# News and Notes

No 857 A weekly bulletin for residents of Auroville 13th February 2021



Cosmic Egg 1
Pyrography - bister, acrylic & gold paint on wood www.artforland.in

#### HOUSE OF MOTHER'S AGENDA



#### 9 December 1953

Mother, suffering comes from ignorance and pain, but what is the nature of the suffering and pain the Divine Mother feels for her children – the Divine Mother in Savitri?

It is because she participates in their nature. She has descended upon earth to participate in their nature. Because if she did not participate in their nature, she could not lead them farther. If she remained in her supreme consciousness where there is no suffering, in her supreme knowledge and consciousness, she could not have any contact with human beings. And it is for this that she is obliged to take on the human consciousness and form, it is to be able to enter into contact with them. Only, she does not forget: she has adopted their consciousness but she remains in relation with her own real, supreme consciousness. And thus, by joining the two, she can make those who are in that other consciousness progress. But if she did not adopt their consciousness, if she did not suffer with their sorrow, she could not help them. Hers is not a suffering of ignorance: it is a suffering through identity. It is because she has accepted to have the same vibrations as they, in order to be able to enter into contact with them and pull them out of the state they are in. If she did not enter into contact with them, she would not be felt at all or no one could bear her radiance.... This has been said in all kinds of forms, in all kinds of religions, and they have spoken very often of the divine Sacrifice, but from a certain point of view it is true. It is a voluntary sacrifice, but it is true: giving up a state of perfect consciousness, perfect bliss, perfect power in order to accept the state of ignorance of the outer world so as to pull it out of that ignorance. If this state were not accepted, there would be no contact with it. No relation would be possible. And this is the reason of the incarnations. Otherwise, there would be no necessity. If the divine consciousness and divine force could work directly from the place or state of their perfection, if they could work directly on matter and transform it, there would be no need to take a body like man's. It would have been enough to act from the world of Truth with the perfect consciousness and upon consciousness. In fact that acts perhaps but so slowly that when there is this effort to make the world progress, make it go forward more rapidly, well, it is necessary to take on human nature. By taking the human body, one is obliged to take on human nature, partially. Only, instead of losing one's consciousness and losing contact with the Truth, one keeps this consciousness and this Truth, and it is by joining the two that one can create exactly this kind of alchemy of transformation. But if one did not touch matter, one could do nothing for it.

#### Did Savitri foresee what she was going to do?

She said so. You have not read it? She had even been told that she would be alone. And she said: I am ready to be alone. You have not read it? It is in the canto they recited last year (Sri Aurobindo, Savitri, Book VII, Canto 4, recited at the School Annual function of 1 December 1953).

#### Did she know she would meet the "Mother of Sorrows", the "Mother of Might"?

Indeed she did. It is said all along that she knew all that was going to happen. It is written clearly. Indeed, to each of them she says clearly: I shall bring to you what you need. Consequently, she knows it. Else she would not say so. If she did not know it, how could she say so?

#### In Savitri the "Mother of Sorrows" says:

"Perhaps when the world sinks into a last sleep, I too may sleep in dumb eternal peace."

~ Savitri, Book VII, Canto 4

Ah! that, that is the human consciousness. It is the human consciousness. It is the idea of the human consciousness that when all suffering will be over, well, "I shall sleep". It is indeed of this that Sri Aurobindo speaks. When there is this aspiration for a supreme peace, one feels that if there were a *pralaya* and the world disappeared, well, at least there would be peace. But the phrase itself is self-contradictory, for if there were a *pralaya*, there would be no more peace to be felt — there would be nothing at all any longer!

But this is just one of the contradictions of the human consciousness: "As long as the world is there and suffering there, I shall suffer with the world. But if ever the world enters into peace, disappears in the peace of Non-Being, then I too shall rest." It is a poetic way of saying that as long as misery is there in the world, I shall suffer with the world. Only when it ceases to be there, it shall cease for me also.

Then what will the "Mother of Sorrows" do? What else can she do? She will be the "Mother of Delight".

Savitri represents the Mother's Consciousness, doesn't she? Yes.

What does Satyavan represent?

Well, he is the Avatar. He is the incarnation of the Supreme.

The Mother . Questions and Answers . Volume 5 (1953



For each person, everything depends on knowing whether one belongs to the past that perpetuates itself, to the present that is exhausting itself or to the future that longs to be born.

~ The Mother Words of The Mother, Vol.15, p.77





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



Matrimandir and the Park of Unity is open everyday from 6 to 8 am & 4:30 to 6.30 pm (for Aurovilians, Newcomers and Volunteers holding a valid Matrimandir Pass). Volunteers' place of work will need to send an email to

mmconcentration@ auroville.org.in to be considered for the pass.

## ACRES FOR AUROVILLE in collaboration with UNITY PAVILION and AV ARTS

invites you to visit and participate in

#### «LIMINAL SPACE»

The ART FOR LAND 2021 exhibition & fundraiser for Auroville's land with its new WEBSITE & ONLINE GALLERY

www.artforlandonline.com and the new ART FOR LAND gift counter at the Visitor's Centre

« Let beauty be your constant ideal ... «

"The lands for Auroville are to be bought and can be bought. The money is needed. Will you help?"

These two messages of The Mother guide and animate ART FOR LAND.



The Mother, an artist herself, always encouraged artistic expression in all its forms, so that beauty and creativity are an integral part of Auroville. This aspiration and its realizations radiate & shine in Art for Land 2021.

And this is an action of beauty for a cause - helping to build The City of Dawn. All the magnificent works have been generously donated by the artists: each artwork you purchase, and each donation you make, bring needed resources for the purchase of Auroville's designated but still-missing land!

After the inspiring inauguration, the Liminal Space exhibition and events are in full swing. The high-quality artworks line the walls and cover tables of the Unity Pavilion, and spread out into its garden. Works can be viewed and reserved online <a href="https://www.artforlandonline.com">www.artforlandonline.com</a> or at the Unity Pavilion daily from 10 AM to 4 PM.

Aurovilians who would like to buy artworks but have limited budgets can pay through monthly contributions as arranged with AFL and Financial service. *More information is available at (+ 91) 413 -2623576 and at unitypavilion@auroville.org.in* 

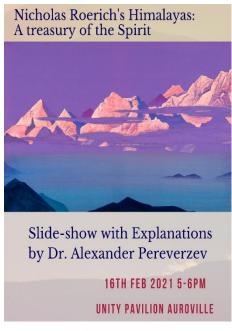
NEW – AFL 2021 now has a beautiful space at the Visitor's Center – the Art for Land Art Counter – selling photos, art prints, cards and books that have been generously donated by the artists. The counter is open weekdays from 11 AM to 6 PM and weekends 8.30 AM to 6 PM. Together we hope to increase the flow of generosity for the land and we will be happy if these works also bring beauty, joy, and light into your home and life!

And speaking of generosity, gifting, and joy, don't miss this week's Generosity Fair and Afternoon Tea Party - an annual favorite that is part of this week's great panorama of events! Here are this week's scheduled land fundraisers. We invite your support and generosity.





All proceeds from art purchase and donations at the events go to the Acres for Auroville land campaign for Auroville's still-missing lands.



JOIN US - THIS BEAUTY & CREATIVITY IS ALL FOR THE LAND!



#### **WORKING GROUP REPORTS**



#### From the Residents Assembly Service

Since the announcement of this emergency Residents' Assembly Decision (RAD), the RAS has been receiving many voices from the community

both through email and in person to its members as their views/opinions. Therefore, we feel a clarification is the need of the hour.

- The RAS has no mandate to call for any Residents' Assembly Decision (RAD) nor have we taken the decision to also call for this ongoing "Emergency RAD to lower the selection threshold to 30%".
- The RAS has no mandate to decide on behalf of the Residents' Assembly (RA) nor have we taken the decision to define the 30% criteria for the ongoing Emergency RAD.
- The RAS has no mandate to propose options to the community for a Residents' Assembly Decision (RAD) on what questions to be put out based on suggestions / opinions it receives from individuals of this community.
- The RAS is only mandated to call for a Residents' Assembly Decision (RAD) at the following scenarios as stated in the Decision Making Policy of this community.
  - a. either at the request of the Working Committee; or
  - b. at the request of a recognised working group; or c. at the request of at least 60 residents (A 1, RAD Policy 2007) (https://auroville.org/contents/311)
- The current ongoing Emergency Residents' Assembly Decision (RAD) was issued by the Working Committee through an email to the RAS dated January 20th (https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rW4ESMOq\_qOi1QrFn\_7b-yt983GKoCx46/view?usp=sharing). The 30% recommendation has also come from the Working Committee and not from the RAS.
- The current ongoing Emergency Residents' Assembly Decision (RAD) was issued by the Working Committee through an email to the RAS dated January 20th (https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rW4ESMOq\_qOi1QrFn 7b-yt983GKoCx46/view?usp=sharing).
- The 30% recommendation has also come from the Working Committee and not from the RAS.
   The RAS have clearly followed the mandate given to it by calling this Emergency Residents' Assembly Decision (RAD) at the request of the Working Committee.

Reference documents: RAS Mandate <a href="https://auroville.org/contents/1747">https://auroville.org/contents/1747</a>; Decision Making in Auroville <a href="https://auroville.org/contents/311">https://auroville.org/contents/311</a>; Visual chart references for your information <a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zQS7FUDZZ3Xu8kzBcKvpm6adgGTMMaF/view?usp=sharing">https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zQS7FUDZZ3Xu8kzBcKvpm6adgGTMMaF/view?usp=sharing</a>

We understand that some of you are not in agreement with the above or the steps taken by the RAS, but clearly we are doing our work as committed to the community.

We also recognize that some of you feel the RAS mandate and the Decision-Making policy of our community requires an overhaul, we've already recommended this to the Auroville Council, as stewards of these tasks and processes, seeing the gaps and how the Residents engage with it. Hence, we invite each one of you who shared concerns to take part in such a community process so your inputs can be included. Until such a change emerges in organization framework of Auroville, we have a job to do for the community, and we'll continue to do that. Thank you all for your understanding and cooperation.



## EMERGENCY RESIDENTS' ASSEMBLY DECISION To Approve Lowering the Selection Threshold to 30%

This Emergency Residents' Assembly Decision making process (RAD) is for the community to approve the lowering of the percentage required for the selection of individuals from 50% to 30% as proposed by the Working Committee.

WHY - Since the selection process did not result in selecting the required number of people for the Auroville Council (5 vacancies are still open), FAMC (5 vacancies open) and Working Committee (4 vacancies open) because of lack of 50% quorum, the Working Committee in writing, on 20th January, authorised the RAS to call an emergency Residents' Assembly Decision (RAD) to approve the lowering of the percentage from 50% to 30%.\* (https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rW4ESMOq\_qOi1QrFn7b-yt983GKoCx46/view?usp=sharing)

If the community decides to reduce the selection threshold, the required number of persons for the above-mentioned working groups will be reached. If not, the newly selected members for respective working groups along with ongoing members will start working until an alternative solution is defined.

Participatory Working Group's and the Selection Process of Their Members (PWG 2020) as approved by the RA in December 2020 states: "To be selected, a candidate needs to have the trust of a minimum of 50% of the selectors. A candidate will not be selected, if this guorum has not been reached."

Do you agree to lower the percentage required for the selection of individuals from 50% to 30%?

YES - means the top 5 nominees for the AVC and FAMC and top 4 nominees for the WCom who received more than 30% but less than 50% quorum, can be considered selected

 $\mbox{{\bf NO}}$  -  $\mbox{{\bf means}}$  the 3 working groups will continue to operate with a shortage of members

#### The Emergency RAD will run until SUNDAY, February 14 2021

#### **HOW TO PARTICIPATE:**

IN PERSON - In-person voting (meeting of the Residents' Assembly) will be organized at Solar Kitchen on Sunday, February 14, 11am - 2pm.

Kindly be reminded that the current Covid-19 situation imposes certain restrictions. Please follow all cautionary measures to avoid the risk of spread of the virus (wear masks, use hand sanitizer, maintain physical distancing, etc.)

**ONLINE:** Use your personalized voting link sent by the RAS to your email address.

Please look out for this email and participate in voting online. Web based Gmail interface users please check the Promotions tab in case the email is not found in your inbox. Good to also check your Spam / Junk folders for this email. If you are an Aurovilian and didn't receive this email, please write to raservice@auroville.org.in.

~ Warmly, The Residents' Assembly Service

#### FAMC Weekly Bulletin: Mon. 11th Jan - Sun. 7th Feb 2021

Our regular correspondence and meetings (e.g. with Working Groups and residents) were heavily affected in this period by the Selection Process for new members for FAMC and other working groups. That said, FAMC Admin continues to deal with queries pending. Key updates:

Sacred Groves: A meeting was held with representatives of FAMC, Housing Board, TDC, and the Sacred Groves Team. This has resulted in a Memorandum of Understanding between the meeting attendees regarding the future management of the project (including financial responsibilities of the Sacred Groves Team) and its eventual conclusion.

**Kalpana Housing Project:** The Project Holders have appealed, essentially stating:

"The FAMC has not, despite requests, shared the outcome of an Audit being conducted by an external Chartered Accountant regarding the management of Kalpana Housing Project Finances and that the accounts of Kalpana show that additional costs were incurred by the Project Holders due to the introduction of GST.

A further point states that "the FAMC is taking an illegal decision to hold the outstanding loan from Adwitya Partnership firm."

The FAMC has informed the Auroville Council that it regards the appeal as premature as the audit report, which is expected to comment on all issues raised by the Project Holders, has yet to be received. FAMC and Housing Board have met with the Chartered Accountant conducting the audit and have been informed that a report is expected shortly.

Human Resources Team (HRT) Appeal: Members of the HRT, Gnanavel and Venkat, appealed the decision to close and merge HRT with the BCC, a decision made in the first instance by the BCC and then endorsed by the FAMC further to its own independent review and meeting with the BCC and HRT members. The Appeal Body found the decision of FAMC to close and merge HRT with BCC to be valid. The Appeal Body also found that HRT should have been better informed and included once a review of its workings was commenced.

**Tanto MoU:** An MoU was finalised between FAMC, Tanto, and Daniele and Sherill regarding the stewardship of several assets in Sri Ma.

FAMC Mandate Review: The departing members of the FAMC (with Kalya and Marc, the remaining members) shared with the Community a proposed FAMC mandate it hoped would be presented to vote on in an RAD. If the Auroville Council constituted Task Force should complete their task of reviewing the FAMC mandate, we think it right that their work could be seen alongside the proposed mandate shared on Auronet on 20 January.

#### **Units and Trusts**

 Mitra Auroville, a unit under FOR ALL POUR TOUS Trust -FAMC has approved Rohan Sharma as a new Executive and accepted the resignation of Ulrich Blass.







WHY WE FUNDRAISE FOR LAND FOR AUROVILLE

**WATER:** Auroville started on its barren plateau with water as a major concern since the very beginning. For decades, the sea of Bengal was colored red the days the monsoon took the red earth along with its rains. In the tropics, as soon as land is barren, or non-porous due to buildings and roads, water run-off and erosion follow rapidly.



To reverse this, Auroville has done major water conservation work: kilometres of bunds and countless water catchment ponds have been built to retain the rainwater.

For the past 30 years, members of the Auroville Water Group have been working on Auroville's water situation, monitoring the water table in the wells, the groundwater flows and aquifers, and defining needed groundwater protection areas. Since the 1980's, Aurovilians Jürgen (Palmyra), Tom, Gilles B., Peter C-S, Toby and others have led many big projects to restore the traditional water catchment systems in the wider bioregion, notably "HARVEST". See these 2 articles <a href="https://www.auroville.org/contents/2549">https://www.auroville.org/contents/2549</a> and <a href="https://aurovillewater.in">http://aurovillewater.in</a>.



Forest = Water: Today, due to this tremendous water conservation work, and because of the densely planted forest, Auroville's rainwater runoff is minimal. A forest creates a porous soil into which rainwater can percolate, and will protect the soil from the harsh weather conditions. The original forest with its mostly evergreen trees is still being re-planted - this winter, over new 18,000 trees were put into the earth!

Why is fundraising for land a very urgent priority for Auroville? Today the groundwater level in Auroville's bioregion is rapidly falling, as well as in many regions in Tamil Nadu, due to overexploitation of water for agriculture and Pondicherry's rapid expansion. We have had saltwater intrusion near Auroville's beach at the ECR road for over 10 years. The Water Group is acutely aware of this situation:

"Consolidating lands within the Auroville township area and working out a prioritisation of land acquisition for hydrological continuity is an urgent priority in order to strategically work to protect the groundwater resources for Auroville and the bioregion."

Recent rains have been abundant, and the rainwater catchment ponds are for the moment quite full. The water level in shallow borewells has risen. However, one good rainy season doesn't recharge an aquifer that has been over-exploited day by day for decades.

Auroville's Citizen Assembly, has produced highly informative videos about the water situation, with over 20 Aurovilians speaking out on water heritage, the spiritual aspect of water, education, farming and the role of water, and more. All the videos are here: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC87isBWiK0nl9pde5X8VtzA">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC87isBWiK0nl9pde5X8VtzA</a>. We thank all those involved in creating this amazing documentation, which will support decision-making for Auroville's future.

If you'd like to see Auroville manifest and flourish, please support our actions and donate for Auroville's land and future. Acres for Auroville, GreenAcres and LFAU have their office at Town Hall, 1st floor, open mornings, 0413 2622657. Come see us & bring your ideas to support this work! Donations via LFAU's website: <a href="mailto:land.auroville.org">land.auroville.org</a>; Donation gateway: <a href="mailto:donations.auroville.org">donations.auroville.org</a> or via a direct transfer to FS 0100 Land.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**



We are happy to announce that our little boy, Rakshith, joined our family and the community on 3.02.2021 at 2.40pm.

~ Kumaran & Anbarasi



**Taxi-sharing** - To Chennai, on the 15th of February. Write to hartmut (<a href="mailto:vonlieres@gmx.de">vonlieres@gmx.de</a>).

#### Auroville Marathon Event is suspended

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions, the annual Auroville Marathon event has been suspended this year. Please respect the social distancing norms and stay safe.

#### LOST & FOUND

**FOUND** - Rare book - Tamil edition of The Mother's Significance of Flowers, on the Crown Rd near Kalpana. Book is w/ AuroTraductions, MMC, 1st floor, 0413 262 2713.

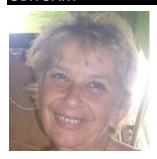
#### Laptop needed for AVCP

We are a recently formed team for the Auroville Child Protection (AVCP) Project. We are working in collaboration with AV working groups and are part funded by SAIIER, part by external donors. We are desperately in need of a laptop for one of our team members, for simple documentation type work & Internet connection. If anyone could spare a second-hand laptop, it will be put to good use, in the service of Auroville's children.

#### Work/Financial Support Needed

brothers and friends Dear sisters. In the particular times we live in, I haven't had an income for almost a year. I lived off my savings, but today, I'm almost at the limit. In addition to that, this year I have to renew my passport and my 5 yr visa (+/- Rs. 45,000). I need a job that provides maintenance before I am completely dry. I can do all the jobs possible: house cleaning, garden work, child, elder or recovery care. I manage with the computer/internet, I am an artist, creative and passionate, and I like to talk with people (French and English). I am organized & meticulous, have a cheerful character and I like working in a team. What I have already done: bakery, bookstore, animator and director of a children's recreation center from 2 to 14 years old (for 15 years), Sunbliss restaurant in Repos beach for 7 yrs, arts and crafts, homestay management, tourist activities, book publishing, etc. FMI, you can meet me. And for those who may want to, financial assistance is most welcome (105701/Veronique help). I believe in abundance and I also know that everything is in the hands of The Mother. A lot of gratitude in advance for what I will receive. Veronique, Realization, +919488512678 (Telegram or Whatsapp); veroniquejobard@auroville.org.in

#### **OBITUARY**



#### Dany Foureau

In the early morning of Thursday, 4th February, our dear friend and sister Dany Foureau unexpectedly passed away due to sudden cardiac arrest in her room in the Mukti Complex near AV Health Centre. She had been complaining about back pain after lifting a possibly too heavy load a week ago. She was 60 years old.

Dany, who hails from France, had a long history with Auroville, which started out with the small community of friends in the Ardèche in the early seventies, where she stayed as young girl rebelliously having left her parental home. Like several other members of that community, Dany came to Auroville in 1980, starting out in Forecomers. One of the things she did at the time was working with Otto in Kottakarai Bakery. She then moved to Revelation where she ran a small vegetable market. Dany did whatever was needed in front of her, without much ado and gave it her all. In due time she met an Indian man with whom she married and the couple left for France around 1984. Some 5 years later she returned, with toddler son Salia, and worked for New Creation's Kindergarten while staying in NC Field.

Several years later she left again, to return for good in 2014, on her own, her son being well established with family and two children. By now being well versed in geriatric care, she joined the Auroville Health Service team, training new worker therapists and shortly taking over the AVHS coordination. There then followed a good year of maintaining the Auromode Apartments guest service's night shift during which time she already frequented the AV Integrated Animal Care Centre (IACC) in daytime. In 2017 she left Auromode and took up full time work at IACC while living in Prayatna (as caretaker of the newcomer accommodation there) and later on moved to Mukti. It was at IACC that Dany came into her full element, joining the then team consisting of Kannan, Rita and Lorraine, and giving all her energy and passion to the hundreds of dogs in the centre's care. Dany's love and care for the animals, her persistent overseeing and hands-on participation in all aspects of the work, day-in day-out and at times almost single-handedly, aggravated by the

unfortunate habit of heavy smoking, may eventually have been too much for her.

Our love and condolences go out to her son Salia and her two grandchildren, as well as to her IACC colleagues, and Vijaya, Kathrin and other good friends. Farewell, dear Dany. Thank you for your persistent coming back to be part of Mother's experiment. We will meet again ... OM-

#### WELCOME

#### FROM THE ENTRY SERVICE - ES # 070 - 13/02/2021

Our team is happy to recommend the following individuals as Aurovilians, Newcomers and Friends of Auroville, joining Auroville. Prior to Newcomer, Aurovilian and Friend of Auroville status confirmation, there is a period for feedback from the community: for Newcomers, Associates and Friends of Auroville, 2 weeks, and for Aurovilians & Returning Aurovilians, one month. Kindly forward your support or grievances to <a href="mailto:entryservice@auroville.org.in">entryservice@auroville.org.in</a>.

#### **AUROVILIANS ANNOUNCED:**

- Giovanni CITO (Italian) staying in Maitreye I and working at Upcycling Studio.
- Nadia LABIOD (French) staying in Citadines and working at Kid's cafe (Certitude) & Auromode as Naturopath and Psychosomatologist



Giovanni

#### **AUROVILIANS CONFIRMED:**

- Giri THIRUMAL (Indian)
- Kardash ILIAGOUEV (Australian)
- Matthias POMMERENING (German)
- Nandalal SHERPALI (Indian)
- Prajnya RAO (Indian)
- Sathyamoorthy KRISHNAMOORTHY(Indian)

#### FRIEND OF AUROVILLE CONFIRMED

• Gaurav VIG (Indian)

#### LEFT ON HIS/HER OWN:

- Jiaqi Liu (German)
- Marc BAUCHET (French)
- Elise BAUCHET LIU (German)
- Felix BAUCHET LIU (German)
- Shang Chuan CHIANG (Spanish)

#### **NOT READY TO JOIN AUROVILLE:**

The Entry Board, in consultation with the mentors concerned, has not accepted the following Newcomers joining Auroville. The reasons have been communicated to them.

• Amutha VEERAPPAN (Indian)

#### NOTE:

- The Newcomer probation year becomes effective only after the NC kit has been completed and returned. Be aware that the duration of the process cannot exceed 18 months from the date of confirmation.
- An Aurovilian is a resident of Auroville, aged 18 and above, whose name has been entered in the Register of Residents (RoR) as maintained by the Auroville Foundation (AVF) Office.
- The change of status from Newcomer to Aurovilian is official only once the individual has filled in and signed the B-Form and his/her name is entered into the RoR after he/she has met with the Secretary of the AVF with an appointment arranged by the Entry Service. These appointments are fixed by the Entry Service according to the availability of the Secretary of the Auroville Foundation, and 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.





Nadia

#### **MATRIMANDIR**

Let the Matrimandir be the living symbol of Auroville's aspiration for the Divine."

~ The Mother 21.02.1971

Meditation for the Mother's Birthday and the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the laying of the Foundation Stone for Matrimandir

21.2.2021, 6 am at the Matrimandir Amphitheatre

Please take note that this year **only Aurovilians, Newcomers and Aurocard Holders will be allowed to attend the meditation.**Entrance will be from the Matrimandir Office Gate from 5 am. All are requested to be seated by 5.45 am.
Strict COVID protocols must be followed.

Aurovilians and Newcomers are requested to please bring along their Auroville ID cards as it is no longer possible for those on duty to know or recognize all Aurovilians & Newcomers. This is simply a request to help the reception at the gate work in a quiet and peaceful manner. Your understanding and cooperation will be much appreciated.

Aurovilians with visiting family members or friends staying with them and holding no Aurocard are requested to come with their guest/s to collect their individual passes from the Matrimandir Access Office between 11 am and 12 noon any day between the 17<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of February 2021.

Cellphones, cameras, bags will need to be deposited at the Access Office, as usual, before entering the Park of Unity. Please do not bring your pets to the Matrimandir. All are invited to create and maintain an atmosphere of silence and concentration.

#### FOR YOUR INFORMATION



<u>G.P. Café</u> - Open Monday to Saturday from 8 AM to 5 PM in Auroshilpam. South Indian traditional lunch with fresh juice, salads and multigrain Dosa. For bulk booking contact <a href="mailto:gpcafe@auroville.org.in">gpcafe@auroville.org.in</a>. Please respect all current regulations.

#### **AUROVILLE RUN**

We will have this year on Sunday the 28th of February, Auroville's birthday, a, 20km, 10km race & a 5 km walk for all Aurovilians, volunteers, friends of Auroville etc. We're keeping it simple: no prior registration or bibs, just come to Certitude on the 28th at 3.30 PM for the 20 km, 4 PM for the 10 km and 4.30 for the 5 km walk. We have drawn a 10 km circuit, mostly in the green belt, which means it will be shaded and those doing 20 km can repeat it twice. We will have volunteers on cycles to make sure that you don't get lost, 4 stations for water and glucose and a doctor on hand. After 6.30, those who are not finished, will be picked up on electric scooters. There will be no timings, but prizes for the first three of each race as well as for the youngest, oldest etc.

Volunteers can send a mail to: <a href="mailto:frederick@auroville.org.in">frederick@auroville.org.in</a>, with copy to <a href="mailto:frederick@auroville.org.in">frederick@auroville.org.in</a>,

So friends let us run for fun to celebrate our 52nd anniversary!  ${\scriptstyle \sim}$  submitted by Frederick



#### AuroSanthai A regular Weekend Market at Mohanam Heritage Centre

During these hard times of the pandemic, most of us have faced extreme hardship and suffering. The most hit among these have been the

villages and the artisans working on wages. Due to the lock down and the collapse of the local economy, we have seen a large number of small businesses shut their doors and lose their livelihoods. As the pandemic has taught us how to work around the difficulties and still persevere, we see that it is still difficult for our local craftsmen to get back on their feet.

Due to this, we at Mohanam have been working on a project called AuroSanthai, a regular weekend market, for over 4 months now. We wish to be the platform for these artisans and vendors to relaunch their lives and restart the local economy. Being an Auroville unit, we wish to be the bridge between Auroville and the bioregion (neighbouring villages), where a mutual exchange of skills and resources shall benefit everyone involved. We would also like to be the centre that connects Pondicherry city to Auroville. By opening our doors to the village and the city we wish to make a booming exchange of culture, traditions, skill and resources.

We wish to launch this initiative on the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of February 2021 (10am to 8pm) which falls on the weekend. And invite you for two days full of fun and entertainment, while showing solidarity and support to our local economy. Come and attend workshops, talks and other special activities that Mohanam has had experience in conducting and organising for years. The main Attractions at AuroSanthai launch are as follows:

- Auroville and local village arts & craft stalls (with the farmers market)
- Pondicherry Artisans Stalls
- Traditional and modern Food Fusion stalls.
- Cycle Tour of Auroville (north side) organised by Mohanam Youth.
- Special Exhibitions on village heritage and Archaeological history of the region.
- Storytellers Tree (Open mics and Special talks by old souls and Inspiring Individuals under the shade of a nurturing tree)
- Sound Healing & Therapy sessions.
- Live Music, Art & Dance Performances all day.
- Hands-on Workshops.
- Art Corner, interactive Games and other activities.
- Special Evening Performances.

For more information, contact us: at <a href="Mohanamprogram@">Mohanamprogram@</a> auroville.org.in (preferred), or +91 8300949079.

#### **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.

**Electromechanical Engineer** - You have knowledge in electro mechanics and hands-on experience in repairs (building infrastructures, water/electrical/ac systems). You will repair (hands-on) medical equipment, take care of planning of repair works, write the instructions for the use and maintenance of the equipment. You will make sure that all the equipment is in good working condition ensuring the smooth functioning of the unit. Part time, maintenance provided.

Digital Communication & Community Manager - You will develop the social media tools as per our new brand communication charter (Facebook, Instagram, you tube, etc.), edit our blog online and organize our video and photo library. You will participate in the definition of the e-strategy for the launch of the new product/brand internationally, implement this strategy online to boost our sales and our presence online, and generate traffic on the website (SEO, etc.). You will also implement and follow up on the online direct marketing tools and on our CRM development. You have excellent communication skill in English

(written and spoken), French would be a plus, previous experience in the communication field, especially editing and writing is a plus. Digital skills: ability to use Pack Office tools and graphic design tools with a social-media mindset. You are able to work with the IT development team. You have good creative skills, are autonomous, rigorous and have a solution-finder spirit. Full time, maintenance as per experience.

#### And other positions (please inquire about details):

- Coordinator (volunteer)
- Volunteers for Auro Orchard
- Workshop Assistance (part time, volunteer or AV Contribution only)
- Experienced Social Media Curator (on project basis)
- Research assistance and management of online presence

Please contact us for more information and if you are interested in any of these work opportunities or if you are looking for something else. <a href="https://hr/hub@auroville.org.in">hr/hub@auroville.org.in</a>

#### Join the News & Notes team!

The News & Notes keeps us connected and informed about what is happening in our community. We are looking for an additional team member, half time, who can help with:

- corresponding with community members who want to contribute their posts
- proofreading and editing
- setting the News & Notes: making sure that all articles and contributions fit nicely and beautifully
- helping with (electronic) distribution
- keeping the subscriber list updated

If you have the skills and you want to help with one or more of the above tasks, then please write to us at <a href="mailto:bccoffice@auroville.org.in">bccoffice@auroville.org.in</a>. Maintenance available if needed.

#### **LOOKING FOR**

**Double (full, not queen) sized bedframe/mattress,** in good condition. <u>SvahaUS@gmail.com</u>, 04132623898, WA 8903449398.

Items - headlamp, contact lens solution (even if expired), discarded body & clothes soap, kindle with backlight, floaters/sandals with straps (6), cycle tubes: semi-thick tires, lone earrings, <a href="mailto:stigmatad@gmail.com">stigmatad@gmail.com</a>. Thank you for helping me sticking to my never buying new challenge.

A UNI-CYCLE, a SLACK LINE and a simple and good CAMERA, all this interesting mixture for study purposes for the kids. If you have any of the above and would consider passing it on to us: Ulrike Urvasi 9442069249 (sms only) or ulrike@auroville.org.in

Housesitting - My name is Victor and I'm an Aurovilian. I work as a graphic designer and a tattoo artist at the Goliath Studio in Sukhavati. I am currently looking for long-term housesitting (ASAP). I am very tidy & handy, know how to maintain a place and keep it clean. I would gladly take care of your plants and/or pets, and since I work a lot from home I would be present most of the time. I am in France at the moment but will come back to Auroville as soon as I find a place to stay. +91 7397596385 (WA), or victor.guerrier@orange.fr

Acoustic classical guitar - to borrow for a little while. If you have a nylon string guitar you'd be willing to loan for a month or so: +1 (510) 292-3431 (WA) or <a href="mailto:camblecandidaleon@gmail.com">camillecandidaleon@gmail.com</a>

#### **AVAILABLE**

**Teak single bed** (1mx 2m, height 37 cm) & **Teak desk** (Length: 1,25m, depth: 77 cm, height: 76 cm, total, height until drawers 58 cm) Contact: Lisa at 2622275 between 9 to 5 pm.

Mixing Table Behringer Eurorack MX2004a & Multi-effect Lexicon MX 400. Contact: <a href="mailto:olivier.barot@gmail.com">olivier.barot@gmail.com</a>

Children cycle - white, purchased in Aurovelo, for age 7 to 12. Contact 8072449091

Office Spaces at Auromode - The last two office spaces (24 & 34 sqm) in a brand new building with very quiet, green atmosphere available from 1st March 2021 with following facilities:

- > Generator Power back-up.
- > Aqua Dyn drinking water.
- > Car & Bike parking.
- > 24 hours Security service.

#### CO-WORKING OFFICE SPACES AT AUROMODE:-

We are planning to open Co-working office spaces for 20 people with additional facilities (A/C, Wi-Fi, common printer, common kitchenette and common toilet) We would like to have your feedback about this project . It would be ready by end of May-2021 and include the facilities mentioned above. Contact: Pandian, General Manager, AUROMODE TRUST, Auroshilpam. 04132622224; pandian@auroville.org.in; auromode@auroville.org.in

Carpentry and Repair Work - 20 years of carpentry experience in Auroville. If you'd like to make custom furniture, mend broken furniture or any sort of carpentry work, I can make it at affordable price. Iyanar 8778180971

**Puppies** - Do you want someone to lick your feet? We are 2 expert feet lickers and we are looking for a home together. We will love you forever. Contact Nandita: 9488483286 / nandita@sharanindia.org if you would like to meet this little beige girl and brown boy whose tails never stop wagging

#### **GREEN MATTERS**



#### Water Saving Tip of the Week!

For the shower: purchase a large bucket and either step in it or put it near you - close enough that water flows into it when you're showering. Of course,

while having the shower, first rinse the body, close the tap, use shampoo and soap (chemical-free), and again open the tap for final rinse. Then use the water collected in the bucket to water your garden or flush the toilet. - With love from the Water Group, helping Auroville become a water-sensitive city. watergroup@auroville.org.in / www.aurovillewater.in.



## From loud farmers to (not so) silent ice Are we listening?

The farmers' protest in its third month. In response to the Centre's handling of the

prolonged agitation against the three contentious farm laws as well as recent agriculture budget cuts, India's farmers organized a nationwide chakka jam last Saturday. Over 40 farmer unions had given a call for all roads and national highways to be blocked throughout the nation except Delhi, between noon and 3 pm. Tens of thousands of farmers, mostly from Punjab, Haryana, and western Uttar Pradesh, have been camping at three border points of the national capital -Singhu, Tikri and Ghazipur- for more than 70 days, demanding a complete repeal of the farm laws. They say not just the survival of farmers is at stake, but the future of food security of the nation at large.

#### New Elephant corridor raises conflict in the Nilgris

The Sigur Elephant Corridor, connecting Western and the Eastern Ghats and facilitating easy movement of about 6,300 Asiatic elephants from Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Karnataka, is set to be implemented in Nilgiri district of Tamil Nadu following a favorable Supreme Court verdict. Once executed, the corridor will connect Nagarhole, Bandipur, Wayanad, Mudumalai, Nilgiri North, B.R. Hills, and Sathyamangalam forest areas serving both elephants and several other wild animals, including Asian king vultures, white striped hyenas, tigers, blackbucks, and four-horned antelopes.

While conservation activists claim that the corridor would bring about enormous benefits to wildlife in the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve, the local community alleges that over 12,000 people and 25,000 livestock would be badly affected if the corridor plan is implemented in haste without addressing their survival questions. At least 200 families of farmers and 700 families of Dalit and tribal communities would have to relocate to areas

with no livelihood options, they say. Critics say the project lacks provisions for co-existence and community-based forest management. A number of homestays and resorts in the region are also facing closure, the owners of which state that they have government-approved land title deeds, and they have never encroached on the forests and caused any disturbance to wildlife. Can we listen to elephants and people at the same time?

#### Himalayan Glacier disaster

Finally, in a time when climate change is quietly melting the ice across the Himalaya, one of the glaciers in Chamoli district Uttarakhand broke with a bang last Sunday. A wall of dust, rock and water hit as the avalanche roared down the Rishiganga valley deep in the mountains, 500 km north of Delhi. A large number of the missing were workers at the 13.2 MW Rishiganga Hydroelectric Project which was destroyed by the bursting of the glacier. Floods forced the evacuation of villages downstream.

Uttarakhand is prone to flash floods and landslides and the disaster prompted calls by environmental groups for a review of power projects in the ecologically sensitive mountains. "This disaster again calls for a serious scrutiny of the hydropower dams building spree in this eco-sensitive region," said Ranjan Panda, a volunteer for the Combat Climate Change Network that works on water, environment and climate change issues. "The government should no longer ignore warnings from experts and stop building hydropower projects and extensive highway networks in this fragile ecosystem." The neighbouring state of Uttar Pradesh, India's most populous, put its riverside areas on high alert.

#### YOUNG NATURALISTS

Here is another call to children and young people to be part of the Green Column: to share with us how you observe nature and wildlife in Auroville's environment and what concerns you. We like to hear from you either in writing with an image/photo or we can do an interview. Also check http://tunza.ecogeneration.org an environmental networking platform for children and youth around the world: one can apply to become a Regional Ambassador.

The Green Column is published bi-monthly in the News & Notes and on Auronet. We report on green issues in Auroville, the Bioregion and the wider world. We are listening!

~Lisbeth & Gijs . avgreencenter@auroville.org.in

#### You're invited: Citizens' Assembly film showings

The Citizens' Assembly and Auroville Water Group invite you to watch some Aurovilian water players reflect on our water situation! The series will be screened every Thursday at 4:30pm till March 18. See you there!

#### Thurs, Feb 18, 4:30 PM at MMC - Integrated Water Mgt

Summary: This video features the varied perspectives of eight people involved in water management within Auroville, from the more low technology forest based approach to ideas of a future desalination plant. Please join us in exploring the dreams, challenges and opportunities for water management in this unique context. Presenting different perspectives here are: Giulio, Gilles, Toby, Nagappan, John, Dave, Bobby & Luca. 71 min. Link to Tamil version.

#### AND



Subsequent to the Citizens' Assembly, we would like to celebrate water with a festival. It would attempt to accomplish the magnificence of water in all aspects ,-actual, physical, practical, educational, theatrical, experimental, musical, sculptural covering source, supply, consumption, recycling and optional.

Tentatively it would be around the summer solstice, June 21st. Practucally, it will require a managerial brainstorming team, meeting for a few hours once a week, open to all ideas and suggestions with the understanding that we are individually responsible to act upon suggested projects. The first gathering will be at 4pm on Sat.13th February at Fertile. If you wish to be included in the Signal group, Reply to 7598671944. (Johnny)

#### The 5 LITRE CHALLENGE

To kick off the 4 month preparation and contribute to the current water festival in Pondi, (One School One Kulam), we would like to instigate the 5 litre challenge: an agreemant to live for a week from 21st. to 28th.Feb on only 5 litres of water a day. That would include drinking, cooking, washing body and clothes and critical toilet flushing. We have created a Signal group to share remarks, tricks and insights, if any. Again reply to 7598671944.

\_\_\_\_\_



Turn your food & kitchen waste into soil nutrient-rich Compost!

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A product of NALAN Auromics Trust Campus, Isai Ambalam, Auroville. 605101, Tamil Nadu. Web: www.nalan.in

We are delighted to announce that now your beautiful **Good Earth** composting system only costs a phone call or an email! With the support of a wonderful donor, now we could distribute a few dozen composting systems for free of cost. Our aim is to achieve 100% composting of organic waste in our community. Everyone is welcome to join! Together we will create positive change! Contact: 9047720320 /nalan@auroville.org.in

~ Warm regards, Team NALAN





The AV Radio team is working hard to improve the website - a new dress for your favourite radio! Enjoy and stay tuned! Here you can listen to the streaming channel (playing 24/7). Here you can see on-air schedules.

Last published podcasts:

Savitri, B. VIII, C. III (Integral yoga)

Lunaria - ep.4 (Women's health)

Soul Tracks - SE2 Ep.1 (Music)

Aarohan - ep.17 "Portrait of a Young Genius: Bhimsen Joshi" (Music)

Audible Weed Walk - "Do Bees (and other pollinators) need weeds?" (Food education)

"Live Love with Rabindranath Tagore" (Wellness)

Tamil Literary Forum - ep.20 "粂(万 歩町缸" (Tamil culture)

Neo Urban Chronik - "Incredible phenomenon in the

The best of what still around - ep.25 (Music)

What do you know - ep.5 (Yoga & philosophy)

Une série hebdomadaire de lectures par Gangalakshmi - 347 Marlenka's Weekly Offering - ep.20 (Integral yoga)

....and more! on <a href="www.aurovilleradio.org">www.aurovilleradio.org</a>
For more information write to radio@auroville.org.in

#### An essential key

"Everything is energy and that's all there is to it.

Match the frequency of the reality you want and you cannot help but get that reality. It can be no other way.

This is not philosophy. This is physics."

-Albert Einstein

Worldwide, the supramental descent is already raising the vibratory level of those answering to its touch. Those for whom Sri Aurobindo and Mother are the Light-beacon into the future are helping a Truth-world to manifest through their aspiration, prayers and faith; by consciously participating and learning to match one's frequency to that of the desired reality.

(Dear reader, next time we meet please remind me to keep vibrating high)!  $$^{\sim}$$  within Love, \$\bar{A}\$dh\$ara

Call for "Wake Up"
Hibiscus Art Festival

® Sve Dame on 13<sup>th</sup> March
Organizing Meeting: Well Cafe
19th February, 5 PM

We call artists, artisans, performers, musicians and helpers to join us for the festival! We are preparing workshops, exhibition, music concert and artisans market. Would you like to share your creativity with us?



FMI: Louis +91 80985 65426 or Elena +91 8940288657. hibiscusAV@gmail.com; https://facebook.com/HibiscusAV

#### **CULTURAL ACTIVITIES**

Centre d'Art, Citadines, Auroville invites you for an exhibition

"FIRE and ICE" by Ray Meeker.
Exhibition opening on 13th February, 4.30 PM
Gallery hours: Mon - Sat, 10 AM to 12 noon & 2.30 PM - 5 PM
Sunday closed, please park at the town hall parking

at the Rio Conference in 1993, which Ray had translated into Monoliths as if made of lava and concrete, sculptures from an angry god that would have ended up destroying its own creation, columns of a temple found in a post-apocalyptic era: the landscape composed by Ray Meeker is a metropolis crystallised by a cataclysm, the remains of a monument to an inevitable tragedy.

Fire and Ice, the title of the exhibition, refers to the poem of the same name by Robert Frost opens with:

"Some say the world will end in fire, some say in ice."

Frost's poem speaks about love and hate, Ray about care and neglect, action and reaction. Of consequences of human behavior towards his habitat. The world is on fire and the ice is melting. In 1970, when Ray Meeker graduates in ceramics from the University of Southern California, global warming was not yet in the vocabulary of environmental degradation, renewable energy in its infancy. Ray says, "I was looking at the momentum of consumerism (desire certainly), of over production, and the concomitant pollution. That momentum, was expressed in fired clay by huge—full-sized—excavator buckets stenciled with the continents of the earth; buckets that became the planet itself."

Born in New York in 1944, he is two years old when his family moves to the suburbs of Los Angeles, at the time one of the most polluted cities in the USA. With his father, who takes him on long treks in Californian mountains, he develops a profound appreciation of nature, far from the smog-choked city of LA.

Fire and Ice is composed of sculptures of diverse dimensions, the smallest seem like meteorite fragments or cooled down lava, the larger like headstones, manifestly born of a human matrix and branded with fragments of inscriptions from a red-hot iron, in different languages and alphabets. One of them, "The American lifestyle is not up for negotiations.", expresses the US position on climate change Hindi and Chinese. But our mother Earth doesn't negotiate, she reacts - adds Ray. An inscription that is now part of our collective unconscious is the first verse of the nursery rhyme Humpty Dumpty. "All the king's horses and all the king's men couldn't put Humpty Dumpty together again." The broken egg is the Earth.

Fire and Ice is a synthesis, a point of equilibrium and extreme identification between matter itself, the artist, and his subject, that we find in the perfect ambiguity of textures capable of evoking millennial stones, petrified or charred wood, products of industrial civilizations, steel or concrete, like the agglomeration of stratified shapes, where one can recognize prehistoric bones, machines parts, and fragments of phrases embossed as a testimony, a warning: The future of the Earth is not negotiable, sculpted in ice, engraved by fire.

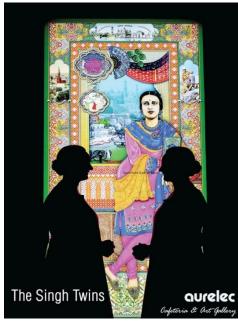


Photo Exhibition of their paintings, 4 February to 4 March Aurelec Cafeteria & Gallery

The Singh Twins are contemporary British artists whose style is a fusion of Indian traditional and contemporary Western influences which they label 'past modern.' Their use of colour, decorative patterns, symbolism and flattened perspective reflect Indian miniature paintings yet these are cut through with modern political, social and cultural themes. Their work continues a long tradition of artistic interaction and influence between cultures



MOTHER'S PRAYERS & MEDITATIONS from January 9th, 1914 Monday 15<sup>th</sup> Feb, 4 PM Duration: 52min.

This prayer is an invitation to endless progress and it talks about the totality of the Divine.

"O LORD, unseizable reality, Thou who constantly escapest before our conquering advance even though it is effective, and who wilt always be the Unknown in spite of all that we shall learn to know of Thee, in spite of all that we shall have ravished from Thy eternal mystery, we would, with a complete and constant effort, ...advance towards Thee, always towards Thee with a movement so powerful, so irresistible, that a whole multitude will be swept on behind us, and the earth conscious of Thy new and eternal Presence will understand at last what are her true ends, and live in the harmony and peace of Thy sovereign realisation.

Teach us ever more,
Enlighten us more and more,
Dispel our ignorance,
Illumine our minds,
Transfigure our hearts,
and give us that Love which never fades
and make Thy sweet law blossom in every being.
We are Thine to all eternity."

To see the video-talk by Dr Alok Pandey at home: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AALpUnoMu2s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AALpUnoMu2s</a>. The above text is quoted from the 3rd Edition, 1954 (translation by Rishabhchand Samsukha), available for free at <a href="https://www.auro-ebooks.com/prayers-a">https://www.auro-ebooks.com/prayers-a</a>...

Transition: Nicholas Roerich's Years in the West Slide-show with Explanations by Dr. Alexander Pereverzev



Thurs 18th February 5-6 pm, Sangam Hall, Savitri Bhavan

The slide-show examines the art and various culture-related activities of the renowned Russian visionary artist, thinker, explorer of Central Asia and public figure Nicholas Roerich after his leaving Russia in the aftermath of the revolution (1917) and during his stay in Europe and America. Tracing the growth of Roerich as a profoundly spiritual artist, the slide-show also focuses on the story of the New York Roerich Museum which used to be a vibrant cultural center in the 1920-30s.



"Beauty and the Beast" La Belle et la Bête FRIDAY 19th FEB. 8 PM MMC

Directed by: **Jean COCTEAU**, France, 1946 *With*: Jean Marais, Josette Day, Mila Parély

Synopsis: A romantic fantasy film, directed by French poet and filmmaker Jean Cocteau. It is an adaptation of the 1757 story "La Belle et la Bête", written by Jeanne-Marie Leprince de Beaumont and published as part of a fairy tale anthology. The film revolves around Belle's father who is sentenced to death for picking a rose from the Beast's garden. Belle offers to go back to the Beast in her father's place. Beast falls in love with her and proposes marriage on a nightly basis which she refuses. Belle eventually becomes more drawn to Beast, who tests her by letting her return home to her family and telling her that if she doesn't return to him within a week, he will die of grief... A simple tale of tragic love that turns into a surreal vision of death, desire, and beauty... "Beauty and the Beast" is recognized as a beautiful classic of French cinema, with amazing sets and costumes, and an incredible photography work by Henri Alekan.

Original French version with English subtitles - Duration: 1h33

Reminder: FRI 12th FEBRUARY, "ONDINE" by Neil JORDAN

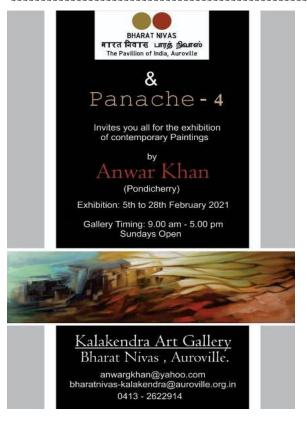
#### AV Art Service - basket of the week



- 1. PAVILION OF TIBETAN CULTURE & THE GERMAN PAVILION INVITE YOU: "Temple Tree" Magical Bark Prints by Birgitta Volz from 8 Feb to 2 March at the exhibition gallery of the Pavilion of Tibetan Culture. To register for a guided tour, call 9442300574.
- 2. BUTTERFLY BARN PRESENTS: **Develop Your Morning Routine** a daily practice of asana, pranayama and journaling, Monday to Friday, 7.30am-8.30am. Contact 9879877177.
- 3. **FUTURE CHILD ASKS** Enjoy the second issue of this digital magazine, with a theme around Work and its many dimensions. <a href="https://online.fliphtml5.com/itlel/ziro/">https://online.fliphtml5.com/itlel/ziro/</a>. futurechildasks@gmail.com
- 4. FREE SHORT FILMS ON MYFRENCHFILMFESTIVAL.COM Through Feb 15 watch 10 short French films for free. There is a fee for feature length films.
- 5. BRITISH COUNCIL GRANT: Connections Through Culture: India-Wales is a grant scheme designed to provide support to individual artists, arts organisations and festivals based in India and Wales to co-create new artistic work, embed creative skills and develop capacity and share practice. <a href="https://www.britishcouncil.in/programmes/arts/opportunities/india-wales?fbc">https://www.britishcouncil.in/programmes/arts/opportunities/india-wales?fbc</a>

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5TH - 28TH FEB - 10 AM TO 6 PM KALA KENDRA - BHARAT NIVAS





Documentary on the Craft-making by the Tribal communities of India, presented by Dev Mohanty: Friday, 19th Feb., 4 PM, Bhumika Hall, Bharat Nivas

Remembering The Mother as an Artist, Documentary followed by Mother's recorded talk. Short experiences shared by those who met The Mother. Sat, 20th Feb, 4.30 - 5.30 pm, Bhumika Hall, Bharat Nivas

#### ART WORKSHOP FOR KIDS: 5 - 12 Y/O



EVERY SATURDAY OF FEB: 1400 - 1500 KALA KENDRA - BHARAT NIVAS

#### LEARN ABOUT SOME OF THE VARIOUS ART FORMS OF INDIA!

- ·WARLI
- ·PATUA
- •PHAD
  •MADHUBANI · SANTHAL

& SO MANY MORE.

BY PRIOR RESERVATION ONLY: DEV@AUROVILLE.ORG.IN

CAPACITY - 15 SEATS MAX







Somatic Movement workshop w/Maggie -Online live event for Every Body! Saturday & Sunday 13-14 February 2.30pm - 6pm (IST) each day (total 7 hours)

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

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

Please sign up by emailing <a href="maggie@auroville.org.in">maggie@auroville.org.in</a> and I will send you full details. Feel free to contact me with any questions, either by email or phone +9486623465.

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

#### Transformational Yoga Intensive w/ Lakshmi Monday 15th -Friday 19th Feb, 8 - 9:30 AM & Sat. 4:30 to 6 PM, Joy Community (Opposite Center Guest House)

Transformational Yoga is inspired by the teaching of Sri Aurobindo's Integral Yoga. It goes far beyond physical practice; it is an integral approach to physical health, emotional balance, mental and spiritual clarity. In Transformational yoga we will learn and practice Hatha Yoga asanas, Pranayama breathing, mantras chanting and meditation techniques as tools to make the difference in your everyday life. This variety of yogic systems aims to awaken all five aspects of the being's nature and chakras in order to experience a continuous state of physical health and stamina, emotional balance, and higher mental guidance. Come and join this Intensive workshop to purify the mental, physical, emotional and pranic aspects. We will practice asanas along with Pranayama, Raja and Mantra yoga and Meditation. Ideally for those who want to work on the self-discovering and inner Progress. Transformational Yoga, the yoga that goes beyond asanas.

#### Benefits:

- Stabilize emotions
- Improve balance and lungs functions
- Boost positivity and immune system
- Mental clarity
- Deepened relaxation
- Greater self esteem
- Purifying body and mind
- Enhance presence, perception and awareness

This activity does not require advance registration (yet it is better to let us know) and it is suitable for all. Contact Lakshmi by phone or WA (+91 8489764602) or write to joycommunity@ auroville.org.in. FMI about activities, therapies and events in Joy Community, you can visit <a href="https://joy.auroville.org">https://joy.auroville.org</a> or www.facebook.com/joyauroville.

#### Energy Cultivation & Pranic Lifestyle - 5 day Retreat 17th to 21st February, daily 9 to 12 & 3 to 6 JOY community

This is a HEALTH Message! Let us lighten up in this auspicious month for Auroville! Learn about un-fooding; energy cultivation towards physical freedom, different types of safe fasting, meditations; retraining the mind and reconditioning the body; self healing, energy shift; transformation in a strong & healthy way with Elitom Elamin, internationally acknowledged expert on prolonged fasting & living on prana.

It is possible to attend just half or some of the days. To fast is not the prerequisite for the retreat, as the energy cultivation comes first! Last retreat happening from 24th to 28th @ JOY. Please register with ARA (Awareness Research Auroville): ara@auroville org in or WA: +91 -94880 47368



#### Performing Arts Lab (PAL) Auroville, Laboratory of Evolution (LOE-CHU) & New Creation Dance studio

are organizing a series of workshops in Auroville for movement, dance improvisation and composition creation leading to a final PAL performance in March.



16th Feb from 5 PM till 8pm; 17th through 20th - 9AM - 1pm and on February 20<sup>th</sup>, a performance at 6pm

Deepak Kurki Shivaswamy has been developing pedagogy for contemporary dance since 2004. His training is informed from multiple sources movement methodology. Core of the work is to find safe movement practice and to recognize the individuality of a dancer. The workshop will be a combination guided

improvisation and set movement tasks. Sessions encourage the participants to reflect and explore the possibilities of movement. Emphasis is placed on breath, alignment, joint articulation, and the use of gravity and momentum to facilitate movement. Creative sessions allow students to explore creating short movement sketches which will demand them to think, question and investigate the body and its politics.



The Path of the Soul 20th February 9:30 AM -3PM Sharnga GH Yoga Hall

One- day experiential workshop exploring the "Layers of the Heart" process, as described by The Mother. After a short introduction, we journey with a guided meditation to experience our Inner Self. The content of this workshop is aligned with the Integral Yoga and The Mothers work with subtle bodies.

Facilitator: Sigrid Lindemann, international faculty in integral regression therapy & sensation method homeopathy.

Contact Whatsapp 9626565134 or contact@auroville-jiva.com

You can join classes via Zoom as well! it works super good!



Aurofilm/AV Film Institute present: "CINE-master class"



Aurofilm (next to CRIPA), Kalabhoomi Saturday 20th February, 5 - 7.00/7.30 PM

If you like to discuss, share and learn more about films and Cinema, we invite you to our Cine-Master classes!

Welcome to the 7<sup>th</sup> chapter:

DEVIKA RANI-A TRIBUTE TO THE FIRST STAR OF INDIAN CINEMA A Slide-show and Lecture by Dr. Alexander Pereverzev

Overview: 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 and her overall contribution to Indian cinema.



Alexander Pereverzev was born in St.Petersburg, Russia -- the city of music and numerous art galleries. He was associated with various painter N. Roerich organizations and museums in Russia in the 1990s. Having studied Indian languages at the St.Petersburg State University, he went on to study Sanskrit in India, at the University of Delhi, obtaining a PhD degree in 2010. His professional interests include Indian philosophy. He likes travelling and visiting the places of historical and religious importance particularly in the Indian subcontinent. He has been volunteering with Savitri Bhavan, Auroville for two years. And he is a discernant film enthusiast!

Questions & Answers after Alexander's presentation and possible screening of "A THROW OF THE DICE" directed by Frank Osten and produced by Bombay Talkies/Himanshu Ray & Devika Rani. (India, 1929 - Silent with music by Nitin Sawhney, dur. 1h16').

- We follow the Covid-19 SOP. You may carry your torch light.



Quiet Healing Center

www.quiethealingcenter.info / quiet@auroville.org.in +91 413 2622329 / +91 9488084966 (mobile)

Watsu 1 (TF) with Dariya & Daniel Monday 15th - Friday 19th February, 9 AM - 6 PM

Open Heart-Space Meditation Workshop with Samrat Friday 19 & Saturday 20 February, 9.30 am - 12.30 pm No previous experience required!

#### Watsu for Babies with Dariva Monday. 22nd February 9 AM - 6 PM

Watsu for Babies is a beautiful and spontaneous way of experiencing the first childhood years and is open to all those who would like to experience the joy of



being with babies in water. In this course you will discover that emotions arising from spontaneous movements in water open up extraordinary borders. They allow us to be in the moment, simply listening to the breathing of the baby while being supported by the healing power of water. Through some Tantsu and Ai-Chi exercises, you will start listening to yourself and to the baby you hold in your arms. You will also learn possible transitions of the Watsu sequence in order to expand it in a creative way for babies. Prerequisite: Watsu Basic or a degree to work with babies in

#### Pregnant Women Classes with Friederike & Appie 23 February, 9.30 - 11.00 am

Experience the relaxing and connecting benefits of floating in warm water. You are invited to come with or without your partner or birth-attendant.

#### Baby Swim with Appie & Friederike 25 February, 9.30 - 11 am

For babies between 1 and 12 months with their parents. Please bring a closing swimming pant for your baby and towels.

#### Holistic Rebalancing - Massage Training with Ananda Monday 22 - Sunday 28 February (9.30 am - 5.00 pm)



Holistic Rebalancing powerful balancing tool for body-mind-energy based on healing techniques developed in 1980's. It's a synthesis work combined with deep tissue massage, joint energy release, work, breath work, body aware-ness and

meditation.

In this 7-days course you will learn:

- powerful techniques of joint release to melt & relax, deep tissue massage to release pain/holdings/memory, and energy work to heal from inside:
  - the physical and energetic body anatomy;
  - breath work and tools for body awareness;
  - · reading and various approach of different body types;
  - 5 types of touch related to the 5 elements: water, fire, air, earth, space:
  - special focus on neck, shoulder back; • meditations to be healthy and energetic as a hollow bamboo process; natural healing
  - · effective ways to give deep healing sessions effortlessly;
- · to hold space with changing body-mind-emotions-energy.

No previous experience required!

Ananda is professionally trained with international certifications in the field of pranic healing, hypnotherapy, holistic rebalancing and aquatic bodywork; he shares his inner journey retreats and massage trainings across India, Vietnam and Europe.

THE ART OF CHI - Stevanovitch method WORKSHOP 11 Exercises of Health w/ Hans February 22 - 27, 6:30-7:50 AM at Dehashakti No registration needed. Open to all.

We welcome you for regular classes on:

#### संस्कृत सम्भाषण SANSKRIT CONVERSATION

These sessions will be facilitated based on videos from an online course by Dr. Anuradha Choudry.

Beginner or advanced, all are welcome:)



Dr. Anuradha Choudry teaches Sanskrit, Indian Psychology, French and Language Sciences at IIT Kharagpur. She is an alumna of Sri Aurobindo International Centre of Education, Puducherry.



EVERY WEDNESDAY (FROM FEB 10) 1:30 PM TO 2:30 PM AUROVILLE LANGUAGE LAB (ALL)

For questions or registration, please write to:

<u>devabhasha@auroville.org.in</u>

Warmly, Samskritam Auroville and ALL Team

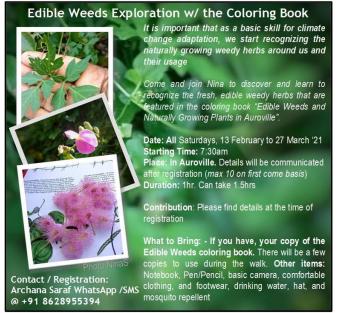
#### YOGA FOR KIDS AND TEENS

Introduce asana practice to your kids at an early age. The course includes fun mobility drills. Hatha postures, asana flow for children for flexibility, strength, energy, overall physical and emotional well being.



WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS
11:00AM TO 12:00PM
CONTACT: 9879877177

BHARAT NIVAS मारत निवास பாரத் நிவாஸ் The Pavillion of India, Auroville





Registration required for the following Classes, Intensives & Therapies Verite, 0413 262-2045, 262-2606, 709 410 4329; programming@verite.in; treatments@verite.in

#### PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN YOGA MAT & TOWEL

#### New Class: (Drop-in)

Ashtanga Vinyasa First Series - for Advanced Students Only - w/ Andres (Wednesdays 7 to 8.15 am) - starting 17<sup>th</sup> February This Ashtanga class is open to advanced students who know the primary series sequence. The Sanksrit name for the series is "Yoga Cikitsā", which can be translated as "Yoga Therapy", and is intended to purify and heal the body.

#### Intensives: (Prior Registration Required)

SOMATICS - AN INTRODUCTION FOR EVERY BODY! - with MAGGIE

Monday, 15 February - from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm

## PRANAYAMA AND CHAKRAS HARMONIZATION - with LAKSHMI Saturday, 20 February - from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm

Explore ancient yogic breathing techniques (Pranayama) used to improve lung function, and connect body, mind and soul to bring clarity and peace. Combining breath with chanting of Bija mantras (the seed syllables of each chakra) can help improve mental power and concentration, to release fear, anger, depression and enhance spiritual power. All are welcome!

## GUIDED CHAKRA HEALING MEDITATION (Intensive) - w/ TANIA Tuesday, 23 February - from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm

This intensive will include a guided chakra healing meditation which is a journey throughout the body and its chakras. We will also go deeper into the introduced tools which promote purification, healing, balancing of the chakras and an increased awareness of the body. Furthermore, we will explore the importance of proper grounding, self-love, and more, which brings more balance and an enhanced feeling of wellbeing.

## OVARIAN BREATHING FEMININE ALCHEMY (3 days) - with NADIA Wed/Thurs/Friday, 24, 25 & 26 February, 9 am to 4.30 pm

Our female anatomy (breasts, ovaries, and uterus) offers the most energetic potential of the whole mind-body organism. Ovarian breathing helps us connect with this energy, freeing the flow of the body's fluid systems. This helps not only to prevent and treat disease, but also to live a richer, more 'fertile' (i.e. creative) life. Because many of our "blockages" stem from beliefs rooted in our family/cultural conditioning, the process is also oriented to emotional and mental cleansing. The aim is to align mind, emotions and body, allowing us to return to a state of integration and unity with ourselves and our environment.

Please note: Ovarian breathing is not appropriate for women who are pregnant or have certain health issues. Prospective participants are required to complete a medical form which will be provided upon registration

#### **Treatments**

#### Siddha Traditional Herbal Remedies with Sivaraj

One of the oldest wellness systems in the world, Siddha originated in Tamil Nadu (South India) as part of the trio of traditional Indian medicines- Ayurveda, Siddha, and Unani. The holistic approach aims to purify mind, body, and soul. Siddha remedies are ancient, but can easily be included in our present-day lifestyle.

#### Traditional Reiki Healing with Tania

A healing technique based on the idea that an unseen life force moves through us. If this energy is low, we may get sick or feel stressed, if it is high we feel more healthy and happy. Beneficial for relaxation, stress reduction and healing.

#### Reiki Healing with Chakra Balancing with Tania

A subtle energy healing technique, based on the idea that an unseen life force moves through us. Beneficial for general stress reduction and healing.

See the Regular Activities Addendum for other therapies available at Verite



## Cinema Paradiso

Multimedia Center (MMC) Auditorium
Film program 8 February to 14 February 2021

Cinema Paradiso-Multimedia Center are fully operational. We offer 53 seats now. Mask is a must (and not scarves etc.) Standard Covid19 protocols will be followed. However, now the screenings are now open to ALL.

#### Indian diaspora - Monday 15 February, 8:00 pm:

#### • THE WHITE TIGER

of course!

India-USA, 2021, Writer-Dir. Ramin Bahrani w/ Adarsh Gourav, Rajkummar Rao, Priyanka Chopra, and others, Crime-Drama, 125mins, English-Hindi w/ English subtitles, Rated: R Based on a novel by Aravind Adiga, in the film Balram Halwai narrates his darkly humorous rise from poverty to riches. Balram jockeys his way into becoming a driver for Ashok and Pinky and becomes the indispensable -servant- to his rich masters, as society demands of him. But after a night of betrayal, he realizes that they would trap him and save themselves. Balram rebels against a rigged and unequal system to rise and become a new kind of master. A must see

#### Potpourri - Tuesday 16 February, 8:00 pm:

#### • AGATHA AND THE CURSE OF ISHTAR

UK, 2019, Dir. Sam Yates w/ Jonah Hauer-King, Bronagh Waugh, Lyndsey Marshal, and others Mystery-Romance, 95 mins, English w/English subtitles, Rated: G

Seeking escape and inspiration, Agatha Christie travels to Baghdad on an archaeological tour. What she finds is turmoil: the world's biggest oil field has just been discovered and Iraq's ancient treasures are under threat. Agatha also finds a charming, naive young archaeologist, Max, who needs her help as a series of murders unfold in the faded grandeur of the villa where they are staying. Has Agatha met her match?

#### Interesting - Wednesday 17 February, 8:00 pm:

#### PLANET OF THE HUMANS

USA, 2019, Writer-Dir. Jeff Gibbs w/Catherine Andrews, David Blood, Michael Bloomberg, and others, Documentary, 100mins, English, Rated: NR (PG-13)

Please accept our apologies for not being able to screen this film at an earlier scheduled date. This film boldly states that we humans on earth losing the battle to stop climate change on earth because our leaders are misleading us - selling out the green movement to businesses and the corporate sector. This film is the wake-up call to the reality we are afraid to face. The environmental movement's response with technofixes and band-aids are too little, too late. Have we environmentalists fallen for illusions, "green" illusions? A must watch and much debated.

#### Selection - Thursday 18 February, 8:00 pm:

#### UN PAS ÎN URMA SERAFIMILOR (One step behind the Seraphim)

Romania, 2017, Writer-Dir. Daniel Sandu w/Stefan Iancu, Vlad Ivanov, Toto Dumitrescu, and others, Drama, 150mins, Romanian w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR (R)

In this much acclaimed film set in 1990s Romania, 15yrs-old Gabriel enters a seminary wanting to become a priest. He soon comes up against the bullying and pranks of the older students, and also against the abusive methods of the teachers. In this unscrupulous world in which piety and faith seems just an illusion, he will have to learn how to survive through lies, deceit, theft and betrayal.

#### International - Saturday, 20 February, 8:00 pm:

#### ELIZABETH IS MISSING

UK, 2019, Dir Aisling Walsh w/ Glenda Jackson, Maggie Steed, Sophie Rundle, and others, Drama-Mystery, 87mins, English w/English subtitles, Rated: NR (PG-13)

Adapted from Emma Healey's novel, in the film Maud struggles with her dementia while attempting to find her best friend Elizabeth - who went missing. Convinced that something terrible has occurred, and she sets out to solve the mystery. But her condition blurs the distinctions between past and present - and she begins to wonder whether the mystery is connected to the decades-old unsolved disappearance of her own sister, Sukey.

Wish you well, on this Special Day celebrating The Mother's birthday and Mother Language Day - declared by the UN.

#### Children's Matinee - Sunday, 21 February, 4:30 pm:

#### • TIMMY FAILURE: MISTAKES WERE MADE

USA, 2020, Dir Tom McCarthy, w/ Ophelia Lovibond, Wallace Shawn, Kyle Bornheimer and others, Drama, 99mins, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: PG

An 11yrs-old boy believes that he is the best detective in town and runs the agency with his best friend, an imaginary 1,200-pound polar bear.

## JOSEPH LOSEY FILM FESTIVAL @ Ciné-Club Sunday 21 February, 8:00 pm:

#### THE GO-BETWEEN

USA, 1971, Dir. Joseph Losey w/Julie Christie, Alan Bates, Margaret Leighton others, Drama-Romance, 116 mins, English w/English Subtitles, Rated: PG.

Summer of 1900; Queen Victoria's last, and when Leo turns thirteen. He's the guest of Marcus, a wealthy classmate, at a grand house in rural Norfolk. He is befriended by Marian, Marcus' twenty-something beautiful sister to be engaged to Hugh, a viscount and good fellow. Marian pampers and him to carry messages to and from their neighbor, Ted Burgess, a bit of a rake. Leo is soon dissembling, realizes he's betraying Hugh, but continues as the go-between nonetheless, asking adults naive questions about the attractions of men and women.

**Rating codes** we often use are from Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA): G=General Audiences, PG=Parental guidance suggested, PG-13=Parents strongly cautioned, R=Restricted (equivalent to Indian rating: A i.e. for Adults), NR=Film Not rated, Rating awaited, or Rating not available.

For scheduling programs at MMC/CP venue: please email us at <a href="mmcauditorium@auroville.org.in">mmcauditorium@auroville.org.in</a>. We appreciate your continued support. Pl donate to "Cinema Paradiso" (account #105106) or set up for a monthly contribution. We need it now more than ever.

Thanking You, MMC/CP Group mmcauditorium@auroville.org.in





#### **EVERYONE HAS ACCESS TO THE FOLLOWING ANY TIME:**

\*\* The News&Notes is available FOR ALL to download from the Auroville website at www.auroville.org/contents/4186

> The N&N archives are found at www.auroville.org/contents/186

And also, on Auroville Wiki http://wiki.auroville.org.in/wiki/News\_%26\_Notes

#### ⇒⇒⇒ PLEASE GO PAPERLESS!

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#### **EMERGENCY NUMBERS**

#### **Auroville Emergency Contact Numbers** Save them in your phone now!

Auroville Safety and Security Team (24/7): 9443090107

Ambulance: Auroville: 9442224680

PIMS: 0413-2656271/72

Farewell: mobile number: 8903836246, reachable 24/7

Mattram: 9487746051, reachable 24/7 Emergency Service of India: 108 JIPMER hospital 2278380 / 2272389

General Hospital 2336050 Puducherry helpline: 104

TN COVID helpline: 044-29510500

#### Important information about News & Notes

Hard deadline for submissions or cancellations: Tuesday 5pm FOR THE ISSUE to be published that SATURDAY (though the digital version generally goes out on Thursday)

The contents of News & Notes are a reflection of the growth process of this community towards its ideals of harmony, goodwill, discipline and truth. Editing of submissions, mainly for reasons of space and clarity, is done according to an established policy. How to submit material: Material (no pdf files, please) may be sent (in English only) to: newsandnotes@auroville.org.in.

Please do NOT send submissions and inquiries as a "Reply" to the digital subscription mail. There is NO guarantee that anyone will see communications sent this way!

Please try your best to send your announcements, reports, film schedules whenever they are ready. Any modifications of submitted News items must be sent to the editors before Tuesday 5pm. Please do your best to submit copy that is ready for printing (i.e. Word shows you typos, extra spaces, punctuation errors, etc don't make us do all the work!).

We regret not being able to attend to visitors on Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thurs AM due to work pressure.

Articles for the Notes section should ideally be no longer than 500 words.

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

News & Notes, Media Centre, Town Hall: 0413-262-2133