

News & Notes

#908 A weekly bulletin for residents of Auroville 5 February 2022



I purify earth and heaven by the Truth.

Rig Veda

Let all accept thy will when thou art born a living god from the dry tree, that they may attain to divinity and reach by the speed of thy movements to possession of the Truth and the Immortality.

Rig Veda.

The Ponder Corner

The significance of our existence here determines our destiny:
that destiny is something that already exists in us as a necessity and a potentiality,
the necessity of our being's secret and emergent reality,
a truth of its potentialities that is being worked out;

The Life Divine – Sri Aurobindo

Contents

THE PONDER CORNER	1	Helpful Hints/Advertisements	17
HOUSE OF MOTHER'S AGENDA	3	Remedy for Neem trees with dead leaves	17
TOWNHALL SPEAKS	4	The Long Read	17
Report of Events on and around 4 to 9 December	4	Choosing to Live and Work in a Deva Samgha	17
New Covid Guidelines	5	Classes, Workshops & Healing Arts	17
Communication to the Secretary regarding Crown RAD	5	Feldenkrais movements: Correction of timing	17
BCC Narrative Report: Oct '21 – Dec '21	6	Music-Class	17
From The Entry Service – ES # 119	9	Edible Weed Walk with Nina S	17
COMMUNITY NEWS	9	Photo Circle	18
Auroville Matters	9	Children's Activity	18
YouthLink 2022	9	Painting Classes	18
For Your Information	10	Art Class & Sessions for February and March 2022.	18
Matrimandir is open for Volunteers	10	Kaya Bodha: The Art of Body Awareness	18
Eco Femme moved!	10	JIVA	18
Santé Services in February 2022	10	Regular classes in Taijiquan and QiGong	18
Aura Network	10	Pranic Activation Process, 5 - 13 February	18
Call for Grant Proposals SDZ Funding in 2022	11	Transforming trauma, 12 & 13 February	19
Who participates in the next Dreamweaving round?	11	Integral regression therapy training	19
Invitation	12	Exploring Past Lives Webinar	19
Our perspective of what really Transpired	12	Natural Horsemanship	19
A personal sharing on Sri Aurobindo's Savitri by B'	13	Journey of the Soul, 22 February, 10 am – 2pm	19
To all members of the AV Health Fund Scheme	13	Explore your mind	19
The Arts	13	Bharat Nivas	20
Werner Stoff Vernissage	13	SAWCHU	20
Is this the end?	13	Progress hall	20
Kirtana Jazz Quintet	14	Auditorium	20
Renewing Towns: Citylife	14	Auditorium Fyer	20
Work Opportunities	14	Music room	20
Assistance offered for Project and GOI Grant Preparation	14	India Space	20
HR Initiative	14	Kalakendra	20
Gastronomica	15	Bhumika	20
Gau Seva at Sadhana Forest	15	Quiet Healing Center	21
Lost and Found	15	Birenda Massage Course with Jean-Louis & Sivacoumar	21
Note left on N&N Desk	15	Watsu® 2 with Gianni De Stefani & Dariya	21
Help Needed	15	Woga (Yoga in Water) 1 & 2 with Petra	21
AV Radio Needs Your Help	15	Soul Of Soil	21
Available	15	Mother's Festival: to celebrate the spirit of Shakthi	21
Rose Quartz stones	15	Aurosanthai saturday market	21
Cane Bed and Mattress	15	Vérité Intensive: Freedom From Fear	22
Eterniti Aquaguard Water Filter	15	News From Auroville Language Lab	22
4 years old female dog needs a new family	15	Cinema	23
Many furnitures available + other things	15	Meditations On Savitri, Book 12	23
Puppies for adoption at Auromodele	15	Aurofilm Presents	23
VOICES AND NOTES	15	At Multi Media Centre Auditorium (MMC, Town Hall)	23
Auroville Radio	15	Eco Film Club	23
Yes. Move On, Dust will settle Anyways!	16	Cinema Paradiso	24
If he Deviates from his Mission	16	Appendix	25
Beloved Mother of All Things	16	Choosing to Live and Work in a Deva Samgha	25
		Accessible Auroville Public Bus	26
		Emergency Services	26
		Important Information About News & Notes	26



House of Mother's Agenda

"In fifty years the whole world, all the receptive section of humanity (I am not saying intellectual, I am saying receptive), all the receptive section of the world will be embraced – not "embraced": ABSORBED in the power of Sri Aurobindo's thought.

Those who already are have the good fortune of being the first ones, that's all."

The Mother, Agenda 16 February 1972

A Defense of Indian Culture

(continued from last week)

"But even this was only the foundation and preparation for another highest thing which by its presence exalts human life beyond itself into something spiritual and divine. Indian culture raised the crude animal life of desire, self-interest and satisfied propensity beyond its first intention to a noble self-exceeding and shapeliness by infusing into it the order and high aims of the Dharma. But its profounder characteristic aim — and in this it was unique — was to raise this nobler life too of the self-perfecting human being beyond its own intention to a mightiest self-exceeding and freedom; it laboured to infuse into it the great aim of spiritual liberation and perfection, mukti, mokṣa. The Law and its observance are neither the beginning nor the end of man; there is beyond the field of the Law a larger realm of consciousness in which, climbing, he emerges into a great spiritual freedom. Not a noble but ever death-bound manhood is the highest height of man's perfection: immortality, freedom, divinity are within his grasp. Ancient Indian culture held this highest aim constantly before the inner eye of the soul and insistently inspired with its prospect and light the whole conception of existence. The entire life of the individual was ennobled by this aim; the whole ordering of society was cast into a scale of graduated ascension towards this supreme summit.

A well-governed system of the individual and communal existence must be always in the first instance an ordering of the three first powers recognised by Indian thought. The claim of the natural functionings must be recognised in it to the full; the pursuit of personal and communal interest and the satisfaction of human desires as of human needs must be amply admitted and there must be an understanding combination of knowledge and labour towards these ends. But all must be controlled, uplifted and widened to greater aims by the ideal of the Dharma. And if, as India believes, there is a higher spiritual consciousness towards which man can rise, that ascent must be kept throughout in view as the supreme goal of life. The system of Indian culture at once indulged and controlled man's nature; it fitted him for his social role; it stamped on his mind the generous ideal of an accomplished humanity refined, harmonised in all its capacities, ennobled in all its members; but it placed before him too the theory and practice of a highest change, familiarised him with the conception of a spiritual existence and sowed in him a hunger for the divine and the infinite. The symbols of his religion were filled with suggestions which led towards it; at every step he was reminded of lives behind and in front and of worlds beyond the material existence; he was brought close to the nearness, even to the call and pressure of the Spirit who is greater than the life it informs, of the final goal, of a high possible immortality, freedom, God-consciousness, divine Nature. Man was not allowed to forget that he had in him a highest self beyond his little personal ego and that always he and all things live, move and have their being in God, in the Eternal, in the Spirit. There were ways and disciplines provided in number by which he could realise this liberating truth or could at least turn and follow at a distance this highest aim according to his capacity and nature, adhikāra. Around him he saw and revered the powerful practicers and the mighty masters of these disciplines. These men were in early times the teachers of his youth, the summits of his society, the inspirers and fountain-heads of his civilisation, the great lights of his culture. Spiritual freedom, spiritual perfection were not figured as a far-off intangible ideal, but presented as the highest human aim towards which all must grow in the end, and were made near and possible to his endeavour from a first practicable basis of life and the Dharma. The spiritual idea governed, enlightened and gathered towards itself all the other life-motives of a great civilised people.

Sri Aurobindo. The Renaissance in India, pages 164-166

http://sri-aurobindo.in/workings/sa/37_20/the_renaissance_in_india_20.pdf

Townhall Speaks

REPORT OF EVENTS ON AND AROUND 4 TO 9 DECEMBER

The following report was submitted to the Governing Board by 4 members of the Working Committee. We are publishing it here in our own names but as members of the Working Committee with a few small changes.

Report of Events on and around 4 to 9 December

• Prior to December 4, 2021

Members of the Working Committee were constantly involved in meetings regarding the Crown soon after the Crown Walk initiated by the Secretary on 31st July, 2021. This was the first time Aurovilians were able to walk the full circle of the Crown. -Working Committee was part of many meetings with the ATDC and the Foundation that followed in the next 3 months with visits and dialogues with 3 communities where the passage of the crown ROW was still blocked: Centre Field, Darkali and Bliss/YC. – Meetings were also held with members of the Youth Centre (YC), ATDC and Working Committee at the Secretary's office to envision the next steps and to re-imagine the Crown. In parallel, Architects were invited to the exercise together with the ATDC who were working with BV Doshi's office to prepare the Detailed Development Plans that are long overdue. Initiatives to plan physical installations or acupunctures to bring alive a sense of the Crown were proposed. ATDC continued its efforts with the 3 communities and an agreement was made regarding the house placed on the Crown in the Centre Field area. A new house was offered to the 2 residents where they have now moved in. Some agreements were also reached with Darkali but the ATDC was still unable to move ahead on a work order dating from 2020, to lay the final stretch of the HT cables in the Bliss/YC area.

It was finally announced that the clearing of the path would start on Monday, December 6th However, the work started a day ahead on Saturday, December 4th. This brought a strong resistance which continues to use the media with deliberate misinformation, this includes volunteers who have been active in spreading wrong information and approaching news reporters.

• 4 to 9th December, 2021

On the 4th morning members of the Working Committee received calls from members of the ATDC to come to the YC area as work was being stopped and the situation got out of hand. 4 members (Anu, Arun, Partha & Srimoyi) arrived on the scene to find members of ATDC and Road Service standing around helplessly while children climbed on the JCBs brought in to clear the trees that had been deliberately planted on a path meant to have been kept clear. Over a hundred people continued to shout at the ATDC and Road service members and at us for the next two hours. Far from being the 'peaceful protest' being advertised across media we found ourselves to be a highly aggressive and abusive space, never seen before in Auroville, with no possibility of dialogue. The DSP arrived with 4 policemen to see if the work could be restarted again but this was impossible. He advised that people talk together and find a solution and the JCBs were sent back.

A meeting was convened at SAWCHU by the Working Committee members and all the people assembled at Bliss/YC gathered there. However, once again, no dialogue was possible and the atmosphere remained highly abusive. Working Committee members present were not allowed to hold the meeting but asked to initiate an Emergency RAD, to immediately stop all work. Members felt that such a decision, on something as important as the Crown, could not be made on the basis of about 150 people while many in the community awaited the Crown. We also requested time to meet with the rest of our team to come to a decision. This was found unacceptable and 60 people came together to initiate 3 RADs: 1. To stop the work 2. To ask the ATDC to resign 3. To ask for the resignation of the WCom members present.

Even as we were speaking a news report appeared in The Hindu via Outreach Media describing the incidents in sensational terms, casting all blame on ATDC and the Foundation, decrying JCB and police violence for destroying Auroville forests and harming people in the name of the master plan. This has, to date, remained the main narrative of the events both in national and international papers.

• The same night work continued and the JCBs were brought back to complete the clearing. Police were called to cordon off the area to prevent obstruction to the work. Two other Working Committee members (Hemant & Sauro) were present and a number of youth and adults arrived on the scene to again protest and some were taken away and kept in a police jeep for some time. Thereafter the Working Committee members managed to get the work stopped. This night operation has been sensationalized effectively across media regardless of what may have actually happened. As we were not present, we will let our colleagues present their version of the events.

Following this, on Dec 5, an effort was made by the Secretary to bring together members of WCom, YC (Nahar) and mentor Paul, Uma and Sreevatsa of ATDC to work out an agreement (attached) so that no outside interference would be required and the work of clearing the illegal buildings in YC could be handled by the YC residents. This was agreed to, bringing a lot of hope. The Youth agreed, after 5 hours of conversation at midnight, to dismantle the structure by themselves but, in morning, everything went back to zero. Interference by some adult groups at night and in the morning in particular, as the work began, strongly discouraged them from continuing as it would amount to agreeing with the Master Plan. The youth were confused and stopped. This repeated the next day while the media and social media outrage was further boosted with sensational petitions.

Finally, on 8th December, the Foundation decided to remove the 'temporary' building placed on the Crown with the use of JCBs and outside labour and no police. This led to shuffle and push as YC and supporters tried to prevent them and the men were promptly condemned as goons and gundas across media. On the 8th afternoon the work was to continue at Darkali. The same scenario of December 4th repeated with people sitting in front of JCBs or climbing on them and had to be removed. No police were present. The members of Darkali met the Secretary that evening with an offer that they would support the work provided it started the next morning and there were no police and no hired outsiders. They were ready to collaborate with ATDC and Road Service to complete the work. This was agreed to and work started at 5 am on the 9th morning and continued in a quiet and orderly manner till about 10.30 am. After that, people began gathering again to sit in front of the JCBs and removing the ribbon markers for the clearing to prevent the work. Soon after, news of the NGT Stay Order arrived, stopping work, which was a shock for a large section of residents.

• Repercussions in and outside Auroville

The first casualty has been a deep fracture and confusion in Auroville's collective unity and in the functioning and within working groups which will need a lot of work in order to bring back confidence and a true harmony. It cannot be solved by cosmetic peace efforts but has to come from a deeper surrender and commitment to Mother's Auroville. A general atmosphere of hostility, public shaming and abuse continues against those perceived as supporting the master plan.

Continuous false information in the media, Indian and International, is both selfish and harmful for Auroville. It is not clear what is hoped to be achieved through such stories, which also involve national politics now and imply that these views represent all Aurovilians.

False narratives have also been spread to the International Consulates, AVIs and IAC members causing alarm. The media outreach of this faction, via outside agencies, has been well organized and continues to feed a narrative of violence, fear and controversy around the master plan and now even targets the government which is worrying.

This has brought a certain number of responses from different sections of Auroville to correct the false narratives.

- A recent meeting with the French Consul General with other Aurovilans brought a very different view, shared by residents.

If there is one suggestion in all this: we would request ATDC/ The Auroville Foundation to send out an announcement, even if at very short notice, of the work that is to start and by requesting people help and not to hinder the work so that it can proceed peacefully and harmoniously in a spirit of collaboration for the whole of Auroville and its future.

We also request that people to really think about Auroville and realise that it is time for our 53 year old Child soon 54, to be built. Let the residents come together and start the work immediately and break the false reputation that we have created in the past 2 month before the World. It is time to move ahead with our Auroville. Let us strengthen our relationship like never before.

We hope that the City at the Service of the Truth based on the growth of the Supramental Consciousness, of which Sri Aurobindo said: The Supramental is nothing but the Truth Consciousness, will not be blocked further. We hope and pray for a return to this basis of Auroville and request our fellow Aurovilans to come together and start our development work which the majority of the community wants.

Anu, Arun, Partha & Srimoy, Working Committee

NEW COVID GUIDELINES

Dear Community Friends, the Honourable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has issued a new press release on 27 January 2022 with new Covid Guidelines.

The key points are: t

- There will no longer be Sunday and night curfews.
- Schools and colleges may open from 1 February following standard guidelines.
- Kindergarten and nursery schools remain closed.
- Theatres, cinemas, gyms, spas, beauty salons, yoga centers, restaurants, jewelry shops, clothing shops are allowed to function with 50 per cent capacity.
- Indoor stadiums will be allowed to hold sports events with 50 percent of spectators.
- Events such as seminars, music and drama performances held in indoor venues will be allowed with a maximum of 50 percent capacity following standard operating procedures.
- Public events such as social, cultural and political gatherings will continue to be banned.
- Exhibitions and art festivals are not allowed to be held.
- Maximum attendance for marriages will be 100 persons and for funerals 50 persons.

The official Tamil text of the press release of the Honourable Chief Minister and the English translation are available at this link. We will update as and when there are new guidelines issued.

We would also like to inform you that we had many cases in the last two weeks, but since the new protocol indicates only seven days of quarantine most of them have completed their isolation period. The quarantine list is regularly updated and can be consulted at this link.

We request all Aurovilans, Newcomers, Volunteers and Guests who have arrived from abroad to inform santeco-ordination@auroville.org.in about their arrival, respect a 7-days quarantine and do a test on the 8th day in coordination with Sante, as per current government requirements. Unit holders employing volunteers, guest house managers and people who are receiving guests at their homes are kindly asked to cooperate.

Please, remember to continue applying 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)

COMMUNICATION TO THE SECRETARY REGARDING CROWN RAD

Dear Residents, Please see below the communication sent to the Secretary regarding the outcome of the recent RAD on Crown development by the Working Committee.

Dear Madam Secretary, the RAS has asked us to forward their mail regarding the results of the RAD about the clearing of the RoW and development in the Crown, Radials and Outer Ring Road. (The full text of the question asked is in the attached document with the outcome of the results.)

We share the results with you as it is our duty, and at the same time we are sharing 2 sets of observations by our members.

- **From Anu, Arun, Partha and Srimoyi:**

The Residents' Assembly (RA) does not have the power to act on certain decisions which, according to the Foundation Act, rest with the Governing Board. Particularly, as the Governing Board has already communicated its decision on the matter. We therefore think it was unnecessary for the RAS to entertain petitions in defiance and put Auroville in a confrontational mode.

Many have questioned the validity of this RAD both for its legality under the Act and as a matter of principle which have been ignored.

Following this there was a call to boycott this RAD which must be taken into consideration.

There is no transparency in the results.

The RAD results are already upon change.org via an anonymous website with misleading and manipulative content which is disrespectful of Auroville, Auroville Foundation and fellow Aurovilans. More importantly it goes against the basics of our functioning: Only those who have resolved to stay in Auroville for good have the right to intervene in its organisation.

We recognize that Residents are important for decisions regarding Auroville and we as a Working Committee have a duty to respect them. However, this RAD has carried the views of certain groups but not that of Aurovilans as a whole. We also wish to stand for people who are silent for various reasons but do not agree that Auroville's progress is made to stop.

In view of all this we, as Working Committee members, are unable to support such a process or its decision.

- **From Chali, Hemant and Sauro:**

The question submitted to the Residents' Assembly does not challenge the Master Plan; it emphasizes that any development should take place according to the Master Plan. It is not a decision that aims to prevent the Master Plan but to create a framework for its implementation with broader consensus.

The participation in this RAD was higher than any other Residents' Assembly Decision-making process in the history of Auroville, including the issue of the Highway that was proposed to be developed between Pitchandikulam and Kulapalayam.

The RAD process itself is what has been agreed to be used for the time being to give every resident the chance to participate in decisions that affect the community at large. (The Interim RAD process document was shared with you and the Governing Board before their meetings on the 18th.)

An outline of the process followed for this RAD, including a timeline, the number of participants in the meetings, feedback received and incorporated, etc, can be provided for transparency if needed. Notes of all meetings can also be shared.

The RA is an entity created by the Auroville Foundation Act and it is an authority like the Governing Board and the International Advisory Council. It is not a body that has only an advisory position and its view according to the spirit of the Act should be taken into consideration.

The Residents' Assembly decision-making process has been implemented according to the procedure presently applicable and therefore is a valid decision in our view as members of the Working Committee of the Residents' Assembly.

If more information or any clarifications are required please let us know. *With regards, The Working Committee*

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

BCC NARRATIVE REPORT: OCT '21 – DEC '21

Dear Community, The BCC would like to share with you a narrative report of issues addressed and decisions taken in October, November and December 2021 as a complement to our monthly report of income and expenses. We hope this can increase community-wide understanding of the economic issues affecting our community that fall within the BCC's scope of work.

Community-at-large matters:

- **BCC is open for new budget requests for the upcoming year** (April 2022 – March 2023): After two economically unpredictable years, in which the BCC did not invite for new budget requests, we are preparing for a new annual budget for the coming financial year, 2022-2023. We invite existing or newly proposed services to submit budget requests for this upcoming year. You can find more information, and our budget request forms on Auronet, by writing to bccreview@auroville.org.in, or passing by BCC Office and speaking to Inge Rieck, who is the BCC member supporting the collection of budget requests. While inviting for new budget requests, we also invite those of you applying for brand new budgets or budgetary increases to hold in your awareness that we do not yet anticipate a full economic recovery, and likely will not be able to meet all the requests for support. However, we felt it was important to assess what are the needs in the community today, with all the changes and insights that these past two challenging and unusual years have brought. This will also be undertaken by a community budgeting process we are leading in the coming quarter (see below).

- **Participatory Budgeting Process:** In November 2021, the BCC announced to the community a participatory budgeting process to begin in January 2022. The aim of this process is both to help build the community's understanding of our current budgetary allocations, and to help the BCC better understand from the community whether the budget is being allocated in a way which meets community needs and aims. This process will begin with informational sessions open to all in January, followed by in-depth, facilitated feedback sessions with randomly selected participants, and then an opportunity for all to give additional feedback through a community survey.

We will use the outcomes of this process to inform the upcoming 2022/23 City Services budget. The results will be shared with the community, along with the next steps identified to implement the inputs into the budgeting process. (If any major changes are requested by the community these will be phased in over a longer time period, to avoid any abrupt changes for services and those supported by them as well as working in them).

We are looking forward to engaging with the community on our collective budget following these two unusual and challenging years, and starting the next cycle with a common understanding of our budgetary needs and aims. Whether or not you have been randomly selected for the in-depth sessions, we hope you participate in the community-wide sessions and survey!

- **New Informational City Services Report website:** We are happy to share that the BCC has now launched an informational website that communicates the overall contributions to and disbursements of the City Services budget in an accessible way. The purpose of this website is to increase community awareness of our communal funds, regarding the funding sources for the budget, the various sectors and services the budget supports, how many people – Aurovilians and others – are serving in each of these sectors, and who are the beneficiaries. This website can be accessed at budget.auroville.org.in.

Maintenances:

- **Increased Children's Maintenances – available to all in need!**: In October 2021, the BCC changed the guidelines for Childrens' Maintenances. This financial support is now equally available to all our children, regardless of how their parents are contributing to Auroville. The Children's Maintenance is now available to any child:
 - below the age of 18,
 - living in Auroville,
 - whose parents' resources are insufficient.

This decision to include all Auroville children below the age of 18 more than doubles our numbers of eligible children and doubles the allocated monthly budget earmarked for children's maintenance. We thank the FAMC for endorsing this increase.

To be able to support this broader scope we initially reduced the individual Childrens' Maintenance amounts, however, as less children than we budgeted for have newly applied for this support, as of January '22 onwards we are increasing it as per the overview below:

Children from 0-18			
Description	Age: 0-5 Starts with birth ends with 6th birthday	Age: 6-13 Starts with 6th birthday ends with 14th birthday	Age: 14-18 Starts with 14th birthday ends with 18th birthday
Cash	600	600	1100
Kind	1,700	2700	3200
Heath Fund (Hf)	250	250	250
In Kind Scheme (Iks)	NIL	NIL	NIL
Nandini	450	450	450
Total	3,000	4,000	5,000

- **Services:** BCC members were invited to a meeting regarding the creation of a possible umbrella for so-called 'Prosperity' services (such as Nandini, PTDC, SK etc.). Rathinam, Hans, Inge, Mathan and Mahi from BCC attended. Overall, the BCC team felt the vision for this "Prosperity Services" set-up ought to be shared for feedback from the community at large (who will be the beneficiaries) before moving forward with actually creating a structure.

- **PTPS:** The BCC invited the newly constituted PTPS executive and Service Trust trustees for an introductory meeting to learn the future plans of the new PTPS team towards providing service to the community, and any budgetary needs they may have to do so. The BCC explained that PTPS could receive budgetary support from the City Services budget as PTDC does currently (for Maintenances and running costs) to reduce product prices for Aurovilians (presently it is a fully self-supporting service). The Service Trust trustees indicated that they would like to convert PTPS into purely a budget-based service that provides groceries to the community at a cost price without making any surplus. The newly appointed executives had questions about how this would work in practice and the efficiency of such a set-up, some expressed that they would rather explore other ways to organise the service financially to provide at least essential items at a subsidized price to the community. The Service Trust said that an advisory team to the new PTPS executives would be announced shortly, and that a future meeting could be held together with this team to revisit this topic. Another question that was raised by BCC was regarding the centralised purchasing aspect of the PTPS service, and what support could be offered for this. The Service Trust trustees informed BCC that the purpose of the current executive team was to run the stall and not a central purchasing service component, and that they were envisioning to create another centralized purchasing entity.

If you need financial support for your child, please send a mail to bcc.care@auroville.org.in with the name and birthdate of the child and your Financial Service account number, or pass by the office and speak to Enrica, who is the BCC member supporting the administration of maintenance requests.

- **Update on Temporary Emergency Maintenances:** Temporary Emergency Maintenances are available to any Aurovilian who chooses to volunteer at a registered Auroville entity that has insufficient funds to support them with a Maintenance, and who is in financial need. During the third quarter of this financial year around 45 Temporary Emergency Maintenances were shared between 51 adults (Rs. 5,66 lakhs/month). An additional 24 children (Rs. 89,000/month) were also covered under TEM.

Management of Services:

- **ACUR:** In the past couple of years, the BCC has been working towards clarity of budgetary support needed for ACUR, so that it can shift from being a self-supported (income-generating) to a budget-based service (ACUR is registered as a service within the Service Trust). This implied a re-organisation of the financial structure of this service, where instead of services paying rent (many from their BCC-funded budgets) to ACUR for space allocation in Town Hall, the BCC directly covered the running costs of the facility, while earmarking additional funds for non-recurring costs (see our July '20 – December '20 report for details). In December 2021, the FAMC shared a vision paper from the current ACUR (Town Hall) management team with Working Groups and Services that are users of the Town Hall, for feedback, in which the ACUR team outlines a return to the rental method for space use. The BCC is of the opinion that it is preferable that ACUR continue to operate as a budget-based service, given that Town Hall users are, for the vast majority, non income-generating Working Groups and Services, and is willing to continue to provide the budgetary support for this.

- **Reserve Accounts:** The BCC has noted that certain services build up reserves from their monthly recurring budgets. The BCC would like to remind services that they are asked to project for non-recurring expenses (such as computer replacement) in their budget request forms, so that the BCC can earmark these for each Service (which will also help to guarantee quick processing of requests and overdrafting, if needed). We encourage Services to do this rather than over-project and create reserves from their recurring budgets.

- **Road Service:** After a series of meeting held between members of the Road Service Team and a support group of BCC members (Danny, Mahi, Rathinam), the BCC invited Road Service to meet with the full BCC team to discuss the extending of the Road Service's scope of budgeted road repairs to Auroville roads beyond the City Area, and the budgetary requirements for this. Road Service shared that the newly approved monthly recurring budget of Rs. 2.4L for the road repairs team is expected to cover all of Auroville's public road repair needs inside of the Outer Ring Road, and that roads situated in areas outside of this zone could be considered and budgeted for on a case-by-case basis. The BCC encouraged the Road Service, in its upcoming annual budget request, to submit a budget for all public road repair works needed in Auroville, as in principle the BCC is open to covering this. The BCC also suggested that the Road Service provide a monthly report of works undertaken, which the Road Service agreed to do, informing that they already generate such reports for internal use.

Meetings with other groups/services:

- **ATDC:** In November, subgroup of the BCC (Aurosgan & Inge) met with a member of the ATDC to inquire about any GOI funding that may be used to support requests being received by BCC (see the Land Board weighbridge in non-recurring requests section). The BCC members also raised their concerns regarding difficulties in covering the maintenance costs of buildings, equipment and other infrastructure investment and asked them to consider such depreciation and maintenance costs for future projects.

- **Housing Board:** The BCC invited the new Housing Board team for a meeting to understand their approach to working on the housing situation in Auroville and their budgetary needs in this regard. The Housing Board asked the BCC to increase the recurring budget from monthly Rs 10,000 to Rs 35,000, which was agreed by the BCC. They also requested an increased house repairs budget as there is a long-pending list of residents who applied for repairs grants. The BCC asked the Housing Board to send them the figure for this, and then approved the request (see House Repairs budget below, in the non-recurring section). The BCC asked if there was any need to increase human resources within the Housing Repairs team, and the Housing Board said the functioning of the current team needed to be looked into first. Rather, the Housing Board expressed the need for Maintenance support for a financial coordinator. They also informed the BCC that they are working towards the creation of a team that only focuses on the development of the new housing options for the community members, and that the creation of a construction service would be valuable to bring down the price of housing.

- **Health Fund:** The Health Fund team requested a meeting with members of the BCC, which was held in October 2021, to share their concerns regarding the financial viability of the Health Fund. The BCC had already increased the Health Fund contribution portion of the City Services Maintenance, and reassured the Health Fund team that a further increase could be explored if needed (the Health Fund presently continues to have reserves). To reduce the costs associated with Aurovilians seeking care in private hospitals, a new service to direct and accompany people to quality care where available in government hospitals was imagined at this meeting, and is currently being followed up on.

- **Outreach School Board:** In October representatives of the Outreach Board met with BCC Care to explore how we can improve the allocation of funds to Outreach schools and programmes. The representatives informed the BCC that the Outreach Board does not take decisions regarding the allocation of funds to Outreach schools and programmes, but that they may send their recommendations to BCC. They explained that they work more on visions and values, focusing on the integration between Auroville and the Bioregion.

- **Prosperity**
- **Randomly Selected Participants for Community Budgeting Process:** In December, the BCC invited the randomly selected participants for the Community Budgeting Process to meet and brief them on the proposed process.

- **Visioning Meetings:** Representatives of all working groups were requested to attend monthly visioning meetings on development priorities for Auroville, called for by the Secretary of the Auroville Foundation and coordinated by the Working Committee. Given that there are budgetary implications for the proposals under discussions, it was felt to be valuable to have a BCC member present to report back to the team, and one BCC member attended the meetings.

Service Budgets:

- **Apprenticeships Programme:** Chandresh reached out to the BCC regarding support for apprentices that may participate in his proposed Apprenticeship Program for Auroville Youth. The BCC informed Chandresh that there is an existing budget for Apprenticeship Maintenances that can be applied for.

- **Arya Accounting:** Arya Accounting service requested a monthly increase of Rs. 8,000 to take up the accounting of additional City Services activities (on the request of BCC). This was approved.

- **Housing Board:** The Housing Board requested 2 half time Maintenances for 2 new members, this was approved.

- **Human Resource Hub:** A half maintenance was approved under Contingency (for the remainder of this financial year) for a new administrator of the Human Resource Hub, a service that seeks to help Aurovilians connect to work opportunities within Auroville units and services.

- **Kuilapalayam Cultural Centre:** KCC requested an additional recurring budget of Rs. 30,000 monthly to cover the running costs of the centre. The Outreach Board and KCC support team endorsed the request, and BCC approved it for the remainder of the current financial year, after which KCC will be invited to submit a new budget request to be reviewed as part of the annual budgeting process,

- **Mattram:** Mattram requested 2 FT Maintenances to be shared between 5 Aurovilians to continue operating the service. This was approved by the BCC, who appreciates their having operated on a voluntary basis till today.

- **Health Services:** The Auroville Health Services requested an extra HT Maintenance (for an Aurovillian who has volunteered with them for 2 years), this was approved.

- **Road Service:** In November, the BCC agreed to double the Road Service's budget to Rs. 2,4L monthly to enable them to carry out more road repair works, as their previous budget only covered 2 weeks (15 days) of expenses for road repair works. (During the remaining 2 weeks of the months, the Road Service road maintenance team was carrying out income-generating road repair work within Auroville). The BCC also committed to continue to fund 100% of the repair costs of Road Service machinery and equipment.

- **Solar Fund Service:** The BCC care team met with the team to understand it better. The BCC approved the request of 2 full time maintenance under CON and a monthly recurring budget of Rs 85,000 to cover all the running expenses of this long existing very much appreciated service. The service is not only taking care of Solar systems, but also on UPS. It is renamed to Solar & UPS Service (SUS) and the monthly support given by individuals registered under this service will go on, but will be transferred to the City Service. This team of 2 Aurovillian and 4 non Aurovillian workers is also looking into the maintenance of the 142 households which are only connected to Solar energy. Currently Varuna is supporting these households with a Electricity subsidy of Rs 50,000. It was proposed to reach out to Varuna and ask if they could increase their current subsidy equivalent to the subsidy offered by Varuna to those on HT connection. It was not agreed that BCC subsidize this amount directly.

- **Youth Center:** The Youth Centre, receiving 3 FT Maintenances + 2 Apprenticeships Maintenances, requested an additional 3 FT Maintenances. BCC agreed to provide the requested additional maintenances until the end of this financial year, the present apprenticeship maintenances will be also reviewed at the end of the financial year,

- **Youth Link:** YouthLink, receiving 3 FT Maintenances, requested an additional FT Maintenance to be split between two new members. This was approved till the end of the financial year.

Extra (non-recurring) budget requests:

- **Accessible Auroville:** The Accessible Auroville Public Bus team's request for Rs. 32,500 to renew their bus insurance was approved.

- **Auroville Institute of Applied Technology (AIAT):** AIAT requested that the BCC cover approximately 1 Lakh of repair expenses for their campus, the BCC approved a total of Rs. 62,000 which corresponded to the amount requested for only the most urgent and essential repairs, as general repairs for Auroville schools are addressed in summer time, as part of a dedicated "summer repairs" budget coordinated by the Outreach School Board.

- **ACUR:** The ACUR (Town Hall management) team requested support to cover its audit fees (Rs. 12,980), this was approved. They also requested a budget of approximately 5 lakhs for repair work to the building. The BCC reached out to the architect Sonali (who has worked on the ACUR building) to review this repair works request.

- **Adventure Community Road Repair:** In early December Adventure Community reached out to the BCC for urgent financial support for road repair due to flooding. However, the Road Service advised that undertaking any work on the road while it is still flooded would only make it worse, and to wait till it dries. (Furthermore, planning of how to divert water through proper channels would

be needed in the process of repairing the road, as poor planning in this regard was the cause of the damage). The BCC was, exceptionally, willing to partially finance repairs done by the Road Service work as soon as these could be undertaken, given that it was an emergency situation, but did not agree to finance a temporary fix by an outside contractor in the meantime.

- **Buddha Garden Shambhala Plot:** A requested budget of Rs. 47,271 for fencing the Shambhala plot of Buddha Garden to protect this Auroville land from encroachment was endorsed by the Land Board and approved by BCC.

- **Buddha Garden:** Buddha Garden made a request of Rs. 31,000 to cover the cost of renting access to the farm via non-Auroville land due to a conflict with Siddharta Farm, through which access to Buddha Garden was previously granted. As an Arbitration process is ongoing between Buddha Garden and Siddharta Farm and the outcome might include a decision on who is to cover the expense created by this conflict, BCC recommended that Buddha Garden get a loan to cover the expenses for the temporary access in the meantime.

- **Film Festival:** A requested budget of Rs. 36,591 to purchase new hard disks for the upcoming film festival was approved.

- **Housing Repair Budget:** The Housing Board requested a Housing Repairs budget of Rs. 4,86,618, based on the estimates of pending house repair works. This was approved.

- **Land Board:** The Land Board requested an 11 lakh budget for a weighbridge (to be used for the sale of timber). It was agreed to share the request with ATDC and to learn about the possibility to avail of the required funds from the GOI grant, as the request falls under the category of new development. The Land Board also requested a budget of Rs. 64,209 for a computer and printer for the Land Board office, this was approved.

- **Road Service:** In November, the Road Service requested a total of Rs. 67,928 for repair and insurance costs of a van, tractor, excavator and plate rammer. This was approved.

- **Scholarship and Educational Fund:** The BCC approved an additional budget of Rs. Rs. 3,5L requested by the Scholarship & Education Fund, given the increased demands they face for financial assistance.

- **Solar Kitchen:** The BCC approved Rs. 34,711 for the purchase of a new computer for the Solar Kitchen office.

- **TLC:** TLC requested an an extra budget of Rs. 13,498 for electrical wiring work, and this was approved

- **Youth Center:** The Auroville Youth Center reached out to BCC as part of their fundraising for a multicultural equinox festival, celebrating Diwali and Halloween. A budget of Rs. 10,000 (corresponding to one third of the total budget) was approved towards supporting the event.

Internal BCC team updates:

- **Team Building Session:** In October 2021, the BCC held another team building & review session, facilitated by Elisa, in which we explored our roles and responsibilities in relationship with our mandate. We very much thank and appreciate Elisa for her on-going support to us in our team building & review process.

- **Resignation of a BCC member:** Cristina (Center Guest House), who joined the BCC team in June 2021, chose to step down in October 2021. We sincerely appreciated her calm and thoughtful presence in our meetings, and valued her kindness, input and sincerity.

- **Call for a new BCC member:** Following Crisitna's resignation, the BCC informed the FAMC that a call for a new BCC member was to be made. The FAMC asked BCC what profile would help to complete the present team. The BCC shared that we currently saw the need for additional support in reviewing the utilisation of City Service budgets to ensure that these are being used as specified and in an efficient manner. You may find more details of this FAMC call for a new BCC member on AuroNet.

FROM THE ENTRY SERVICE – ES # 119

Dated: 5-02-2022

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:

- Anjana SARAF (Indian) staying in Auromode and working at Auroville Village Action Group
- Sabrina JECKER (French) staying in Aspiration and working at Sanskrit Research Institute



Anjana Sabrina

NEWCOMER CONFIRMED:

- Balaganesh SIVAPRAKASAM aka Bala (Indian)
- Ramya AYYANARAPPAN (Indian)
- Surya RAVISHANKARAN (Indian)

YOUTH TURNED 18 CONFIRMED:

- Zea STOREY (British)

SPOUSE OF AN AUROVILIAN CONFIRMED:

- Dhruithi LAIJAWALA (Indian)

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



Community News

AUROVILLE MATTERS

YOUTHLINK 2022

Dear Auroville, we are happy to introduce the new YouthLink team as of January 2022.

Our team members are: Ankita, Devna, Lucrezia, Namu and Sanata; with Tenzin and Jesse as executives. Our new team went through a team building process in December 2021 to plan for the coming year. We have come up with an aspiration and agenda for the year 2022; which we are very excited to share with you.



Youthlink Charter 2022

- To help integrate youth into the community and be a bridge between Auroville and the world.
- To explore and experiment various ways of enabling free progress and a higher consciousness.
- Be the link that enables continuous flow of wisdom and knowledge throughout generations.
- To activate future leaders and thinkers to be the driving force for conscious change.

What is Youthlink and what do we do?

YouthLink is a service unit that works towards integrating individuals into the community.

We are taking the first two months of the year to organise our internal structure into a well-oiled machinery, reviewing our organisation model and engaging in deep discussions regarding our Code of Ethics, Code of Conduct, etc and turning them into coherent integral documents, to be the founding bricks of the organisation.

Our goal is to support the youth that never ages, but keeping in mind our scope of work for this year, our primary target audience would be individuals between 16-30 years of age.

We aim to support both youth inside and outside of Auroville.

For individuals coming to Auroville, we aspire to be a landing platform. Our help desk at Townhall is the ideal place to provide information about working and living in auroville. Through sharing knowledge about community life & vision of Auroville, we hope to aid their integration into the Auroville project.

YouthLink also supports anyone who wishes to start an activity/unit/project in Auroville, by providing information, and assistance with administrative services and linking them to relevant mentors and other projects & groups.

We hope to launch our action phase once we have finished establishing our organisational structure, and will be starting with a YouthLink introduction event. In this event we will share the highlights of last 5 years of YouthLink; our beloved programs such as:

- **APET-Auroville Peer Education Training:**

A 1 week program that aims to educate the youth on sensitive topics such as drug abuse, addictions, rape, consent, and prevention of STI's. By providing information on such topics to a group of young people, they are then empowered to take initiative and help those around them who are currently or at risk of facing such difficulties.

- **Comm4Unity:**

A course on community building; designed to enable people and communities coming together to reclaim responsibility for their living situations. This includes theory in community living, sustainable living and physical skill development (such as DIY- Do It Yourself).

As well as new possible programs:

Youth YUCCA program:

An Auroville introduction program specifically catering to children of Auroville turning 18, designed to provide an insight into Auroville’s vision, Auroville’s way of functioning, and the opportunities it provides.

Awareness programs:

To visit schools for seminars on subjects that require community awareness, such as Road safety, Sexual harassment, Drug abuse, Mental health and many others.

Community Get-togethers:

Movie nights, Potlucks, Workshops, Game nights and many more!

How to reach us!

Our office is located under Le Morgan, Town hall; from where we operate a youth help desk. You are welcome to come visit us Mon-Fri, 9:30am to 12:30am, where we can provide you with more detailed information on our projects and programs, as well as services we can provide to you as an individual (Volunteering opportunities, collaborations, mentors, etc).

You can alternatively reach out to us through:

WA +91 70167 37800, Youthlink@auroville.org.in

Instagram: [youthlink_auroville](https://www.instagram.com/youthlink_auroville)

2021 has been a tough year, but we are eagerly anticipating an explosive 2022, filled with positive experiences and meaningful projects. You can also support us through various ways, such as volunteering/working with us, joining hands with us on various projects, and facilitating our programs through monetary/in-kind donations.

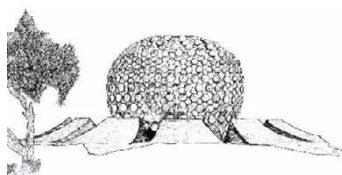
We are looking forward to engaging with the community in meaningful and constructive ways, and we hope to create a bright future together.

With Much Love, The YouthLink Team :)
 +91 73977 87112, Youthlink@auroville.org.in
www.youthlink.org.in, Town Hall

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

MATRIMANDIR

Open on Saturday mornings, 8 to 9am for volunteers



In view of the relaxation of the State Government Covid restrictions, from February 6 onward, the Inner Chamber will again be open on Saturday mornings from 8 to 9am for volunteers.

- Volunteers who wish to concentrate in the Inner Chamber should ask the Aurovilian in charge of their place of work to send an email to mmconcentration@auroville.org.in confirming their volunteer service.
- After that they may arrive at the Matrimandir Office gate by 7.45am any Saturday morning.

ECO FEMME MOVED!



This is to announce that we moved to the old Inside India building in Auroshilpam. Join us on Thursdays at 10.30 am for our open house session at our new office! Learn about sustainable menstrual products and our not for profit programs. Or drop in any other time from

Monday – Friday, 10am to 5pm to pick up discounted cloth pads, menstrual cups, baby cloth nappies and maybe our special Kalamkari edition? It is running till mid February

See you soon!

SANTÉ – AUROVILLE INSTITUTE FOR INTEGRAL HEALTH

Crown Rd, Near Arka

Working Hours

Monday – Saturday: 8:45 – 12:30pm & 2:00 – 4:30pm
 (closed Tuesday afternoon for team meetings)

Tests and Sample collection

Monday – Friday before 12.00 pm.
 No sample collection on Saturday.

For emergencies

Auroville Ambulance (24/7): Phone+91 94422 24680

Government Ambulance (24/7): Phone: 108

Appointment

Please call Santé on (0413) 2622803 during working hours for an appointment

For other inquiries, email: sante@auroville.org.in or login on our website: sante.auroville.org.in.

Santé is an integral health institute where doctors and therapists work together to offer treatment in many health modalities. Our services include Acupuncture, Allopathic general medicine, Ayurveda, Homeopathy, Integrative Psychotherapy, Midwifery & Gynecology, Ozone Therapy, Physiotherapy, Pediatric Physiotherapy, and Wellbeing Medical Massage. Other clinical services available are nursing care, out-patient care including basic surgical procedures, lab sample collection, in-patient facilities, medical homecare for those in need, and acute care services.

You can find our [Santé Services Monthly Schedule](#) at this link.

SANTÉ SERVICES IN FEBRUARY 2022

Doctor consults with Dr. Brian, Dr. Senthil & Dr. Prabha, Daily	Nursing Care, Ezhil & Thilagam, Daily (No appointment necessary)
Acupuncture with Andres, Monday to Friday	Ayurveda with Dr. Berengere & Dr. Sonia, Monday/Wednesday/Thursday/Friday
Homeopathy with Michael, Monday/Wednesday/Friday	Psychotherapy with Juan Andres, Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday/Friday
Midwifery & Family counselling with Monique, Tuesday	Pregnancy Care & Women’s Wellness with Paula, Tuesday & Wednesday
Paediatric Physiotherapy with Swati, Monday & Wednesday	Physiotherapy with Osnat, Monday/Thursday/Friday
Physiotherapy and Massage with Galina, Monday to Friday (TOS from 24/01 – 21/02)	Physiotherapy with Rebeca (TOS from 01/01 onwards)

- In Santé, we value our patient’s confidentiality & make every effort to ensure their privacy.
- In case of a cancellation or to reschedule, kindly inform us 24 hours in advance.

AURA NETWORK



We are happy with a couple more little fixes. You may not have noticed that “Group Chat” is now working and can be used to reach a group for planning sessions and workshops. Atithi Griha continues to serve daily breakfast, lunch and dinner in exchange for Auras.

Love, The Aura Network Team
www.auranetwork.app

CALL FOR GRANT PROPOSALS SDZ FUNDING IN 2022

Project Coordination Group

The Project Coordination Group (PCG) will be meeting to review grant proposals for possible funding by Stichting De Zaaier.

The last date to submit proposals for this call is Monday, 14 February 2022. You are welcome to submit earlier or 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!) All documents related to this purpose are to be submitted in the prescribed forms as attachments, emailed to pcg@auroville.org.in

Only those initiatives that can be carried out under prevailing COVID conditions will be considered.

Please note that in case your proposal is not ready by this date, there will be several other calls for proposals for SDZ announced for later this year.

The Project Coordination Group will check whether proposals fall within the SDZ funding criteria and forward those that do to the SDZ Board for final selection and grant allocation.

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 the 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 funds are generally not 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 also indicated a preference for funding projects where the maintenance of Aurovilians is either provided by Auroville or from a source other than SDZ grants.

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

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

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 all individual schools before submitting your proposal 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.

For more information or assistance please write to pcg@auroville.org.in

The last date for submitting proposals for this call is Monday, 14 February 2022. Please submit earlier if possible.

NB There will be other opportunities to submit proposals for funding by Stichting de Zaaier to be announced later this year.

WHO PARTICIPATES IN THE NEXT DREAMWEAVING ROUND?

The Dreamweaving exercise involves a number of participating groups. There are approximately eight teams of Dreamweaving architects, and another forty individuals who are peers, or members of expert/analytical and focus groups. In addition, there are a group of participants who have been randomly selected from the Master List.



It is important to have randomly selected participants included because Auroville is not just another city. So it is important that a wide range of voices from many parts of the community are heard, not just those with technical experience or who represent a particular sector or perspective. This will help the architects, ATDC and the Vastu Shilpa Foundation assess if the architects' proposals reflect something of the 'magic' of Auroville and have wider support in the community.

At the next dreamweaving session on 4th/5th February, the randomly selected group will listen to the architects present their emerging designs and then, in small facilitated groups, be able to interact with them and provide feedback. They will also attend the dreamweaving session on 18th/19th February at which the architects will present their final designs. During these sessions the randomly selected group, along with peers and focus group members, will share their views on the designs. While all the designs will be forwarded to the ATDC and Vastu Shilpa Foundation, the inputs from different groups on the designs they like will also be shared with them.

On 26th January, an initial orientation was provided for this group. The dreamweaving process was explained to them, along with their function, which is to provide feedback to the architects. It was emphasized that they do not require technical expertise, but simply to listen with an open mind, to share from the heart, and say which designs, or aspects of the designs, they like, ideally with an explanation of why.

At the orientation session they also viewed two short videos on the Dreamweaving process until now and different kinds of biases, and how they can become aware of them. This will help them keep an open mind when they hear from the architects in the next sessions (see links below).

The response to the orientation session was very enthusiastic, and the random selection aspect, in particular, was much appreciated. In fact, two participants, who before had been wondering whether or not to commit themselves to the dreamweaving exercise, after learning more about it were excited to be part of the process.

The dreamweaving team is in the process of approaching those who have given analytical and planning inputs, whilst also putting together a focus group of Aurovilians that hold widely different perspectives, in order to gather the widest range of inputs and feedback on the designs. It is heartening to see the response and the goodwill of people accepting these invitations, especially as it requires them to commit a considerable amount of their time.

Next week we will provide an update on the 'big weave', the major dreamweaving session which will take place on Friday and Saturday. These sessions will be livestreamed and links will be shared with the community.

Citizens' Assembly and Dreamweaving team

- [Bias video from CA](#)
- [The Dreamweaving process](#)

INVITATION



We are happy to invite all the community in this event on Saturday, 12 February to know our project and give space for dreaming together.

Thank you, Mira from Anitya

OUR PERSPECTIVE OF WHAT REALLY TRANSPIRED

Dear Auroville, the recent vilification of four members by the other three members of Working Committee is not about breach of trust but really about power and control that has become endemic in our system. The report subsequently led to demonization by others in public and on other forums. Here is our perspective of what really transpired and how things tend to function: some examples:

10 questions on Governance raised by the GB was immediately taken up by Sauro without so much as a by your leave from the rest of the group. No in depth discussion followed on these questions nor any reflection on the answers received. We were merely asked to put in comments, very little accepted and the package sent.

On receiving news of the GB meeting, one of us prepared a template with topic suggestions taken from the last GB minutes to make it easy for working groups to get going at short notice. This was viewed with some suspicion and finally we agreed to send it off with just one sheet, as time was short. There was no discussion at all in the group as to what, we as Working Committee, were going to present on issues of governance given the critical circumstances we were in or, whether we had a stand on the events at all.

We agreed to meet on Monday, 17th morning to discuss our presentation. Realistically, that meant only half an hour's time before a meeting with the Foundation. However, some of us were alerted just before 10 am that people who had been shouting at us on December 4th and on subsequent days at the Town hall were planning to come to the office. This did not bode well for a working meeting nor did the 4 of us who had been singled out by this group for abuse and vilification wish to be loaded with such treatment again. Being a member of the RA does not give free 'powers' to vilify and abuse.

We decided to move to the Foundation café to wait it out. We did not inform the others because we did not want the crowd to come and shout at us there. While waiting, we were called into the Secretary's office and updated about the Collector's visit.

Back at the office, there were some heated arguments and it was decided that two separate reports of the December events would be done presenting the two views of the WCom members. However, that evening while preparing the report we realized that almost all working groups had sent in their presentations for the GB, except the Working Committee.

After completing the Report of Events we (Anu, Arun and Srimoyi) put together the points and shared it with Partha the next morning. After getting feedback on both documents we shared it with the rest of the group for their feedback.

This is where all hell broke loose. We were shouted at, accused of lying, of blasphemy, of preparing a presentation on the sly for days without their knowledge, and not following 'process'.

We said, as also in front of the GB, that it was a presentation prepared by the 4 of us but that it was incomplete and needed further work for which we invited the other members. This was immediately dismissed as coming too late with no time to add anything from their side. Members were verbally attacked by Hemant who also advised one of us not to listen to others as they were too old and were going to die soon and who should shut up. The presentation was condemned and we were categorically told not to present it. However, at that point, we said we would do so.

From all this it became clear that the real problem was that we had dared to prepare a presentation and that it was not by the usual three. Interestingly, there was no curiosity to look at the points in the presentation or discuss them further as though it was all nonsense.

That the four of us could actually prepare a presentation overnight, by ourselves, seemed unthinkable to them. It was not a breach of trust, more a breach of command that was expressed, not about exclusion but about who calls the shots.

No such condemnation or outrage was forthcoming about the stay order that had trampled over two thirds of the community and the project of Auroville without the least communication, process or protocol.

At the GB meeting Sauro contested one or two points of the presentation but there was no offer to work together on it. Instead, Chali distributed a signed letter of complaint by the three of them against the four of us to the GB members and eventually to the whole GB and IAC declaring they were victims of 'exclusion'. We leave it to you to judge who was really excluded.

The current atmosphere of vilification and mistrust has heightened following the AuroNet and News and Notes postings. The work atmosphere has been disrupted by all this and even made us dysfunctional for a while. It also seems to have given license to some in the community towards public vilification and abuse against us. This is the reason we are obliged to write this note.

We hope that as members we will first try to resolve our differences from within before running to complain to the rest of the world. This is not the first or last time that there will be differences within a group and the strength of a working group will be determined by its ability to resolve its internal problems from within.

In a separate post we will share our report of the events in December and their impact on Auroville which was given to the GB. Since we were called before those events as Working Committee members we feel a report is needed to be put on record.

With a prayer for our community and our city that has been broken and stalled, that we may heal and grow again together.

*Sincerely, [Anu, Arun, Partha, Srimoyi](#)
Members of the Working Committee*

**A PERSONAL SHARING
ON SRI AUROBINDO'S SAVITRI BY B'**

Time: Febuary 10, 5pm India

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 893 5641 9403, Passcode: BNtalk



Painting by Huta

A personal sharing by B' on his understanding of Sri Aurobindo's "Savitri" followed by Q&A

Place : Bhumika Hall, Bharat Nivas

Date: Thursday 10th, February 2022

Time: 5:00pm to 6:00pm



Thanks, Bharat Nivas Cultural Team

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE AV HEALTH FUND SCHEME

If you still have any medical bills from the past months at home please drop them, **together with your doctor prescription and your PT account number** and Email, in the Health Fund box at Aspiration Health Centre or at SANTE. As the financial year is going to end, all the pending bills from April 2021 till February 2022 have to be processed before the end of March 2022.

Only the medical bills from March 2022 can be paid till the end of April 2022. The audit service has told us **not to process** any bills from last financial year **after March 2022**.

Please check your cupboards while there is still time!

From AV Health Fund Scheme

Kind regards, Health Fund Team

THE ARTS

WERNER STOFF VERNISSAGE

Saturday, February 5, at 6pm at Prayatna

Dear community, we would like to invite you all to the vernissage reception of the retrospective exhibition celebrating Werner Stoff's work on Saturday February 5, 6pm at Prayatna (entrance opp. Maitreye). There will be refreshments and live music.



We partially renovated the buildings and prepared the retrospective exhibition to celebrate Werner's work in and around Auroville.

He was an architect but also a sculptor and designer. For Werner all life was art and connected.

This is what we are trying to show and preserve.

The exhibition opens Saturday, February 5, at 10am and will be accessible on appointment until the end of February.

Please email aurodesign@auroville.org.in or WA Joel, +32 497503502 for an appointment.

Werner Stoff
retrospective exhibition
architect, sculptor
iconic designer

Feb 5th 10am-8pm
vernissage reception 6-8pm
tour RSVP aurodesign@auroville.org.in
Prayatna - opp. Maitreye

IS THIS THE END?

Surya Performance Lab, Auroville presents

On 10, 11, 12 February at 8pm

Sri Aurobindo Auditorium

In partnership with the Auroville 150th Sri Aurobindo anniversary birthday team, Surya Performance Lab is creating a new show called "Is this the end?".

It is a theatrical, choreographical, musical performance inspired by a poem by Sri Aurobindo. Facing a world in crisis and deep transition, our characters on stage express the physical urgency of a new breathe, a new link to Nature and Vastness.

Is This The End?
A Theatrical, choreographical, musical performance inspired by a poem by Sri Aurobindo

10,11,12 February
Time: 8pm Duration: 1hr

Venue
Sri Aurobindo Auditorium,
Bharat Nivas, Auroville.

Directed by Philippe Pelen

Performed by Huong Pham
Thierry Moucazambo
Gopal Dalami

Music composed by Zan David

www.surya-performance-lab-auroville.com

Direction and choreography: Philippe Pelen assisted by Thierry Moucazambo. **Performers:** Huong Pham, Gopal Dalami, Thierry Moucazambo. **Musical Composition:** Zan David
We will perform at Sri Aurobindo Auditorium, Bharat Nivas, Auroville on the 10th, 11th, 12th of February at 8 pm and we are delighted to invite everyone to our performances.

Free entrance. Donations are welcomed on our Surya Performance Lab Auroville Financial Service account: 252160

Surya Performance Lab Team
<https://www.surya-performance-lab.com/>
suryaperformancelab@auroville.org.in

KIRTANA JAZZ QUINTET

At the Cafeteria Visitors Center
On Saturday the 5th at 7pm



A concert by "Kirtana Jazz Quintet":
Kirtana – vocals, Dhani – guitar,
Jurriaan – piano, Rolf – bass, Raul
– drums on the small stage with its
intimate and cozy atmosphere

Come and enjoy!

RENEWING TOWNS: CITYLIFE



CityLife – the new exhibition at Auroville’s Town Hall – is about the reconversion of a district in Milan, Northern Italy, housing 4,500 residents in two high-end settlements and 10,000 employees in three futuristic towers, plus a shopping district welcoming yearly seven million visitors, a convention hall potentially sitting 18,000 people, over 50% of the whole space is green... **for pedestrians and cyclists only, not one single car is permitted!**

Renewing Towns: Citylife – One Of The Largest Car-Free Districts Of Europe

CityLife is a neighbourhood of high architectural and landscape quality in the Lombard capital, Milan. Winning the contest because of its strong environmental hallmark and sustainability according to LEED certification, it was planned and built from scratch by three acclaimed international geniuses: Zaha Hadid, Arata Isozaki and Daniel Libeskind – flanked by international prestigious firms such as ARUP and Ove Arup and others along with reputed Italian firms. Formerly the site of the Fiera Milano (international fair and exhibition) relocated because of traffic congestion, the project was inaugurated in 2017, ten years after its launching; investment cost 2 trillion euros in a 36-hectare area. Over 50% is green spaces; with a size of 170,000 square metres encircling the whole neighborhood, this is the third largest public park in Milan and the largest park of Europe privately funded; 1,200 trees were relocated and 1.500 new ones were planted.

The double storey plaza of CityLife is surrounded by three skyscrapers along the pedestrian pathway linking the old city to the new park. The towers cover 130,000 square metres, allowing for 10,000 employees. "The straight" by Arata Isozaki, 202 metres tall, 50 floors, is the tallest building in Italy; "the warped" by Zaha Hadid is 170 metres tall, 44 floors; "the curve" by Daniel Libeskind is 150 metres tall, 30 floors. The underground parking, in addition to the basement levels of 'the straight', connects the parking lots to the commercial activities and the fashion mall at the base of 'the curved'. The retail activities further open up the public square to the city and the surrounding park. All three towers are connected with the underground metro station, driverless, at both their access levels and the two public reference levels of the entire development.

Two posh residential area designed by Zaha Hadid and Daniel Libeskind, 164,000 square metres, feature 1,300 apartments in buildings ranging between 5 and 13 floors, housing 4,500 people; gardens, leisure spaces, courtyards and, underground, private parking complement both

de-luxe settlements. Zaha Hadid Architects designed the three floors shopping centre (bamboo flooring, ceiling, columns and café counters, assembled with resins); with a catchment area of 32,000 square metres for 700,000 people, this mall is the largest of Italy and one of the largest in Europe. A convention hall – seating capacity for 18,000, 73 rooms – is also one of the largest in Europe; it is covered by a complex system of photovoltaic panels, shaped like a comet, producing energy for the centre itself and the surrounding area. Additionally there is a museum of contemporary art, exhibitions spaces, sports facilities etc. The entire area is enjoyed on foot or by bicycle: not one single car is visible, the traffic circulates underground; below the towers there is an underground parking for 7,000 cars and a driver-less metro line.

Submitted by Paulette

WORK OPPORTUNITIES

ASSISTANCE OFFERED FOR PROJECT AND GOI GRANT PREPARATION

As part of my journey of giving back to society, offer my services as SEWA – assistance in the following areas for individuals/units who/which do not have a qualified and experienced in-house resource.

Sector: Industrial Entrepreneurship

- Project Proposal Preparation
- Digital Marketing – Instagram

Focused on first time and youth entrepreneurs only

Contact Details: Surajkiran Venugopal

Mobile: 988420 4918 (WA)

Email: surajkiranv@gmail.com

Location: Auroville

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.

Communication

A diverse team with diverse backgrounds and skills is looking to put together a communications team.

The work for the communications team will involve: Writing; Documentation of work on the farm; Follow up with teams within the farm; Research; Communication with the community (newsletters, website etc.); Preparing proposals for fundraising. Support/contribution for a long-term commitment can be arranged.

Handyman

A handyman is needed with skills such as electric and plumbing for a full time or half time commitment. Maintenance available.

Co-manager

If you are interested or have studied in the sector of hospitality; Basic skills for computers as well as website and online skills would be a great plus. A welcoming personality with good team spirit and a good coordinator, results oriented and proactive.

English and possibly Tamil or another second language.

A full time commitment is required; Maintenance is available after the initial trial period.

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 hr_hub@auroville.org.in

If you are searching for work: [fill in this form](#)

Sara for HR Initiative

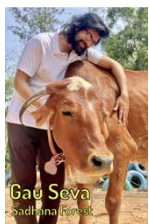
www.hriauroville.org

GASTRONOMICA



Gastronomica is looking for an experienced baker to make bread (night time work only). Please contact +918489756436 **Warmly, Helena**

GAU SEVA AT SADHANA FOREST!



Your heartfelt service is needed at the Sadhana Forest Gaushala! You are most welcome to join us on any day from 6am onwards, and have a vegan breakfast at 8:45am. Breakfast is offered as a gift, and there is no need for prior booking. If you would like to contact us please email sadhanaforest@auroville.org.in, WA 8525038274 or call 8122274924.

Looking forward to welcoming you!
The Sadhana Forest team

LOST AND FOUND

Note left on N&N Desk

I lost my Mobile phone on 27.01.22 in the Main Parking lot at the Town Hall. It is a Hawwei P30. If found please contact me at this phone number +33 611 765701 (there is an extra number here) **anonymous**

HELP NEEDED

AUROVILLE RADIO TV NEEDS YOUR HELP!



We are happy to announce that the Auroville-RadioTv is going to move to the first floor of the Archives building.

The new location having more potential for growth, we have re-think the studio taking into consideration the various needs of the community to become a full flesh recording studio in the next future. The project is therefore divided into two phases. The first phase will allow the radio to shift its regular work without major interruption. It is expected to be finished by March, thanks to a great team and a generous donor. However, our budget is short of 5 Lakhs to finish in a timely manner.

We appeal to you to help this essential service of Auroville that have adapted to the pandemic constraints by streaming our events and meetings (with more than 15k view in the last month only!) despite a very low budget and a lack of manpower.

We are counting on your support to continue serving the community at our best. Please donate! Financial account number 251369, specify "Donation for relocation – Phase 1".

In addition, we are also proud to say that the project is realized with the help of Auroville units only! **Thank you!**

AVAILABLE

Rose Quartz stones

4 rose quartz stones available. Length between 14 cm and 20 cm. Very good quality stones, clean and clear (initially planned for art pieces then used around a computer to balance energies). Ideally we would prefer they go as a set but possibility to separate them piece by piece.

Fixed contribution requested. Will be available only on 7th of April, after our departure. Payment requested 1 month before (beginning of March).

yvelise@auroville.org.in (first contact by mail only)

Cane Bed and Mattress

2 large single cane bed + 1 double cane bed + 1 thick good quality mattress available. All in good condition.

Contact 8098796307 (WA only), Camille

Eterniti Aquaguard Water Filter

Bought in 2017. Good condition, very good filter (bought for someone very sensitive to bacteria and co). It comes without a water container and without tube, so that the water comes straight out after the filtration system (no risk of tube and tank contamination). Has maintenance / insurance contract valid till August 2023. Good customer service. Fixed contribution requested. Will be available only on 7th of April, after our departure. Payment requested 1 month before (beginning of March).

yvelise@auroville.org.in (first contact by mail only)

4 years old female dog needs a new family

She is very soft, kind and well educated. She is sterilized and vaccinated. She never had any medical issues. Thank you very much.

Contact 8098796307 (WA only), Camille

Many furnitures available + other things

Many furnitures available mainly in wood and cane + 1 sofa + 2 armchairs + some kitchen items, pans etc. + a 15L heater (Crompton) + 1 cooking gaz stove 2 burners with glass (Butterfly) + a UPS battery + 1 small oven (Morphy Richard) + 1 barbecue (Weber) + 1 bike + 1 TVS.

Contact 8098796307 (WA only), Camille

Puppies for adoption at Auromodele

Dear friends, our dog Chiku, mix of bullmastiff/rotweiler with Indian dog, has graced us with wonderful puppies. Loveable, cute, cheerful, healthy and fully developed, they are ready to start their journey with a new loving family. They have been properly fed on mother's milk, well trained in play with their siblings and are now three months old. Mix of breed with local blood gives them strong immunity. Erna – pure love and courage, strong and playful; Dana – quick, attentive, intelligent, obedient, elegant; Vita – sweet, caring, light-footed, always happy, natural healer. If you are ready to take up the responsibility for their lives and as a reward have a lifetime friend who will always cheer you up, do visit us!

Ph/WA +91 9489147202 Vera & Ashesh

Voices and Notes

AUROVILLE RADIO



Dear Aurovilians, your favorite radio is always working for you. Stay tuned!

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

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

Last published podcasts

- [Soul Tracks Se.03, Ep.10 "A Gaggles of Gladsome Grooves"](#) (Music)
- [Happiness, Love and Laughter – Ep.131 "Thoughts on Applied Spirituality during this critical time"](#) (Wellness)
- [Aarohan – ep.40 "Masters of the Dhrupad Renaissance!"](#) (Music)
- [Happiness, Love and Laughter – Ep.130 "A Mother and Daughter Reflect on Growing Up with Auroville"](#) (Wellness)
- [The Life of Sri Aurobindo in Tamil-Ep.2, Sri Aurobindo: "ஸ்ரீ அரவிந்தரின் வாழ்க்கை வரலாறு"](#)

Last Youtube live video

- [Resident Assembly Meeting](#) (City Life)

Please help us to relocate the radio!

Donate to F.A. number 251369.

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

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

Peace and love

YES. MOVE ON, DUST WILL SETTLE ANYWAYS!

Yes. Move On, Dust will settle anyways!
 The blood I spilled shall dry &
 the wounds I cut open with my instigations shall kill any-
 ways; So let's Move On!
 The seeds of division shall reap a harvest of hate,
 I sowed it time & again; So now, let's Move On!
 The cancer of misinformation shall spread,
 while I wash my sins with blood & sweat of my brothers;
 let's Move On!
 I shall worship my own immortality;
 I shall sing my own melodies;
 I shall dance over the dead trees; and I shall celebrate my
 ignorance!
 As I refuse to bow down to Truth; Or the Unity;
 I shall wear my Crown of Thorns!
 I shall sit on the Throne of my Grave! So let's Move On!
 Now that my inner Devil's smirk has sprouted, O Lord of
 the Dark Times, Embrace Me;
 Now that my thick skin is my armor, I shall defeat the
 Dream! So let's Move On!
 My thirst is quenched with your Tears; My hunger with my
 momentary Power;
 I shall sacrifice you, at the altar of my Arrogance;
 So...Yes. Move On, Dust will settle anyways!

written in anguish;
 (reply to S's blog; It's Time to Move On)
 Warmly, dharmesh vikramsinh jadeja

IF HE DEVIATES FROM HIS MISSION

When the former President Dr Abdul Kalam visited he did not tell us sweet words, but the Truth. I was deeply impressed by his word and I know this will happen to Auroville none day;

The President started his speech saying, "Friends, I have come as a pilgrim to this place, Auroville, and why I say pilgrim is because you have a mission bigger than mine; the mission you are having is larger than that of any individual. It is a vision which came from Sri Aurobindo and the Mother, and naturally it is a very big mission." He also said; "Most of you in Auroville, you have shaped as better human beings." When asked by a child earlier in the day "How do you consider yourself? As a scientist? As a Muslim? As a Tamilian?" He replied to the kid that what matters most in life is to be a better human being. Quoting a hymn from the Tamil spic Silapthiagaram. written in the 2nd century AD; அரசியல் பிழைத்தோருக்கு அறம் கூற்றாகும் he explained; It means, if a man is in a position, whatever position he is, if he deviates from his mission, then it says that the Aram, this is the dharma that itself will become Yama, will become a destroyer, if you deviate from your mission"

This has happened around Sri Aurobindo's Samadhi Day! There is no use to point the finger at anyone but at our heart and ask in all sincerity what have we done to realize the ideals of Auroville in all these years.

Govinda

BELOVED MOTHER OF ALL THINGS



Dear Mother Earth, I bow my head before you as I look deeply and recognize that you are present in me and that I'm a part of you. I was born from you and you are always present, offering me everything I need for my nourishment and growth. My mother, my father, and all my ancestors are also your children. We breathe your fresh air. We drink your clear water. We eat your nourishing food. Your herbs heal us when we're sick.

You are the mother of all beings. I call you by the human name Mother and yet I know your mothering nature is more vast and ancient than humankind. We are just one young species of your many children. All the millions of other species who live—or have lived—on Earth are also your children. You aren't a person, but I know you are not less than a person either. You are a living breathing being in the form of a planet.

Each species has its own language, yet as our Mother you can understand us all. That is why you can hear me today as I open my heart to you and offer you my prayer.

Dear Mother, wherever there is soil, water, rock or air, you are there, nourishing me and giving me life. You are present in every cell of my body. My physical body is your physical body, and just as the sun and stars are present in you, they are also present in me. You are not outside of me and I am not outside of you. You are more than just my environment. You are nothing less than myself.

I promise to keep the awareness alive that you are always in me, and I am always in you. I promise to be aware that your health and well-being is my own health and well-being. I know I need to keep this awareness alive in me for us both to be peaceful, happy, healthy, and strong.

Sometimes I forget. Lost in the confusions and worries of daily life, I forget that my body is your body, and sometimes even forget that I have a body at all. Unaware of the presence of my body and the beautiful planet around me and within me, I'm unable to cherish and celebrate the precious gift of life you have given me. Dear Mother, my deep wish is to wake up to the miracle of life. I promise to train myself to be present for myself, my life, and for you in every moment. I know that my true presence is the best gift I can offer to you, the one I love.

From Love Letter to the Earth by Thich Nhat Hanh, (2013). Verena



HELPFUL HINTS/ADVERTISEMENTS

REMEDY FOR NEEM TREES WITH DEAD LEAVES

Last year in 2021, Island contacted me with the matter of the Neem trees suffering from a disease called "Die Back"

We treat successfully some Neem trees with antagonism bacteria from the genre *Bacillus*. The treatment basically consisted in a very reach carbon compost along with a special Probiotics Consortium bacteria reach in *Bacillus* spp. This ancient technique was taught to me 21 years ago by my Japanese Professor Shoji Kanda.

We know that it works well, but require a reach carbon compost. Unfortunately, any compost produced in Auroville, even the forest one, is not good as it has been done using cow dung emitting CO₂ and methane gases or just left it on time to get demineralised producing as well CO₂ and methane gas. The compost that we need is certainly the one produced with C4 plants (A plant in which the CO₂ is first fixed into a compound containing four carbon atoms before entering the photosynthesis. C4 plants include **sugarcane, maize, sorghum, amaranth**). It is normally produced in very high quantities in India with our TATA client Rallis. However, by any mean that compost is not easy to bring to Auroville.

Then, my challenge was to do the remedy as effective as is expected, without using compost. And also NO using any Probiotics liquid only as it is slow and produce some CO₂ and methane gas. Also, the Probiotics Consortium should be very special not in Lactic acid bacteria, yeast and purple non sulphur bacteria but in *Bacillus* spp. And I got it. It has been introduced in our community under the name PROBACILL. It is in powder form. Has a consortium of 6 *Bacillus* spp.

You can get the PROBACILL either in our place – Probiotics House in Reve – or in PTDC.

Then, how to treat the sick Neem trees without compost? Here it goes:

1. With a crow bar make 4 holes around the main trunk at a distance of 1.5 – 2 meters of the Tree with 10 inches deep and 5 inches of diameter. Lots of care has to be done to avoid damage in the superficial roots of the tree. This is a critical issue as well.
2. Make sure that the soil is slightly moist with water, but not damped.
3. Fill each hole with 15 grams (1 tablespoon) of PROBACILL powder.
4. Repeat the procedure every 20 days.
5. Wait and see.

This method, not only avoid the use of external compost, but make the soil acts as compost. Also in this way, we are not producing CO₂ and methane gas but **carbon (C) sequestration**, that is all what the soil and the trees need. I would like to suggest to see a simple illustrative video in YouTube from the University of Hawaii on similar technique [in the link](#).

In case you need further advice, please do not hesitate to contact us in Probiotics House. I am also copying Island on this regard, as he has been very much involved on this issue, and has been waiting for that C4 compost that will not arrive any soon; but having PROBACILL with us, then we can go ahead to treat sick trees without C4 compost.

Dr. Margarita Correa
Mgecoduties – Probiotics House, Reve
[produced by the fungus](#)
[Phomopsis azadirachtae](#)

THE LONG READ

CHOOSING TO LIVE AND WORK IN A DEVA SAMGHA

Here are some basic guidance for the Ways of Life of the People who choose to live and work together consciously, how we interact with and treat each other as unique individuals with unique roles to play within the collectivity, apropos to Auroville - The City of Dawn as meant to be a Deva Samgha, a divine community at the service of the Divine Consciousness (which is our shared essence, and relatively the goal or purpose of life of each progressively evolving co-players in this Divine Play or Lila based on Unity in Diversity):

The full article you can read in [Appendix on page 25](#).

CLASSES, WORKSHOPS & HEALING ARTS

FELDENKRAIS MOVEMENTS: CORRECTION OF TIMING

Fridays 5:15 – 6:30pm



PITANGA
 CULTURAL CENTRE

The timings for the Feldenkrais movement classes with Shari have been wrongly announced last week. The correct timing of the class is: Fridays 5:15 – 6:30pm. Sorry for the confusion caused.

Present Covid protocols respecting access to all classes is limited.

See you at Pitanga, with a smile !

You can reach us at 262 2403
 or pitanga@auroville.org.in

MUSIC-CLASS

Saturday, 5 February, 4 – 6pm, Saiier-Building



Introduction into History and Theory of Western Classical Music on Saturday, 5 February, 4 – 6pm, Saiier-Building first Floor, The Romantic Period of the 19th Century (from

Schubert to Wagner to Mahler). Video clips of Operas and Concerts will be shown. Beginners welcome.

Hartmut, 7094812897, vonlieries@gmx.de

EDIBLE WEED WALK WITH NINA S

Commelina benghalensis
 Painting with Miracle fruit (*Momchylon umbellatum*).
 Color slightly altered digitally

First weed walk for this season
 on Saturday, 5 February 2022
 A weed-walk will be held weekly on Saturdays
 Time: 7:30am to 8:30am (or 8:45am max)
 Location : In Auroville

Pre-registration required
 RSVP: WhatsApp/SMS : +91 8628955394
 or backtoroots@auroville.org.in
 Details about Location /contribution at registration

Edible Weed Walk @ NinaS

PHOTO CIRCLE

Friday, 4 February at 5pm in the Centre d'Art



Dear photographers, Photo Circle meets on the first Friday of every month, so this time we will meet on Friday, 4 February at 5pm in the Centre d'Art multimedia room, at Citadines. The Photocircle brings together Auroville's photographers. We share our own work, we show the work of global photographers we admire, discuss the history of photography, and share techniques. Anyone can bring and screen a small selection of images.

Everybody's welcome, Marco

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY

Saturday from 9 to 10am



Dear community, **Aurogames** has been created and developed as an educational tool to help children develop focused attention, observation skills, flexibility, memory, cooperation, mathematical thinking, orientation, visual & spatial perception. Now Aurogames is growing further and we would like to invite more children to join our sessions.

- There is a 3 months commitment;
- the session will take place on Saturday from 9 to 10am;
- age group 6 to 11;
- limited space is available.

You can check out our brand new website to play on-line: <https://www.auro.games> and to have more information on Aurogames founder and developers: <https://auroville.org/contents/5080>.

- For more info & booking the slot for three months please contact +91 89033 98810

Sara & Sara for Aurogames team

PAINTING CLASSES

Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 2 – 4pm

Venue: Kalakendra, Bharat Nivas
Aurovilians, Newcomers are welcome.

Guests: Contribution requested

For info: contact 9442121315

Covid Guidelines and distancing to be respected



Bharatnivas Cultural Group

ART CLASS & SESSIONS

FOR FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2022.



CREEVA

Center for Research Education Experience In The Visual Arts. Confirm your presence atleast a day before the class!

Time	Class & Sessions	Teacher
Monday 5 – 7pm	Watercolor Painting	Sathya, +91 9080371145
Wednesday 9:30 – 11:30am	Explore Color Or Drawing	Audrey +91 9489408358, 0413-2622641
Saturday 9 – 11am	Figurative Drawing With Life Model	
Saturday 2 – 3:30pm	Clay sculpture	Sangarapranan, +91 9047722987

KAYA BODHA: THE ART OF BODY AWARENESS

Kaya Bodha: The Art of Body Awareness with Hans.

Relaxation, Agility, Breathing,

Posture & Self-Healing techniques.

Fridays 6:30-7:45am @ Budokan/Dehashakti.



www.auroville-jiva.com, WA 9626006961

contact@auroville-jiva.com, [Facebook](#)

We offer transformational practices addressing all issues of body, mind, emotion and soul, for conscious evolution. Acupuncture, Shiatsu, QiGong, TaijiQuan, Energy work, Fast-ing Natural Horsemanship, Horse Assisted Therapy, Medical Clowning, Yoga Nidra, Gentle Birth & Peganancy, Integral Regression Therapy, Trauma Therapy, Advanced Classical Homeopathy Systemic Constellation & Family Constellation

Regular classes in Taijiquan and QiGong

- **Dynamic QiGong with Andres**
 - Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday
7-8am behind Kalabhumi
- **Taiji Quan and Qigong with Michael & the Taiji- Family**

- Qigong Tuesday, Thursday
4 – 4:45pm

Qigong is the “Yoga of China”, a holistic system to practice and refine the body, our life-energy, the mind and to nourish our soul. Suitable for all ages. Bodywork and Meditation



- Taijiquan (TAI CHI)

Tuesday, Thursday 4:45pm – 6pm

Learn “Chen Style Taijiquan Practical Method” from disciples of the lineage holder Master Chen Zhong-hua. Authentic Chinese Martial Art.

- Venue: “The Learning Community” near Transition School

Pranic Activation Process, 5 - 13 February



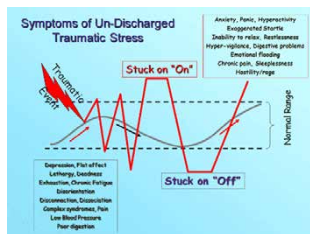
9 day Breatharian Initiation – with Egle, Nicolas Pilartz and Raffaella Galoppi Live & online event in Auroville, The 9-day process is like a journey through an unknown land, where one can discover oneself and the wonders that are hidden within. It is an opportunity to experience the power of prana, the life force, and reconnect with our natural state of being. During the process, our energy begins to circulate more freely throughout our system, and the body has a chance to get used to a new form of nourishment.

Benefits: Re-connection with your True Self, mental clarity, increased sensual perception, liberation from old patterns.

- contact@auroville-jiva.com
- Contact for information, registration & inquiries:
Ph/WA: +91 9488047368

Transforming trauma, 12 & 13 February

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

Time: 12 & 13 February, 9 – 5pm.

Venue: Sharnga Guesthouse Yogahall, www.sharngaguesthouse.in

Integral regression therapy training

- Intro Session: 9 February, 4-6 pm
- Intro Webinar: 10 February, 7.30 – 9.30pm

Integral regression therapy and energy work based on Sri Aurobindo and The Mothers integral Yoga, integrating trauma therapy, past life regression therapy, inner child work, NLP, and a client centric approach. Typically, integral regression therapy addresses unexplainable pains, traumata from accidents or early childhood, questions about past lives, life purpose or restricting behaviour patterns. Sigrid An in- depths training through a series of webinars the theory of this deeply healing approach is transmitted. Therapists wishing to integrate this approach in their psychotherapeutic or body-mind – healing work shall come for presence sessions, for four 3 day workshops to Auroville, to practice facilitating the 2hrs therapy sessions, and their own personal transformation.



- The 7 Module training in Integral Regression Therapy starts on 19 & 20 February with Modul 1 Reliving and transforming

Sigrid Lindemann is integrating her large professional background in this focussed approach to transforming deep, longstanding issues towards an evolving consciousness and purpose of life. Sigrid is a transpersonal regression therapist, trainer in hypnotherapy and teacher of advanced classical homeopathy, with her background in Integral Yoga, living over 20 years in Auroville, Pondicherry.

All info: Sigrid, contact@auroville-jiva.com, WA 9626006961

Exploring Past Lives Webinar

- 15, 16, 17 February, 7 – 8:30pm



We invite you to explore the topic of Past Lives in the light of Sri Aurobindo and The Mothers Philosophy, and share the value of Past Lives therapy in psychotherapy and energy work.

In this short introduction you will gather an insight into the hidden source

of some your present day beliefs, psychological movements and even inexplicable bodily pains as well as glimpses on transforming these.

Sigrid Lindemann introduces "Exploring Past Lives" as an element of Integral Regression therapy, a deeply transforming modality integrating Inner Child Work, Past Life Therapy, Trauma therapy and Energy Work on the bases of the philosophy of Integral Yoga. Sigrid has developed Integral Regression Therapy, integrating her therapeutic experience of past 20 years.

- Workshops with Nirupam Gyan Sufi are planned for September 2022: The Sufi Way and "Gurdjieff Sacred Dances"

Natural Horsemanship

- Individual and group sessions ongoingly
- Timings: afternoons 4 – 6pm or mornings 8 -10am

Mirrabelle offers webinars, classes and workshops in Natural Horsemanship. Natural Horsemanship focuses on body language of horse and human, which is universal, by effectively using intention and centered presence to communicate clearly, with purpose, and without violence. This is the key to building a vocabulary with the horse, your partner. Experience yourself beyond words! 7 horses and ponies of all sizes and temperaments are curious to know you!



Natural horsemanship improves your self confidence, your trust, your skills in nonverbal communication – and it's just fun time to BE with a sensitive, naturally trained horse! Mirrabelle lives with horses since she is 3 years young. Past 10 years she fulfils her life's dream to bring children, adults and horses together in a healing way, in Auroville, Sharnga Guesthouse. Mirrabelle has studied human and horse psychology, and offers consultancy on all aspects of horse care – hoofs, nutrition, psychology, care, riding and therapy!

Contact: WA 9626565134, contact@auroville-jiva.com

Journey of the Soul, 22 February, 10 am – 2pm

- Venue: Sharnga Guest House Yogahall

A 1 day workshop to explore the "Layers of the heart", an inner journey described by the Mother, and more recently by Soleil Lithman, a long term associate of Auroville. After a short Intro, we will follow a guided meditation. This workshop is an opening toward the dimensions of inner work proposed by The Mother. A workshop for all.



Facilitator Sigrid Lindemann, an Aurovillian researcher for over 20 years, international faculty in integral regression therapy.

contact@auroville-jiva.com

Explore your mind

- 3-day workshop in hypnotherapy, 4, 5, 6 March

"The answers you seek never come when the mind is busy, they only come when it is still" What is hypnosis? How do the right and left brain function practically? How do conscious and subconscious interact? Explore the depths of your mind and relax! Meditate with ease! Expand your therapeutic toolbox! Apply Selfhypnosis Workshop combining experiential learning and "Theory of the Mind" Certified course from EKAA www.ekaa.co.in

- Info meeting: 2 March 5- 5:30pm at Sharnga Guesthouse Terrace
- 4 March Friday 4 – 7pm,
- 5 & 6 March Saturday, Sunday 9- 5pm
- at Sharnga Guesthouse Yogahall

Trainer: Sigrid Lindemann Certified Faculty in Hypnotherapy, Regression Therapy and Classical homeopathy, Germany and Auroville

Venue: Sharnga Guesthouse Yogahall, www.sharngaguesthouse.in

- Venue: Sharnga Guesthouse, www.sharngaguesthouse.in
Sharnga Guesthouse is a green oasis, with a huge Banyan Tree, horses, birds, a lively tropical garden, with a small pool, gym and rooms from simple to AC, single to family units. A Yoga Hall, AC lounge with big screen, and the great service and international cuisine make it a perfect spot.

- **YEP** We do offer adventure camps with kids programs, <https://www.facebook.com/YEPAV> parallel with wellness and healing sessions for parents: forest walks, camp fire, visits to various activities in Auroville, Yoga and TaiChi, art sessions, bird watching, etc! WA 09626565134

BHARAT NIVAS

Regular classes for – February 2022



SAWCHU

Monday	Hatha yoga sessions	7:00 to 8:30am	Khushmita khushmita@auroville.org.in
	Capoeira Classes	5:00 to 6:00pm	Kiran capoeira@auroville.org.in
Tuesday	Bharatanatyam Classes	5:00 to 6:00pm	Caveri sureshcaveri@gmail.com
	Hip Hop / Contemporary Dance	6:00 to 7:00pm	Sarasu sarasu@auroville.org.in
Thursday	Capoeira Classes	5:00 to 6:30pm	Kiran capoeira@auroville.org.in
Wednesday	Hatha yoga sessions	7:00 to 8:30am	Khushmita khushmita@auroville.org.in
	Odissi Dance	5:00 to 6:30pm	Devasmita devasmita@auroville.org.in
	Tango Practica	7:30 to 9:00pm	Jorge & Marie Pierre tango@auroville.org.in
Friday	Hatha yoga sessions	7:00 to 8:30am	Khushmita khushmita@auroville.org.in
Saturday	Odissi dance classes	3:00 to 6:00pm	Kanchana udavikanchana1@gmail.com
	Hip Hop / Contemporary dance	6:30 to 7:30pm	Vijay sarasu@auroville.org.in
Sunday	Classic Dance	10:00 to 11:00am	Deepa r_deepa14@yahoo.co.in
	Odissi dance classes	3:00 to 6:00pm	Kanchana udavikanchana1@gmail.com
	Hip Hop / Contemporary Dance	6:00 to 7:00pm	Vijay sarasu@auroville.org.in

Progress hall

Thursday	Bhagavad Geeta Chanting	5:00 to 6:00pm	Sanskritam devan@auroville.org.in
Sunday	Ashtanga Yoga	4:00 to 5:00pm	Muthukumari muthukumari@auroville.org.in

Auditorium

Monday/Wednesday	Dance awareness	3:00 to 4:45pm	Grace Info@Kolamyoga.com
Thursday	Kotree Yoga	5:00 to 6:30pm	
Friday	Dance Awareness	3:00 To 4:45pm	

Auditorium Fyer

Saturday/Sunday	Bharatanatyam classes	10:00 to 12:00pm 4:00 to 6:00pm	Caveri sureshcaveri@gmail.com
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Music room

Monday/Friday/ Saturday	Car-natic vocal classes	4:30 to 6:00pm	Sangaraparana bharatnivas@auroville.org.in
Tuesday/Wednesday/ Thursday	Hindustani Singing Classes	2:00 to 6:00pm	Nandita bharatnivas@auroville.org.in

India Space

Monday/Wednesday	Tamil class	4.00 to 5:00 pm	Shankar shankar@auroville.org.in
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Kalakendra

Monday to Saturday	The Mother and Dawn of Auroville Permanent Exhibition	9:00 to 4:30pm	bharatnivas-kalakendra@auroville.org.in
Tuesday, Thursday & Friday	Painting class	2:00 to 4:00pm	
3rd January to 28th January	Exhibition on The Spirit of India by Sarala's Art Center	9:00 to 4:30pm	

Bhumika

Monday to Saturday	Resource Library	9.30 to 4.00pm	Vatsala	cicbn@auroville.org.in
Tuesday	Sri Aurobindo's The Synthesis of yoga reading session	4:30 to 5:30pm	Deepti	
Friday	Savitri Reading Session	11:00 to 12:00pm	B' & Vani	

QUIET HEALING CENTER



www.quiethealingcenter.info/quiet@auroville.org.in

+91 413 2622329/+91 9488084966 (mobile)

Birenda Massage Course with Jean-Louis & Sivacoumar

- **Module 1:** 4 – 5 February (9am – 5pm)
- **Module 2:** 25 – 26 February (9am – 5pm)
- **Module 3:** 18 – 19 March (9am – 5pm)

Birenda massage is a soft and profound wellness therapy, which leads the client into a state of deep relaxation in which the body is fully felt and experienced. At the same time, it provides an inner journey within oneself during which energy blockages and tensions are revealed, so that they can be recognized, released and transformed.

Birenda, a Bengali with 50 years of experience, developed this massage therapy and transmitted his unique approach to Jean-Louis in person. Jean-Louis, who has been offering Birenda Massage over the past 25 years, has committed himself since several years to teaching this innovative body treatment to both beginners and experienced therapists in India and abroad. Sivacoumar has been working as a Birenda massage therapist for the past three years. During this period, he was personally trained by Jean-Louis to become a Birenda massage instructor and co-teaches this course together with him.

This course consists of 3 modules of 2 days each. The first module is dedicated to back massage. During the two other modules, you'll learn how to massage the legs, arms, abdomen and front of the body. You'll also learn how to prepare yourself before massaging a person, create a trusting relationship with your client, and offer relevant information after a massage.

You'll receive a manual with detailed instructions — both in text and colour pictures — for practice on family members and friends. A certificate is provided upon completion of the full course.

Watsu® 2 with Gianni De Stefani & Dariya Saturday 5 – Friday 11 February, (8.45am – 6.30pm)

Watsu 2 expands the Transition Flow taught in Watsu 1. You learn additional movements and bodywork in each position and to incorporate them in a session. You'll also learn about the meridians and acupressure points in Watsu and to creatively explore your own movements, while following the client's tendency to move. Practicing acupressure massage, lifts, pushes and pulls introduced at this stage, helps developing the ability to explore and play with energy.

Prerequisites: Watsu 1

Woga (Yoga in Water) 1 & 2 with Petra Saturday 12 – Sunday 13 February, 9am – 6pm

- lunch included

Yoga in water is based on classic yoga poses and stretches, modified for standing in pool water, which is waist-to-chest high. Sessions are structured like their yoga equivalents on land: breathing, warm-up exercises, a series of poses, and a relaxation period. The difference is that you are in a warm water pool (35°C). The substantial decrease of gravity in warm water allows greater ease of movement, unblocks articulations, lengthens & melts muscles, and removes negative tensions, thereby preventing stress, insomnia and anxiety.

Focus of Woga 1 & 2 is Hatha Yoga (asanas in standing position, on the wall, in floating position), Pranayama and meditation.

Didactic material and certificate are given upon completion of the course. No previous experience required (also no need to be able to swim)!



SOUL OF SOIL

Auroville & Kazhuveli Bio-Region Eco Experience Program, February 2022

Touch ◦ Ride ◦ Feel ◦ Taste ◦ Hear ◦
Discover ◦ Experience

Mother's Festival: to celebrate the spirit of Shakthi

- **19 February:** Talk by senior Aurovillian sharing about mother, sharing circle\reading by professor Sehdev Kumar, special steam lunch, saree revolution activity, honoring women from various fields and Aurosanthai
- **20 February:** sharing\reading circle by professor Sehdev Kumar, special lunch andhra food festival, poetry session, wonders out of waste tree in campus, Aurosanthai
- **21 February:** unveiling mother's statue, guruji maa zoom sharing circle by mother, food by auroshakthi women's group, Aurosanthai
- **26, 27, 28 February:** village heritage festival. Special edition of Aurosandhai & Auroville birthday celebration
- **26 February:** village heritage festival (cultural programs, food corner, workshops)
- **27 February:** village heritage festival
- **28 February:** village heritage festival

Aurosanthai saturday market

- **Every Saturday**

Mohanam Village Heritage Centre puts up Saturday market called Aurosanthai for the support and economic benefit of artists in bio-region areas around Auroville.

Join us to support Vocal for Local and visit us to relish the creativity and sumptuous dishes by the locals.

Main Attractions

- Auroville and local Village Arts & Craft stalls (with the farmers market)
- Traditional and modern Food Fusion stalls.
- Live Music Performances.
- Hands-on Workshops.



VÉRITÉ INTENSIVE

Phone: +91413 2622045, 2622606,
Mobile: 7867805812

programming@verite.in, www.verite.in

Registration required for the following intensive

Freedom From Fear – with Dr. Sehdev

Saturday, 12 February – from 2 to 4:30pm

Fear has an apocalyptic power; it can sap all energy, and make everything inert and lifeless.

- Fear of Losing Face
- Fear of Loneliness
- Fear of Love & Intimacy
- Fear of Failure

How can one live with full intensity and with all ebbs and tides, without knowing what fears freeze the mighty river of one's life?

NEWS FROM AUROVILLE LANGUAGE LAB

• COVID 19 Prevention

When you access the Language Lab, please observe the following actions:

- Please take your temperature and sign the Covid tracking book
- Clean your hands with Sanitizer
- Wear a mask
- Maintain social distance

Please remember to put your mobile phones on flight mode and switch off all wireless and bluetooth devices before you enter the lab, since it is a wireless-free space

Tomatis

There are spaces available for both language & therapeutic programmes!

Please contact 4036922 or email us at tomatis@aurovillelanguage.org to schedule your Listening Tests & Consultations

ALFRED TOMATIS METHOD

BETTER LISTENING BENEFITS EVERYBODY

LEARN LANGUAGES FASTER

AUROVILLE LANGUAGE LABORATORY

0413 2623 661 / 4036920 / 22 tomatis@aurovillelanguage.org www.aurovillelanguage.org

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

- <https://www.aurovillelanguage.org/tomatis-method.php>
- <https://www.aurovillelanguage.org/tomatis-kids.php>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wnpXprTl3m0>
- <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeTIG0y-sBmly-wZNdZcAng/videos>
- <https://www.listenwell.com/>

New Language Courses

Language	Level	Start Date, Time	Day(s) of Classes
Tamil With Murugesan	Beginner Written & Spoken	1st February 2022, 03:00pm – 04:00pm	Tuesdays – Thursdays

Please [fill out our form](#) 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!

ALL: Schedule Of Classes as of 31.01.2022

Language	Level	Time	Day(s) of Classes
English	Complete Beginners!	To be determined! Inquiries Welcome!	
	Beginner & Pre- Intermediate	10:00am – 11:00am	Tuesday & Thursday
	Beginner & Pre- Intermediate, Group 2	10:00am – 11:00am	Wednesday & Friday
	Intermediate	02:30pm – 03:30pm	Wednesday & Friday
French	Beginner, Group 1	02:00pm – 03:00pm	Monday & Thursday
	Beginner, Group 2	03:15pm – 04:15pm	Monday & Thursday
German	A1.1 Beginner Online	07:30am – 08:30am	Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday
Hindi	Beginner	10:00am – 12:00pm	Saturday
Tamil	Spoken Beginner	09:30am – 10:30am	Tuesday & Friday
	Written & Spoken Beginner	04:30pm – 05:30pm	Monday & Thursday
	NEW: Written & Spoken Beginner Inquiries Welcome!	03:00pm – 04:00pm	Tuesday & Thursday
	Tamil for Children, Beginner	04:15pm – 05:15pm	Friday
Spanish	Beginner	New cycle in February! Inquiries Welcome!	
	Intermediate	03:30pm – 05:00pm	Monday & Friday
	Conversation	02:00pm – 03:00pm	Wednesday
Japanese	Beginner	10:00am – 12pm	Saturday
Italian	Beginner	04:00pm – 05:00pm	Wednesday & Friday

The Language Lab's Opening Hours

Monday – Friday: 9:00am – 12:00pm & 2:00pm – 5:00pm.
Saturday: 9:00am to 12:00pm.

Location: International Zone, after Unity Pavilion & Pump House.

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

Email: info@aurovillelanguage.org

CINEMA**MEDITATIONS ON SAVITRI, BOOK 12**

Monday, 7 February 2022, 4pm at Savitri Bhavan.

Epilogue – The Return to Earth

Duration: 24min.

Savitri
B H A V A N

Savitri awakes from her deep trance, lying under green branches on the calm unconscious breast of the Mother Earth. Noon has passed and day is moving towards evening. She feels Satyavan's living body on her bosom. Gently she awakens him. He murmurs with hesitating lips her name and cries out in wonder: "Whence hast thou brought me captive back, love-chained,... / Where now has passed that formidable Shape / Which rose against us, the Spirit of the Void, / Claiming the world for Death and Nothingness, / Denying God and soul? Or was all a dream / Or a vision seen in a spiritual sleep,..." (p.717)

Savitri tells him that their departing was a dream, that they are alive and are together surrounded by beautiful living nature. Despite their difficult journey into the far-off worlds and planes they have seen the face of God and have borne identity with the Supreme to know his meaning in mortal life and by that touch their love has grown greater. Savitri assures Satyavan that now everything has changed, yet it is still the same: nothing is lost of mortal's love and joy, and she is still the Savitri he knows.

Further she points out that they will give joy to all in this marvellous world and that they have been born to lead man's soul towards Truth and God: "Let us give joy to all, for joy is ours. / For not for ourselves alone our spirits came / Out of the veil of the Unmanifest,... / Two fires that burn towards that parent Sun, / Two rays that travel to the original Light. / To lead man's soul towards truth and God we are born, / To draw the chequered scheme of mortal life / Into some semblance of the Immortal's plan, / To shape it closer to an image of God, / A little nearer to the Idea divine." (p.720)

Then Savitri suggests going home since evening is approaching. As hand in hand they walk towards the hermitage, they hear the sound of human voices and many feet. A great crowd arrives led by King Dyumatsena and his queen. The king's blindness is cured, and the kingdom is restored to him. Dyumatsena tenderly chides Satyavan and Savitri that they have been unusually long away which tormented him with fear despite the recent fortunate happenings. Satyavan replies with smiling lips that only because of Savitri's love he is still on earth: "Lay all on her; she is the cause of all. / With her enchantments she has twined me round. / Behold, at noon leaving this house of clay / I wandered in far-off eternities, / Yet still, a captive in her golden hands, / I tread your little hillock called green earth..." (p.723)

All eyes turn to lovely Savitri, and one consenting thought moves every breast: "What gleaming marvel of the earth or skies / Stands silently by human Satyavan... / If this is she of whom the world has heard, / Wonder no more at any happy change. / Each easy miracle of felicity / Of her transmuting heart the alchemy is." (p.723) And a priestly sage asks: "O woman soul, what light, what power revealed, / Working the rapid marvels of this day, / Opens for us by thee a happier age?" (p.723)

To this Savitri softly replies: "Awakened to the meaning of my heart / That to feel love and oneness is to live / And this the magic of our golden change, / Is all the truth I know or seek, O sage." Wondering at her and her lofty words, they turn westward towards Shalwa in the fast-gathering night. In the peaceful night splendid with the moon dreaming in heaven, Savitri nurses in her bosom the dawn of a new age for Earth and men.

A meditative film of Huta's paintings illustrating passages from *Savitri* read by The Mother and accompanied by her own organ music which can connect us to the Divine Presence within and lead us towards the spiritual truth and the New Consciousness.

Brief summaries of Books 1–12 of Sri Aurobindo's poem *Savitri – A Legend and a Symbol* compiled by Shraddhavan can be found in *Invocation #50* posted at the Savitri Bhavan website.

And several beautifully edited volumes of *Meditations on Savitri* containing Huta's paintings illustrating passages from *Savitri* are available at the Savitri Bhavan reception.

AUROFILM PRESENTS**At Multi Media Centre Auditorium (MMC, Town Hall)****Reminder: Friday 4, "Monsoon Wedding"**

by: Mira Nair, India, 2001

Friday 11 February, 7:30pm**"COMING HOME" (original title: Gui lai)**

With: Chen Daoming, Gong Li, Zhang Huiwen

Director: Zhang Yimou, China, 2014

Overview: Set in the infamous Cultural Revolution of China in the 1970s, *Coming Home* is a profoundly moving portrayal of the traumas of betrayal, suffering and the convulsions of memory, all in one family that celebrates the life of the mind and of the arts. With subtle and nuanced strokes, distinguished actress Gong Li and director Zhang Yimou capture the period and the ethos of China, in the grip of one of the most haunting revulsions in human history. In this film, as indeed in several of Zhang's other films (*Ju Dou*, *Raise the Red Lantern*), one wonders, what reflects the Human Condition most comprehensively: "I think, therefore I am", or "I remember, and hence I am."

Lu Yanshi and Feng Wanyu are a devoted couple forced to separate when Lu is arrested and sent to a labor camp as a political prisoner. Released during the last days of the Cultural Revolution, he finally returns home only to find that his beloved wife has amnesia and remembers little of her past. Unable to recognize Lu, she patiently waits for her husband's return. A stranger alone in the heart of his broken family, Lu Yanshi determines to resurrect their past together and reawaken his wife's memory...

Introduced by Prof. Sehdev Kumar as part of the Aurofilm Series, "International Film Classics and the Human Condition". All are invited to stay for a short discussion and Q/A after the screening of the film.

Original Mandarin version, with English subtitles

Duration: 1h 49'

Covid 19, please follow the current SOP at MMC.

ECO FILM CLUB

Every Friday at Sadhana Forest

Schedule of Events:

16:00 Free bus from Solar Kitchen to Sadhana Forest for the Tour

16:30 Tour of Sadhana Forest

18:00 Free bus from Solar Kitchen to Sadhana Forest for the Eco Film Club

18:30 Eco Film Club begins with "previews" of short Sadhana Forest films

20:00 Dinner is served

21:15 Free bus from Sadhana Forest back to Solar Kitchen
Before the movie, at exactly 16:30 you are welcome to join us for a full tour of Sadhana Forest and an update of our most recent work! After the film, you are welcome to join us for a free 100% vegan organic dinner!

The bus service is operated by Sadhana Forest. For more information about the bus service please contact Sadhana Forest at 8525038274.

****Note:** Families and children are welcome! Dinner for children will be served at 19:00:)



Friday 11 February
Home – Wonders of life

2013 / 62 minutes / Gideon Bradshaw

As far as we know, there is only one place in the universe on which life has taken hold – Earth – but for how much longer will this distinction remain? Astronomers are on the brink of finding other worlds the same size as Earth and the same distance from their star. Professor Brian Cox considers what it is about our world that has made it a home and asks what ingredients are necessary to turn a tiny spec of rock in space into a living, vibrant planet. To find out, Brian has come to one of Earth's richest and most bio-diverse territories, Mexico. He begins by diving in...



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 prepared and enjoy the films.

Please note: we have rolled back our timing to **8:00pm** for now. To organize seminar/program please contact us via email. If as per regulation, there are any changes we will let you know.

Indian– Monday 7 February, 8:00 pm:
Sarpatta Parambarai (Sarpatta Clan)

India, 2021, Dir. Pa Ranjith w/ Arya, Pasupathy, John Kokken, and others, Action-Sports, 173mins, Tamil w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR (R)

This much acclaimed film is set in the backdrop of the socio-political context of 1970s and spans an era – centered around a decisive boxing match between two warring clans Sarpatta and Idiyappa Parambarai. Emergency just got declared and Rangan from Sarpatta had organized a match in which his clan loses. Taking up the challenge to win next time or else Sarapatta will quit boxing, Rangan finds Kabilan, a Dalit labor to train for the challenge. Rivalry and political scenario leaves the match indecisive which replays – years later. An impactful film!

France – Tuesday 8 February, 8:00 pm:
DELICIEUX (Delicious)

France-Belgium, 2021, Dir. Eric Besnard, w/ Gregory Gadebois, Isabelle Carré, Benjamin Lavernhe, Comedy-History, 112 mins, French w/ English subtitles, Rated: PG
 France, 1789, just before the Revolution. With the help of a surprising young woman, a chef who has been sacked by his master finds the strength to free himself from his position as a servant and opens the first restaurant.

Interesting – Wednesday 9 February, 8:00 pm:
ASCENSION

Cina, 2021, Dir. Jessica Kingdon, Documentary, 97 mins, Mandarin W/ English subtitles, Rated: NR
 An impressionistic exploration of the pursuit of wealth and the paradox of progress in the People's Republic of China, Ascension examines what living the so-called "Chinese Dream" looks like today. Powerfully shows us generations of people trying to figure out where and how they matter – to themselves, to their work and to the people around them.

Starting this week every Thursday, we will screen winning films from Auroville Film Festival (AVFF) 2022

AVFF 2022 – Thursday 10 February, 8:00 pm:

- **48 ATHISAYAM (Lockdown) – SPECIAL MOTIVATION AWARD**
- **EN UDAMBU (My Body) – JURY AWARD**
- **PRE-MONSOON – MONGBRA AWARD**

48 ATHISAYAM (Lockdown) – Auroville-India, 2018, Dir. Yatra Srinivassan w/ Yatra Srinivassan, Krishnamoorthy, V. Priya, Comedy, 5 mins, Tamil w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR -- This film, is about the success story of an alcoholic person. His wife celebrates, worships and respects him because he stopped consuming alcohol from TASMAL for 48 days of lockdown.

EN UDAMBU (My Body) Auroville-India, 2018, Dir. Earthling Koushalya w/ Annam K, Dhinesh Kumar, Manoj Chandar, Drama, 17 mins, Tamil w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR -- A young lady does something unpredictable when 2 perverted men challenge her very existence!

PRE-MONSOON – Auroville-India, 2020, Dir. Jonak Chakrabarti w/ Gijs Spoor, Ahilya Bamroo, Bhavyo Trivedi, Lili Dreikhausen, Lucas Simon Zbinden, Drama, 62 mins, English, Rated: NR -- A scientist, a detective, and an experiment in an unsuspecting town.

International – Saturday, 12 February, 8:00 pm:
THE POWER OF THE DOG

UK-Canada-New Zealand, 2021, Dir. Jane Campion w/ Benedict Cumberbatch, Kirsten Dunst, Jesse Plemons, 126 mins, Western-Romance, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: R

Charismatic rancher Phil Burbank inspires fear and awe in those around him. When his brother brings home a new wife and her son, Phil torments them until he finds himself exposed to the possibility of love.

Children's Matinee – Sunday, 13 February, 4:30pm:
ONWARD

USA, 2020, Dir. Dan Scanlon w/ Tom Holland, Chris Pratt, Julia Louis-Dreyfus and others, Anima-tion, English w/ English subtitles, 102mins, Rated: PG

Two elven brothers embark on a quest to bring their father back for one day.

MARCEL CARNÉ FILM FESTIVAL @ Ciné-Club
Sunday 13 February, 8:00 pm:
LE JOUR SE LÈVE (Daybreak)

France, 1940, Dir. Marcel Carné w/ Jean Gabin, Jacqueline Laurent and others, Drama-Romance, B&W. 93 mins, French w/ English Subtitles, Rated: NR

In this perfect example of French poetic realism – taciturn laborer François cherishes the ingenuous orphan Françoise but is disturbed by her attraction to a seedy entertainer, Valentin. When Clara, Valentin's lover, leaves him, she takes up with the reluctant François, who still pines for Françoise. Amused by François' frustrations Valentin taunts him, bringing about a shocking and tragic act.

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

THE LONG READ

CHOOSING TO LIVE AND WORK IN A DEVA SAMGHA

Here are some basic guidance for the Ways of Life of the People who choose to live and work together consciously, how we interact with and treat each other as unique individuals with unique roles to play within the collectivity, apropos to Auroville - The City of Dawn as meant to be a Deva Samgha, a divine community at the service of the Divine Consciousness (which is our shared essence, and relatively the goal or purpose of life of each progressively evolving co-players in this Divine Play or Lila based on Unity in Diversity):

“Which minds are nearest to me and what is my ideal work among them? Always, in one way or another, life puts in our path those who for some reason are near to us. Each individual creates his own environment according to what he is himself. And, if such is our dominant preoccupation, all those whom we thus meet on our way are the very ones to whom we can be most useful.

For one who lives constantly in the spiritual consciousness, everything that happens to him takes on a special value and all is conducive to his progressive evolution. It will always be beneficial for him to observe his encounters, to investigate both the apparent and the deeper reasons for them, and, in accordance with his altruistic aspirations, he will ask himself what good he can do in each different case. And according to his own degree of spirituality, his action will always have a greater or lesser spiritualising effect.

If we observe at all attentively the causes which bring us closer to our kind, we see that these contacts occur at various levels of depth in our being, depending on our own special mode of conscious activity.

We can classify these relationships into four main categories corresponding to our four principal modes of activity: physical, vital, psychic and mental. They may have their play in one or several of these categories, simultaneously or successively, according to the quality and type of the manifestation of our activity.

Physical contact is compulsory, so to say, since it depends on the fact that we have a physical body. It inevitably occurs with those who have provided us with this body and with all those who are materially dependent on them. These are the relations of kinship. There are also relationships of proximity: neighborhood in houses, in the various means of transport, in the street. (I may remark here — and this remark also applies to the other three categories — that this relationship is not necessarily exclusive: this is in fact rare, since we are seldom active on only one plane of our being; what I mean is that the physical relationship is dominant over the other three.)

Vital contact occurs between impulses and desires which are identical or liable to combine in order to complement and heighten one another. Psychic contact occurs between converging spiritual aspirations. Mental contact comes from similar or complementary mental capacities and affinities.

Normally, if the predominance of one category is not clearly established — and this can only happen when there is enough order in our being to organise it in all its depth and complexity — we can and should give material help to those who are near to us for physical reasons.

With certain exceptions, material help is the best assistance we can give to the members of our family or to those whom we chance to meet in the street, in trains, in ships, in buses, etc.: pecuniary help, aid in case of illness or danger.

We should assist the sensitivity of those who are attracted to us because they have identical tastes, artistic or otherwise, by rectifying, balancing or channalising their sense-energies.

We can help those who by a common aspiration for progress have been brought into contact with us, through our example, by showing them the path, and through our love, by smoothing the way for them.

Finally, we must allow the light of our intelligence to shine for those who come close to us as a result of mental affinity, so that, if possible, we may widen their field of thought and enlighten their ideal. These various affinities express themselves outwardly in slight and sometimes subtle variations in the conditions of our encounters, and because our insight is seldom alert enough, these slight variations often elude us.

But to direct our action in the right way and reduce as far as possible the causes of our wrong attitudes towards our fellowmen, we should always investigate with the greatest care the numerous reasons for our contacts and find the category of affinities which binds us to them.

A few rare beings are close to us in all four modes of existence at the same time. These are friends in the deepest sense of the word. It is on them that our actions can have their most integral, their most perfectly helpful and beneficial effect. We should never forget that the duration of a contact between two human lives depends on the number and depth of the states of being in which the affinities that bind them have their play.

Only those who commune with the eternal essence within themselves and in all things can be eternally united. Only those are friends forever who have been close or distant friends from all time in this or other worlds. And whether or not we meet these friends depends on the encounter we must first experience within ourselves, in the unknown depths of our being. Moreover, when this meeting occurs, our whole attitude is transformed.

When we become one with the inner Godhead, we become one in depth with all, and it is through Her and by Her that we must come into contact with all beings. Then, free from all attraction and repulsion, all likes and dislikes, we are close to what is close to Her and far from what is far from Her.

Thus we learn that in the midst of others we should always become more and more a divine example of integral activity both intellectual and spiritual, an opportunity which is offered to them to understand and enter upon the path of divine life.”

The Mother. Words of Long Ago.

Volume 2, pages 71-73

http://sri-aurobindo.in/workings/ma/02/vol_02_e.pdf

And as we are in a continuous progressive evolution climbing from Falsehood, Ignorance and False Division in Uniformity towards Truth, Gnosis and True Unity in Diversity, here’s a continuing reminder on how to discriminate the Truth from that of falsehood:

“How to discriminate between Truth and falsehood in the impulses of action.

Those who wish to help the Light of Truth to prevail over the forces of darkness and falsehood, can do so by carefully observing the initiating impulses of their movements and actions, and discriminating between those that come from the Truth and those that come from the falsehood, in order to obey the first and to refuse or reject the others.

This power of discrimination is one of the first effects of the Advent of the Truth’s Light in the earth’s atmosphere. Indeed it is very difficult to discriminate the impulses of Truth from the impulses of falsehood, unless one has received this special gift of discrimination that the Light of Truth has brought. However, to help at the beginning, one can take as a guiding rule that all that brings with it or creates peace, faith, joy, harmony, wideness, unity and ascending growth comes from the Truth; while all that carries with it restlessness, doubt, skepticism, sorrow, discord, selfish narrowness, inertia, discouragement and despair comes straight from the falsehood.”

The Mother. 22 January 1965.

On Education. Volume 12, page 302

http://sri-aurobindo.in/workings/ma/12/vol_12_e.pdf

ACCESSIBLE AUROVILLE PUBLIC BUS



Auroville TO PONDICHERRY				
	Trip 1	Trip 2	Trip 3	Trip 4
Svaram	7:00	9:30	14:15	17:00
Verite Udayogam Junction	7:02	9:32	14:17	17:02
Auroshilpam Youth Center Junction	7:04	9:34	14:19	17:04
Town Hall Parking	7:06	9:36	14:21	17:06
Mahalakshmi Home	7:10	9:41	14:27	17:11
Vikas Radial Junction	7:11	9:43	14:30	17:13
Solar Kitchen (Round About)	7:12	9:44	14:32	17:14
Certitude Enterance	7:15	9:47	14:34	17:17
New Creation Road	7:19	9:52	14:39	17:22
SBI Bank / Kulapalayam	7:20	9:54	14:41	17:24
Handy Market (ECR Junction)	7:24	9:59	14:46	17:29
Quiet Healing Center – Junction	7:27	10:04	14:49	17:33
Lotus Hotel, SV Patel Road	7:37	10:16	15:01	17:50
Ashram Road Junction	7:40	10:20	15:05	17:55
Ashram Dinning Hall	7:45	10:20	15:05	17:55

Pondicherry TO AUROVILLE				
	Trip 1	Trip 2	Trip 3	Trip 4
Ashram Dinning Hall	8:00	13:00	15:30	18:10
Ashram Road Junction	8:02	13:02	15:32	18:14
Lotus Hotel, SV Patel Road	8:06	13:06	15:36	18:18
Quiet Healing Center – Junction	8:18	13:18	15:48	18:30
Handy Market (ECR Junction)	8:21	13:21	15:51	18:33
SBI Bank / Kulapalayam	8:26	13:26	15:56	18:38
New Creation Road	8:28	13:28	15:58	18:40
Certitude	8:35	13:35	16:03	18:45
Solar Kitchen (Round About)	8:38	13:38	16:06	18:48
Vikas Road Junction	8:39	13:39	16:07	18:49
Mahalakshmi Home	8:40	13:40	16:08	18:50
Town hall Main Parking	8:45	13:45	16:13	18:55
Auroshilpam Youth Center Junction	8:47	13:47	16:17	18:57
Verite Udyogam Junction	8:49	13:49	16:19	18:59
Svaram	8:50	13:50	16:20	19:00

AV BUS FARES

- Trip 1, resumed from 10.01.2022 as the schools in Pondicherry opened partially.

Fare regulations:

- Cash / Account payment.
 - Aurovilians/ New Comers, Rs.100 / per round trip.
 - Guests/ Volunteers- Rs.150 / per round trip.
- Monthly Bus passes:
 - **General Passengers** bus Pass: Rs.550 / 10 round trips allowed in a month.
 - **Students** bus pass: Rs.850 / per month.
 - **Workers of Auroville Units/ Service** from Pondicherry Rs.850 / per month

Email: avbus@auroville.org.in

Phone: +91 94430 74825

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Ambulance (24/7):

- Auroville – 9442224680
- PIMS – 0413 2656271

Security (24/7):

- Auroville Safety & Security Team – 9443090107
- Auroville Police Station – 0413 2677318
- Kottakuppam Police Station – 0413 2236148
- Vanur Fire Station – 0413 2677368

Health

- Health Center – 0413 2622123
- Santé – 0413 2622803 / 0413 2623937
- Farewell – 8903836246

Mental health 24/7 support:

- Matram – 9487746051

India Emergency Response Service (24/7) – 108

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**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.

Visiting hours: call or email for appointment, newsandnotes@auroville.org.in.

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