Laboratory of Evolution (2016-17)

Introduction
Focused on both the two main aims of Auroville – Evolution and Unity – the research done at the Laboratory of Evolution, Centre of Human Unity (LOE-CHU) encompasses the vast array of topics that those two overarching aims must cover, in the light of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother's overall vision. We have a rich, ever expanding and specialized library cum mediatheque. But this place being called a 'Laboratory' means that the research done must be experiential as well as theoretical: we try to foster and document as much as possible the conscious evolution happening in Auroville, and keep an eye on any conscious evolution happening in other places or individuals elsewhere on the planet.

LOE Library
Our research library, as well as a being a service of book lending, has a major aspect of being a source of information about Sri Aurobindo and the Mother's vision of evolution, as well as Auroville's ideals and history.

We help our visitors find books related to their research: school teachers, members of the Farewell team, Guests or Newcomers who need advice on the choice of books which will help them start their approach to Integral Yoga, youngsters who want to start a more conscious life and want to learn more about spirituality, nutrition, Nature Cure, etc.

This year there were many requests for books related to group study activities and cultural events, and we had to photocopy our main books on Evolution to be able to meet the demand.

We acquired a second set of the Ashram's Bulletin of Physical Education (1949 to 1974) in order to lend them, as they are a rich source of inspiration and contain unpublished texts.

We are getting more and more scientific books (on quantum physics, biology, Near Death Experiences, Quantum Healing) which confirm the discoveries of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother on evolution and the Unity Field of Consciousness. This helps us to convey a clear understanding of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother's work through scientific explanations.

Bhaga's work
Bhaga's research work this year has consisted mostly in giving courses and workshops to various individuals and groups, both Aurovilians and Guests. Five Aurovilians who last year attended her 'Cellular Consciousness' workshop came regularly to meet with Bhaga on the same topic. She now receives people in the small space that serves as her office on the ground floor of Luminosity. She has also continued to document the day-to-day progress in her own process of conscious evolution, particularly at the cellular level of her body.

For the first time, Bhaga had the opportunity to give her workshop on 'Cellular Consciousness' to two children: the two daughters, aged six and twelve, of a couple from Brittany visiting Auroville. It was quite challenging to address the specific educational needs of both the adults and the children at the same time, but no one's interest flagged and it all worked out quite to the satisfaction of everyone involved.

Bhaga also helped prepare (individually) two young men from the local Tamil villages in going through their Newcomer process. They had worked and lived in Auroville for a few years already, but lacked the more spiritual background needed to better understand one's future full participation in Auroville's life, this time as an Aurovilian.

For Bhaga, thanks to the direct experience she finally had with both children and differently educated young adults from the Tamil village local culture, this year has been a great verification of
how to adapt for each person and age the contents of what she has to offer, so that it becomes for each one, not artificial and theoretical added knowledge, but a new, truly useful part of their life.

**Namah’s work**

Namah’s work this year has included:

- Welcoming groups (3 to 10 people) coming to Auroville and giving presentations on Auroville and Integral Yoga.
- Researching the practical aspects of Sri Aurobindo’s Integral Yoga and integral psychology. This year the focus was how to integrate Sri Aurobindo’s integral yoga for yoga teachers.
- Work on a project of a CD/DVD on Relaxation.
- Work on a book on “Yoga and the three planes of the Being”.
- As a representative of the LOE, participating in the research group CIRHU/Lila, participating in discussions pertaining to Auroville's 50th birthday, and meeting and sharing with AVI Belgium.
- With Bhaga, researching on the actual evolution of humanity through documents, films, and analysis of particularly meaningful aspects of our own inner development.