

News & Notes

#893 A weekly bulletin for residents of Auroville 23 October 2021



Painting by Nicholas Roerich

The Ponder Corner

The Breath of things is an immortal Life, but of this body ashes are the end.

OM!

- Will, remember, that which was done remember!
- Will, remember, that which was done remember.

Isha Upanishad

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House of Mother's Agenda

The Seventh Earth (continued from last week)

*Then shall thy humanity become
as if the workings of these gods;
it is as if the visible heaven of light
were founded in thee.*

They really were great materialists — or materializers — of the Divine. Conquerors of Divine Matter. We feel quite grimacing beside them, and so small, like gnomes with iron helmets.

But Sri Aurobindo notes the astonishing fact:

The invariable fixity of Vedic thought when taken in conjunction with its depth, richness and subtlety, gives rise to some interesting speculations...

Such a fixed form and substance would not easily be possible in the beginnings of thought and psychological experience or even during their early progress and unfolding. We may therefore surmise that our actual Sanhita (Vedic hymns) represents the close of a period, not its commencement...

It is even possible that its most ancient hymns are a comparatively modern development or version of a more ancient lyric evangel couched in the freer and more pliable forms of a still earlier human speech. The Veda itself speaks constantly of "ancient" and "modern" Rishis (pūrvebhih... nūtanaih), the former remote enough to be regarded as a kind of demigods, the first founders of knowledge.

Or the whole voluminous mass of its litanies may be only a selection by Veda Vyasa, the great traditional sage, the colossal compiler, with his face turned towards the commencement of the Iron Age, towards the centuries of increasing twilight and final darkness, it is perhaps only the last testament of the Ages of Intuition, the luminous Dawns of the Forefathers, to their descendants, to a human race already turning in spirit towards the lower levels and the more easy and secure gains — secure perhaps only in appearance — of the physical life and of the intellect and the logical reason.

*"Let the gods nurse manhood divine."
chanted the Rishis.*

In simplicity, we may wonder why, or through what turning point of Destiny, Sri Aurobindo came so many millennia later to rediscover the Secret of the Veda, and attempt to embody it, drive it into our Matter, in this end of our Iron Age, in this hour of "final darkness"?

Do we even know that we are in the final darkness?

So many efforts, so many quests, so many deaths... for what?

At the beginning of the century, exactly in 1900, Sri Aurobindo saw, announced, "the end of the Iron Age," as if he knew that he had come for that end. But all is so dark, this tragedy of the Earth so deep.

"And chaos waits on every cosmos formed..." Really? Once again?

According to Indian tradition, every "formed" universe ends in *pralaya*, dissolution, then is formed again, with declining Ages of Truth, then half-truth, then darkness and final chaos, and we begin again...

What would one sole survivor on some peak of the Earth have to tell?... He would have to tell once more Love and Beauty and the Delight of the worlds, and that ONE's eternal song—and what else? What remains at the end, or at the beginning, what Truth, what song?

We die for lack of our song—and we come back for the song to sing, to flow like a great wave of Delight at last, and for ever. And what would these men of today have to tell, at the end, on a last "peak" before chaos?

We die because we have not found what we are, what is, and how could what is be destroyed, or be unhappy? It is full, it flows, and for ever. And universes die too, because they have not found what they are.

Mother, with her vast occult knowledge, used to say that there had been six universes, six earths before ours — six earths... all of them destroyed. It is a bit terrifying. Six earths with all those unknown beings carrying along the same sorrows, the same pains, the same hopes. Then some Rishi would come again to tell the Hope, the path, the discovery to be made...

Mother said that the seventh universe, ours, would not be destroyed—"but there will be a few upheavals." That is the whole question. That is probably why Sri Aurobindo has come back at the end, as at the beginning, like a last Rishi, here on this fragile crest. To untangle at last this terrible Spell. But one cannot untangle the Misfortune all alone; men, a few men, need to become conscious — as soon as there is consciousness, there is power.

(to be continued next week)

**Satprem. The Tragedy of the Earth
from Sophocles to Sri Aurobindo.
Destiny's Turning Point**

Townhall Speaks

SELECTION PROCESS REVIEW TASK FORCE

Dear Community, following the report from the Inquiry Task Force (who investigated the tampering of the ballot boxes) and their recommendations for the selection processes of our main working groups; which were contrary to the selection process outlined in the "Participatory working groups & the selection process of their members 2020" (PWG) document used for the last selection process; the Council was faced with a dilemma of how to best move forward taking into account the recommendation of the ITF. On one hand we had a ratified selection process, the last round of which received generally good reviews, and on the other hand, recommendations from the ITF which strongly questioned selection by voting. The main criticism by the ITF report was that the last selection process, based on voting, created a culture of politics and lobbying.

It was felt that the best way to address this dilemma was to appoint a task force from the general community (excluding all members of working groups and ITF) to consider the PWG 2020 document, the ITF report, and the previously submitted proposals for selection, and to propose an alternative. A proposal that would incorporate the best of all of them into something that the entire community could get behind.

The new proposal will then be shared with the community for a round of feedback. The feedback will be incorporated where appropriate and finally put to an RAD for ratification. Of course if this new proposal is not ratified we must revert back to the ratified process for upcoming selections in the new year and review the situation again at that time.

Although typically Auroville Council would hold and organize such a task force it was felt that because Auroville Council is to be selected by the same process that RAS would be the right body for this. Therefore, after this joint call to the community to form the Selection Process Review task force (SPRTF), the RAS will hold the rest of the process without the Auroville Council.

The scope of work for the SPRTF as seen below was drafted jointly by Auroville Council and RAS.

We invite any community members interested in joining the SPRTF to please write to the RAS (raservice@auroville.org.in) who will select 7 members by a drawing of lots. These 7 members will be supported by 1 trained facilitator who will also be drawn by lots. If you are interested to be the facilitator for this group we invite you to write to RAS (only known facilitators with experience of facilitation within Auroville will be considered). If no facilitator comes forward, then the RAS will reach out to one or two. The facilitator at their discretion may choose to bring in additional help for team building, holding space or other required tasks to help them, although the main facilitator will be the responsible party alongside RAS to assure the continued healthy functioning of the group.

If any members of the task force or the facilitator drop out they will be replaced from the same pool of nominees and in the same way the original group was chosen.

Please submit your nomination by the 30th of October 2021.

The scope for the SPRTF:

- To read and understand the "Participatory Working Groups & the Selection Process of their members 2020" (PWG), all previous PWG documents, proposal D (as per RAD December 2020), and alternate methodologies of selection of the members of the working groups previously proposed by community members;

- To comprehend the roles and challenges of the stakeholders of the selection process: organisers (RAS), facilitators, volunteers, etc;
- To consider all the observations and recommendations of the Inquiry Taskforce report and specifically those for the selection process procedure;
- To consider feedback from the community on how to improve the process of selection of the main working groups' members;
- To consider feedback from the RAS;
- To prepare an updated version of the PWG document, and specifically but not limited to the selection methodology for AvC, EB, WCom and FAMC, and invite feedback from the community on this draft; to consider and/or integrate feedback received and present an amended document for approval of the RA;
- To arrive at a meaningful outcome within the given time frame.

Warmly,
the Auroville Council

OUTCOME OF THE EMERGENCY RAD

On The Provisional Residents' Assembly Decision-Making Process



Many thanks to all the residents who participated in this decision-making event!

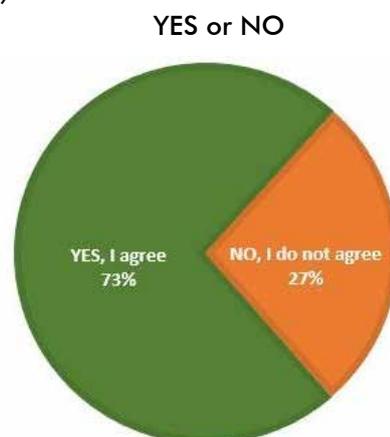
Dear Community, here are the results of the Emergency RAD (voting) to approve a provisional residents' assembly decision-making process (<https://bit.ly/3AJ4ukK>).

A total of 343 registered residents participated in the online and in-person voting. The number of participants exceeded the 10 per cent quorum required to validate the decision (239 votes).*

*Based on data received from the Residents Service, the total adult population of our community eligible to participate in RADs (age – above 18, confirmed Aurovilians) is 2387 (as of the month of October 2021).

Emergency Ra Decision:

I agree that the Provisional RAD Process can be used until a new RAD process is in place (stated intention within 9 months)



73% (250) Aurovilians agreed to use the Provisional RAD process until a new RAD process is in place.

27% (93) Aurovilians DID NOT agree that the Provisional RAD process is used.

Gratitude,
The Residents' Assembly Service

CALL FOR GRANT PROPOSALS

Annual Review for Funding in 2021-2022



The Project Coordination Group (PCG) will be meeting for the annual review of grant proposals for funding by Stichting De Zaaier in 2021 and the Foundation for World Education in 2022. A grant application form and budget request form are available on request from pcg@auroville.org.in or may be downloaded from Auronet.

Only those proposals that can be carried out under prevailing Covid 19 guidelines and restrictions will be considered. All documents related to this purpose are to be submitted in the prescribed forms as attachments emailed to pcg@auroville.org.in latest by **Monday, 25 October**.

Please submit earlier if possible. You are invited to send us a draft version of your proposal for comment prior to the due date. (If you plan to submit a proposal, please carefully read this full announcement to the end!)

Following the procedure set up by the Foundation for World Education, the Project Coordination Group will review and select projects for approval and budget allocation by their Board members. In recent years, funds available with the Foundation for World Education for Auroville projects and programmes amounted to approx. USD 30,000 in total. Please note that *no funding is available for the maintenance of Aurovilians*: maintenance of Aurovilians is either to be covered by Auroville or from a source other than Foundation for World Education grants.

With regard to Stichting De Zaaier, the Project Coordination Group will check whether proposals fall within their funding criteria and forward those that do to the SDZ Board for final selection and grant allocation. In recent years, funds available with Stichting De Zaaier for Auroville projects and programmes were in the range of € 50.000 to € 90.000 in total.

In addition to the criteria given as bullet points below, the SDZ Board has indicated that they are willing, "to consider proposals in relation to COVID-19 challenges" and, "initiatives aimed at a more sustainable economy".

Stichting De Zaaier welcomes project proposals for:

- research studies in the fields of sociology, economy, psychology and inner development;
- exploratory (research) studies into the relations with the world outside Auroville, in particular with the villages (and villagers) surrounding Auroville, as well as proposals for initiatives that seek to contribute to strengthening these relations;
- initiatives that seek to enhance efficient co-operation of Aurovilians with the aim of making full use of the existing potential in Auroville;
- studies exploring a sustainable future for Auroville and initiatives contributing to such a future;
- initiatives requiring seed money (micro-projects) for innovative and informal education and training, women's development, outreach as well as proposals prepared by youth.

Please note that *no funds are available for infrastructure, buildings or transport*. Requests for equipment will only be considered if specifically required for the implementation of the project and are not already available in Auroville

Stichting De Zaaier has indicated a preference for the funding of projects and activities for which the maintenance of Aurovilians is either covered by Auroville or from a source other than SDZ grants.

NB Both the Foundation for World Education and Stichting De Zaaier have indicated that they are open to receiving

proposals specifically related to the Honouring of Sri Aurobindo's 150th Birth Anniversary in Auroville – proposals that can be considered a priority for Auroville and, that come within the scope of donor interests and stated criteria.

A grant application form and budget request form are available on request from pcg@auroville.org.in or may be downloaded from Auronet.

Please note that if you are submitting a project that has anything to do with Auroville or Auroville Outreach schools, or, students of any individual classes, your project is to be reviewed by all concerned School Boards prior to the Project Coordination Group review. (Please contact any individual schools mentioned in your proposal before submitting it to the School Boards.) Therefore, it is important that all the relevant bodies (i.e. schools, teachers, school boards, etc.) are aware of your project and support it. In this way, the Project Coordination Group can more easily recommend a project for funding knowing it will have the support of schools and thereby have a greater impact on the beneficiaries of the project.

NB If you have already received funding for a project through the Project Coordination Group please send in a progress report/status update (if project is ongoing) or final report (if project has been completed or all funds have been utilized) before making an application for new grant.

For more information or assistance please write to pcg@auroville.org.in or contact the Project Coordination Group at the ACUR (Town Hall) by phoning 2622250. Last date for submitting proposals for this call is **Monday, 25 October**.

STOPPING CHILDREN NUTRITION TO KIND ACCOUNT

From November onwards the schools are officially open in Auroville and Children Nutrition will resume its original system: *children studying in Auroville schools get nutrition at Solar Kitchen covered by the BCC budget through school tiffins*.

The transfer of Children Nutrition to Kind Account of the parents will stop from 1st November 2021.

Regarding children not attending Auroville schools:

As an exception due to the Corona situation, BCC is offering to continue this support applicable at Solar Kitchen only.

If your child will be eating at Solar Kitchen or taking a tiffin from there, please inform BCC via email to bcc.care@auroville.org.in. We will do the needful follow-up.

Love,

Inge and Mahi for BCC

*Budget Coordination Committee (BCC) Aurosugan,
Danny, Enrica, Fabien, Hans, Inge, Mahi, Mathan,
Rathinam, Suryamayi*

COVID GUIDELINES

Dear Community, the Honorable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has issued a press release on 14th October with guidelines for the upcoming festive season and some new relaxation for the public. The translation of the text of the press release is available at this link.

Please remember to continue to apply all due precautions of wearing masks and maintaining distance when interacting with others and in public spaces/facilities, and regularly washing hands or using sanitizer.

*With best wishes to all,
The Working Committee
(Anu, Arun, Chali, Hemant,
Partha, Sauro, Srimoyi)*

FROM THE ENTRY SERVICE – ES # 104

Dated: 23-10-2021

The following people have been recommended by the Entry Board to join our community. Please share your feedback within 2 weeks for potential Newcomers, Associates and Friends of Auroville and within 4 weeks for Potential Aurovilians, Returning Aurovilians, Youth and Spouse/Partner of an Aurovillian in writing to entryservice@auroville.org.in.

We thank you in advance.

NEWCOMER ANNOUNCED:

Rajesh SHAH (USA) staying in Invocation and working at Matrimandir & Waste Without Border



NEWCOMER CONFIRMED:

Alena DEMIDENKO aka Amrita (Russian)
Anuradha SENGUTTUVAN (Indian)
Vallari SHAH (USA)

AUROVILIAN ANNOUNCED:



Donald



Elham



Pablo

Donald Mac Pherson ROBERTS aka Don (USA) staying in Douceur and working at SAVI & Hang Out

Elham VALI (Iranian) staying in Citadines and working at Auroville Unity Fund & BCC

Pablo CUESTA (Spanish) staying in Quiet and working at Aspiration team (Yucca) and ATB

AUROVILIAN CONFIRMED:

Monique GAUTHIER (USA)
Rajeev NATARAJAN (Indian)

ERRATA:

Richard EGGENBERGER aka Narad (USA) – Announced in ES# 102 (NN dated 9/10/2021) with the place of work as Matrimandir Garden by mistake

NOTE:

The Newcomer probation year becomes effective only after the NC kit has been returned and should not exceed 18 months from the date of confirmation.

A Newcomer becomes an Aurovillian once his/her name has been confirmed by The Admission Committee (aka the Entry Board) after following due process.

The date of becoming Aurovillian is the date of confirmation. An Aurovillian confirmed by the Entry Board is eligible to participate in all community decision-making processes.

A confirmed Aurovillian becomes officially a Resident of Auroville once the individual has filled in and signed the B-Form and his/her name has been entered in the Register of Residents (RoR) maintained by the Auroville Foundation Office (AVF).

A Resident of Auroville is eligible to become an executive of a Unit or Service of Auroville and to get an ID card issued by the Auroville Foundation.

A meeting with the Secretary of the AVF will be arranged by the Entry Secretariat according to the availability of the Secretary and not at any personal request.

Yours,

The Entry Service

COMMUNICATE WITH THE SECRETARY

We herewith inform the residents that those who seek appointment with the Secretary can communicate their request via apt.secretaryavf@gmail.com

For further clarification, please contact Mr. Narendra Pawar: 09999053303

Thanks & Regards,

Secretary office, Auroville Foundation

NEW INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL ANNOUNCED

Dear Community members, the Ministry of Education has announced in the Gazette of India the nomination of the new International Advisory Council of the Auroville Foundation.

We hereby shared the [relevant section of the gazette in this link](#). We will circulate at the earliest more information and some bio data about the members.

The Working Committee

(Anu, Arun, Chali (TOS), Hemant, Partha, Sauro, Srimoyi)

- Ms. Dena Merriam Founder & Coordinator, Global Peace Initiative for Women
- Ms. Gabi Gilllessen, President, European Union of Yoga
- Mr. Hasmukh P. Rama, Founder Chancellor, AURO University, Surat
- Mr. Michel Danino, Guest Faculty, IIT Gandhinagar
- Mr. David Frawley, American Hindu scholar.

The Chairman of the Council shall be elected by the members of the Council from among themselves.

The term of office of the members shall be for a period of four years from the date of this Resolution. The members shall serve in an honorary capacity.

Secretary, Auroville Foundation would be the Ex-Officio Secretary of the Auroville International Advisory Council

Community News

AUROVILLE MATTERS

YOUTH HOUSING

If you are Aurovillian / newcomer (if you have been confirmed as a newcomer at least 9 months ago), you are welcome to apply for Youth Housing.

Please make sure you fulfill the following criteria:

- between 20 and 35 years old,
- working for Auroville full time for at least 9 months
- in case you have a partner: he/she has an Auroville status and is working full time for Auroville as well

Places in Youth Housing (Kriya and Humanscapes) are suitable for singles, couples and families.

If you are interested / would like to have more information, please write an e-mail to housing@auroville.org.in

Auroville Housing Service Team

(Alexey, Aravind, Ole, Savithri, Siggie, Sundar, Venkatesh)

Phone: (0413) 262 2658, housing@auroville.org.in

Public Hours: Monday- 10.00-12.30

Tuesday to Friday 9.30-12.30

Saturday accounting only, 10.30-12.30

ACCESSIBLE AUROVILLE PUBLIC BUS SERVICE



Accessible Auroville Public Bus service started in 2016 with help of an Italian donor, who contributed to purchase a public bus to Auroville. Since 2016, we have received

good support from Aurovilians, guests and all. The service self-sustained by collecting contributions from the bus users to cover the running expenditures. We were supported by the AVI Canada to cover the yearly maintenance like, Insurance, Fitness Certificate, Yearly Maintenance of the vehicle.

We do not get any financial support from the BCC for our monthly running cost or yearly maintenance. We tried a few times with BCC to support the public transport in Auroville to avoid an increase of individual transports, taxis, etc.,. It was never accepted by the BCC since 2016.

Therefore, we invite Aurovilians, New Comers, Volunteers and Unit workers from Pondicherry to use this service to support the public transport in Auroville. While increasing the number of users, the service will sustain itself without any financial crisis. So far the service could function because the financial gaps were generously covered by advances given by Auroville Vehicle Service, but it cannot continue. Let us join together to reduce the carbon footprint and the traffic around us.

By supporting the public transport, you could have a safe Journey, reduce the carbon footprint and save money.

We have started 4 trips in a day from 15th of August 2021 with a new schedule with the aim to satisfy everyone's needs, Students studying in Pondicherry, workers from Pondicherry to Auroville, Visitors from Pondicherry to Auroville and Aurovilians could travel morning or evening to Ashram, shopping, dental appointments, etc.,.

On 8th October 2021 the bus insurance is going to expire, we need Rs. 32,500, if we do not get the amount, there is a risk that the service might be suspended. which we will do our best to avoid.

For donations avbus Ac. 251675

The Service is provided from MONDAY to SATURDAY.

avbus@auroville.org.in

AVBUS Team, Raju, Sauro, Susmita

HELP ANIMALS TEAM

available for dogs and cats sterilizations



Help Animals is still running a small project to sterilise dogs and cats in Auroville and the surrounding villages. We initiated this work in 2018 because we noticed an increasing number of strays either being dumped or coming to Auroville looking for food. At the same time the number of dogs in the Auroville shelter had increased dramatically.

We started our project out of goodwill and with small donations. Later, in 2019, we received funds through an organisation that supports Auroville projects, to neuter 90 dogs/cats from the surrounding villages.

Simultaneously Helpanimals got quite many requests from Aurovilians to sterilize their pet animals and also animals that were picked up from the road or had been dumped near their houses. In the last 2 years our work has been slowed down by the Covid emergency, but we managed to operate about 65 animals.

We are available to sterilise male and female cats and dogs in Auroville and in the surrounding villages.

To know more and get an appointment, please write to helpanimals@auroville.org.in or call

Anand ph. 8682043919 or 9487069159

Enrica Mita and Shivaya
for Help Animals

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

REMINDER: GARBA CANCELLED

Bharat Nivas reminds the community that the Garba Event of 15 & 16 October has been canceled due to covid.

MULTI MEDIA CENTRE AUDITORIUM (MMC, TOWN HALL)

Reminder: Friday 22 October

Dreams ("Yume")

By Akira Kurosawa, Japan, 1990



Friday 29 October 2021, 7:30pm

• "Tess"

Directed by Roman Polanski, France – UK, 1979

With: Nastassja Kinski Peter Firth Leigh Lawson

Synopsis: Tess is an adaptation of Thomas Hardy's 1891 novel "Tess of the Urbervilles". Wessex County, England during the Victorian era in the Great Depression (1873-1896). A clergyman and local historian, Parson Tringham, has a chance conversation with John Durbeyfield, a simple farmer, and in the course of his research he has discovered the "Durbeyfields" are descending from the d'Urbervilles, a noble family whose lineage extends to the time of William the Conqueror.

The family lost its land and prestige when the male heirs died out. Durbeyfield soon becomes fixated upon the idea of using his noble lineage to better his family's fortunes. Finding a wealthy family named d'Urberville living nearby, he and his wife send their daughter Tess to call on them about his presumed relations, and seek employment at the manor house...

This was Roman Polanski's last triumph for his stellar period during the 1970's. The film was nominated for six Academy Awards, including Best Picture, winning three for Best Cinematography, Best Art Direction and Best Costume Design.

Original English version, with English subtitles – Duration: 181 min

Covid 19, please follow the current SOP.

DEEPAVALI

BHARAT NIVAS
भारत निवास मण्डल
The Pavilion of India, Auroville

invites you to celebrate
DEEPAVALI
on
Wednesday, 3rd November, 2021
From 5:30 - 9:00 pm
at Bharat Nivas Campus

Join us to celebrate the festival of lights and colours!
Revel in the joy of sharing & creating alongside the food & festivities.

Activities include Kolam making for adults, drawing and cartoon projection depicting the stories from Ramayana for kids.

Cultural Program: Dance and Instrumental 7:00 - 7:45 pm

Variety of Food Stalls - 6:30 to 9:00 pm
(at reasonable cost)

Dress code is Indian Outfit

2 & 4 Wheelers to be parked outside the main gate
Covid Guidelines to be respected

BHARAT NIVAS NEWSLETTER - SEPTEMBER 2021

The Month of September 2021 saw the BN campus increasingly come alive with various cultural programs, seminars & meetings. Here are the details of the events that took place on the campus during this month.

Sri Aurobindo Centre for Studies

- A talk titled "Nationalism and Human Unity" by Devdip Ganguli, a teacher at the Sri Aurobindo International Centre of Education of the Sri Aurobindo Ashram, was well attended by Aurovilians.
- Auroville Sanskritam Team and Yogini set up the Natyashastra study circle once a week. Natyashastra, also often called the fifth Veda, is one of the most essential texts of drama, dance, music, arts, and fine arts in India.



- Flute Recital by Adit Ravi who is a Hindustani classical flutist trained under Guru Shri Raj Kishore Dalbehera of the Banaras and Gwalior Gharana and Sitar Vidushi Manju Mehta.
- The regular weekly class were well attended on Synthesis of Yoga- Sri Aurobindo An exploration of meaning and purpose led by Deepti.
- "Aadya" - Veena concert offered by Auroville Youth-Soundarya, Rishi and Auropremi, was a beautiful expression of rhythmic Carnatic style of music It was very well appreciated by guests and aurovilians.



- National Book Trust and Auroville Sanskritam team organized a three days workshop for their project on the subject of translation and syllabus of the Sanskrit language for the schools in India.

Kalakendra

"The Living Symbols" at Kalakendra Art Gallery: An exhibition from 15th August to 15th September, on the symbol of Sri Aurobindo and The Mother was opened by the Secretary, Auroville Foundation. The event was coordinated by Kalakendra and Anandi's Team to celebrate Sri Aurobindo's 150th Birth Anniversary. The Mother's Symbols were translated into 46 languages of the world,

During this period a series of events took place in Kalakendra.

- Sanskrit Chanting Sessions was offered by the Auroville Sanskritam group.
- Nandanam school children visited the exhibition and made Sri Aurobindo's symbol on the paper with a colorful design.

- Julie exhibited a beautiful photo of Matrimandir, in which she designed Mother's Symbol in each golden disc. Dominique Jacques exhibited her artwork on Sri Aurobindo's Symbols in one part of the Gallery.
- Jyoti Khare exhibited the related artwork in the gallery.
- An art workshop was offered by Ms Charu Sanjana, a visiting guest artist from Pondicherry.
- "The Fundamentals of Drawing" - An art workshop offered by Abhijeet thrice a week.
- Kolam workshop offered by Grace two times a week.
- On the closing day of the exhibition, Svaram offered a Sound and Vocal workshop. There were quite a number of participants who joined this event.



Sri Aurobindo Auditorium

- Sitar concert by Basab Sen accompanied by Manoj Bardhan on Tabla. The team was very happy to receive these two musicians after seven years of gap though they have been affiliated with Sri Aurobindo Ashram for many years now. Auroville community enjoyed the beautiful concert performance.
- Surya performance Lab Auroville organized a theatrical, choreographed, musical performance inspired by a poem of Sri Aurobindo, called: "Is This The End?"

Three Round Buildings

Progress Hall, Harmony Hall, Shilp Kendra

- Regular classes were held for Aurovilians, Newcomers, volunteers, and children, including Ashtanga Yoga, Capoeira & Dance classes (Bharatnatyam, Odissi & Hip Hop).
- Bharat Nivas Technical team is preparing the technical project proposal to inter-connect the roofs of these buildings in order to create an open terrace spaces for the evening performances on full moon nights

General

- The weatherproof coat of tiles on the east wing of Sri Aurobindo Auditorium fell down on 9th September. The debris from the tiles were removed from the roof with due consideration taking all necessary safety precautions. This task was carried out by Auroville Road Service with the help of Auroville Tree Care. Bharat Nivas Technical team is now working on repairing the damaged parapet wall as the next step of this resotrationwork.
- The Bharat Nivas Trustees and team members continue weekly meetings to develop, administer and coordinate the work and activities on the large campus. The team is looking at myriad ways to bring activities, engagements, programs and webinars to rejuvenate the Bharat Nivas facilities for the wider use of Auroville.

Bharat Nivas Team

Contact us on Bharatnivas@Auroville.org.in

ALL HALLOWS EVE

'HANGOUT' proudly presents
All
HALLOWS
eve
 Saturday, 30 October from 3 to 5 pm
 Center Guest House
 For young and old kids
 Pumpkin carving, Trick or Treat
 Games & Fun

BOOK NOW

For Miraculous Productions' Latest Play – Tani Illai



Dear Friend, this message is to inform you that next Friday and Saturday, Miraculous Productions will perform it's latest risky, pushing-the-limits, possibly controversial and if possible, even entertaining, theatrical creation: Tani Illai (No water)!

Where: Cripa

When: 8pm Friday (Oct 22) & Saturday (Oct 23).

How to Book: As seating is limited, please book your seat using the link below: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tani-illai-no-water-tickets-191535025417>.

Much love and see you there!
The Miraculous Productions Team!

INTEGRATED TRANSPORT SERVICE

ITS
 Integrated Transport Services

Emergency Call 24*7

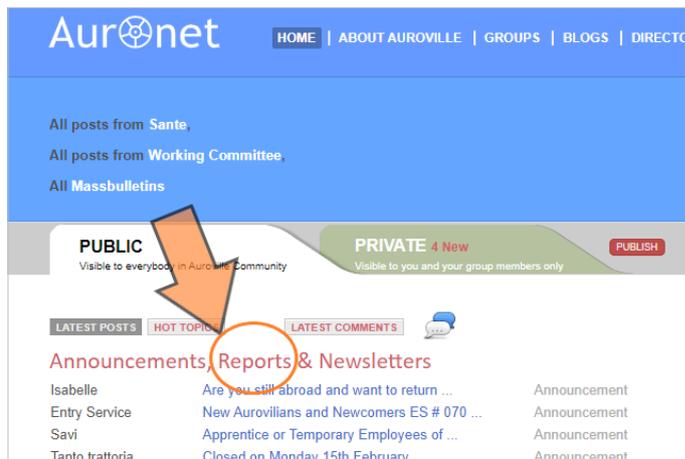
- Share Taxi to Chennai and other cities. Save Money, Pollution Free
- Rent/Buy/Service e-Scooter/Bike for quiet-easy mobility in Auroville
- Local trip around ECR, Auroville, Kuyilapalayam, Pondy
- Courier service, groceries, food parcels in 20 kms radius, pick&drop
- Get e-vehicles repaired locally at ITS from 8AM-5PM with door service
- Offering e-vehicle recharge all day with safety camera

Call on 8098776644 | 9442566256 or email us at its@auroville.org.in | sharedtransport@auroville.org.in
 Website - <https://sharedtransport.auroville.org/>

AVSST'S DUTY REPORTS AVAILABLE ON AURONET

Dear Community members, AVSST's duty reports for August 2021 are available on Auronet.

To find it, go in the "Reports" section of Auronet by clicking where indicated in the following screenshot:



Emergency (24/7): +91 944 30 90 107

Vehicle Access: +91 94 88 75 24 35

Office: +91 413 2623 400

Website: safety.auroville.org

Thank you

The Auroville Safety & Security Team

SOLAR KITCHEN TO SERVE DINNERS



Dear Community, We are ready to start our dinner services both Dine-in & tiffins from 5th of November 2021.

We will be serving a simple/light menu from 6.15pm to 7.45pm between Monday-Saturday.

Contact us at solkitchen@auroville.org.in or call us at 0413-2622663 to book.

Love, Solar Kitchen Team

THE ARTS

PLEASE TO SUPPORT

Miraculous Productions Theatre Performances!



Dear Friend, Hi!

As you may be aware, Miraculous Productions is performing a new play this weekend: Tani Illay! (No Water!).

Please Donate to **251058!**

As you may have noticed, these tickets are FREE!

But the show is not:

We must buy fabric, paint sets, buy wood, rent vandis, feed children, use petrol, print, print, print and so on.

Everyone works for free and all this costs MONEY!

Our only source of income is contributions from people like you!

Please help us keep community theatre alive! Please transfer funds to Miraculous Productions Theatre account: **251058** so that we can continue to provide free theatre to the community!

Much Love,

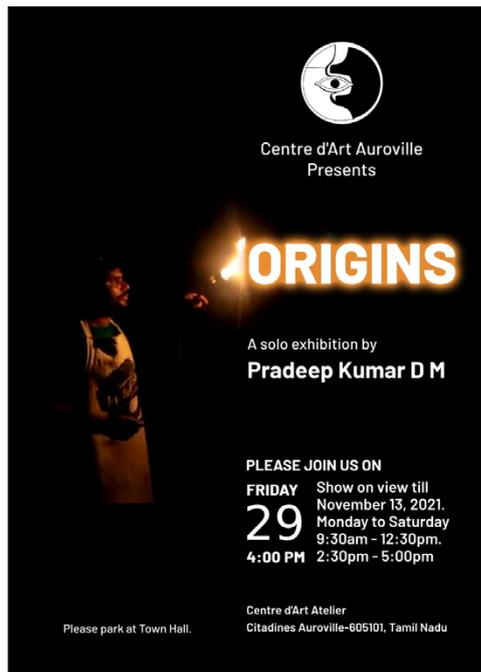
The Miraculous Productions Team

EXHIBITION "ORIGINS" BY PRADEEP KUMAR D M



Centre d'Art Auroville

Centre d'Art Gallery, Citadines, Auroville invites you for an exhibition "ORIGINS" by Pradeep Kumar D M



Exhibition opening

on Friday 29 October 2021 at 04.00am

Exhibition Dates 29 October to 13 November 2021

Gallery hours: Monday to Saturday

09.30am – 12.30pm, 2.30.00pm – 05.00pm

Please Park at the town hall.

Sunday is closed.

Centre d'Art, Citadines Auroville Artist Residency 2021 recipient Pradeep Kumar D.M. is a multidisciplinary artist, his work is inspired by the narrative forms and decorative elements related to his native culture, the Lambani tribe.

From his grandmother, Pradeep learned patience and concentration, which the woman needed for the embroidery art, while for him, they are fundamental for his drawings. Another element that distinguishes Pradeep's artistic path and draws inspiration from his culture is that of travel. Originally from Rajasthan, the Lambanis have moved south, where part of them settled in Karnataka. Pradeep has kept alive this tradition of traveling. Like a contemporary nomad, wherever he moves, his life and his art absorb the qualities of the place. Noises, sounds, smells, images, experiences, encounters, and languages of the new environment become part of his daily life and influence his creations. Wherever he goes, he collects objects, natural materials, or handcrafted materials, which become the support for his artworks. The material is important because: "It speaks of the roots, speaks of the history of the place, speaks of what is its experience. The roof tiles, for example, talk of the history of my village. My drawings then help and support the storytelling."

Precious for the artist is also the encounter with the people who live in that place and are often wrongly defined as "common": the farmer, the mechanic, the carpenter, the fisherman, etc.

These people, full of knowledge and practical wisdom, become an integral part of Pradeep's work. They are the conduit for learning how to dialogue more deeply with the materials he finds and uses, and become an inspiration for the imagery and the symbols that populate his artworks.

Pradeep Kumar D.M. was born in 1988, Dodda Magadi, Davangere, Karnataka.

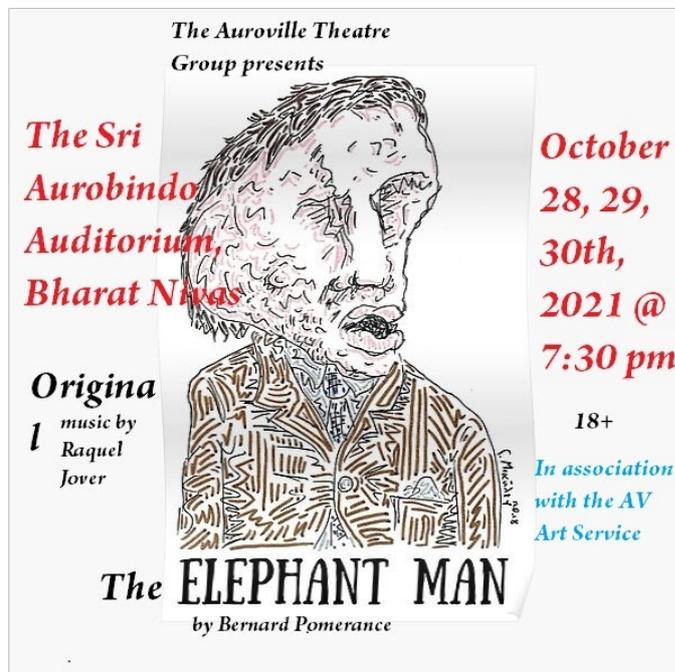
He is the winner of the Shenoy Art Foundation Young Emerging Artists Award in 2014.

Qualification: BVA in Painting, University College of Fine Arts, Davangere 2008, MVA in Painting, Bangalore University, Bangalore 2010.

Pradeep started his residency in Auroville on 15 September 2021.

Centre d'Art residency is an opportunity for artistic exchange and experimentation

THEATRE: THE ELEPHANT MAN



WORK OPPORTUNITIES

SOMEONE TO HELP AT THE COUNTER

Gastronomica kitchen

Skills required:

- Previous sales experience
- Stock management
- Good communication skills
- Able to work in a team
- Smiling

Contact: Antonello +918489756434

Or email gastronomica@auroville.org.in

Thank you, warmly, Helena



SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATOR



We, at Auroville Online Store, are looking for a Social Media Coordinator and content creator for our website and our social media accounts.

You will be responsible for creating original texts for the website and social media, creating video content, managing posts and responding to followers.

As a social media coordinator, we expect you to be up-to-date with the latest digital technologies and social media trends.

You should have excellent communication skills and you should be able to handle our social media presence ensuring high levels of web traffic and customer engagement.

You can write to us at contact@auroville.com

Stay safe and healthy! Warm regards, Priyal Auroville Online Store

MANAGER FOR HIMALAYAN CENTER

An Appeal for Volunteers



Sri Aurobindo Ashram – Delhi Branch, is once again on the lookout for a manager for its Himalayan centre, Van Niwas, near Nainital. Located on a hilltop at 7600 ft., Van Niwas has excellent scenery around

and gets plenty of sunshine surrounded by. Reserved forests where no construction is permitted. The nearest house is almost ½ km away. With no pollution and a comfortable temperature, it is an ideal place for summers. Although it does get quite cold in winters, it gets so much sunshine during the day that even winters are enjoyable. Van Niwas was managed for almost 35 years by Shri Nalin Dholakia. Nalin ji who fell in love with the place in 1983 and has stayed there ever since without ever taking a break. He has been equally happy in summers when the centre is full of campers, and in winters when he is alone for months at a stretch. He is fond of reading, is an excellent Indian Classical music teacher, and loves flowers, which he has grown there with great passion. A yogi by temperament and choice, he has been in remarkably good health for his age, but aging is something one cannot stop. Now that he is 83, he has finally agreed, quite reluctantly, to move to the Ashram in New Delhi.

We are exploring the possibility of finding someone who can take over the management of Van Niwas from Nalin ji. Although it is not easy to replace Nalin ji, it should not be impossible because the Mother has no scarcity of resources. Our first preference would be a couple who is essentially free from family responsibilities.

If anyone is interested in taking up this responsibility, they should fill up the form (attached with this mail) and send it to us immediately. The candidate/ candidates will be called for a trial period and interviewed by the trustees of Sri Aurobindo Ashram – Delhi Branch.

We now have the possibility of issuing letters for visa to serious sadhaks from abroad who may want to stay at Madhuban and pursue the Integral Yoga of Sri Aurobindo for a longer period in an idyllic surrounding of trees and forests.

We also request you to circulate this to all the disciples of Sri Aurobindo in your mailing list.

*In the service of The Mother
Ashram Family*

Sri Aurobindo Ashram – Delhi Branch

SURYA PERFORMANCE LAB IS HIRING



We're hiring! Surya Performance Lab Auroville is an activity under the umbrella of Auroville art service: www.surya-performance-lab.com

We are looking for a Manager for our Aurovilian Professional Dance theatre company; we need a skilled person for management, communication.

Fluency in English is required

To speak Tamil or Hindi is a plus.

Contribution/fees will be provided according to your skills and experience

Timing: halftime (To start)

Please send your Resume with a motivational letter to suryaperformancelab@auroville.org.in

Whatsapp us: Philippe: +918903841904

Thierry: +918903869078

HR INITIATIVE

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.

Administration/ Secretarial work

You will manage our office (answer calls, emails, manage office supplies, coordinate meetings, take minutes and write reports, organize files), you will receive visitors and supervise the workers. You have proficient computer skills, and you can do some basic accounting. You have good oral and written communication skills, including strong spelling and grammar (both in English and Tamil). You are comfortable working in a team. Full time, maintenance available.

HR Initiative looks for a team member

You will take care of our communication (via google), handle our files and database, place job opportunities in the News and Notes, organize and conduct meetings with applicants and work with the team to match candidates to work opportunities. This is a voluntary position, best done by an Aurovilian who is already here for a minimum of 3 years. You will need to be available for about 30 minutes to one hour a day.

And other positions (please inquire about details):

Volunteers for Auro Orchard

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. You can find us at hriauroville.org or hr_hub@auroville.org.in

If you are searching for work

[Fill in this form](#)

HR Initiative

hr_hub@auroville.org.in

www.hriauroville.org

LOOKING FOR

Looking for a Used Guitar



My name is Imayaval.

I am looking forward to buying a second hand guitar. Please let me know if you have one that you won't be using anymore. Contact info call 9843116948

Thank you

Looking for a Keyboard – Music teacher



For our children at our Kulai Creative Centre on the weekends. Some contributions will be paid. Contact 9843195290 or kulaicreative-centre@auroville.org.in

With thanks,

Selvaraj.A from KCC

Looking for Second Hand Bicycle



Hello friends, I am looking for a second hand bike and am happy to pay some contribution to it too. Please let me know if you can help or know anyone?

Message me on Whatsapp or call: +91 9578548128

Thanks, Satheesh

AVAILABLE

Items for Sale

- Two firefox bicycles for sale. (two gears and one gear) Almost new
 - Fiber optic modem One and half month used only
 - Mattress
- Whatsapp and call: 7598700955

Regards, Marjan

Motorcycle For Sale



Hero XPulse 200 Motorcycle for sale
As new & road-ready.
Contact: +91 7094136060

Sofie Albrecht

Nice Hut House



Hello dear Auroville friend's, I am Nithiya from Auroville. Our community has one very nice hut house available in the green belt near Ninepalms, a very beautiful place and quite some facilities common kitchen and bathroom, Options for community weekly

gatherings, Sunday offering free lunch in our common kitchen, and beautiful fruits orchard and nature for someones looking for very long-term house in Auroville.

Contact: auronithiya@gmail.com, 9159198451

Chairs, a Table and Curtains Available



2 chairs and 1 table (metal)
2 metal chairs, very comfortable design, great for veranda or garden sitting, yellow colour, good condition. 1 "coffee" table goes with the chairs, top needs derusting and repainting, diameter is 60 cm, height is 42 cm. Contribution requested.

Contact: Yvelise and Emanuele,
2623407 (8am to 6pm), yvelise@auroville.org.in.

Black Out Curtains

9 blackout curtains, thick material, long lasting, plain nice blue color, in good condition (slightly discoloured on the one side because of sunlight), good for the bedroom or office if you need to dim the light. Dimensions: 122 cm by 225 cm. Bought 2 years ago, contribution requested.
Contact: Yvelise and Emanuele, 2623407 (8 am to 6 pm), yvelise@auroville.org.in.

Thanks a lot, warmly, Yvelise

LOST AND FOUND

Purse Missing

Thursday 14th Oct from 2-5pm, at **Break Coffee**, Auroville Main road, Kuilapalayam; I forgot a money pocket in olive green color, inside there were:

- bank visa debit card
- health insurance card
- id card No.0067/EM/FRA/44 Ministry of external affairs (Govt. of India). Alls name: PHAM THI THANH HUONG And cash around 5000 inr and 300 usd

By any chance, by accident, anyone got it or any information Please DM me!!!!

Whatsapp: +84978444115
Indian number: +91 96206 63727

That's all I have to do to survive in the next few months.

Thank you very much!!!

Thanh Huong

HELPFUL HINTS

HOW DO PROBIOTICS CLEAN A COUNTERTOP?

Probiotics House Tip Series # 33

Part One: Postbiotics



How can bacteria clean a countertop?

It just seems counter-intuitive (pun intended), but it happens. Probiotics have four main mechanisms for cleaning, and today, we'll cover a big one—Postbiotics!

Okay, so what are Postbiotics? They are basically anything that a Probiotic secretes, or any byproducts of the Probiotic breaking down another substance. The most popular example of this is yeast releasing alcohol, but different types of Probiotics can release different Postbiotics. This is one of the most important reasons that our products use a Consortium of ten or more microbes grown together, rather than the one, or at most 2-3 strains used in almost all Probiotic products. That way, we can select the microbes that are best suited for the job.

Probiotics create three main Postbiotics that are useful for cleaning—organic acids, hydrogen peroxide, and biosurfactants. All three are used by the bacteria to try and out-compete other microbes by making the environment unsuitable for them, but we use them to clean, and they work really well. Organic acids have disinfectant properties, and hydrogen peroxide, more commonly known as oxygen bleach, works well at cleaning, whitening, and inhibiting the growth of unwanted microbes.

Biosurfactants, though, are the real magic ingredient. These are secreted by the bacteria specifically to break down biofilms made by competing microbes. Biofilms are everywhere—the plaque on your teeth clings to them with a biofilm, pond scum is biofilm, and lesser-known biofilms coat things like countertops and door handles. They help the bacteria stick to surfaces and protect them from both physical cleaning (scrubbing and wiping) and bactericides.

The biosurfactants secreted by our consortium are fantastic cleaning agents, removing regular dirt and those sticky biofilms that so many conventional cleaners leave behind. That is why so many users comment on the gleaming countertops they get after using our cleaners—biofilms that have accumulated since the surface was manufactured are removed, and they really do look as good as new!

The other great thing about biosurfactants is that, just like chemical-based surfactants, they can dismantle germs. The biosurfactant particles actually break down cell walls and carry them off, just like they do to dirt or organic residue. They do not kill "99% of all life forms on a surface" as so many disinfectants proudly claim, because we don't WANT to kill that many of them—the average surface has 85% benign or helpful microbes, and only 15% are pathogens. What you want is to clear a surface of bad bugs and make sure only the good ones survive, and biosurfactants are an excellent first step. But still, seeing is believing, and you can try out the magic of microbes on your countertops!

In our next blog, we'll explain the next step--how Probiotics out-hustle microbes that we don't want with something called "competitive replacement".

*Probiotics House
Guidelma & Margarita
MGEcoduties – Reve.*

Voices and Notes

Un immobile Silence
Nobody around
You and me
Alone
Everything.

Anandi-a, 13.10.2021

AUROVILLE DUSSHERA (15TH OCT)

Thunder fills the sky,
a roar deep, like a call that
resonates deep inside.

Crackling,
Of rainfall, a prelude,
a warning,
or an announcement,
like there was an invisible megaphone
interspersed between the clouds,
an arrangement unknown.

The trees swayed in anticipation,
roads quickly turned into a red hue,
like sandstone,
rich in texture,
merging with the water,
in participation.

Rivulets, somewhere large depressions filled with water,
or village potholes,
this was the view to behold.

Nature's manifestations,
Its own unimitable compositions,
are powerful, subtle or gentle,
an unusual mix,
like various herbs in a tea-kettle.

God's earth,
God's kettle,
the rain and forest –
an intoxicating, invigorating combination.
Blessing us, in joyful celebration.

Awestruck,
we can only humbly acknowledge,
that Nature is an eternal source,
a force all-giving to be revered as sacrilege.

The thunder was His way of wishing
"Happy Dusshera",
to celebrate it with falling rain:
His opera.

by P.M.Shah

AUROVILLE RADIO



Dear Aurovilians, please check the latest podcasts of your favourite radio! Stay tuned!

[Here you can listen](#) to the stream channel (playing 24/7).

[Here you can see](#) on-air schedules.

Last published podcasts:

[Audible Weed Walk – ep.60 "Sharing abundance with care"](#) (Food education)

[Aarohan-ep.33 "SwaradhiraajThe Emperor of the Note!"](#) (Music)

[The best of what's still around – ep.30](#) (Music)

[Happiness, Love and Laughter – ep.113 "Finding Your True Self"](#) (Wellness)

[Karpathu Tamil- Ep.2 "சித்தர் பாடல்கள்" \(Siddhar Songs\)](#) (Tamil culture)

[Savitri, B. X, C. IV, Part 1](#) (Integral yoga)

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

For more information write to radio@auroville.org.in

Peace and Love

FOR GERARD



In 2013 I was lucky enough to join Aurofilm during my newcomer period, and I was fortunate to meet Gerard Carabin and learn a lot from him.

Before coming to Auroville, I had been an amateur cinema lover, but my way of viewing and choosing movies has completely changed since I joined Aurofilm.

Through Gerard's refined eye and his sensitive being, I have learned that film is an art to elevate the spirit, expand the mind, and refine the senses. I understood that the role of a good film director is to touch the soul of the spectators and express beauty!

It was also an inspiration to see Gerard's passion for pioneers of films preservation with whom he fully identified, such as Henri Langlois who went to film archivist and cinephile and pioneer of film preservation in France (creating the Cinemathèque Française) and who dedicated his life to the Seventh Art.

As also PK Nair, founding member of the NFAI, National Film Archive of India with whom he had contact already in the 80s to get 35 mm film prints of Indian and world classics for Auroville, and later with another NFAI director with permission of whom he made a documentary on the preservation of films in India, with the help of Surya his inseparable friend and colleague.

Another unforgettable thing for me is the Indian Panorama film festivals that Gerard and Surya so carefully presented to the Auroville audience each year. How much I have learned about India, its culture, its languages, customs, beauty, traditions, history through the selection of films...

Thank you dear Gerard, I will miss your presence and I will always remember your favorite films and your great love for the geniuses of Cinema, Akira Kurosawa, Satyajit Ray, Truffaut, Ken Loach among others.

May the Light accompany you on your way and may your soul rest in peace!

Susana Cabra

RESPONSE TO ARBITER SUBGROUP REPORT

Response to FAMC regarding their "summary" of the arbiter subgroup's report, tasked with looking into the false allegations made by some of Solar Kitchen's Aurovilian workers towards the former management.

Please see full report [in Appendix 1 of this issue](#).

*Former Solar Kitchen executives
Angelika and Thushitha*

GREEN COLUMN FOR SATURDAY, 23 OCTOBER

Conference on Biodiversity



To Prepare COP 26 – the UN Climate Conference in Glasgow (UK) – beginning in October 31st – there have been many conferences and meetings in preparation: the Pre-COP 26 in Milan where energy ministers have been trying to shape the negotiations in detail.

The Youth version of the COP 26 Climate Summit as part of the official UN gathering, also took place in Milan: 400 young people were invited. Hundreds of young people led by Swedish activist Greta Thunberg marched to demand swift climate action.

Please see full article [in Appendix 2 of this issue](#)

CLASSES, WORKSHOPS & HEALING ARTS

SHRIMAD BHAGAVAD GITA

Welcome to the next session on:



श्रीमद् भगवद्गीता SHRIMAD BHAGAVAD GITA

We will focus on Chapter 3 of the Bhagavad Gita known as Karmayoga



Dr. Sampadananda Mishra is a scholar of Sanskrit and Indian culture with over 25 years of dedicated service. He is devotee of Sri Aurobindo and The Mother. Presently he is working as a Professor at Rashtram School of Public Leadership and Rishihood University, Sonapat.

He will share a summary of Chapter 3 and also insights from some key shlokas, Sanskrit words and their deeper significance in everyday life.

Saturday, 30 October, 2021, 9.30am – 12.30pm

Bhumika Hall, Bharat Nivas

Also online: Zoom Meeting ID: 929 9405 2722

Passcode: YOGA

9.30am – 10.20am: Chanting Chapter 3 (Sanskrit)

10.30am – 12pm: Talk by Sampadbhai (English)

12pm – 12.30pm: Question and Answers

For questions or registration, please write to:

devabhasha@auroville.org.in

Warmly, Samskritam Auroville Team

OM CHOIRS TO MEET IN THE AMPHITHEATRE

All om choirs will be in the Matrimandir Amphitheatre, weather permitting, until further notice.

Many thanks, Narad

QUIET HEALING CENTER



www.quieth healingcenter.info/quiet@auroville.org.in

+91 413 2622329/+91 9488084966 (mobile)

Multidimensional Shambhala Reiki with Pierre

Sunday 31 October (9.00 am – 5.00 pm)

Reiki is a technique using Universal Energy or Life Force. It promotes healing and offers a deep relaxation as well as grounding.

Multidimensional Shambhala Reiki is not only a healing system; it also represents a way of accelerating your spiritual development. You will quickly feel the effects of the Shambhala Reiki practice and integrate a new paradigm shift that brings you to live in the Heart.

Practicing Shambhala Reiki has a deep spiritual nature and may be used by everyone seeking inner progress. It creates a strong connection to your higher self, has powerful healing energies, and stimulates unconditional love.

Prerequisite: a free individual introduction session with the teacher on Saturday afternoon!

Max.: 4 participants

Call Pierre at +91 6382101644 for more information.

YOGA WEEKEND – AUROMODE

October 22,23 & 24, 2021

3 day self awareness yoga retreat



Friday: October 22,2021

3 pm to 4 pm – Who are you?-Self enquiry

4 pm to 5 pm – Basics of learning & action

5 pm to 7 pm Hatha Yoga

Saturday: October 23,2021

3 pm to 4 pm – Why we lie to ourselves? -Self enquiry

4 pm to 5 pm – Discipline is freedom

5 pm to 7 pm – Yin Yoga

Sunday*:October 24,2021

7 am to 9 am – Kalaripayatu

10 am to 12 pm – All life is Yoga – Self enquiry



Venue: Auromode Apartments, Auroville

Registration:

balaganesh.siva@gmail.com &

contact@auromodeyogaspace.com

You can join all three days or individual days also

AUROVILLE LANGUAGE LAB

• Mobile Phones @ The Lab!

Please ensure mobile phones are either on Airplane Mode or switched off when entering the building! We maintain a wireless-free space to avoid disruptions to Tomatis & language classes. Thank you for understanding!



- **Cashless Transactions:**

The Language Lab has already been pretty much cashless & working only with online transfers since quite a while, as most Aurovilians use the Financial Service for their transfers. This was extended to non-Aurovilians (e.g. Auroville employees, guests, etc) once we got our UPI payment option several months ago.

Anyhow, this is a reminder that there will be **absolutely no cash payments accepted at the Lab**. Thank you!

- **AV Employee Status**

For all Auroville Employees who would like to join a course at the Lab, we kindly request that we receive a letter from the Employer (a registered unit/service), or the Employer must email us (at all@auroville.org.in, giving the name & phone number of the employee) on their Employee's behalf. In the case of ammas, gardeners, etc of Auroville Communities & homes, we ask that the Aurovilians where they are working should send us an email, or provide a handwritten letter to their employee, so that we can then provide the Employee Rate.

New Language Courses!

- **German Update**

In November, Verena will start a **new German Group Course**, Level A1.2! A compact course, 3 months long, of two 90-minute classes a week, Tuesdays & Thursdays, 4:00 pm – 5:30 pm. If you have a basic knowledge of German speaking, reading, writing and listening, then you are welcome to this A1.2 German class. Intended for learners who are autonomous, & who are ready to invest some time outside of the classroom for their learning progress. Learners will be assessed continuously throughout the trimester, or on the basis of testing in between the chapters. They will receive a participation certificate outlining their hours of learning in the four skills (reading, writing, listening & speaking).

Kindly inform us if you would like to join this course!

- **Total Beginner English**

Rupam will start a **Total Beginner English** course for 3 months. This is for people who absolutely do not know how to read, write or speak English at all. We know there are several people, especially women, in Auroville, in that situation. The students of the previous pre-Covid lockdown group were very happy with their progress. A new group is starting, so, if you know anyone who could benefit, of any nationality, please ask them to contact the Lab ASAP. Priority will be given to Aurovilians, Newcomers, Family of Aurovilians, & Auroville Employees.

- **Beginner Spanish**

Mila just started a **new Beginner group** on October 15th. Timings are Tuesdays & Fridays, 02:30 pm – 03:30 pm.

The Spanish Beginner's course is a practical introduction to the Spanish language. We follow "Madrigal's Magic Key to Spanish: A Creative & Proven Approach", a number one book to learn Spanish in USA.

During the 3-month introduction course, students will learn:

- The Spanish alphabet, phonetics, listening & reading skills
- Extensive vocabulary (more than 1000 Spanish words) that derives from English through simple rules
- How to create verbs from nouns, learning a large set of Spanish verbs
- Verb conjugations for past, present & future tenses for regular verbs

e. Adverbs, adjectives, & formation of sentences

f. To write and speak using all the material learnt.

Kindly inform us if you would like to join this course!

- **Beginner Hindi**

Rupam is ready to re-start a group for **Beginner Hindi** in October! This course will take place in the mornings, Wednesdays & Fridays.

We still need at least 3 more students to get started!

If you are seriously interested and willing to make a commitment for 3 months, please do not hesitate to contact us. Not sure why more people are not coming forward to learn Hindi. We thought many would be interested. Please note that the Hindi language is a beautiful and engaging language to learn, and needs regular attendance, because the course content is structured sequentially.

In this 3-month course, the content is:

- Building confidence in conversation
- Introduction to grammar
- Reciting poems
- Exploring Navarasa (the 9 emotions)
- Playing Antakshari
- Singing & relishing the beauty of the Hindi language.

Please let us know if you would like to join!!

- **Italian**

Speaking and culture introduction for beginners

Enzo is ready to teach Italian to the community, probably starting in November. If you are a beginner with no or little knowledge of the Italian language, you are welcome to join. A compact course, 3 months long, of two 60-minute classes a week.

During the 3-month introduction course, the content is:

- Alphabet & Phonetics
- Introduce yourself in a simple way and introduce someone else
- Geography of Italy & Italian customs & culture (music & cinema)
- Spoken grammar tips: main verbs, pronouns, sentence structure, gender, singular & plural, punctuation
- Exchange simple information about your family, work, outings, plans, holidays, home, etc.
- Talk about your everyday activities and your hobbies
- Ask and answer questions in a simple way about ordinary things: shopping, restaurants, cafés, etc.
- A range of different topics can be explored based on the interests of the students

Kindly inform us if you would like to join this course!

- **Spanish Conversation**

Rachel will start a group for **Spanish Conversation** on Wednesdays, 20th October, 2:00-3:00pm. A fun Spanish Conversation course with games, songs, specific topics, or simply conversing Spanish together. If you have at least a basic knowledge of this beautiful language and would like to join, please give us a call or send us an email.

Please fill out our form at <http://register.auroville-languagelab.org/> to join, or inquire about, any language classes at the Lab! As well as drop us an email or call!

Please Note: Registration (correct contact details on our database, plus payment/contribution) is important when joining a course with us. Please see our team member at the front desk to ensure this is complete before joining a course, thank you!

Tomatis

Huge and deep apologies to all those who have done their Listening Tests but not had their Consultations. We will get back to you this week. As for those who made requests for Tomatis programs, but didn't receive times for their Listening Tests and Consultations, we have noted all requests so far: we will get back to you one by one, and hopefully we will be able to accommodate everybody. Thank you so much for your patience. Please feel free to send us a reminder so we can make sure we didn't miss anyone. New requests can be sent by email to Tomatis@auroville-lelanguagelab.org.

For more information about the Tomatis program, please have a look at the following links:

- <https://www.aurovillelanguagelab.org/tomatis-method.php>
- <https://www.aurovillelanguagelab.org/tomatis-kids.php>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wnpXprTI3m0>
- <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeTIG0y-sBM-lywZNdZcAng/videos>
- <https://www.listenwell.com/>

The Language Lab is open

Monday – Friday:

9.00 am – 12.00 pm & 2.00 pm – 5.00 pm,

Saturday: 9.00 am – 12.00 pm.

Location:

International Zone, after Unity Pavilion & Pump House.

Phone: (0413) 2623 661, 4036920/22.

Email: info@aurovillelanguagelab.org

ALL: Schedule Of Classes as of 12.10.2021

Language	Level	Time	Day(s) Of Classes
English	Complete Beginners!	To be determined! Inquiries Welcome!	
	Beginner & Pre-Intermediate	10.00 am – 11.00 am	Tuesday & Thursday
	Intermediate (on hold)	03.00 pm – 04.00 pm	Wednesday & Friday
	Intermediate/Advanced	New cycle in December! Inquiries Welcome!	
French	NEW – Beginner	To be determined! Inquiries Welcome!	
German	A1.1 Beginner	04.00 pm – 05.30 pm	Tuesday & Thursday
Hindi	NEW – Beginner (on hold)	10.00 am – 11.00 am	Wednesday & Friday
Tamil	Spoken Beginner	09.30 am – 10.30 am	Tuesday & Thursday
	Written & Spoken Beginner	04.30 pm – 05.30 pm	Monday & Thursday
Spanish	NEW Beginner	02.30 pm – 03.30 pm	Tuesday & Friday
	Intermediate	03.30 pm – 05.00 pm	Monday & Friday
	NEW Conversation	02.00 pm – 03.00 pm	Wednesday

TRANSFORMING TRAUMA

6 and 7 November



How to identify trauma and posttraumatic stress disorder?

How to recover a person's full potential, energy and zest for life – and even integrate the wisdom of it all?

2 day workshop with theory and interactive exercises, A toolbox of techniques to apply in your therapeutic work. The workshop is designed for therapists of body and mind, psychologists, and all who work with trauma.

Facilitator: Sigrid Lindemann, international faculty in integral regression therapy, Sensation method homeopathy, trauma therapy in Auroville for 20 years.

Date: 6 and 7 November, 9am – 4.30pm.

Venue: Sharnga Guesthouse Yogahall

www.sharngaguesthouse.in

Info and registration Sigrid,

contact@auroville-jiva.com, WA 09626006961

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT NEWS & NOTES

Hard deadline for submissions or cancellations: Tuesday 3pm



The content of News & Notes is 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:

- Max size of the published poster is 9cm x 9cm independently of the size you sent. The bigger posters will be reduced.
- Material (no pdf files, please) may be sent in English only to newsandnotes@auroville.org.in.
- Articles for the Notes section should ideally be no longer than 500 words.
- 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 3pm.
- We regret not being able to attend to visitors on Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thurs AM due to work pressure.

Visiting hours: call or email for appointment.

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

News & Notes, Media Centre,
Town Hall,
0413-262-213



CINEMA PARADISO
Multimedia Center (MMC) Auditorium
 Film Program
 25 October 2021 to 31 October 2021

Cinema Paradiso-Multimedia Center is in operation at 50% seating capacity as per the regulations. It is open to all. Mask is a must (and not scarves etc.) as well as standard Covid19 protocols. Please come and enjoy the films. To organize a seminar/program please contact us via email.

Indian – Monday 25 October, 7:30 pm
MAADATHY: AN UNFAIRY TALE

India, 2019, Writer-Dir. Leena Manimekalai w/Semmalar Annam, Ajmina Kassim, Patrick Raj, and others, Drama-Mystery, 90mins, Tamil w/ English subtitles, Rated:NR (PG)

India is a land of subaltern deities or siru theivam (little-deity) in Tamil, for and by clans. Each deity has a unique legend intertwined with the socio-historic milieu. Puthirai vannaar is a Dalit community from southern Tamil Nadu. Their society-imposed occupation is to wash clothes of other Dalits, the dead and the menstruating women. The very sight of a Puthirai vannaar, could pollute the so-called upper castes. Hence, they must remain unseeable to others. Their deity is Maadathy. This much acclaimed film is about a young girl from this caste who wanted to break free and was immortalized as their local deity, Maadathy. *The director, who is sharing this film, will be present in person for a brief Q&A after the screening. You can't miss!*

Interesting – Wednesday 27 October, 7:30 pm
STREET GANG:
HOW WE GOT TO SESAME STREET

USA, 2021, Writer-Dir. Marilyn Agrelo w/ Frank Biondo, Linda Bove, Fran Brill, and others, Documentary, 107mins, English w/English subtitles, Rated: PG

Have you seen or been a fan of Sesame Street or its characters? Here is your chance to take a stroll down Sesame Street in this fascinating film – and witness the birth of one of the most impactful English children's series in TV history. From the iconic furry characters to the songs you may know by heart, learn how a gang of visionary creators changed the world, much beyond the boundary of its country of origin.

International – Saturday, 30 October, 7:30 pm
SHIVA BABY

USA-Canada, 2020, Writer-Dir. Emma Seligman w/ Rachel Sennott, Danny Deferrari, Fred Melamed, and others, Comedy-Drama, 77mins, English w/ English subtitles, Rated:NR (PG)

In this debut film by the director, Daniella is a college senior. She spends a night with her sugar daddy, then heads to a traditional Jewish wake. At that wake, she runs into her not-so-secret "scandalous" ex-girlfriend... and that very same sugar daddy, fully in tow with his wife and newborn baby. Good story telling and excellent cast – makes this film a farkakte brilliant.

Children's Matinee – Sunday, 31 October, 4:30 pm
SOUL

USA, 2020, Dir. Pete Docter, w/ Jamie Foxx, Tina Fey, Graham Norton and others, Animation, 100mins, English w/English subtitles, Rated: PG

After landing the gig of a lifetime, a New York jazz pianist suddenly finds himself trapped in a strange land between Earth and the afterlife.

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 mmcauditorium@auroville.org.in. We appreciate your continued support. Please 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 Account# 105106,
mmcauditorium@auroville.org.in

APPENDIX 1

RESPONSE TO ARBITER SUBGROUP REPORT

Response to FAMC regarding their "summary" of the arbiter subgroup's report, tasked with looking into the false allegations made by some of Solar Kitchen's Aurovilian workers towards the former management.

We relate this report to the findings of the arbiter subgroup, chosen by FAMC and working for more than 3 months through the accounts of Solar Kitchen, to check for any financial mismanagement. Their entire report with some comments from the former executives can be seen in Angelika's response in the Auronet dated 01.10.21.

The arbiters report clearly states the following observations: (content in brackets has been added by us to make it a little bit more understandable)

"In our extensive in depth interviews and scanning of records relating to milk and vegetables we do not find any financial mismanagement done by SK executives."

"The letter written by the Aurovilians (kitchen staff) did not have an active participation by all signatories and some had not even read the letter." "The Aurovilian kitchen staff did not have any proof of the statements made but did point to involvement of a group member (means administrative group of AV like WC or BCC or FAMC or...?) in writing the letter."

"The accusations in the letter written by the Aurovilians (kitchen staff) had no proof, and it is sad that such slander is allowed on Auronet. The FAMC/AV Council can

consider putting in place appropriate steps to prevent this. At the same time it is understandable that the frustrations of the Aurovilians needed an outlet. This was however inappropriately done by writing accusations without proof, which ended up hurting long term dedicated Aurovilians colleagues. We regret that action, and hope that they will be able to apologise publicly for this action."

Finally have the acknowledgement of slander, which has happened against the former executives plus accountant of the Solar Kitchen. Slander is a criminal offense according to the Indian Law. We do not intend to make a complaint, but we want to put things into proportion and perspective.

Following this we are very surprised that the actual slander was not at all appearing in last week's FAMC announcement in News and Notes. On top FAMC mentioned that the Solar Kitchen "was running regularly in a considerable minus for many months", which is a false statement. On 31st of May 201 the plus-balance of Solar Kitchen stood at Rs. 77,829.- plus dry goods stock of Rs. 1,09,828. Naturally during Covid Solar Kitchen's accumulated reserves (through guest income) were getting reduced substantially, but Solar Kitchen under the former management was always 100% self-sustainable and actually has subsidized lunches of all Aurovilians through extra guest-income since 2014.

The FAMC also omitted that all false allegations against Thushitha and her family have been cleared through the arbiter group.

Here are some summary points which highlight some bias and/or wrong assumptions of the arbiter-group's report and/or some lack of perspective on the side of the FAMC:

1. Solar Kitchen executives have been forced to resign by FAMC, BCC and WC without any proper process, in a Zoom meeting on Sat 22d of May 2021. They were al-

ready in possession of this slander letter but they didn't tell the executives anything about it. We have been executives of Solar Kitchen since 2003, and Thushitha has worked already before in Bharat Nivas kitchen.

2. Regarding the closure of the kitchen and the settlement of the workers, the executives were not involved as they didn't agree.

3. Vijaya, Iyanar and Guru who were heavily targeted in this slander were not interviewed at all. We consider this a biased approach.

4. Meetings with Solar Kitchen's Aurovilian team-members have happened irregularly and whenever needed. They were initiated by the management to discuss issues of work-details, hygiene procedures or punctuality. There was never a request from the side of the Aurovilians towards the management to meet.

5. Arbiter statement: "The Aurovilian kitchen staff did not have any proof of the statements made (slander) but did point to involvement of a group member in writing the letter."

This is the statement of the arbiter group which has also been omitted by the FAMC's "summary". This statement is supporting our perception that one (or more?) official group-members of AV's administrative bodies was invested in the slander.

6. Arbiter statement: "The accusations in the (slander) letter written by the (kitchen-team) Aurovilians had no proof, and it is sad that such slander is allowed on Auronet. The FAMC/AV Council can consider putting in place appropriate steps to prevent this." We fully agree with this statement from the arbiter team. Although FAMC, BCC and WC knew the content of the then unproven allegation letter, it was still put four days later in the Auronet. Why?

*Former Solar Kitchen executives
Angelika and Thushitha*

APPENDIX 2

GREEN COLUMN FOR SATURDAY, 23 OCTOBER

Conference on Biodiversity



To Prepare COP 26 – the UN Climate Conference in Glasgow (UK) – beginning in October 31st – there have been many conferences and meetings in preparation: the **Pre-COP 26 in Milan** where energy ministers have been trying to shape the negotiations in detail.

The **Youth version of the COP 26 Climate Summit** as part of the official UN gathering, also took place in Milan: 400 young people were invited. Hundreds of young people led by Swedish activist Greta Thunberg marched to demand swift climate action.

This week, environment officials, diplomats and other observers from around the world gathered online, and a small group assembled in person in Kunming, China, for the **15th United Nations Biodiversity Conference**. The US is the only country in the world that is not a party to the underlying treaty: **The Convention on Biological Diversity**. Because of the pandemic, the conference had two parts: the virtual portion was largely about drumming up political will, nations will meet again in China in the spring to ratify a series of targets aimed at tackling biodiversity loss. **The aim will be to adopt a pact for nature akin to the Paris Agreement on climate change.**

Countries gathered in an effort to stop a biodiversity collapse that scientists say could equal climate change as an existential crisis.

If the global community continues to see this conference as a side event and they continue thinking that climate change is now the thing to really listen to, by the time they wake up on biodiversity it might be too late. **Because climate change and biodiversity loss are intertwined**, with the potential for both win-win solutions and vicious cycles of destruction, they must be **addressed together**: they are two existential crises that humankind has elicited on the planet.

Apart from any moral reasons for humans to care about the other species on Earth, there are practical ones. At the most basic level, people rely on nature for their survival. The diversity of all of the plants and animals actually make the planet function. They ensure that we have oxygen in the air, and have fertile soils.

Lose too many players in an ecosystem, and it will stop working. The average abundance of native species in most major terrestrial biomes has fallen by at least 20 percent, mostly since 1900. But an estimated million species are threatened with extinction.

Climate change is only one driver of biodiversity loss. For now, the major culprit on land is humans destroying habitat through activities like farming, mining and logging. At sea, it's overfishing. Other causes include pollution and introduced species that drive out native ones.

‘When you have two concurrent existential crises, you don’t get to pick only one to focus on — you must address both no matter how challenging,’ said Brian O’Donnell, director of the Campaign for Nature ‘This is the equivalent of having a flat tire and a dead battery in your car at the same time. You’re still stuck if you only fix one.’

Last year the world’s nations **largely failed to achieve the targets** of the previous **global agreement on biodiversity**, made ten years ago in 2010. If the new commitments are not translated into **effective policies and concrete actions** we risk repeating the failures of the last decade.

What Next?

The working draft for the treaty on **Biological Diversity** includes 21 targets that act as a blueprint for reducing biodiversity loss. Many are concrete and measurable, others more abstract. None are easy. They include, in summary:

- Create a plan, across the entire land and waters of each country, to make the best decisions about where to conduct activities like farming and mining while also retaining intact areas.
- Ensure that wild species are hunted and fished sustainably and safely.
- Reduce agricultural runoff, pesticides and plastic pollution.
- Use ecosystems to limit climate change by storing planet-warming carbon in nature.
- Reduce subsidies and other financial programs that harm biodiversity by at least \$500 billion per year: this is the estimated amount that governments spend supporting fossil fuels and potentially damaging agricultural practices.
- **Safeguard at least 30 percent of the planet’s land and oceans by 2030.**

In the lead-up to the conference, **that last measure**, pushed by environmentalists and a growing number of nations, has received the most attention and resources. Last month, nine philanthropic groups donated \$5 billion to the effort, known as 30x30. The hope is this would be a step on the way to one day **conserving half of the planet for nature**.

Indigenous groups have watched with hope and worry, some welcome the expansion, calling for a higher number than 30 percent, while others fear that they will lose the use of their lands, as has happened historically in many areas set aside for conservation.

The debate underscores a central tension coursing through the biodiversity negotiations. If this becomes a purely conservation plan for nature, this is going to fail: what is needed is **a plan for nature and people**.

With the global human population still increasing, scientists say **that transformational change is required for the planet to be able to sustain us**. We actually need to see every human endeavor, through the lens of biodiversity and nature. Since everyone depends on nature, everyone is part of the solution...

The Green Column appears bi-monthly in the News & Notes and on Auronet. We like to hear from you! avgreen-center@aurovill.org.in

For AV Green Center, Lisbeth & Gijs

Sources:

UN Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change, UNN Biodiversity Convention and Campaign for Nature Dr Larigauderie ecologist and Brian O’Donnell.

