

News and Notes

No 844

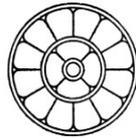
A weekly bulletin for residents of Auroville

14th November 2020



Artwork by Silky Arora

HOUSE OF MOTHER'S AGENDA



A marvelous sun looked down from ecstasy's skies
On worlds of deathless bliss, perfection's home,
Magical unfoldings of the Eternal's smile
Capturing his secret heart-beats of delight.
God's everlasting day surrounded her,
Domains appeared of sempiternal light
Invading all Nature with the Absolute's joy.
Her body quivered with eternity's touch,
Her soul stood close to the founts of the infinite.
Infinity's finite fronts she lived in, new
Forever to an everliving sight.
Eternity multiplied its vast self-look
Translating its endless mightiness and joy
Into delight souls playing with Time could share
In grandeurs ever new-born from the unknown depths,
In powers that leaped immortal from unknown heights,
In passionate heart-beats of an undying love,
In scenes of a sweetness that can never fade.
Immortal to the rapturous heart and eyes,
In serene arches of translucent calm
From Wonder's dream-vasts cloudless skies slid down
An abyss of sapphire; sunlight visited eyes
Which suffered without pain the absolute ray
And saw immortal clarities of form.
Twilight and mist were exiles from that air,
Night was impossible to such radiant heavens.
Firm in the bosom of immensity
Spiritual breadths were seen, sublimely born
From a still beauty of creative joy;
Embodied thoughts to sweet dimensions held
To please some carelessness of divine peace,
Answered the deep demand of an infinite sense
And its need of forms to house its bodiless thrill.
A march of universal powers in Time,
The harmonic order of self's vastitudes
In cyclic symmetries and metric planes
Harboured a cosmic rapture's revelry,
An endless figuring of the spirit in things
Planned by the artist who has dreamed the worlds;
Of all the beauty and the marvel here,
Of all Time's intricate variety
Eternity was the substance and the source;
Not from a plastic mist of Matter made,
They offered the suggestion of their depths
And opened the great series of their powers.
Arisen beneath a triple mystic heaven
The seven immortal earths were seen, sublime:
Homes of the blest released from death and sleep
Where grief can never come nor any pang
Arriving from self-lost and seeking worlds
Alter Heaven-nature's changeless quietude
And mighty posture of eternal calm,
Its pose of ecstasy immutable.

Plains lay that seemed the expanse of God's wide sleep,
Thought's wings climbed up towards heaven's vast repose
Lost in blue deeps of immortality.
A changed earth-nature felt the breath of peace.
Air seemed an ocean of felicity
Or the couch of the unknown spiritual rest,
A vast quiescence swallowing up all sound
Into a voicelessness of utter bliss;
Even Matter brought a close spiritual touch,
All thrilled with the immanence of one divine.
The lowest of these earths was still a heaven
Translating into the splendour of things divine
The beauty and brightness of terrestrial scenes.
Eternal mountains ridge on gleaming ridge
Whose lines were graven as on a sapphire plate
And etched the borders of heaven's lustrous noon
Climbed like piled temple stairs and from their heads
Of topless meditation heard below
The approach of a blue pilgrim multitude
And listened to a great arriving voice
Of the wide travel hymn of timeless seas.
A chanting crowd from mountain bosoms slipped
Past branches fragrant with a sigh of flowers
Hurrying through sweetnesses with revel leaps;
The murmurous rivers of felicity
Divinely rippled honey-voiced desires,
Mingling their sister eddies of delight,
Then, widening to a pace of calm-lipped muse,
Down many-glimmered estuaries of dream
Went whispering into lakes of liquid peace.
On a brink held of senseless ecstasy
And guarding an eternal poise of thought
Sat sculptured souls dreaming by rivers of sound
In changeless attitudes of marble bliss.
Around her lived the children of God's day
In an unspeakable felicity,
A happiness never lost, the immortal's ease,
A glad eternity's blissful multitude.
Around, the deathless nations moved and spoke,
Souls of a luminous celestial joy,
Faces of stark beauty, limbs of the moulded Ray;
In cities cut like gems of conscious stone
And wonderful pastures and on gleaming coasts
Bright forms were seen, eternity's luminous tribes.
Above her rhythming godheads whirled the spheres,
Rapt mobile fixities here blindly sought
By the huge erring orbits of our stars.
Ecstatic voices smote at hearing's chords,
Each movement found a music all its own;
Songs thrilled of birds upon unfading boughs
The colours of whose plumage had been caught
From the rainbow of imagination's wings.
Immortal fragrance packed the quivering breeze.

— Sri Aurobindo. Savitri - A Legend and a Symbol. Part 3: Book 11. The Book of Everlasting Day. Canto One. The Eternal Day: The Soul's Choice and the Supreme Consummation. Lines 1-106

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



Above all the complications of the so-called human wisdom stands the luminous simplicity of the Divine's Grace, ready to act if we allow it to do so.

~ The Mother, 21st February 1965



Covid-19 Update

This announcement is an update on Tamil Nadu Government's Covid-19 guidelines for the month of **November** and how it impacts Auroville.

WHAT CAN OPEN:

From November 16th the following are allowed to open:

- Schools (9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th class only), all colleges, research institutes and educational institutions are allowed to operate following Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).
- All hostels including schools (9th-12th classes only), colleges and staff hostels are allowed to operate.
- Religious meetings, social, political, entertainment, cultural events, educational ceremonies (for class 9th and above) and related meetings are allowed to be held with the participation of 100 persons or 50% capacity of the venue, whichever is lesser following the SOPs.

From November 10th the following are allowed to open:

- All theaters, including theaters in shopping malls, are allowed to operate with only 50 percent of the seating capacity following the SOPs.
- Public meeting places such as amusement parks (Entertainment /Amusement Parks), large halls, meeting halls, zoos, museums are allowed to operate following the SOPs.

From November 1st, now customers aged 60 and below are allowed in the gyms with the gyms following the SOPs.

Up to 100 people are allowed to attend weddings and funerals following the SOPs.

WHAT REMAINS CLOSED/ RESTRICTED:

Restrictions on the following activities will remain in effect until further notice:

- Public swimming pools, beaches and tourist spots
- The ban on international flights will continue except for routes approved by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)
- E-pass is now the e-registration system which is mandatory for those coming into Tamil Nadu from outside states (except Pondicherry) and for visiting tourist destinations like Ooty, Kodaikanal and Yercaud.

Dear Community, we are currently in Unlock 6.0 (starting in November), see guidelines for that in above announcement. This message is to communicate what this latest unlock means and what we should be doing to stay safe while we go through the process of opening-up. The message from the governments is very clear: they want to open up because things can't be locked down forever, businesses should open so that people can get back to work, earn a living, feed their families. Also, since we have been in this pandemic for about 9 months we know what we need to do to be safe. The governments are increasingly passing on more responsibility to the citizens so that they can move on with their lives while staying safe. The pandemic is still very much here - India is still reporting about 50,000 cases and about 500 deaths daily. There is a second wave in some parts of India and in several parts of Europe and also in the US.

The Government is following a similar approach towards Inter-state Domestic travel. While the last published Government order had 14 days mandatory quarantine for all arrivals from outside of Tamil Nadu, the latest update we have received through verbal communication with several government authorities is that the government is relaxing the 14 days mandatory quarantine for Inter-state Domestic travellers, given that individuals now should be taking more self-responsibility as we move forward. In these verbal communications, the authorities have advised a 7 days quarantine on arrival in Auroville and also advised a test. **Note that international travellers are still required to be in quarantine for 14 days.** Please see below the respective groups/ emails to be contacted for quarantine and other information:

1. Avians/NC: Contact the covid19taskforce@auroville.org.in for travel related information and protocols, and inform the Residents' Service within 48 hours of arrival in Auroville.

2. Long Term Volunteers: Contact savi@auroville.org.in for all relevant guidelines and information. *We request all unit holders to ensure that this is done prior to the arrival of the respective volunteers over email.*

3. Visiting Friends & Family: Contact the Guest Registration Service grs@auroville.org.in for registration and arrival information. (Both for visitors from within & outside of Tamil Nadu).

4. Guests from outside Tamil Nadu: Contact the guest registration services (GRS) grs@auroville.org.in and/or guest facilitation core group (GFCG) gfcg@auroville.org.in for registration and further information.

5. Short term guests from within Tamil Nadu: After several weeks of working closely with the GFCG team, Auroville is now prepared to receive guests from within Tamil Nadu for short term stay as well.

The detailed SOPs prepared by GFCG can be [accessed here](#) for understanding the approach towards opening up for guests in Auroville. **This is also a renewed appeal to all the guest houses/host/ managers to stay vigilant, don't be complacent, and strictly follow the SOPs already shared by the GFCG team.**

As now as we open up, it is even more important that we follow the guidelines, protocols and standard operating procedures (SOPs) for various activities that we are involved in. And that could include running a unit or an eating place or an outlet, whether we are organising a meeting or a cultural event, traveling for work, etc. (managers/ facilitators/ host of various programs/ activities/ places in Auroville should write to covid19taskforce@auroville.org.in to check for the SOPs application for their activities.)

Therefore, we are appealing to the community to take extra precautions, be vigilant and don't let your guard down. And if during your visit to places in Auroville, you find that protocols are not being followed, do politely remind them of the same. Also, this is the festival season and people are out shopping and celebrating so we have to be even more cautious about how we celebrate, how we meet friends, and follow the basic protocols.

We, the Covid-19 Task Force and the Working Committee, would like to remind the community that we are not a "permission giving" group with authority. We see our role as assisting the community with opening up, assisting them with the appropriate protocols and SOPs, apart from liaison with the government officials, interpreting the government guidelines, etc.

- The Covid Task Force & The Working Committee



WORKING GROUP REPORTS

From W.C: Outcome of the selection process of interim members for the Interface Team of TDC

As a response to our announcement for selection of interim members for the Interface Team of TDC, the Residents' Assembly Service received about 125 nominations, out of which 14 agreed to serve if selected. Two of them withdrew their nominations and the remaining were invited for individual interviews/ conversations that were attended by all the Working Committee members and two members from the community at large, Cristo and Prashant, who were invited for their experience in planning and development. A member of RAS attended all the meetings as an observer.

The interviews took place on 3rd and 5th November and were primarily focused on the personal motivation to join the Interface Team of TDC, understanding of the key elements of the galaxy as approved by the RA, and the skills and qualities that could be contributed to the team. After the interviews were over, there was a brief discussion about the qualities and capacities to be considered, and then each Working Committee member and each of the two members of the community at large were given a printed spreadsheet on which they made individual assessments and gave ratings to each of the candidates. Three candidates, Anbu, Lakshay and Toby, got a clear consensus with each receiving at least 2/3 of the possible maximum score. Therefore, they have been invited to join the TDC Interface team after agreeing to participate in a facilitated team building program and a facilitated exercise to elaborate a six months plan of action; these 2 programs/exercises would include the 2 existing Interface Team members. The other candidates, even if they could not

achieve a common consensus in the room, showed good motivation or technical capacity so their names have been shared with the new TDC Interface Team for any need of resource persons.

We would like to reiterate that this is a first step in a transitional period at the end of which we hope that the community will have agreed on a new selection process for regular membership, and that this period could be used to make a suitable assessment of Auroville's planning needs and organization and to find a way to improve its development system. For this reason, the Working Committee has proposed that an independent professional agency, such as that of Dr Doshi, can make an evaluation of the planning & development situation of Auroville and suggest a way forward.

The Working Committee would like to thank the Residents' Assembly Service for the support given and Cristo and Prashant for bringing their valuable time, energy and experience in planning and development matters to this process. We also thank all those who responded to the call to serve, and thank the community for its support.
~ The Working Committee

**RESIDENTS' ASSEMBLY DECISION MAKING PROCESS
METHOD FOR SELECTING WORKING GROUP MEMBERS**

This is a gentle reminder to participate in the Residents' Assembly Decision making process (RAD) to agree for the method of selection for working group members.

HOW TO VOTE

ONLINE: The Residents' Assembly Service (RAS) disseminated an email, containing your personalised link to the voting form. Those who didn't receive this email, please write to raservice@auroville.org.in or visit us at the RAS desk (first floor, Town Hall) on **Tuesday, 10am to 12pm**. We are happy to help you register your decision. The online voting will end on **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21**.

IN-PERSON: A printed voting slip is also available from the RAS sounding board outside Financial Service in Town Hall and from New & Notes (see below). Please fill your ballot out and hand it over to the RAS members / resource persons (at the RAS desk) every **Tuesday between 10am to 12pm**.

In-person voting (meeting of the Residents' Assembly) will be organized at **Solar Kitchen on Saturday 21st Nov., 11am to 2pm**.



APPLICATIONS FOR FINAL BUILDING NOC 14th Nov 20

The following application has been reviewed and approved by L'avenir d'Auroville. This application has gone through the full review process including community feedback during its preliminary design approval and will be issued the Final building NOC. Any concerns or queries regarding the below building NOC's can be sent to application-avenir@auroville.org.in

Two Mariappans are part of a larger layout for Mango Garden development at the node of radial at Industrial Zone.

Mariappan Govindasamy at Mango Garden - application for final Building NOC. The building NOC shall be given to Mariappan G to build a house, not exceeding 96sqm in Mango Garden community. Total estimated cost of the structure is 10.50.200/- The house will be privately funded and is a part of a larger layout to develop the area. The house has a living space, kitchen, two bedrooms & bathroom. The design for the structure has been done by Rahul Babu. The building shall be used according to its description in the building application and any change in function or purpose of building is subject to TDC approval throughout the lifespan of the building. The project holder can **begin construction on site after picking up the signed NOC** document from the TDC office.

Mariappan Onjipillai at Mango Garden - application for final Building NOC. The building NOC shall be given to Mariappan G to build a house, not exceeding 96sqm in Mango Garden community. Total estimated cost of the structure is 10.50.200/- The house will be privately funded and is a part of a larger layout to develop the area. The house has a living space, kitchen, two bedrooms & bathroom. The design for the structure has been done by Rahul Babu. The building shall be used according to its description in the building application and any change in function or purpose of building is subject to TDC approval throughout the lifespan of the building. The project holder can **begin construction on site after picking up the signed NOC** document from the TDC office

The below application has gone through an extensive period of processing at TDC and FAMC, which at the end came to a conclusion to issue them final building NOC for extension. The one of MgEcoduties is a retroactive NOC, and the unit has already paid a fine of 10.000/-rupees to Unity Fund for causing violation.

MgEcoduties extension of existing prefabricated structure in Reve, Residential Zone -application for final building NOC. The retroactive building NOC shall be given to Margarita Correa for an already built extension of MgEcoduties commercial space in Reve. Total estimate of extension was 5.25.000/- rupees, and was funded by the income generated by the unit itself. The structure was following the existing prefabricated modulus, expanding for another 36sqm, in order to satisfy the existing Indian law on production units of that scope, whereby the total area should be above 100sqm. The design was made by Auzolan. The building shall be used according to its description in the building application and any change in function or purpose of building is subject to TDC approval throughout the lifespan of the building.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Apartment for transfer

One asset is currently available for transfer:
• Petit ferme Community - Family occupancy

To apply, please click on the new "Houses Available" button in the very right column of the Auronet main page. You will be directed to our Housing Transfer App at <https://housing.auroville.org.in>. All you need to do is:

- click on the transfer you are interested in,
- view all the details and pictures of the asset for transfer and if you wish to apply,
- click on the "Apply" button and fill in the online application form.

Once the indicated deadline for applying has passed, you will receive an email from Housing Transfer with the date for the site visit.

For any questions, please feel free to come and see Venkatesh at Housing Service Office

The Auroville Health Centre is happy to announce that its pharmacy has an email Id: pharmacyauroville@auroville.org.in

Places **closed on Saturday 14th November** for Diwali:

- PTDC
- PTPS
- Solar Kitchen and La Terrace
- Visitor center Cafeteria
- Naturellement Garden Cafe
- Auroville library
- Trio Kitchen restaurant
- Pitanga
- Aurelec Cafeteria



NANDINI NEWS

As you know the Nandini Service Distribution Section usually remains closed on Saturdays but the Tailoring Section shall also be **closed for Diwali on Saturday, 14th November.**

FYI, this is a good time to place your tailoring orders as the huge number of orders we were facing in the past few months has come down. At the Tailoring Section orders are received throughout the month on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:30 am to 12 pm & from 2 to 4 pm.

We welcome you at the Distribution Section next to Free Store from **Monday to Friday, 09:30 am. to 12 pm & from 2 to 4 pm only on Monday and Friday**
~ Nandini Service team.

ANNAM Kitchen Reopens

ANNAM kitchen located behind Kalakendra (Bharatnivas) is reopening **from 16.11.2020 onwards** to serve the South Indian Lunch for Avians/NC and AV guests. We welcome lunch schemes and we are ready to deliver your take away lunch boxes at Matrimandir office gate, Aurelec and Pour Tous (Kuilapalayam). Kindly book group lunches between 8.30AM to 9.30AM on 8903049770, you may also call us on 0413-2623070 to know the availability of the food on short time. (Kitchen closed on Sundays)

LOST & FOUND

Lost - small black wallet on 8th Nov. My pan card, Aadhar card, 100 euros, some photos were inside. If you found it, contact Raj Santosh: 9987482627, it is very important.

APPEALS



Auroville Accessible Public Bus

We warmly thank the AVI Canada and all the people who are supporting the Bus with their donations. Donations are always welcome to maintain the service the bus is doing for all residents and guests. AC n: 251675, Contact: avbus@auroville.org.in
~ AV Bus Team, Raju, Sauro, Susmita

New Creation Indoor Stadium needs a UPS system

We've started the basketball training class 2x/week for the children in the Indoor Stadium at NC sports ground following the gradual relaxation of the COVID-19 rules. We have approximately 50 children attending this class. The class begins at 5pm and ends at 7:30pm. As it is the monsoon time of the year now, the sun sets early around 6pm or so and the stadium's led lights are turned on to light up the stadium. Unfortunately, when the lighting set up was being done, due to lack of funds, a UPS back-up system was not included. So during practice, after the sun sets and becomes dark outside, quite often the power goes off and the entire stadium becomes dark, the Children become panicky and start to scream... We kindly request help to set up a simple emergency UPS system for the indoor stadium. We invite friends, well-wishers and parents to come forward to help. Thanking you in advance for your support. Contact details: Jothi@auroville.org.in, 9385510636, AVSRC: 04132969228

TRIO KITCHEN

Please support Trio restaurant (at Aurovelo) by eating lunch there. They have falafel and hummus, beanburger and french fries, fried rice, and other dishes. If not more people come, they will have to close soon.
~love, shanti

WELCOME

FROM THE ENTRY SERVICE - ES # 058- 014-11-2020

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 ANNOUNCED:

Ankita SHETH (Indian) staying in Revelation and working at Youthlink

Ramakrishnan JANAKIRAMAN (Indian) staying in AMI and working at Aurinoco

Rituparna SARKAR (Indian) staying in Samridhi (Biggie's house) and working at Botanical Garden & Matrimandir



Ankita



Ramakrishnan



Rituparna

AUROVILIANS ANNOUNCED:



Jean-Yves

Jean-Yves TARIOT (French) staying in Fraternity and working at Lumiere
Patricia GUICHARDAN (French) staying in Certitude (Ellen's place) and working at Deepam & Pitanga



Patricia

AUROVILIANS CONFIRMED:

Malcolm BOYER (USA)
Mary SAMINATHAN (Indian)
Peter WALSH (USA)

LEFT ON HIS/HER OWN:

Anand KUMAR (Indian)
Loredana BIASION (Italian)

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

Richard Butcher

When my husband, Richard died last Tuesday, I quickly went to inform friends for their prayers. I did a too rushed job and forgot his precious grandchildren (college age) Zig and Zag. I forgot dearest Kirsten his only niece. And I missed the whole family here in Acceptance, Jayavel, Auroshe, Aarthi, Aswini and Varsh with whom we shared now over a decade of caring times. Especially I thank Auroshe and the girls for making a beautiful intimate space, with flowers, candle, incense and quickly printed photos of Richard.

I want to share something that might comfort some. Richard asked to speak with me some hours before dying. He said, "Clare, tonight keep the phone by you." I replied I always had the phone in case he calls. He said, "Clare, listen to me. Keep the phone by you tonight. Listen to me! Keep the phone near-by." Then I understood he was leaving. We always promised that the first to go would try to call through the phone (we had seen the movie White Noise). I would just like to say, we spoke. He is well and busy on the other side!
~ Clare

Auroville's Citizens Assembly update, Tamil water heritage video from our first session

Almost 30 randomly selected Aurovilians started a journey together on 31st Oct to explore many diverse perspectives on water in our community, with the goal to create a water vision for our community and recommendations on how it can be implemented.

Due to COVID restrictions the interviews with 30 wider community members who are knowledgeable or passionate about water were filmed by Outreach Media. This enabled us to share them with 2 separate rooms of participants. But it means we have been able to produce valuable resources we can share with the wider community too.

So we are pleased to share the video from the first session. This video compilation outlines the rich Tamil water heritage this land comes from and that we are part of in Auroville. It takes us on a short journey through Tamil Nadu's remarkable water history, and how this connects to the philosophy, inception and present of Auroville, as presented by Sreevatsa, Meenakshi, Juergen, Joss, Mita and Dave.

English version: <https://cutt.ly/waterheritage>

Tamil version: <https://cutt.ly/waterheritagetamil>

We will be sharing more videos in coming weeks and hope that can join us on this important journey.

Flowering plants available, ready to plant?

We are now in the monsoon season with good rain and shine. Are you ready to plant some flowering plants that Mother gave spiritual significance to? At Savitri Nursery, we now have a number of seedlings: Supramental Action, Sri Aurobindo's Compassion (different colors), Psychological Protection (different colors), Progress (different colors), Integral Wisdom, Immortality, Dynamic Power, Radiating Purity, Jasmine, Gratitude, jackfruit, peepal tree, desert rose, aloe Vera, ...

Voluntary donations. Seed and plant offerings and volunteers welcome. Come at our collective gardening time: **Every Wed 8 to 9:30am**; To come at other times, please contact: Anandi Zhang: 89402 85201 (WA), B: 99435 32829, Suresh: 97866 26952. Click [here](#) for more details. ~ Savitri Nursery volunteers team

Grounding 2020 - Planting 108 Trees On 24th November 2020

On Siddhi Day or the Day of Victory, Sri Aurobindo experienced the descent of Krishna Consciousness. He explains, "The descent of Krishna would mean the descent of the Overmind Godhead preparing, though not itself actually bringing, the descent of Supermind and Ananda.". The Mother added: "The 24th November is called the Day of Victory in remembrance of a very important spiritual event which took place in 1926."

Let us aspire again for the victory of Truth on this day. We will plant "Miracle" (80 nos) and the rest "Psychological Perfection", "Absence of Desire", "Supramental Action" and "Perfect Radiating Purity" ...

We will start and end the event with a short meditation. We are inviting you to plant one tree on this occasion. You quietly choose a tree and go to one of the prepared tree holes and plant. Please note that availability of trees will be on a first come, first served basis. We would like to have a reflective atmosphere of consecration during this planting.

Venue: Terra Amata Residence (in front of Tibetan Pavilion on right side) in the International Zone.

Timing: 8:30 to 11:30 am & 3:30 to 5:30 pm.

This event is being organized by some members of the Matrimandir Garden team and some members of the International Zone Coordination Team

Third Age "Hangout" gathering



Our "Hangout" at Center Guesthouse is becoming more and more popular and this in large part thanks to those of you who are telling your friends about it. Thank you!

As promised we will be having a "gathering" every 2 weeks and the next one is on **Saturday 14th**, 'Diwali'. As usual you and your friends can come by any time you like **between 2:30 and 5:00** and stay as long as you want, it's totally informal.

We will of course have some cookies and juices and coffee and tea, but if you feel like preparing and bringing something special for all to enjoy then please feel free to do so. Last week Turiya bought a totally fabulous apple pie that was devoured in just minutes!! We will have all the usual board games again, hopefully with Mahjong instruction from Fabienne and our Qigong instructor Eli for those that are interested.

Please let us know as much in advance as possible if you'd like to join us. Looking forward to seeing you soon

- Don (Third Age group), 9159900709 or strebor0808@gmail.com



UPASANA
Integral design

Diwali at Upasana Saturday 14th November, 6.30 to 9.30 pm

Eight months have passed with solitude. We at Upasana will celebrate Diwali as a legacy as it has been for the last 22 years. This Diwali Upasana is doing a collective celebration with support of friends. Pls bring a candle with you as a gesture of flame of love for all. Gopika, Nadaka and Keshava are offering music with chants.

This year's event will be a quiet one, open for **AV community members ONLY** Looking forward to having a beautiful Diwali to mark this special time. Bring your mask.

No Diwali at Aurosangam

We would like to let you know that we have decided not to celebrate Diwali this year, due to risks of gathering during COVID-19 times. Hope we will be able to celebrate it together next year. We wish you all happy and peaceful Diwali.

WORK OPPORTUNITIES

HR Initiative is a service which helps individual Aurovilians and Newcomers who are looking for suitable work to find it, and to help Auroville units and services who are looking to fill positions to find the right individuals to step in.

Volunteers for Auro Orchard - Volunteers needed for the monsoon/winter season. You get the opportunity to work on a productive & regenerative organic farm which produces food for Auroville. You participate in field work on our farm, work with cows, sheep, food processing and or at the nursery. You commit to full mornings or one of the morning sessions (7-9 or 9:30-12:00), you take responsibility for your work & learning and follow health & safety principles.

You can participate in our time-credit based basket system and share our breakfast during morning break. Please write to auroorchard@auroville.org.in

Coordinator - You are an efficient organizer with good coordination skills, basic knowledge in IT and communication. You are able to work in a team, proactive, committed and enthusiastic. You can draft letters in English, have basic accounting skills, you are able to plan events, oversee the updates of our website and support a fundraising team. Part-time or full-time, there is no maintenance.

And other positions (please inquire about details):

Customer Care and Website Maintenance

Production Management (part-time)

Web Assistance

Graphic Designer and Video Editor

Social Media & Communications Manager (Ecofemme)

Contact us for more information or if you are interested in any of these opportunities or if you are looking for something else: hr_hub@auroville.org.in



Isai Ambalam Guest house

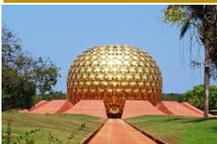
Isai Ambalam is looking for a new member for its management team. Previous experience is not important. The most important thing is that you have a good grasp of English and are someone who is willing to learn. Knowing a little spoken Tamil is very useful. If you have good communication skills, are organised and like being positive this is also much appreciated.

The work includes some office work (writing emails, managing spreadsheet calendar, creating bills, attending the phone, etc), and more general management like interacting with guests, overseeing the cleaning and garden staff/work, shopping, etc. Contact us to arrange an interview: 9487503617 or lsaiambalam@auroville.org.in. We look forward to meeting you :)

Video editor

I need some help to create simple videos for my mother's cooking classes, editing, subtitles, etc. Can be done at your own pace in the next weeks/months. Some maintenance is available. Contact: mona@auroville.org.in or WA: 9443377168

MATRIMANDIR



The Inner Chamber is open from **6:00 - 8:00 AM without prior booking** (Aurovilians and NC only) & **4:30 - 6:30 PM with prior booking** (Aurovilians, NCs & LT volunteers holding a valid Matrimandir pass). 15 people per sitting. 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. 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). ~ Matrimandir Executives and Access team



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!
The Park of Unity is a place for silence, meditation and inner work. 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.

COHERENCE

Sunday 15th nov, 6 to 7pm at Matrimandir Amphitheatre

New Moon world classical music

Joep Franssens - Harmony Of the Spheres - Movement II

Barber - Agnus Dei (Sung by VOICES8 acapella group)

Eric Whitacre - Sleep

(Curated music playback by Varun of Svaram)

LOOKING FOR

Work - I am an Aurovilian, looking for any kind of office/administrative work. I have more than 22 years of experience working in Auroville. I am good at computer, billing and sales, assisting for accounts. Contact: subamurugan1980@gmail.com or 9385767513.

Bollywood dance teacher - for my 6yo son. Group or individual classes. Contact Pawan @ 911 976 2631.

Kid's cycle (for 9 YO boy) & **adult cycle** - Okay to buy a used one as well. 970 425 8709.

AVAILABLE

Math Teacher - I am a newcomer proficient in science and math. I am starting a new group class (maximum 4 kids) for high school math (statistics, calculus, probability, permutations and combinations). Contact: Pawan @ 9119762631

Space in Rangoli - Are you a designer looking for a co-workspace that is set up for garment manufacture? Or you're a brand new Auroville unit that is exploring new commercial options, but still looking for the perfect long-term space? Or 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 and co-working space - at Auromode, completely new, quiet and green surrounding atmosphere w/ generator Power back-up, AquaDyn drinking water, Car & Bike parking, 24 hours Security service.

1. Ground Floor / Co-working space of 170 sqm, can be divided in two parts

2. First Floor / Five office spaces, each 24 sqm

Contact Pandian : 0413-2622224 / 9943390391 / pandian@auroville.org.in / auromode@auroville.org.in

Honda Navi - 2016, 12000 kms, TN reg. Suresh, 984 266 1147

House work - for Ponni. She is decent at work, can read, write, and understand English. She is happy to do any kind of household work as well as care for elders. Her number is 9500237252.

House work - Shandya from Edaynachavady is looking for part-time work. If you need some help for cleaning your house, contact lakshmiprem369@gmail.com or 8489764602

Diyas - I am Vivaan, a 9-year-old staying at Needam Guest House in Certitude. I like coloring Diyas and would like to offer them to anyone willing to get a few against contributions for Diwali and Karthika Deepam. Contact: WA 970 425 8709 (my mother's #) or vivaanambadipudi@gmail.com.

GREEN MATTERS



Water Saving Tip of the Week!

Wash your fruits and vegetables in a pan of water instead of running water from the tap, and then use that same water on your plants. With Love from the

Water Group - helping Auroville become a water-sensitive city. watergroup@auroville.org.in / www.aurovillewater.in

Water Words

We hope that everyone is enjoying these rains. We certainly hope for more rains to come!

We just wanted to remind you of a few resources available to help you learn more about water in Auroville, including these rains. The first is the Water Group website. We're working to make it a resource for all water-related activities in Auroville. If you haven't been there in a while, we've made some updates and welcome further suggestions: www.aurovillewater.in

From there, you can find links to other important websites, including CSR Geomatics Studio Web Portal. You can find tons of data, including on rainfall and borewells. Check it out at: <https://gis.auroville.org.in/dashboard>

Let us know if you have any feedback! - Water Group (Tom, Tency, Ing-Marie, Giulio, Eric Chakra)



Stay tuned! [Here](#) you can listen to the stream channel (playing 24/7). [Here](#) you can see on-air schedules.

Last published podcasts

["In search of the Usselthwaark" - Live performance](#) (Theatre)

[Live Jazz Music by Kirtana Krishna](#) (Music)

[Nutritional Cultural Redemption - "Reading Fukuoka"](#) (Natural farming)

[Happiness, Love and Laughter - ep.51](#) (Wellness)

[Soul Tracks - "All About the Bass!"](#) (Music)

[The Akademik Genius Brothers - The Making Off... ep.5](#) (Theatre)

[Aarohan - ep.5 "Gwalior Gharana"](#) (Music)

[Audible Weed Walk - "Pleasing the goddess w/ Taro"](#) (Edible weeds)

[Savitri, B. VII, C. V, Part 2](#) (Integral Yoga)

[The Best of What Still Around - ep.16](#) (Music)

[Neo Urban Chronik "Babies of the new world"](#) (Humour)

[Marlenka's Weekly Offering - ep.9](#) (Reading)

[Lectures par Gangalakshmi - 336](#) (Sri Aurobindo)

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

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

The One Whom We Adore as The Mother

The Mother's Mahasamadhi on November 17 is a Darshan day in the Sri Aurobindo Ashram in Pondicherry and also an important date for Auroville.

The Mother left her body on November 17, 1973 when the first slab and the basics of the four pillars of the Matrimandir were finished. The Italian architect Piero Ciconesi supervising the construction works at Matrimandir is very conscious of this meaningful synchronism.

The audio-visual presentation on the Mother's life prepared by the Sri Aurobindo Archives under the title "The One Whom We Adore as The Mother" helps one deeper appreciate and honour the amazing work the Mother was doing for all of us: for Auroville, for the whole world, and for the future of humanity. It offers glimpses of her wonderful, multi-cultural and profoundly spiritual personality and eventful life. The film is available on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q6jx74L-Kyo> ~ ॐ Margit

MORNING STAR

Thanks to all of you who have expressed such genuine care and support for the Morning Star Project. The whole team has been lifted up by the outpouring of loving concern for the women, babies and families, midwives and doula's of Auroville.

We hope to continue this momentum and get the project on the ground. If you would like to send your comments to us and be added to our mailing list that includes an annual newsletter and action alerts, please send your email address to morningstar@auroville.org.in

~ Morning Star Team,
Krishna, Magesh, Monique, Paula, Rotem, Shanti

Akashku

I cannot make you live
Nobody can change
What happened to you

You did not get love
Which you deserved
And needed
To go through your youth
I am sorry, sorry

But I will paint kids
And ask for love
So it will not happen again

Please care about children
From the newborns
By right way

REMEMBER AKASH

~ Anonymous

Food Habits

The seven points submission by Dr. Nandita Sha (#842) for world "Vegan day" are irrefutable even for vegetarians. But let's remember that veganism is a diet devoid of any animal product whatsoever.

These days, culling of the whole mink species throughout Europe's vision farms is unimaginable. Because the Covid-monster lurks around the corner, killing of these cute furry little fellows have been put to the grave by J.C.B's like... This shows us, who don't want to see it, the extent of our shameless behavior towards nature and the often-unethical ways to do business. In this case, for what purpose to begin with? Why keep in tiny cages freedom-thirsty shy mammals for five years and then skin them? For our 4000\$ a piece "Shtreimels" or to cover myladies naked

shoulders? Artists have since long discovered that brushes can be made with synthetic bristles.

Our carnivorous food-habits are not bad per se, they just belong to traditional societies of a near past where win-win relationship between humans and domestic animals really existed. In the romantic-seeming "Heidi" world of my country 150 years ago, this coexistence was still a reality. In the mountain farmhouses, a happy bellowing, grumbling and cackle filled the cellar-stable of the building where cattle, goats, sheep and chicken found shelter at night and in winter season from roaming wild beasts. From down there the smelly warmth rose through the basements kitchen, bathroom wood-shed up to the living space of the first floor. There, Heidi sat, founding with our Edelweiss the snout of the goat-kid. This "idyll" had its price: food and shelter for a share of one's "production": wood, eggs, milk. Children were keen observers of good manners. When slaughter-day did happen, they were told a lie and kept away. The bear smote, once again... We Aurovilians are certainly not the worst predators of the food-chain in our South-Arcot district. Just the opposite. And yet we don't seem to be fully persuaded that the presumption, industrial agro-business can feed mankind of the future the way it did until now is ethically ugly, ecologically a disaster and therefore economically false. The world has evolved at an accelerated pace since the seventies and the changes are irreversible. Collateral damage can be observed here too: our global village has become a global township and our departo's freezers overflow with bloody icebergs to be hammered out, thrown in the boots of "Indigos" and then fill microwaves or pierces on barbecues. Hélas, Hélas, trois fois Hélas...

On the other hand, Auroville has become a cradle for nutritive inventions, creativity and vision. So many new delicious products, wrapped reasonably, have appeared on our shelves and wait for our attention and appreciation: soya-curd, cool, refreshing and delicious, a marvel of creative genius and vegan mayonnaise. Smoked tofu, barbecued as shashlik, dipped in a sesame-butter cum mustard cum spicy catchup cum something more sauce - a delight. Seitan slices roasted the beefsteak way, peppered and salted and served with iceberg salad. Or Tanto home-made pasta with pesto from Naturellement. Dessert: vegan chocolate cake from marc's coffee-house. Expensive? All this can be homemade for nothing, to start with Kombucha. But the will to be a forerunner for change and progress must be there. And the will to do it in Auroville for Aurovilians also. Not to treat anymore visitors with old traditional fattening recipes, dripping with butter for butter's and money's sake. Beurk! ~Amar

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES



AUROVILLE ART SERVICE - 'basket' for the week

1. CREEVA OFFERS open Studio for those who aspire to explore their artistic expressions. Monday-Friday, 2.30-5pm, at CREEVA Art Studio. Make an appointment with Abhijit Roy 7517394469.

2. TUBE THAMBI AUROVILLE OFFERS retro-music karaoke. Come join us every Sunday at 7pm, right now we are burning through the 80's but will be adding other decades and languages as the weeks go by. Sing from the comfort of your own home and just know that we are singing with you:) <https://www.youtube.com/c/tubethambiauroville>

3. WATCH EVER SLOW GREEN ONLINE FREE AT THESE FILM FESTIVALS:

Science Film Festival 2020 https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeYPq2XiWEScz_lh3uDv0bGmBdzKC9dyN3Bb_UWwEcWZ5A6bWA/viewform,

Gottlieb Native Garden Green Earth Film Festival http://thegottliebnativegarden.com/project_spartners/gottlieb-native-garden-green-earth-film-festival/

tve Global Sustainability Film Awards [gsfa.tve.org https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BVD-kvjLWk&t=270s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BVD-kvjLWk&t=270s)

All these film festivals have a good selection of films that are offered free online.

4. IVANA OFFERS to draw a portrait of your young toddler... Contact ivana.frousova@yahoo.co.uk. See her work on <https://www.facebook.com/How-to-Bring-Up-a-Child-119766416594944/>

5. ONLINE CHAT WITH VALENTINA G (ITALIAN) - Waiting to return to Auroville, newcomer Valentina Garozzo is interviewed by Sonia Boni about her life in Auroville. <https://youtu.be/19sXiSeMByo>
6. MUSEUM OF ART & PHOTOGRAPHY - ONLINE - Download and enjoy activities on the theme 'Shape of Things - Three Abstract Artists in India' featuring the work of Faiza Huma, C Douglas and A Bala.
7. GOOGLE ARTS AND CULTURE - COMPARE CULTURAL MOMENTS - Features content from over 2000 leading museums and archives who have partnered with the Google Cultural Institute to bring the world's treasures online. Experiment with cultural crosswords <https://artsandculture.google.com/experiment/cultural-crosswords/JgGaXxGHVxpn4A?cp=e30>.
8. CHENNAI PHOTO BIENNALE OPPORTUNITY - Join #My2020Hero by taking a photo of anyone who consider your hero in 2020 and uploading it. For more details, visit my2020hero.in
9. DRAMA SCHOOL MUMBAI - UNREHEARSED FUTURES - November 19th: An Actor Prepare For? Online public conversation with international theatre professionals <https://dramaschoolmumbai.in/unrehearsed-futures-drama-pedagogy-in-the-post-covid-world/>

Perspectives on Indian / Indic Art

Fri. 13th Nov. 5 to 6.30pm at Bharat Nivas, Bhumika Hall

Screening of "A Far Afternoon" on a reputed contemporary painter, Sri Krishen Khanna's artistic journey, in the presence of the filmmaker Mr. G.P Aravindan to share his experience on the Perspectives on Indian Art. This presentation is an attempt to explore and understand the Contemporary Art vis-à-vis Art as practiced within Gurukuls in ancient India, through the vision of Sri Aurobindo.



Remembering The Mother

Sat 21 Nov., 5 to 6.30pm at Bharat Nivas, Bhumika Hall

Bharat Nivas invites you for a projection of the film: "The Mother as an Artist" (duration 20 minutes)

by Rakhil, followed by a Q&A session on who is The Mother? Can we share our insights.



Open call for Artists for a group exhibition from 6th to 24th March 2021 at Centre d'Art

Centre D'art is pleased to accept submissions on the theme "Transparency". Artist explores the idea of transparency and how it manifests and shapes individuals, societies, religions, and politics. The exhibition hopes to challenge our notions of how we perceive transparency, what we accept as transparency. Any media is accepted. Submissions may be made to centredart@auroville.org.in

Please note the following guidelines:

- The subject line of any submission email must be 'theme transparency'
- Attach a short artist statement w/ contact details for the project being submitted, that will help us understand your work.
- Send a maximum of 5 images of your artworks made for the exhibition, specifying technique and size of each work. All images should be sent as JPEG files, no more than 1 MB each.
- The deadline for the submissions is 31st January 2021
- Selection result by 10th February
- Gallery takes care of organization, setting up and communication but can't cover transport costs of the artworks.

Free workshop: How to build a Photographic Project?

Every Wed and Sat. from 28th Nov to 19th Dec at Multimedia room Centre d'Art, Citadines

This workshop conducted by Marco Saroldi is for advanced and serious enthusiast photographers who want to advance their knowledge. Nowadays the photographer has to go beyond the supposed quality of his single pictures, he has to think differently. Photographers need to be able to read and tell good stories rather than shoot beautiful images. What and how we should photograph to distinguish ourselves among the millions of

wonderful images shot every day in the world? How can we develop a project that makes us feel authors and not just images producers?

The workshop will start with a quick reflection about the history of Photography up to the analysis of the work of contemporary photographers who developed good projects reaching the most famous galleries in the world. Then we will try to build interesting projects following the aspirations and the interest of each participant. The goal is that at the end of the workshop every participant could have a good project done, and the tools to build new good projects in future.

Minimum 5 and Maximum 12 (students should have their own camera and should know the basics of digital photography)

Contact: centredart@auroville.org.in

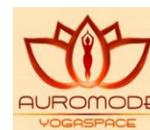
CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

QI GONG work out and moxibustion

Mon, Wed, Fri 7 to 8.20 am & Tue, Thurs 4.40 to 6 pm
At Pavilion of Tibetan Culture under the Bodhi tree.

Monsoon season- Be like water. Reinvent yourself by creating new pathways for energy flow within. Increase plasticity & awareness of your movements. Guided by Andres Lokuta 9655474497 (WA)

3 weeks of Hatha and vinyasa yoga Intensive 18th Nov to 9th Dec (Except Sundays).



Auromode yoga space presents 3 weeks of 200 hr Yoga TTC in multi style yoga. 3 hours of Asanas in various styles like Hatha, Vinyasa, Ashtanga, Yin yoga etc., 1 hour of Asana, meditation and chanting, 2 hours of yoga philosophy every day for 3 weeks (Except Sundays). You gain knowledge about human anatomy and physiology as well. The end result gives you the necessary discipline and help you to have a healthy body, which we learnt is the most important asset in this pandemic. Even if your intention is not to teach other these 3 weeks will improve your overall self-practice and improve your overall health.

Time - 6 to 9am - Session 1/ 3 to 7 pm - Session 2

Certification - 200 hr yoga alliance accredited certificate.

Registration & details - balaganesh.siva@gmail.com, contact@auromodeyogaspace.com,

Website - www.auromodeyogaspace.com

KAHUNA BASIC

21st to 27th November, A 6-day residential massage course

Based on ancient Hawaiian healing art for mind, body and spirit! This Hawaiian massage technique focuses on using hands and arms as an instrument of the heart. We will learn and explore the body through yoga exercises, games, meditations, Hawaiian dance-movement, Huna philosophy, and lots and lots of KaHuna massages.

Healthy vegetarian food and snacks will be served throughout the course. The course is residential designed to be a close version of how kahuna was taught in old days Where teacher and students go somewhere private without influences from outsider. To live and learn and breathe together to discover The magic of kahuna

Info & booking : kahunacourse@gmail.com, 7094532505, WA: +4591118176. ~ Mahalo, Sang

Sanskritam Auroville Update

We are happy to share that we will be restarting our in-person workshops and classes (on learning Sanskrit language and understanding classics like Vedas, Upanishads and more), chanting sessions and study circles (on Vedic Chanting, Bhagavad Gita, Dhammapada, Patanjali's Yoga Sutra and more) at Bharat Nivas in a few weeks. Please feel free to share your intentions, ideas and suggestions on what you'd like to join as a participant or as a facilitator. Write to us on devabhasha@auroville.org.in

