed down or shut and his work too was not happening much. He had many personal struggles like everyone else and yet was finding his way through. It seems the difficulties were mounting and on the 13th October he chose to leave his body. He was 27 years old. On 15th October, there was a gathering at the Tibetan Pavilion in his memory. We will miss him deeply.

May his soul rest in peace and light. *Avinash, Divyanshi, Lalit, Manoj, Siddharth & Valentine (for ACI) & Tom Mo, AVEI Team & friends*

P.S: If you or someone you know needs support for issues about emotional distress, please reach out to 9487746051 (Mattram, available 24/7)

APPEALS

THE DAWN DREAMERS GAME

LET'S CREATE AN AUROVILIAN DIXIT TOGETHER



Let's create together!
a set of Auroville Dixit cards. this set will be a collective creation.
Dixit is a game played with a set of illustrations which stimulate our imagination.

Everybody can send their creations.
Send us 1 to 5 creation in the best quality you can, JPG PNG or PDF.
The cards will be printed in A6 size (10.5x14.8cm), send it in A6,A5,A4,A3 or your image will be cropped.
We will gather the creations and print the set of cards.
We hope we will fundraise enough money to be able to offer a set of cards to all participants.

Please send your images no later than 01.12.2020 to:

amos@auroville.org.in

Thank you for your participation!



Help Animals looking for a temporary space

HELP ANIMALS is presently running a small project to sterilise dogs and cats in Auroville and the surrounding villages. We initiated this work in 2018 because we noticed an increasing number of strays either being dumped or coming to Auroville looking for food. At the same time the number of dogs in the Auroville shelter had increased dramatically. We started our project out of goodwill and with small donations. Later, in 2019, we received funds through an organisation that supports Auroville projects, to neuter 90 dogs/cats from the surrounding villages. In the last 18 months we managed to operate about 50 animals. We are now realising that it is becoming more and more difficult for us to complete this project and neuter the remaining 40-45 dogs/cats. The main problem we are facing is the lack of space to perform the operations and adequate place for post-operative care. The Vet has to adjust to any kind of situation and perform operations in conditions that, ultimately, are not safe for the animals.

We are now desperately looking for a place where the remaining operations and after care could be done. It would be great if you, or your community, could offer an unutilised space (store room, laundry, studio) for this purpose for 5-6 months. Our requirements are basic: water, light and ventilation. An easy access is a plus. We are willing to set up the operation "theatre" and the space for post-operative care with basic equipment. Write to helpanimals@auroville.org.in

- With gratitude, Enrica and Shivaya for Help Animals

WELCOME

FROM THE ENTRY SERVICE - ES # 055- 24-10-2020

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:

- Friedrich ECKHARDT aka Karthik (German)
- Isabel Maria TORRES MORALES (Spanish)

YOUTH TURNED 18 ANNOUNCED:

- Arunachalam BALAMURUGAN (Indian) staying in Courage
- Jagan MUTHURAMAN (Indian) staying in Kuilapalayam (in Auroville asset)
- Mirra Charlotte ROYER (French) staying Sunship
- Sarah ZIMMERMANN (German) staying in New Creation
- Shankar SHARMA (Indian) staying in Aspiration
- Sona Priyanka AUROPREM (Indian) staying in Shakthi
- Saoumya PICHAIKARAN (Indian) staying in Sharnga
- Yogesh VENGADESAN aka SHANKAR (Indian) staying in Aspiration

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

- Aparna Manoharan (Indian) staying in Humility and working at Tapasya Design Studio (Spouse of Sreevatsa)

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

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

Apartments Available

The Vibrance project is progressing well with the First Floor RCC structure completed last week. There are currently a few different 1BHK and 2BHK apartments available along with a single 3BHK on the third floor. If you are interested in joining the project, send an email to: Sumark@auroville.org.in.

- Kevin, Michael G, Eric, Peter K.

New Custom Offices and Residences available

UTSAV (Celebration) is an under construction, mixed-use project that is expected to be completed by the end of next year (2021). It is located along the Verité Radial in the Industrial zone. As an "urban" development, Utsav will feature both

commercial offices and residences developed in an aesthetic and conscious manner.

Offices are available on the ground and first floors while the residences are located on the second floor. The office spaces are ideal for Auroville Services / units and startups. The ground-floor units can also be used for retail sales. The residences can be customised to accommodate volunteers or long-term residents. Each unit type is available in multiples of 21 sqm carpet area at reasonable costs with quality infrastructure, and can be configured as per need.

Some spaces are still available. For inquiries please write to : utsav@auroville.org.in

Project Holder: Bobby (Aurocomics), Architect: Mona (Yantra), Contractor: Baskar (Sincerity)

Calling the Future: survey team's evaluation

It has been noticed that Aurovilians are poor at documenting the process of initiatives they are or have been involved with, and this makes it difficult for others to learn from their successes and mistakes. Consequently, the Calling the Future survey team decided to evaluate their process and final outcome and make it available to the whole community. The responses were made individually, but they seem to represent the general feeling of the team.

What were you trying to achieve?

- To provide an opportunity for residents to reflect upon and share their experience of the Covid-19 lockdown.
- To explore what changes people feel need to be made, both personally and in Auroville as a whole.
- To investigate the preparedness of individuals and the community to make these changes.

Why? What was this a response to?

- Because we felt the pandemic was an unprecedented moment in Auroville's history, we wanted to see how well the community had responded.
- As major social disruptions often initiate radical change, we wanted to see if the same was true for Auroville and what those changes would look like

What steps did you take to achieve your aim?

- We developed a 20-question survey (and later a 6-question survey) asking for individual's observations on how they and the Auroville organization responded, on their ideas and support for new initiatives concerning spiritual life, food, economy, organization..., and on their willingness to change personal habits.
- We analyzed the inputs and presented a summary of the results to the community in three postings on AuroNet and in the News and Notes. (The full survey findings will be made available to everyone in the near future.)
- We presented our findings, via a PowerPoint presentation, to those who had expressed a willingness to help with further steps in manifesting the results of the survey or who were working on new initiatives
- Finally, we helped organize two meetings at which those who had suggested new initiatives were invited to collaborate in driving forward the energy of change

Was each step successful? Why or why not?

- In general, it was felt that the survey was successful. We received almost 300 responses and were able to observe general trends regarding the need to improve food sustainability, the Auroville economy, etc.
- However, there was room for improvement in the way the survey was constructed. There were probably too many questions, some were difficult to answer well, some were too guided, but there were also many 'open' questions and the responses to these are much more difficult to analyze.
- Certain sectors of the community, particularly the young and those from the local area, were under-represented in answering the questionnaire.
- The PPT presentations to different audiences went quite well, although aspects of it could have been delivered more dynamically.

- The follow-up steps, like inviting those who had expressed a wish to help in furthering the findings of the survey, could have been done earlier.
- The bringing together of individuals and groups which have new initiatives was not part of the original objective of the survey team, and some of the team stepped back at this point. These meetings are in process.

If a step (s) was unsuccessful, what did you do about it?

- When we saw that certain groups were under-represented in responses to the questionnaire, we targeted some people in these groups.
- We constructed a simplified questionnaire for these groups in order to obtain the most important information.

Were there any unexpected developments?

The difficulty of involving certain groups in participating in the questionnaire.

Did these unexpected developments help or hinder achieving the original intention?

This is difficult to assess. The additional responses to the simplified questionnaire didn't significantly change the final results.

What was the final outcome?

- The full survey results and PowerPoint summary which will be made available to the whole community.
- There was a general willingness expressed by different groups and individuals to move forward.
- Some of the survey team and the Prosperity team will work together to focus the work of change in one direction.

Was the original objective(s) achieved? Why or why not?

- We definitely heard from the residents. Some of the responses were deeply personal and moving, so our objective of providing a place for people to express themselves was met.
- We succeeded in obtaining a general view of how the community responded to the lockdown, the changes they would like to see take place, and their willingness to participate in these changes.
- While many people expressed a wish to make personal changes or participate in community-wide changes, it is difficult to assess how many of these commitments will actually happen when conditions change.

Was a different objective achieved? If so, what was it?

- It was not an original objective but the survey team, which was a very eclectic group, managed to do a collective work with a lot of joy and pleasure.
- The 'second phase' of the survey, the implementation phase, was not thought much about at the beginning, but to see people coming together to move ideas into action is heartening.

What did you learn from this experience?

- The work in the survey group has been done organically. People naturally took up tasks in the group according to their skills and fields of interest.
- It was a wonderful experience of working in a team with people from different backgrounds. Beside the real and concrete achievement of the goal, this experience shows how people can work together in a calm atmosphere, in which the capacities of each member are used and enriched by a common goal.
- I have a lot to learn about writing and conducting surveys; I don't know how to reach and get meaningful inputs from all the different cultures in Auroville; I realize that follow-up to respondents' answers is just as important as asking the questions.
- We learned that we could obtain a sufficient 'pulse' of the community with fewer questions.
- We need to find different ways of contacting and surveying different sectors and cultures in our community.
- When we learned that certain sectors were under-represented, we should have tried contacting them with a simplified questionnaire sooner as the lockdown situation had changed by the time the second simplified survey was sent.

- We learned that one cannot simply conduct a survey and not have a plan for follow-up / implementation of some outcomes.
- The follow-up meetings need to be well prepared and facilitated by professionals if the good energy is not to be dissipated.
- I enjoyed meeting new people, sharing my skills and working on topics which are of importance to all Auroville.
- Working as a whole team on the analysis was to me a very interesting process. We managed a collective work under very good conditions.

- The Calling the Future survey team
(Alan, Amy, Dan, Dominique, Fred, Laurence)

Internal Delivery Service has been running for 3 months/100 days!

On July 13th the Internal Delivery Service was started from scratch with no budget but lots of goodwill and commitment, based in the Service Area, thanks to Unity Transport offering office space for it. Some basic furniture was donated or lent and thanks to a small donation a steel cupboard to keep parcels safe has been purchased. 2 Electric vehicles - a scooter and a minivan - have been put at the disposal of the Internal Delivery Service (IDS) for delivering parcels.

Besides Krishna and Satish of UTS, Shankar, who works normally at Visitors Centre, has been on reception duty in the afternoons, sometimes replaced by his son Chandru, volunteering until his college re-opens.

We are very happy to see that more and more Aurovilians are making use of the IDS for their online purchases. To give some figures: in the first month we had an average of 1-2 parcels per working day, in the second month an average of 3-4 parcels and now it has increased to 7-9 per day. (1st Month about 50, 2nd month about 100, 3rd month about 200 parcels). In total 357 were received till October 13th.

These first three months have been a good learning experience. We can say that the service functions smoothly and people using it are satisfied and it has made a start in reducing this kind of motorised traffic within Auroville.

So far it has mainly functioned as a drop-off place where Aurovilians can pass by at their convenience to pick up their orders. Recently two parcels had to be returned and that was dealt with successfully. We discovered that parcels on payment by delivery can be handled easily by transferring the amount required to the IDS FS account n° 252826, so that the cash payment can be made to the courier. Otherwise the cash required can also be brought to the IDS office (at Unity Transport, Service Area) so that payment can be made.

We notice that some couriers approach IDS for directions on how to reach a particular address or even phone clients to see if their parcel may be deposited at IDS for them to pick up and clients are often happy to do that.

Delivering parcels - we are very pleased to announce that parcels can now be delivered to individual's doorsteps, every day between 3-4 pm. If you would like to have your parcel delivered, contact IDS internaldelivery@auroville.org.in / 8531969746 / 04132623587

For people interested in using this service here is some information on how to order.:

1. Your name/community in the order
2. In the Delivery Address: *Internal Delivery Service (UTS office - Service Area), Auroville, 605101, Tamil Nadu, Mobile Number: 8531969746*
3. Email or phone/SMS IDS with Details of the Order: Order number/ ID, Name, Community, Phone Number. Indicate if it is for pickup at UTS or home delivery (mention the community with directions/specifications on how to reach your house/flat/door).

Timings for pick-up: 9.30 - 5pm. Kindly phone in case you cannot make it within these timings.

ITS has identified various models of scooters

and bike from reliable vendors that are suitable for Auroville needs and is able to source them at a very competitive price. In addition, we will provide servicing and repairs for these vehicles. We can source:

Revolt bikes - RV-400 & 300 / Ather Scooter - 450 / Ampere - various models / Hero - various models / Okinawa - various models. For more information, please visit the ITS Centre at the Solar Kitchen or contact us at us at +91 8098776644 | +91 9442566256 | its@auroville.org.in

Disha offering individual sessions for youth

With the lockdown getting less and less stringent, we have more opportunities to meet and greet each other. At Disha, in these past few months we have been offering individual support to the Auroville & bio region youth who needed help in various aspects like setting up daily schedule, planning for future endeavors or connecting with someone to learn! Along with this we have also been offering different sessions online and we would like to do the same in person, on demand and for individuals. Below is the list of the things we are open to offer to interested individuals:

1. **Goal setting:** Creating a Vision board (Long term/short term)
2. **Ikigai:** it is a Japanese word meaning a sweet spot. This workshop is about finding that place (sweet spot) in your life which includes different aspect in the way you live.
3. **Core identity model:** this is a model to help you be grounded in yourself, to witness who you are and what you carry.
4. **Core values:** in our lives, knowingly or unknowingly we operate from certain values and believes. This session is about consciously acknowledging them and connecting it to your life.
5. **Life balance:** a simple activity designed to troubleshoot the different areas of your life, helping you see more clearly what needs improvement or urgent attention.
6. **Creating your portfolio:** in the world that is emerging we all need to show our skills in different forms and one of them is a portfolio. In this session, we will go through simple creation of your portfolio and exploring your digital creativity.

All of these sessions are hands on, experiential and will include reflective exercises. Apart from the sessions mentioned above we would love to support you in any other way depending on your need at that time. Feel free to reach out to us. disha.info@auroville.org.in / +919943139911 (WhatsApp)

- Shraddha for Disha

An Introduction to the Auroville Research Repository

What is the Auroville Research Repository?

The Auroville Research Repository, or AuroRepo (<https://aurorepo.in>) is a website set up and maintained by the [Auroville Research Platform](https://auroville.org.in) (AVRP), a sub-unit of SAIER. Presently in its first phase, the AVRP acts as a centralised point of contact and resource centre for visiting academic researchers. AuroRepo is built with EPrints, an open source application that is widely used around the world for institutional repositories. We are in the process of moving formal research related items from research.auroville.org to AuroRepo, after which we plan to convert research.auroville.org into an informational website about research in Auroville which will highlight the many valuable alternative forms of research practiced in our community. At a later stage, we intend to develop ways of capturing and communicating this body of research as well, on AuroRepo or another platform.

At the time of writing, AuroRepo holds about 50 items. The AVRP team has been collecting and depositing research outputs in AuroRepo, and the Auroville Water team has also started depositing outputs related to water research. Before long, we expect AuroRepo to hold a large collection of items pertaining to research done in or related to Auroville. AuroRepo is covered by Google and Google Scholar.

Most of the items in AuroRepo can be accessed or downloaded by anyone in the world, and there is no need to sign in. Some items, such as master's theses or other documents for which there could be copyright issues if we make them openly available, will be available only to registered users of this repository. If you have an @auroville.org.in email address, you can [create an account](#) for yourself to become a registered user. If you are a registered user, you can also deposit items in AuroRepo. People without an Auroville email address cannot become registered users.

You can find our policy for depositing research items on AuroRepo on Auronet (<https://auroville.org.in/article/81899>) For broad matters related to research in Auroville, write to the AVR team: researchplatform@auroville.org.in If you have any questions of a technical kind about using AuroRepo or depositing items, please write to Ravi Murugesan, a member of the AVR core team: rm@auroville.org.in
- AVR team (Suryamayi, Henrike, Ravi)



Cloth Diapers at Eco femme

After much trial and error, Eco Femme are (happily!) ready to share its range of cloth diapering options for your baby! Our Eco Bebe products are:

1. Flat organic cotton nappy squares - traditional ["origami" folding style](#), available in two sizes
2. Multilayer organic cotton inserts (to be used with reusable, leakproof nappy covers) - available in four sizes (Small day / night for babies and Large day / night for toddlers)
3. Reusable, leakproof nappy cover - adjustable sizing for baby to toddler
4. Elastic adjustable belt for wearing folded cloth "langot" or "sumo" style - adjustable sizing for baby to toddler

These products have not yet been launched commercially and are only being made available within Auroville at a discounted rate for now. We also would like to let you know that we have a stock of menstrual cups (SHE cup, medical grade silicone) as well as highly discounted second quality cloth pads in different sizes. **All these products are now available in our office at Saracon Campus, Monday to Friday, 9:30am - 5:00pm. We look forward to seeing you soon and supporting you on your journey towards zero waste!** - With love, Team Eco Femme

LOST & FOUND

Found - Set of bike keys on the cycle path between Matrimandir office gate and visitor's gate. Please come to collect them at the News and Notes office.

WORK OPPORTUNITIES

Communication and social media specialist

SHARAN is an organisation committed to building a culture of health through plant based nutrition. If you are well versed with social media, have a good command of English and are interested in spreading veganism for health, environment and all the species on the planet, send an email with your CV to nandita@sharan-india.org. Our office is in Aurelec.

LOOKING FOR

House-sitting - Long term, for Valentina and Pablo (Aurovilians, Kriya community). We love pets and gardening and would be very happy and grateful to look after your home during your departure. Contact: valentina@auroville.org.in

Harmonium - If you have a good and functional one collecting dust in your home I would be happy to use it. I want to learn some bhajans and practice singing. Contact Andres: 7548871866 or WhatsApp: +57311555878

Small Djembe - contact Jan: yogajanbudin@gmail.com or WhatsApp: +393406887720

Phone - for Amma working at my home who is struggling to ensure her kid's education. **It needs to support WHATSAPP** as the classes of her children are happening on this app. Without this her kids are unable to attend. Any help would be appreciated - Megha :8870730567 (WA)

A cast steel pan (any size) and a water filter or container in any material but not in plastic. huyslaure@gmail.com

Work for Aditya Arumugam - Born in 98 & brought up in Av, he completed his studies in Transition school and later NESS. He studied briefly in an IT college but left to volunteer/work in different places in Av. He has been working for almost a year at Pour Tous Water Service as an apprentice. Fascinated with computer technology and photography he has done courses and home learning in this field and also followed a personal growth workshop. Lately he has followed a course in Tally accounting system. He is familiar with Photoshop. He loves Auroville and wants to learn and contribute to society. He is looking for a workplace where he can learn and be useful. His particular interests are: Photography, products, communication. Contact: **9442426708** or aditya_av@auroville.org.in

Garba/Dandiya teacher - The nine nights of the Goddess (Navaratri) is approaching and there are famous folk dances done throughout India (especially in Gujarat) to honour and manifest the divine feminine. Are there any Gujarati ladies here in Auroville who would be willing to teach to a small group? - Prem Shakti: 09489244823, premshakti@auroville.org.in

AVAILABLE

OKINAWA Raise electric scooter - lithium battery, 2500km, only 1 year used, no need of plates and insurance - Contact: Robert 8098680467 or happy@auroville.org.in

Gardener - Palani, long-time and hard-working gardener is looking for work on Mondays and Fridays. He is very reliable, honest, understands some English and has many years of experience working in Auroville. He is familiar with composting and mulching techniques, tree pruning... Contact him directly: 96268 04606 or email me at kartik@auroville.org.in.

Space in Rangoli - Are you a designer looking for a co-work space that is set up for garment manufacture? Or perhaps you're a brand new Auroville unit that is exploring new commercial options, but still looking for the perfect long-term space? Or maybe you're simply looking for a large space to store things temporarily? At Rangoli, we're trying to get through this difficult period without laying off staff and are looking to share some of our space with other units / individuals. The space is 60 sqm w/ own entrance and window. We are looking to share it for a period of 1 year, at the end of which both of us can decide whether to renew. Contact Prema: +919443362528

Office space - at Auromode, completely new, with or without A/C (GF, 170sqm, can be divided as per requirement). Very quiet and green surrounding, w/ following facilities: Generator Power back-up, AquaDyn water, Car & Bike parking, 24Hrs Security service - Contact: Pandian, 9943390391; 26222224; pandian@auroville.org.in, auromode@auroville.org.in

GREEN MATTERS



Water Saving Tip of the Week!

Be aware of what you're putting down your drain. Eliminate harmful soaps like and choose chemical-free alternatives. With Love from the Water Group - helping Auroville become a water-sensitive city.

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



From the AVC: Down to Earth - Condoms and Sanitary pads

The Wastewater sludge contains a high amount of organic content and it contains some chemical compounds required for plant growth. Nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium in the dry sludge solids is therefore considered as easily affordable fertilizer.

So why is sludge becoming a problem in Auroville?? Why are communities refusing sites near them to be used as sanitary landfill?

Because: People in Auroville are flushing condoms, sanitary pads and hair in their toilets!

Sludges can be disposed of at a sanitary landfill site, provided that this does not cause contamination of surface waters or ground waters. Pathogenic organisms can be a source of odors also.

Condoms take around 30 years to break down. Majority of latex condoms can be broken down in time and as such, are classified as biodegradable, unless they've been coated with additional lubricant or spermicides which can affect how quickly and effectively the products decompose.

Polyurethane condoms on the other hand are made from plastic - but you cannot recycle them with your other plastic waste. Instead, it's recommended, you wrap them in tissue and throw them away in the bin for non-recyclable waste. Same goes for latex condoms.

According to Menstrual Health Alliance India, one sanitary pad could take 500 to 800 years to decompose, as the plastic used is non-biodegradable and can lead to health and environmental hazards. Considering the percentage of the menstruating females that use sanitary napkins with plastic, their environmental footprint is high. Most of these pads have over 90% plastic and each pad is equivalent to four plastic bags.

Hair takes 2 years to decompose and is the least harmful of the 3, but it clogs the drainage and water treatment tank pipes.

So please, take care not to throw non soluble in your toilets. Advise your domestic help to not flush everything down the toilet. This could enable several communities to use their sludge or keep their sludge within their own grounds.

In case you are wondering -- what exactly is sludge?

The dictionary says - The residue that accumulates in sewage treatment plants is called sludge (or biosolids). Sewage sludge is the solid, semisolid, or slurry residual material that is produced as a by-product of wastewater treatment processes. This residue is commonly classified as primary and secondary sludge. - Sincerely, The Auroville Council



North East Monsoon & Flash News

The NE Monsoon, which contributes the major share of our annual rainfall, is setting in soon. The Southwest monsoon

also is still active over the South Indian region, hence all this rain we've received is due to La Nina conditions prevailing over the Pacific ocean - La Nina is a global weather pattern that causes the surface of the equatorial Pacific Ocean to cool and so influences global weather conditions including for India - The Meteorological department reports that because of La Nina, the NE monsoon is delayed till October 22nd .

Together with weather systems forming over the Bay of Bengal, which influenced westerlies to prevail in our region, this made for unusual wind patterns, weather, strong winds and rains, visible this last week on satellite weather maps. Last week Andhra Pradesh and Telangana were battered by heavy rains, inundation and flash floods by this deep depression (the state had already received excess rainfall of 27% during June to Sept) Tamil Nadu is dependent on the NE monsoon with nearly 50% rains of its annual quota. (Kerala 17 %, Karnataka 30 % and Andhra 30 %) If the North East Monsoon fails we automatically go into a drought zone. Rainfall reduces as we go inland into Tamil Nadu. Krishnagiri, Dharmapuri, Tirupattur gets the least rainfall during North East Monsoon in the State. Most of the rains in interiors happen during October when transition period is on

and after that they depend on rains from cyclones which move from Bay of Bengal via Gulf of Mannar or Comorin Sea towards Arabian Sea (sources: Meteorological Department India & the TN weatherman reports)

*****Flash News *****

*In Eindhoven, Netherlands, the TNU launched a new sustainable, solar powered car. The snazzy two seater named Luca is made from household waste, pet bottles, in combination with flax, plastic toys, plastic waste collected from the sea and beer cans It is fully recyclable except its tires and front windshield. Its body is made from ABS plastic and flax and it has no paint but a sun yellow foil that can be removed when the car is recycled

**The FAO celebrated its 75th World Food Day. Looking at the political will and innovative technologies that will be required to feed 10 billion people in 2050.

**India's first Climate Assessment Report was launched named; "Assessment of Climate Change over the Indian Region" With this report the Indian Government is officially recognizing the interconnectedness of the diverse natural and environmental impacts and its deep link with climate change.

**The 1250 km Long Kamchatka peninsula is devastated by a tanker oil spill causing devastation to wild life and beaches which are littered with dead fish, surfers have had burning sensations and sometimes loss of eyesight.

**The rapidly melting of glaciers and sea ice is opening the north polar sea route making prospecting for mineral and oil and what else this entails...more easily available

**Extreme temperatures and droughts have caused the most wildfires in history The world lost over 9 million acres of prime Tropical forest in 2019 alone . Now wild fires rage in Australia, Indonesia, the Amazon and Cerrado (savannas) in South America, California USA, the Mediterranean countries even in Canada and Siberia where 9000km sqm burned, the permafrost is melting, releasing methane. ~ Lisbeth & Gigs

The Green column reports on green issues in Auroville, the bioregion and the wider world, it is published bi-weekly in the News & Notes and Auronet. We like to hear from you!
avgreencolumn@auroville.org.in

HEALTH

INTEGRAL HEALTH

Prophylactic homeopathic remedy - Covid 19 - We dispense the AYUSH recommended homeopathic remedy "Ars alb C 30" for all Aurovilians, in our Prayatna office via our remedy box in the waiting area, accessible 24/7. Instructions for its use are displayed. You are welcome to contact us at integralhealth@auroville.org.in to enquire about the most suitable approach for your health or psychological issue.

Sigrid, Aditi & Malar



Your favorite radio is always working to offer you the best for the town. Next week Sai Pryia will start a new Tamil music program while Damo is working hard on the new website. Stay tuned! [Here](#) listen to the stream channel (24/7) & [here](#) on-air schedules.

Last published podcasts

[Happiness, Love and Laughter - ep.45](#) (Wellness)

[Soul Tracks - ep.13 "Lucky 13"](#) (Music)

[Aarohan - ep.3 "Shakti"](#) (Music)

[Savitri - B. VII C. IV Part 3](#) (Sri Aurobindo)

[Audible Weed Walk -ep.14](#) (Science)

[The Tamil Literary Forum - ep.11](#)

[The Akademik Genius Brothers - ep.3](#) (Theatre)

[Neo Urban Chronik - ep.18](#) (Humour)

[The Best of What Still Around - ep.15](#) (Music)

[Lectures par Gangalakshmi - 334](#) (Sri Aurobindo)

....and more! on www.aurovillerradio.org.

For more info, write to radio@auroville.org.in. Love and Peace

Akashku

I want to paint
I want to paint you
Till you become live
To surf on skies

And after I will die
Smile on my face
Love in my heart

But I cannot paint you

- Submitted anonymously

A question



Could you imagine another country in the World where Auroville could be built?

Note: you can answer to the News or to me personally or just think it over!

- Anandi-a



CULTURAL ACTIVITIES



AUROVILLE ART SERVICE - 'basket' for the week

1. AZIMVTH ASHRAM HARIDWAR IN COLLABORATION WITH AV ART SERVICE offers an 11-day virtual workshop about Ramlila (UNESCO intangible heritage) starting on 28 October. This is free for Aurovilians (others are charged). Contact Rashmi for details and registration: 9448235935 or gandakirashmi@gmail.com with 'Ramlila' in the subject line. <https://azimvth.org/2020/10/09/ram-lila-stories/>
2. BIBHABAN PRESENTS JILL NAVARRE - Bibhaban has been regularly presenting a series called Actors Workshop. Here, Jill speaks on her journey in theatre: <https://youtu.be/srrblwErgLI>
3. AUROVILLE CITY CONVERSATIONS PRESENTS Conversation #3 - Mobility. This is an edited version of the conversation https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P1Q9NT4n_L0
4. KRUPA & MAGGIE AT THE EMODIMENT CONFERENCE - Log in to the embodiment conference to attend informative sessions.

Krupa and Maggie are two of the presenters at the conference. On Sat. 24th Oct. at 12.30pm, Krupa will speak on Nature Based Expressive Arts Therapy <https://portal.theembodimentconference.org/sessions/inner-nature-embodiment-nature-based-expressive-arts-therapy-4hj5a9> Maggie's presentation: <https://theembodimentconference.org/#MaggieSisson>

5. AERIAL AUROVILLE BY OM AND JULIE - Om and Julie have been working on a photographic book of aerial shots of Auroville. To support them, visit their instagram page <https://www.instagram.com/thedronezone.av/> and forward their fundraiser: <https://www.ketto.org/fundraiser/aerial-auroville>

6. CANDYBOX NOW ON INSTAGRAM - The 100% AV band, 8 months old, with 9 original tunes, is now on instagram! <https://instagram.com/candybox.av/?igshid=sbdcin7tax3s>

7. THIS IS OUR CHANCE FILM FESTIVAL - This week the films are about stories of communities and inspiring youth who have taken learning into their own hands. <https://our-chance.com/week-3/>

8. GOETHE-INSTITUT BRINGS THE SCIENCE FILM FESTIVAL 2020 Featuring 161 films from 34 countries, the festival has films for the age group of 5 to 17 and above. For school teachers, there are educational activities linked to the films. And for students, there is a digital workshop. To receive the free link and password to the site, register on https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeYPq2XiWEScz_Lh3uDv0bGmBdzKC9dyN3BbUWwEcWZ5A6bWA/viewform

9. DRAW WITH ROB - Illustrator Rob Bidduph is sharing draw-along videos for kids every Tues and Thurs at 3.30PM (IST), using the hashtag #DrawWithRob. <https://twitter.com/RobBiddulph>

10. GOOGLE ARTS AND CULTURE - COLOUR FAMOUS ARTWORKS ONLINE features content from over 2000 leading museums and archives who have partnered with the Google Cultural Institute to bring the world's treasures online. Solve a puzzle made from a painting: <https://artsandculture.google.com/experiment/puzle-party/EwGBPZlIzvOKRw>

11. ACCESSIBLE HORIZON FILMS PONDICHERRY SHARES (TAMIL) EP 10 - 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. How to find an Idea for your Screenplay. Ep 10: <https://youtu.be/Pg2MYKRSKCo>

12. ART IS WHERE THE HOME IS - The Firstsite gallery has brought together a team of well-known UK artists to create a series of free downloadable activity packs. <https://firstsite.uk/art-is-where-the-home-is/>

13. THE FRICK PITTSBURGH OFFERS art-making activities for kids and for youth of all ages. thefrickpittsburgh.org/virtual

14. MINT LOUNGE FEATURES MEDICLOWN - How clowns bring cheer to dementia patients: <https://lifestyle.livemint.com/health/wellness/how-clowns-bring-cheer-to-dementia-patients-111603099593496.html>

15. 3RD SOUTH ASIAN SHORT FILM FESTIVAL LINKS TO THE WINNERS- Watch the Award Winning Films at the following links without any password till Sunday 25 Oct 24X7:

- Satyajit Ray Golden Award for Best Documentary: Janani's Juliet by Pankaj Rishi Kumar: <https://vimeo.com/459643703>
- Satyajit Ray Silver Award for 2nd Best Documentary: Palace of Colors by Prantik Narayan Basu: <https://vimeo.com/459640306>
- Satyajit Ray Bronze Award for 3rd Best Documentary: Coral Woman by Priya Thuvassery: <https://vimeo.com/459301188>
- Ritwik Ghatak Golden Award for Best Short Fiction: The Accordion by Sandip Banerjee: <https://vimeo.com/461543040>
- Ritwik Ghatak Silver Award for 2nd Best Short Fiction: An Irrelevant Dialogue by Moinak Guho: <https://vimeo.com/461534784>
- Ritwik Ghatak Bronze Award for 3rd Best Short Fiction: Flying Wagon by Kunal Narula: <https://vimeo.com/460895133>
- Special Jury Mention in Short Fiction: Gulp by Vijeendra Syam: <https://vimeo.com/461299099>
- V Shantharam Golden Award for Best Direction in Short Fiction: Ashish Pandey for Nooreh <https://vimeo.com/460884364>

16. THE FRENCH INSTITUTE PRESENTS THE ANIMATION FILM FESTIVAL. Watch animated feature films and short films for free until October 31: <https://ifcinema.institutfrancais.com/fr/stre-aming/animation>

Feedbacks welcomed at aurovillearts@auroville.org.in

Feedback: "Today, was another tough day in quarantine with so much ability but chaos as well... Little exercises like this surely helps in quarantine like days and am sure otherwise too!"

WELCOME TO TWO EVENINGS OF KIRTAN

Singing lifts our individual and collective vibrations

1. KIRTAN - story telling - Friday 23rd Oct., 5.30 - 6.15pm, Butterfly Barn, Svedame

Welcome to a different evening of singing. Kirtan as a powerful tool for social change, using music and timeless stories and through them, helps us go deep within. (thank you for coming few minutes early to settle and begin together)

2. KIRTAN - dedicated to the Goddess - Monday 26 Oct., 5 - 6.30pm, Butterfly Barn, Svedame!

Coming Monday, the tenth day of 'Navaratri', is known as "Dussehra / Vijaya Dashami", devoted to honoring and celebrating different aspects of the Divine Mother.

According to the legend, on the tenth day, after a nine-day long battle with demons, the Goddess emerged victorious, and her devotees celebrate this event. Symbolically, this day signifies the victory of good over evil...

Our next Kirtan session will be devoted to 'Devi' or 'Goddess' chants, to invoke her presence and blessings in transforming our own inner battles that we might have been dealing with these months.

Live Exhibition & Sales of Crafts

from various Tribal communities of India offered by Adikala Unit of Auroville and organised by Dev Mohanty, Friend of Auroville.

20th Oct. to 2nd Nov., 10am to 5pm, Kala Kendra, Bharat Nivas

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Bharat Nivas and AadiKala present an exhibition cum sale on handmade home décor

(Water reed baskets, home décor from Rajasthan, Soara art, Dhokra craft, lampshades and more) & exquisite handloom products (Kantha stoles, Pashmina shawls and wool), which have been sourced from tribal artisans from across India. Please help support the grass root artisans and rural entrepreneurs if you can.

PLEASE NOTE: Additional small documentaries will be projected in the Kalakendra Video Room on how and where these disappearing crafts are made in various tribal communities from **20 Oct to 2nd Nov, 4 to 5pm**. Every Day, with snacks, masala teas, biscuits etc...

ALL ARE WELCOME. PROTOCOL GUIDELINES WILL BE RESPECTED.



Devika Rani - A tribute to the First Star of Indian Cinema, Sat. 31st Oct. 4-5.30 pm, Bhumika Hall, Bharatnivas

A slide show & lecture by Dr. Alexander Pereverzev. The slide show explores the life and career of Devika Rani (1908-1994), the First Lady of Indian Cinema. It traces her growth as an actress and producer focusing on her training in UFA Studios, Berlin, her meteoric rise in the 1930s in Bombay Talkies Ltd. Film Studio, Bombay, and her contribution to Indian cinema.



Enak's Tears Terrestrial Forms

Jean Arp

17th Oct. to 17th Nov, 8am to 5pm at Aurelec Cafeteria & Art Gallery

Hans Peter Wilhelm Arp (16th Sept 1886 - 7th Jun 1966), better known as **Jean Arp** in English, was a German-French sculptor, painter and poet, and worked in other media such as torn and pasted paper. He was known as **Dadaist** and **abstract artist**.

"Art is fruit growing out of man like the fruit out of a plant like the child out of the mother. Reason tells man to stand above nature and to be the measure of all things through reason man became a tragic and ugly figure". (1932)

"I allow myself to be guided by the work which is in the process of being born, I have confidence in it (Arp refers to **automatic creation** Surrealist automatism is a method of art-making in which the artist suppresses conscious control over the making process allowing the unconscious mind to have great sway). I do not think about it. The forms arrive pleasant, or strange, hostile, inexplicable, mute, or drowsy. They are born from themselves. It seems to me as if all I do is move my hands". (1960)

The Air Is A Root, Poem by [Jean Arp](#)

The air is a root.

The stones are filled with tenderness. bravo.

bravo. the stones are filled with air.

the stones are watery branches.

on the stones replacing the mouth

grows the skeleton of a leaf. bravo.

A stone voice face to face and foot to foot

with a stone glance.

the stones are tormented like flesh

the stones are clouds for their second

nature dances to them on their third nose.

bravo. bravo.

when the stones scratch themselves, nails grow

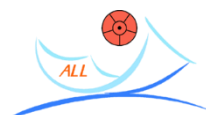
on the roots. bravo. bravo.

the stones woke to eat the exact

hour.

CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

New Classes at the Language Lab



English lessons for Kids (3-12 years old):

English with kids with Anastasia has

started and is going very well, with

different ages and levels twice a week. Ranjini will offer an additional day for the same group on Wednesdays.

French lessons for kids- beginner level on Wed and Saturday.

Spanish conversation w/ Rachel - Wednesdays, 4 - 5 pm.

Rachel from Spain offers fun Spanish conversation with a mix of films, games, and simply being together, talking Spanish, for all levels. Exact timing to be fixed.

Children's class with Gala on Saturdays, 10 to 11.00 AM Yoga and Discover energy body from **11 AM to noon** (old students only). Places are limited. **Please register in advance.** Pitanga Cultural Centre, Samasti, (0413) 2622403 / 2622994 - pitanga@auroville.org.in

Hatha Yoga with Rebeca at Auromode

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 5 to 6.15pm

Yoga as a therapeutic exercise teaching by a Physiotherapist. By appt. +34 676 943 195 (Whatsapp)



