The Ponder Corner

One controlling inner Self of all beings...
As the Sun, the eye of the world, is not touched by the external faults of vision,
so this inner Self in beings is not touched by the sorrow of the world.

Katha Upanishad

Imperfection becomes then a necessary term of the manifestation:
for, since all the divine nature is concealed but present in the Inconscient,
it must be gradually delivered out of it;
this graduation necessitates a partial unfolding, and this partial character or incompleteness
of the unfolding necessitates imperfection.

The Divine and the Undivine. Life Divine. Sri Aurobindo

Youth Center

What is seen and what is not seen, what is experienced and what is not experienced,
what is and what is not, — all it sees, it is all and sees.

Prasna Upanishad
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Thus taken was God’s plunge into the Night. 
This fallen world became a nurse of souls 
Inhabited by concealed divinity. 
A Being woke and lived in the meaningless void, 
A world-wide Nescience strove towards life and thought, 
A Consciousness plucked out from mindless sleep. 
All here is driven by an insentient will. 
Thus fallen, inconscient, frustrate, dense, inert, 
Sunk into inanimate and torpid drowse 
Earth lay, a drudge of sleep, forced to create 
By a subconscient yearning memory 
Left from a happiness dead before she was born, 
An alien wonder on her senseless breast. 
This mire must harbour the orchid and the rose, 
From her blind unwilling substance must emerge 
A beauty that belongs to happier spheres. 
This is the destiny bequeathed to her, 
As if a slain god left a golden trust 
To a blind force and an imprisoned soul. 
An immortal godhead’s perishable parts 
She must reconstitute from fragments lost, 
Reword from a document complete elsewhere 
Her doubtful title to her divine Name. 
A residue her sole inheritance, 
All things she carries in her shapeless dust. 
Her giant energy tied to petty forms 
In the slow tentative motion of her power 
With only frail blunt instruments for use, 
She has accepted as her nature’s need 
And given to man as his stupendous work 
A labour to the gods impossible. 
A life living hardly in a field of death 
Its portion claims of immortality; 
A brute half-conscious body serves as means 
A mind that must recover a knowledge lost 
Held in stone grip by the world’s inconscience, 
And wearing still these countless knots of Law 
A spirit bound stand up as Nature’s king. 
A mighty kinship is this daring’s cause. 
All we attempt in this imperfect world, 
Looks forward or looks back beyond Time’s gloss 
To its pure idea and firm inviolate type 
In an absolute creation’s flawless skill. 
To seize the absolute in shapes that pass, 
To fix the eternal’s touch in time-made things, 
This is the law of all perfection here. 
A fragment here is caught of heaven’s design; 
Else could we never hope for greater life 
And ecstasy and glory could not be. 
Even in the littleness of our mortal state, 
In this prison-house of outer form, 
A brilliant passage for the infallible Flame 
Is driven through gross walls of nerve and brain, 
A Splendour presses or a Power breaks through,

Earth’s great dull barrier is removed awhile, 
The inconscient seal is lifted from our eyes 
And we grow vessels of creative might. 
The enthusiasm of a divine surprise 
Pervades our life, a mystic stir is felt, 
A joyful anguish trembles in our limbs; 
A dream of beauty dances through the heart, 
A thought from the eternal Mind draws near, 
Inimications cast from the Invisible 
Awaking from Infinity’s sleep come down, 
Symbols of That which never yet was made. 
But soon the inert flesh responds no more, 
Then sinks the sacred orgy of delight, 
The blaze of passion and the tide of power 
Are taken from us and, though a glowing form 
Abides astonishing earth, imagined supreme, 
Too little of what was meant has left a trace. 
Earth’s eyes half-see, her forces half-create; 
Her rarest works are copies of heaven’s art. 
A radiance of a golden artifice, 
A masterpiece of inspired device and rule, 
Her forms hide what they house and only mime 
The unseized miracle of self-born shapes 
That live for ever in the Eternal’s gaze. 
Here in a difficult half-finished world 
Is a slow toiling of unconscious Powers; 
Here is man’s ignorant divining mind, 
His genius born from an inconscient soil. 
To copy on earth’s copies is his art. 
For when he strives for things surpassing earth, 
Too rude the workman’s tools, too crude his stuff, 
And hardly with his heart’s blood he achieves 
His transient house of the divine Idea, 
His figure of a Time-inn for the Unborn. 
Our being thrills with high far memories 
And would bring down their dateless meanings here, 
But, too divine for earthly Nature’s scheme, 
Beyond our reach the eternal marvels blaze. 
Absolute they dwell, unborn, immutable, 
Immaculate in the Spirit’s deathless air, 
Immortal in a world of motionless Time 
And an unchanging muse of deep self-space. 
Only when we have climbed above ourselves, 
A line of the Transcendent meets our road 
And joins us to the timeless and the true; 
It brings to us the inevitable word, 
The godlike act, the thoughts that never die. 
A ripple of light and glory wraps the brain, 
And travelling down the moment’s vanishing route 
The figures of eternity arrive. 

(to be continued next week)

Sri Aurobindo, Savitri – A Legend and a Symbol
Book 2: The Book of the Traveller of the Worlds
Canto 2: The Kingdom of Subtle Matter
**RAS ON RA A CLARIFICATION**

We, at the Residents’ Assembly Service (RAS), would like to provide some clarity on the way decisions are made by the Residents’ Assembly (RA). Please refer to the Interim RAD Policy 2021 for details.

What is the Residents’ Assembly (RA)?

According to Section 18 of the Auroville Foundation Act, “The Residents’ Assembly shall consist of all the residents of Auroville who are for the time being entered in the register of residents maintained under this section.”

On a separate note, residents with the status of “Confirmed Aurovilians” can also participate in an RAD as per an announcement made by the Working Committee on 30th April 2021 and the Interim RAD Policy 2021.

**How can the RA make decisions?**

1. **Initiating.** Ask the RAS to initiate an RAD (Residents’ Assembly Decision-making process).

   Collect 60 or more signatures and submit the petition to the RA. The RA will process data (count signatures, make sure that all signatories are members of the RA (see above), remove duplicates, etc) and validate the petition, if there are 60 or more verified signatures.

   AVC, ATDC, Entry Board, FAMC and WCom can also initiate an RAD.

   IMPORTANT!

   1.1. Please note that the petition itself is not a decision of the RA, and there is no need to collect a large number of signatures to initiate an RAD (it can actually make the verification procedure longer and more cumbersome).

   1.2. There’s no provision in the RAD Policy 2021 to call for a “counter-RAD” or revoke an already submitted and validated RAD request, as it says: “No simultaneous Residents’ Assembly Decision-making (RAD) on the same subject/proposal will be entertained by the RA. In other words, no overlapping Residents’ Assembly Decision-making (RAD) should be requested by any of the above entities on the same topic.”

   Those who disagree with a proposal/topic, which is already going through the decision making process, can voice their concerns in RA meetings (see below) or simply vote against that proposal/topic.

2. **Meetings.** The RA will organize at least two Residents’ Assembly Meetings (RAM) to discuss the proposal. The RA will inform the entire community about the outcome of the RAM and invite feedback. At the end of the follow-up RAM the RA/Facilitator will check with the participants of the meeting if there is a common agreement to accept suggested voting options and to bring a refined proposal/topic out to the community for a final decision (voting). The RA will organize/facilitate as many RAMs as necessary until an RAD proposal is refined and a decision to be arrived at in the RAD is conclusive.

3. **Voting.** The RA will send a voting link to all eligible residents for the online voting and will make all necessary arrangements for the voting in person. The voting period shall last for two weeks.

**EXCEPTION: Emergency RAD**

According to the RAD Policy 2021, “Only in emergencies, as assessed by the Working Committee, will the Residents’ Assembly Service call for an Emergency Residents’ Assembly Decision-making within a shorter period without the matter having been discussed in one or more earlier meetings.”

In other words, the WCom can fast-track an RAD by requesting the RAS to announce it as an ‘emergency RAD’. The RA does not have the authority to call for emergency RADs without a clear statement from the WCom. On the other hand, once the petition is filed and the RAD due process starts, no working groups, including the WCom, can stop the RAD process.

**Simplified Glossary**

RA – Residents’ Assembly (all of us)

RAD – Residents’ Assembly Decision making (voting)

RAM – Residents’ Assembly Meeting (integral part of the RAD)

RAS – Residents’ Assembly Service (service meant to organize decision making processes (RADs))

Thanks a lot, warmly,

Verena in Behalf of RAS

**REMEMBER – RA MEETING**

in Preparation for a Decision-Making to Stop all Development Work on the Crown until Further Notice from the Residents’ Assembly

Dear Residents, we would like to remind you that the Residents’ Assembly Service (RAS) received and validated a petition from a large group of residents to convene a Residents’ Assembly Decision-making process (RAD) to consider putting on hold all development work on the Crown until further notice from the Residents’ Assembly.

* Since the Working Committee decided not to call for an emergency RAD on this topic (email to the RAS dt. 8th Dec, 2021), RAS is proceeding with the regular decision-making process.

According to the Provisional Amended Residents’ Assembly Decision-making process (https://bit.ly/3Aj4ukK), the next step is “to introduce the topic followed by at least one, and possibly more, Residents’ Assembly Meetings(s) (RAM) to present and discuss a proposal to be put out for a decision, which would include different perspectives and choices/options”. The first Residents’ Assembly Meeting (RAM) is going to be held by RAS on

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 20**

4:00 – 6:30 PM

UNITY PAVILION

The meeting will be live streamed by Auroville Radio and the access links will be shared.

**Agenda**

- Introduction on the RA decision-making procedure (RAS)
- Space for proposal of the petitioners (petitioners’ representatives and coordination team)
- Space for alternative proposal
- Open floor for sharing and questions
- Pulse of the room and next steps

* Please note that this is a general agenda, which will be finalised in a few days. We will duly update you on that.

We look forward to seeing you there.

**Clarifications And Reference Documents**

- “Upcoming RADs: an overview”: https://auroville.org.in/article/67868

In Her Service,

Verena in Behalf of RAS
OPEN CALL FOR A SMALL SPACE
in Prayatna Community
For Quiet Service Or Project Work

Dear Aurovilians, We would like to announce an open call for proposals to take responsibility for a small space on the first floor of the place built and formerly used by Werner Stoff in Prayatna. Here are some particulars: ‘total built up area’ 26.50 sq meters, a circular staircase, and a ‘passage area’ of 48.86 sq meters; additional work on the space is needed; to be transferred against payment of ₹ 7.7 lakhs.

Proposals may be for a quiet service or project as the room is in the residential community of Prayatna. In your request please include the name of your project or service, all contact details, the aims and objectives of your project / service, and funding source(s).

Our intention is to offer an equal opportunity to anyone who is looking to take responsibility for this asset, hence our open call to the community.

If you are interested please send an email to admin-famc@auroville.org.in no later than 31 December with the subject “Available space in Prayatna”. We will acknowledge your email and share with you the evaluation report. We can coordinate a visit for you to look at the location / building.

The FAMC in consultation with the Prayatna residents, and Housing Board / Service will review proposals and make a recommendation of the best suited new utilization to the FAMC for a final approval.

We look forward to receiving your proposal before 31/12/2021.

Sincerely, FAMC

(members are: Amy, Angelo, Jonas, Lisa, Marc, Palani, Ranjith, Stephan)

FROM HOUSING SERVICE

Apartments for House Transfer

Dear Community, seven assets are currently available for transfer:

- PROMESSE, PRM003, (SINGLE/COUPLE)
- PROMESSE, PRM004, (FAMILY)
- PROMESSE, PRM002, (SINGLE/COUPLE)
- PROMESSE, PRM007, (SINGLE/COUPLE)
- PROMESSE, PRM005, (FAMILY)
- PROMESSE, PRM001, (FAMILY)
- IMAGINATION, IMA001, (FAMILY)

To apply, please click on the new “Houses Available” button in the very right column of the Auronet main page. You will be directed to our Housing Transfer App at https://housing.auroville.org.in

All you need to do is:
- click on the transfer you are interested in,
- view all the details and pictures of the asset for transfer and if you wish to apply,
- click on the “Apply” button and fill in the online application form.

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

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

Thank you,

The Housing Service,
K. Venkatesh

WC: INFORMATION ABOUT POST QUARANTINE TEST

Dear Friends,

We remind to everyone coming in Auroville from Europe (Including UK), Brazil, South Africa, Botswana, China, Mauritius, New Zealand, Zimbabwe and Singapore that there is a home quarantine for 7 days after the arrival to be followed by an RT-PCR Test on the 8th day. Kindly contact santecoordination@auroville.org.in before arranging the test as due to the omicron variant there might be some special requirement.

Please remember to inform the Resident Service immediately upon your arrival by email only.

We wish also to inform you that after some time there is again a positive case in Auroville. Contact investigation has been done. The quarantine list at this link is regularly updated by Sante Coordination. Please remember to refer to this link every time you want to inquire if there are positive cases in Auroville or people in quarantine because they had contacts. We will not be in a position to send covid bulletin each and every time that there is a case. This list lists only the people who are tested positive or are in high risk contact with a positive person. It does not include the list of people in quarantine after traveling.

With regards,

The Working Committee (Anu, Arun, Chali (TOS), Hemant, Partha, Sauro, Srimoyi)

FROM THE ENTRY SERVICE – ES # 112

Dated: 18-12-2021

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

NEWCOMER ANNOUNCED:

- Karan WILSON (Indian) staying in Celebration and working at Aurinoco and Language Lab
- Mahalakshmi PRABHAKAR (Indian) staying in Petite Ferme (Auromodele) and working at Auroville Consulting

NEWCOMER CONFIRMED:

- Elisa TUCCI (French)
- Raquel SANCHEZ (Spanish)
- Satheeshkumar GAJENDRAN (Indian)

AUROVILIAN ANNOUNCED:

- Isabel Maria TORRES MORALES aka Isabel-la (Spanish) staying in Sunship and working at Quiet

AUROVILIAN CONFIRMED:

- Manikandan GANESAN (Indian)
- Sriman KOTA (USA)

RETURNING AUROVILIAN CONFIRMED:

- Doris TAOUCI (French)

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 Aurovilian once his/her name has been confirmed by The Admission Committee (aka the Entry Board) after following due process.

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

FROM FORMER IAC MEMBERS TO CHAIRMAN

Governing Board
10 Dec 2021 / 04:16 am

Dear Shri R. N. Ravi,

Having served on the International Advisory Council of Auroville for a number of years, many of us have a deep admiration for Auroville and its accomplishments and have made lasting friendships with many Aurovilians.

Recent alarming reports from trustworthy sources of conflict, intimidation and a police presence are not in the spirit of Auroville’s ideals which we were invited to promote and protect. These incidents have already been reported in local and national media and international social networking platforms.

We are aware of the difficulty of your task and hope that in this auspicious year of Sri Aurobindo’s sesquicentennial when the world’s eyes will be turned towards his legacy that harmony prevails above all else.

Most sincerely,
Mark Tully, Vishakha Desai, Shaunaka Rishi Das, Kabir Shaikh, Julian Lines, Doudou Diene, Marc Luyckx Ghisi

MESSAGE FROM DR KARAN SINGH

Dear Aurovilians, I have been distressed at reports of deep divisions and tensions in Auroville. As I mentioned in my farewell message, the next great challenge before Auroville is to begin building the city which has already been greatly delayed. My advice is for everyone to keep calm and cooperate in the work of the Master Plan which was approved by the Government of India and notified during my term of chairmanship.

If we believe that the Force of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother is focused on Auroville, then perhaps these events also have a certain value in forcing Aurovilians to look deeply within and introspect on their own actions and behavior over the decades. The Hammer of God is usually a painful experience to begin but, hopefully, it eventually leads to a beautiful metamorphosis.

Warm greetings to you all,
Karan Singh, 9 Dec. 2021

Editor Note: Dr Karan Singh sent us two notes. The first was a short version and afterwards he sent a longer version, which is printed above.

STATEMENT BY IAC

Respected Members of the Governing Board
11 December 2021

Like so many friends and well-wishers of Auroville, we have been pained by the polarization that has come into the Auroville Community, and it is imperative that we as a Council stay above such divisions. We understand the anger over the use of the police, and we understand the frustration of those who want to see the agreed upon development plan move forward.

For sure, there have been missteps on all sides, but we are advising everyone not to linger in the anger and blame, but to work individually to calm emotions, step down and invoke the Mother. By allowing the vilification of the “other” we are working against the Mother’s ideal of human unity. This will not lead to a good result. To help with a cooling off period and to begin rebuilding trust, we would like to offer, in a spirit of goodwill for all, the following recommendations for everyone’s consideration, and assure you of our readiness to help in any way we can:

1. Let all sides refrain from bringing in external agencies to resolve Auroville’s internal issues, because it is not only an admission of failure, which will leave deep scars that will divide the community for a long time to come; it will also vitiate the atmosphere that might otherwise still bring about an internal resolution of issues.

2. In particular, to resolve disagreements among Aurovilians, we advise not to have recourse to call agencies of the state such as police or courts or to seek warrants, since that is explicitly against Mother’s will expressed on several occasions — “No army, no police” in particular.

3. We call on all to remember that in Mother’s own saying, the manner in which Auroville is built is as important, possibly more, than the outcome: “It’s not when Auroville has been completed: it’s the nations’ collaboration in creating something [that matters] – but creating something founded on the Truth instead of a rivalry in Falsehood’s creation. [What matters] is not when Auroville is ready – when Auroville is ready, it will be one city among all other cities and it’s only its own capacity of truth that will have power, but that... remains to be seen.” (21 September 1966)

Therefore it is incumbent on all of us to help towards this “foundation on the Truth” and trust right now, not in a distant future.

4. We call for an actual practice of inclusiveness: differing views and perspectives are unavoidable, yet Auroville’s challenge is to bring them together and find ways to harmonize them.

In particular:

(1) Many experts in Auroville have done outstanding work in many fields; this expertise and experience must be fully utilized in the planning of a city;

(2) A first step could be to identify common ground, such as any area of the development of the future city that stakeholders and experts will all agree on, and focus on that initially, rather than on contending issues;

(3) Given recent developments, and Auroville’s outstanding work in eco-restoration for decades, which has earned it worldwide respect, a thorough environmental audit, by respected and independent experts, of current and future plans seems an urgent necessity.

Members of the International Advisory Council
Gabi Gillessen, Michel Danino, Hashmukh P. Rama, David Frawley, Dena Merriam
Dear fellow Aurovilians, as a community, we have experienced an accelerated and forceful implementation of the Crown Road that has created turmoil for many. For some, it was the frustration of a long delay in the manifestation of the City, facing yet another blockage. Others were shocked by the actions taken to push forward, despite the lack of community-wide agreement on the development of the City. Over 500 Aurovilians signed a statement to “reject violence, threats and actions which undermine community unity.”

The intensity of these actions, supported by some members of our Working Groups, led residents of Auroville to submit three requests for Residents’ Assembly Decision-making processes (RADs). The three RAD petitions are:

- “To stop all development on the Crown until further notice from the RA.” This RAD petition was submitted to the RAS on the 6th of December, 2021. The petition has been validated by the RAS.
- “To address the ATDC selection situation (six appointed without RA approval),” This RAD petition was submitted to the RAS on 18th of November, 2021. The petition has been validated by the RAS.
- “No confidence in the Working Committee”. This petition was formulated at a spontaneous meeting at SAW-CHU on the 4th of December, 2021. The RAS suggested the representatives consider formulating a more concrete petition statement before formally initiating, which is in process.

We believe it is essential, especially today, to enable the Residents’ Assembly of the Auroville Foundation to embrace its collective power and wisdom, deciding together on how we want to manifest Her Dream and Her City. In their letter to the Governing Board of December 11th, 2021 (attached), the international Advisory Council of the Auroville Foundation called for “an actual practice of inclusiveness. Differing views and perspectives are unavoidable, yet Auroville’s challenge is to bring them together and find ways to harmonize them.”

Considering the events of the week from 2nd to 11th of December (see an emerging summary of recent events attached to this post on Auronet), the following sequence for the above RADs is being worked on:

To start the RAD process on “To stop all development on the Crown until further notice from the RA” with a first RA Meeting on December 20th. This was announced by the RAS on Wednesday the 8th of December via RAS mass mail and on the Auronet.

To initiate in parallel the RADs on ATDC and WC, carrying these two topics and petitions forward line with the current decision-making policy.

The RAS is arranging these RAD processes, working closely with the petition representatives (Lakshmi and Sandeep), who are supported by a coordination team composed of Maël (as RAS resource person) Elvira and Suryamayi. We look forward to reconnecting on this journey of realising our collective decision-making power from a space of Unity.

In community,

Lakshmi and Sandeep (Petition Representatives)
Maël, Elvira and Suryamayi (Coordination Team)

---

**POOL OF SILENT PRESENCE KEEPERS**

The Pool of Silent Presence Keepers is offering a collective meditation timing at 8.30pm every evening for 30 minutes. You can join from wherever you are at that moment. We would like to give a collective support to everyone’s effort to calm down after very agitated days and a silent space for Divine Consciousness to land in and act through us. We have started on Friday 10th December and go on as long as needed.

Thank you and best regards, Iris

---

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

**A User’s Comment:**

“... we might still live in a world where projections of artificial scarcity keeps us systematically away from wholeheartedly experiencing the actual joy of sharing, which comes naturally with an expanded feeling of transcending our limited form of our being, at least this was my own experience with all the interactions I had so far with the aura app network, by meeting amazingly beautiful people, who all share the same dream of a new form of actual togetherness.

I am quite delighted in continuing doing so via the aura app and its network, by enjoying real coming together with much more like minded & kindred spirits.”

The Aura Team

www.auranetwork.app

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**STAY ORDER ISSUED**

A Stay Order has been issued by the National Green Tribunal, concerning grievances due to Auroville Foundation engaging in cutting trees in the Auroville forest area which “has its own biological diversity and eco-sensitiveness.”

The Stay Order states in part that; considering the urgency of the matter they have passed an interim order to stay any further damage to the environment. They go on to state, that the National Green Tribunal feels that; “under such circumstances, we feel that the status quo order can be passed directing the 1st respondent- Auroville Foundation not to fell any further trees till 17.12.2021”
**RECENT EVENTS AND THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL**

The events of the last week have shaken us all, the body of the Earth is hurt and shaken too, we need a way to go forward, to healing and decision making in harmony. The manner in which this is going to be done is most important. Struggles between different points of view are seen all over the globe; authoritarian methods and top-down organizations are often used to squash dissent. But the ‘City the Earth Needs’, the place that represents Human Unity, needs consensus, tolerance, civil discourse, peaceful debate and harmony, without aggression and threats. Let us fervently hope and pray that Auroville and its citizens will come out of this impasse, that we learn the lessons this process has taught us and can go forward in truly building an Auroville that shines out into this world as a beacon of Human Unity in Diversity.

The events that have taken place are well recorded, writings, videos and photos are circulating on Social Media and on dedicated sites, everyone can inform him- or herself. We would recommend especially David Nightingales work and video about the Dreamcatchers: a movement that started years ago to bring the planning and execution of the Galaxyabout in a harmonious way: looking at the ever changing features on the ground, the lay of the land, the flow and drainage and catchments areas of the water, the space where one can build, the coming together of people near parks and plazas. And the recent interview of Cristo (Revelation) in Auroville Today of December 2021 “Making and Implementing the Masterplan’ Paul’s (Botanical Garden) work on the Bliss and YC area. There are many ideas that can come together.

A short interim reprieve manifested in the form of a stay order by The NGT (National Green Tribunal) which halted the cutting of trees till December 17th.

**The National Green Tribunal**

The National Green Tribunal is a fast-track judicial body formed with the objective of addressing the issues about the environment at the national level. So far the NGT has been able to dispose of 90% of the registered cases which means it has addressed 28000 out of the total 31000 cases. But there are serious questions that are raised on the unregistered cases with many claiming that the majority of the cases do not get reported due to lack of awareness.

NGT has given various path-breaking judgments and directives to the authorities since its inception including a ban on noise pollution and illegal mining, orders for wildlife protection and the preservation of biodiversity at various places. Apart from that, NGT is diligently working towards ensuring proper implementation of its orders. It has also played a crucial role in addressing environmental issues in the post-industrial period.

The establishment of the tribunal was undoubtedly a noble step in addressing environmental disputes in Indian society. But every step comes with its own loopholes and challenges. The tribunal is facing a severe crunch of manpower and lack of resources. It is also not properly equipped to address the modern time issues related to environmental protection and conservation. These loopholes need to be addressed so that NGT becomes a path-breaking institution offering dispute resolution in environment-related issues. Once these issues are successfully resolved, it will certainly benefit the Indian natural landscape to a great extent.

References: Auroville Today issue December 2021, The Dreamcatchers, Jisha Garg on NGT

**LIST OF RECOMMENDED HOLIDAYS**

for the Calender Year – 2022

S.E.W.A recommends that all Employees be given a choice of 10 (Ten) holiday from the list below. We recommend that Republic Day, May Day, Independence Day & Gandhi Jayanthi be included in them.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>N</th>
<th>Date, Month &amp; Year</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Name of the Festival</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1 January, 2022</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>New Year’s Day</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>14 January, 2022</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Pongal</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>15 January, 2022</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Thiruvalluvar Day (Mattu Pongal)</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>16 January, 2022</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Uzhavar Thirunal (Karkinial)</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>26 January, 2022</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Republic Day</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>16 February, 2022</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Masimagam</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>14 April, 2022</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Tamil New Year Day</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>1 May, 2022</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>May Day</td>
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<td>3 May, 2022</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Ramazan (Idul Fitr)</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>15 August, 2022</td>
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<td>Independence Day</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>31 August, 2022</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Ganesh Chaturthi</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>2 October, 2022</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Gandhi Jayanti</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>4 October, 2022</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Ayudha Pooja</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>24 October, 2022</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Deepavali</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>25 December, 2022</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Christmas Day</td>
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</table>

With Warm Regards, Sandivy on behalf of S.E.W.A.

**AV DIRECTORY 2022**

A new and updated AV Telephone Directory is available at PRISMA, PTPS and PDTC

Price : Rs. 280/-

Lisbeth & Gis for the AVGreen Center

The Green Column reports on green issues in Auroville, the Bioregion and the wider world. And is published bi-monthly in the News and Notes and on Auronet. We like to hear from you! avgreencenter@auroville.org.in
To The Content

AUROSAHNAI
December 18 and 19, 2021, 10am – 5pm

Mohanam
AuroSanthai
Auroville
Regular Saturday & Sunday Market
Being launched on Sunday, December 18
Joining in on 18th & 19th of December 2021
Time: 10.00 am - 5.30 pm

Saturday & Sunday Market at Mohanam Heritage Centre.

We at Mohanam have been working on the project called AuroSanthai, Saturday & Sunday market.

We wish to be the platform for these artisans and vendors to relaunch their lives and restart the local economy. We being an Auroville Unit wish to be the bridge between Auroville and the bioregion (neighbouring villages) where a mutual exchange of skills and resources shall benefit all the people involved. We would also like to be the centre that connects Pondicherry city to Auroville. By opening our doors to the village and the city we wish to make a booming exchange of culture, traditions, skill and resources.

We wish to launch this initiative on December 18 and 19, 10am to 5pm, which falls on the weekend i.e., Saturday and Sunday. And invite you for two days full of fun and entertainment, while showing solidarity and support to our local economy. Come and attend workshops, Talks and other special activities that Mohanam has experience in conducting and organising for years.

These are the main Attractions at AuroSanthai launch.
• Auroville and local Village Arts & Craft stalls (with the farmers market)
• Traditional and modern Food Fusion stalls.
• Live Music Performances.
• Hands-on Workshops.
For more information Contact:
• Preferred through e-mail at Mohanamprogram@auroville.org.in
• or optional +91 8300949079

Celebrating UN International Rural Women Day, 19 December, 2021

Itinerary
• Welcome note
• An ode to goddess saraswati Saree Revolution Launch
• Manjal (eco-friendly sanitary napkin) Launch + interactive session
• Felicitation of Rural Women
• Interactive Awareness on Sustainable Development Goals in Tamil
• Cultural Performances
• Traditional Food Stalls by Women’s Group
• Auro Sandhai Market

We at Mohanam, are planning to celebrate International Day of Rural Women on 19 December, which was intended to be celebrated on 15 October but got cancelled previously due to heavy rains, the event has been revised with beautiful events, performances, felicitation of rural women, saree revolution project launch and celebrating the spirit of rural women aligning to the theme of this year which is

RURAL WOMEN CULTIVATING GOOD FOOD FOR ALL, coming together with women from various parts of country and the world. The event is planned at Mohanam Premises.

On the eve of International rural women’s day recognised by United Nations, we at Mohanam Village Heritage Centre are celebrating the spirit of rural women and the traditional lifestyle elements.

We are conducting an event to gather rural women and conduct activities for engaging them in games and interactive programs and facilitate the launch of our initiative Saree Revolution.

Mohanam cordially invites you to this special event to grace the event with your empowering presence

Mohanam Campus,
Opp. Imagination

PIZZAS @ CAFETERIA VISITORS CENTRE!

By popular demand! We are starting making pizzas again on Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings 6.30 to 9pm starting this week.

We concentrate on a few basic types, available with organic maida or organic wholewheat dough. We are also working on a gluten free organic dough…

Our Dutch volunteer Bart who is a professional baker is helping us develop these products with the help of Antonio.

Come and enjoy! Takeaways available.

Note: There will be no pizzas on the 24th!

Your Cafeteria Team

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Your Cafeteria Team
**SOLAR KITCHEN SERVING DINNERS**  
6-8pm, Monday to Saturday

Now that the rainy season is slowly retreating, all are welcome for our dinners. We are serving a simple/light menu from 6-8pm between Monday-Saturday.

We are open for both Dine-in & tiffin pick-up services. Contact us at solarkitchen@auroville.org.in or Call us at 0413-2622106 or 2622197 to book.

**We are still looking for a Inventory/stock Incharge:**
A personnel to handle stock and develop a comprehensive inventory tracking system to streamline our kitchen needs and costs. The main responsibilities of this position include managing tracking systems and supporting procurement. The successful candidate will offer recommendations to ensure ideal levels of inventory for the kitchen and in stores. Prospective candidates with inventory control experience in edibles are encouraged to apply.

1. Inventory/stock In-charge responsibilities and duties
2. Ensure accurate product inventory for the kitchen.
3. Develop an inventory tracking system to streamline our operations.
4. Communicate with our procurement in-charge & accountant about current stock and potential issues with orders.
5. Conduct daily analyses to forecast potential inventory issues.
7. Assess new inventory to ensure it is ready to run the kitchen smoothly.
8. Develop and implement inventory control procedures and best practices.

**Expectations from the candidate**
1. Knowledge in data entry and basic tally.
2. Able to multi-task and work independently.
3. In-depth understanding of groceries and how to appropriately store them.
4. Punctual and Full-time commitment
5. Newcomers or Aurovillians are preferred

Maintenance available after trial period.

Kindly email us if you are interested and have the required skill set at skoffice@auroville.org.in.

**Looking for a variety of people in the position of**
- Master Chef
- Assistant Chef
- Maitre d’

If you have had the aspiration of being part of a vibrant Cafe to create food that feeds the Soul and engage with patrons to help them have the best time of their life. Then this job will certainly interest you. The energy of the team will certainly suit you.

Looking to create the menu and an atmosphere which upholds Auroville Spirit and caters to the international community with an Aurovilians First attitude. Maintenance will be provided.

If you wish to support us in other ways like helping us with pots and pans, ovens and fridges or anything you feel is important to the kitchen for bulk cooking will be highly appreciated as well. If you would like to collaborate with other offerings and innovative ideas we are open for discussion. Just Call Us.

Please get in touch with immediately as gearing up to start really soon. Kindly contact Romel 9619996080, Romel@auroville.org.in. Looking forward to serving you all to the best of our abilities.

Love and Gratitude, New Team

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**THE ARTS**

**THE SUN GATE**
Puma Punko/Tiwanaku, an archeological site in Bolivia
8am – 5pm

Photo exhibition in the Aurelec Cafeteria & Art Gallery

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It is said that the mysterious site of Puma Punko / Tiwanaku, 4000m height, in Bolivia, South America, was constructed 536 – 600AD. Arthur Posnansky (1873 – 1946) dates the site back to 11,000 -17,000BC. He calls this area the cradle of the American man.

The temple of the Sun and the city of Kalasasaya must have been later destroyed by a flood and earthquake. Only such a catastrophe could have destroyed and moved these kind of heavy stone blocks.

We can assume that whoever built this place had knowledge of planning, of logistics, and had access to relatively advanced technology.

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**NEW CAFÉ TO OPEN**

Dear Community, we are happy to announce, we will be helping to restart a Café in the space of the former WELL CAFE.

WELL CAFE has served us for so many years and has been a part of so many beautiful memories. The details about the new plans will be sharing in the coming weeks and looking to receive your support and blessing to keep continuing it to remain an important asset for the community. Regarding the same, we are inviting new team members to give it a new image, a new look and a new purpose all together.

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**THE SUN GATE**
Puma Punko / Tiwanaku, an archeological site in Bolivia
Photo exhibition in the aurelec Cafeteria & Art Gallery
Open from 9 am to 5 pm

Love & Gratitude, Harishini, Manimaran, Shakthi & Vanitha
Solar Kitchen Team
CELEBRATION ANUBHUTI

Sunday, 26 December at CRIPA, 5 – 6.30pm

Celebrating the festive season, Arpanaa is delighted to present ANUBHUTI an experience of music through concert and interactive session. Featuring Radhika Joshi, this program will be held on Sunday, 26 December, 2021 at CRIPA, 5 – 6.30pm

This event is unique, as after the performance the artist, who is an articulate speaker, will explain the process of what happens on stage during a concert. This will be a wonderful opportunity to understand the nuances of a Hindustani music concert and some of its fundamental principles. The session will conclude with a Q&A session with the audience.

Dr. Radhika Joshi is a Hindustani classical vocalist belonging to the Jaipur-Atrauli Gharana. She is a disciple Pt. Raghunandan Panshikar, a senior disciple of Gaansaraswati Kishori Amankar and a leading exponent himself. Radhika has also had the privilege of studying semi-classical forms of music under Padmabhushan Smt. Girija Devi at the Sangeet Research Academy, Kolkata. Radhika is the founder of Jaipur Gunijankhana, an archive that strives to document the music of the Jaipur Atrauli Gharana. She is very passionate about spreading her love for music to the next generation and has recently released a book titled ‘Phulwari Geeton Ki’ that aims to make Indian classical music enjoyable for children from all backgrounds.

To know more about the artist please visit www.radhika-joshiroy.com.

Dr. Radhika Joshi will be accompanied on the harmonium by Ashwin Walawalkar and on the tabla by Sagar Bharathraj.

Arpanaa is an organization under the Auroville City Services and has been engaged in bringing various cultural events for the community. Presently this service is anchored by Geeta and Yogini.

BEGINNINGS
The Russian Period Of Nicholas Roerich
Wednesday, December 22, 5 – 6pm

Savitri Bhavan

Slide-show with Explanations by Dr. Alexander Pereverzev at Sangam Hall, Savitri Bhavan

All are welcome

The slide-show focuses on the formative years of the famous Russian artist, thinker, archeologist, explorer and public figure Nicholas Roerich: his school and university years in St. Petersburg, his becoming an artist and educationalist, the ideas and personalities that influenced him and the circumstances that gradually made him a spiritual figure and a “Master of the Mountains.”

AV FILM FESTIVAL 2022

Auroville Film Festival (Jan 18-23) are invited to contact us.

BETTER TO HAVE GONE

Fifty years. It’s been a long, sometimes tortuous journey, but I feel privileged to have been along for the ride. I’m capable of forgetting this privilege; I lapse into occasional bouts of cynicism and negativity. Usually, all it takes to remind me of what Auroville has achieved is a walk through one of its forests: those winding red dirt paths, that green canopy of slender acacia, spiky palmyra, and leafy tropical evergreen trees. This geography is in my (and Auralice’s) blood. It warms my heart – makes me gleeeful – that Auroville’s trees exist in defiance of all the planners’ best efforts to build a concrete city. I think of the forests (and all that they contain: the snakes, the birds, the mongooses, the porcupines, and now wild boars, too) as an affirmation of life, an insistent declaration that preconceived human notions of what should be can never straitjacket or prevent what will be. These forests exist not because of utopia, but despite utopia.

Above is a particular passage of “Better to Have Gone” that touched my heart as it recalls my very being here after all. For this, I would like to express my deep gratitude to Akash for another special book. It makes me feel blessed for living in this challenging time and reality. By looking at reality with honest eyes and living it for what it really is... I can only appreciate and work for our privileged Aurovillian life experiment even more. Your and Auralice’s courage is truly admirable and inspirational. Thanks again for sharing that; it is a milestone for our past, present and future history.

Giovanni

AVAILABLE

For Sale

• Yamaha Digital Piano P-45 88 keys + Yamaha Sustain Pedal FC-4
• Fender Squier Deluxe Sunburst Dimension 4-String Bass Guitar
• Single Coil Jazz Bass Bridge Pick-Up
• Active Treble Mid Bass Controls
• Orange Crush Bass Amp 50 As New!

Active 3 Band Eq, Parametric Mid Control, Bi-Amp Insired Blend & Gain Controls (Footswitchable), Buffered Effects Loop, Chromatic Tuner, Cabsim-Loaded Headphone Output & Aux In

Ray, Petite Ferme, 7094136060

LOOKING FOR

Android Phone & Work Opportunities

Hello, my name is Sai, age 24. I am a volunteer in TerraSoul since 3 months. I am coming from a farmer family in Andhra pradesh. To sustain as a Volunteer in Auroville I used to work part time in a Biryani restaurant in Pundichery. But the restaurant is closing now because there are not enough customers and I’m looking for a new part time job. I am applying to work as a delivery man for Swiggy but I would need an android phone for that. If anyone in the community has a spare phone they don’t use I would be very grateful if you can let me know. Let me know also if you hear about opportunities to help in restaurants, plumbing or else.

Please contact me at this phone number 9347164554

Peace and Harmony to all

Sai from TerraSoul
Looking for Long Term Housing

Hello, we are Pranit and Paula, a pre-Newcomer and volunteer. We are looking for long term housing - may it be house sitting or other. Contact Paula at +49 1522 2021627 (WhatsApp and Signal) or paulaschnecke@gmx.de Thank you!

With thanks, Paula

WORK OPPORTUNITIES

CARETAKER FOR UNITY PAVILION

Unity Pavilion is urgently looking for a caretaker (Aurovilian, Newcomer or volunteer) for 2-3 months. Duties are opening and closing, and other smaller tasks. Unity Pavilion offers free accommodation in return. If you are interested, please write to unitypavilion@auroville.org.in, 0413 2623576. You may also contact Jaya or Shivaya directly.

NEEDED FAMC ADMINISTRATOR / SECRETARY

FAMC urgently needs an Aurovilian or Newcomer who is able to take care of secretarial tasks such as taking meeting minutes, preparing meeting agendas, responding to emails, organizing the FAMC Google Drive, drafting follow-up communications, etc...

What we need from you:
- Be present in the FAMC office: Monday – Saturday 9.00 am to 12.00 pm and 2.00 to 5.00 pm
- Ease while communicating verbally and in writing
- Works well under pressure
- Maintain confidentiality on all matters
- Be self-motivated and driven. We expect you to be proactive and get the work done.
- Ability to work in a team
- Be accountable: we expect you to organise your work transparently and report on deliverables / outcomes, and take the initiative to ask for help when you need it.
- We expect you to inform the rest of the team in advance of any changes in your work routine. We expect a commitment of at least 6 months after a three month trial period.

Required skills:
- Excellent written and verbal English
- Good computer skills (and able to learn new technology/tools)
- Good work organisation skills (reliability and responsibility)
- Team work
- Other languages a bonus

What can you expect?
- A maintenance.

The current team will train you on the tasks involved, most of which are recurring, so you will get used to them soon.
If you need mentoring on specific tasks FAMC and/or secretariat members are available to guide you.

HR INITIATIVE WORK OPPORTUNITIES

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

Coordinator

You have the ability to organise, to take notes, to chair meetings, you are able to listen to people, you have patience, and you are innovative. You have proficient computer skills; the ability to answer emails, use Word, spreadsheets, and Google docs. You have very good English communication skills. Tamil would be a plus. Maintenance available either full or part time.

Administration

You will be responsible for the maintenance of the office space and facility, manage office internal communication and guest hospitality. You will ensure that all facilities are available during training programs. You will manage attendance and other office documents, maintain basic office infrastructure, equipment, and facilities, you will maintain inventory. You have proficient computer skills, the ability to operate general office equipment, you have excellent organizational skills, the ability to prioritize, and you are comfortable working independently. You have English language proficiency (reading – high, writing – high, speaking /understanding – moderate); and Tamil proficiency (reading – low/moderate, writing – low/moderate, speaking /understanding – high). Full time, maintenance available.

And other positions

(please inquire about details):

Volunteers for Auro Orchard

Please contact us for more information and if you are interested in any of these work opportunities or if you are looking for something else. You can find us at hr@famc.auroville.org or hr_hub@auroville.org.in

HELP NEEDED

CALL FOR FINANCIAL HELP

Dear Friends, Vanakkam

You might have read the heart touching appeal of Iyyanar Aurovilian long time Matrimandir worker. Iyyanar was my student at Ilaignarkal 42 years ago. He also stayed in the hostel with us while working at Matrimandir Nursery. Iyyanar was a sincere student and wanted to learn classical dance and music. He used to go all the way to Pondy during the weekends to learn the cultural aspects to lift up his life. I know him very personally. He is devoted to Mother’s work.

I request Aurovilian friends to contribute generously to Financial Service Account # 252823, specially created with the consent of Auroville council. I have a great idea to share how to redress from Iyyanar’s squeezing financial situation with outside money lenders. Can each one of us spare at least minimum Rs. 100 per head from our great compassionate joint family to save Iyyanar?

This is just a seed I am planting. Waiting for positive results.

With Love, R. Meenakshi

To The Content
LETTERS TO A YOUNG POET

Be patient toward all that is unsolved in your heart and try to love the questions themselves, like locked rooms and like books that are now written in a very foreign tongue. Do not now seek the answers, which cannot be given you because you would not be able to live them. And the point is, to live everything. Live the questions now. Perhaps you will then gradually, without noticing it, live along some distant day into the answer.”

Rainer Maria Rilke
submitted by Suzie

AUROVILLE RADIO

Dear Aurovilians, please check the latest podcasts of your favourite radio! Stay tuned! Here you can listen to the stream channel (playing 24/7).

Here you can see on-air schedules.

Last published podcasts

- Audible Weed Walk – Ep.68 “Grains to get out of the blues and films about food” (Food education)
- Interview with Loretta (City Life)
- Papy The Boomer – Ep.02 Master Plan (Humour)
- Suhasini’s talk about Auroville Master Plan (Architecture)
- Savitri, B. X, C. IV, Part 6 (Integral Yoga)
- Yoga Nidra – Intensive week Ep.6 (Wellness)
- Soul Tracks – S.03 Ep.5 with guest presenter Deepal (Music)
- Yoga Nidra – Intensive week Ep.5 (Wellness)
- Papy The Boomer – Ep.01 Youth Center (Humour)
- Yoga Nidra – Intensive week Ep.4 (Wellness)
- Interview with Frederick (City Life)
- Yoga Nidra – Intensive week Ep.3 (Wellness)
- Marlenka’s Weekly Offering – ep.35 (Integral Yoga)
- Une série hebdomadaire de lectures par Gangalakshmi – 376 (Integral Yoga)
- Karpathu Tamil-Ep.9 “கிருந்தை சித்தர் பாடல்கள்” (Siddhar Songs) (Tamil culture)
- Yoga Nidra – Intensive week Ep.2 (Wellness)

Last Youtube live videos

- Meeting about the construction of “the city of Dawn” – Auroville 9th Dec. 2021 (City Life)
- and more! on www.aurovilleradio.org

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

Peace and Love

WE NEED NEW EYES

We need new eyes shadowless from burden and clouds

Eyes – Light
Eyes -Heart
for an Announced Dawn.

Anandi-ayun,
December 2021

MAGIC WORLD

Not long ago Narad published in our newspaper a short text, in which he reminded us of the Mother’s words: “The Matrimandir gardens are as important as the Matrimandir itself.”

In the Sri Aurobindo Ashram there is the Mother’s museium. It includes a room with Japanese things only: the dolls, dress, etc. Some of them the Mother brought herself and other ones were presented by Japanese guests. The Mother loved the Japanese culture of beauty, their hanami – admiration of flowers. Of course she knew some Japanese names “Katsumi” – “victorious beauty”. She visited the famous Japanese gardens.


It was the key word in the magic world – world of wonderful friendship. Certainly he wrote it for me without any other words: Dmitrii was a dear friend for me and for him. I knew from Dmitrii that Narad had a Russian mother. Dmitrii brought the orchids from America to Narad. Narad met Dmitrii in America in 1961.

Numerology is a part of the magic world, it helps us to see the invisible things.

Narad was born on 29th July 1938. In numerology his number is three, it means harmony and spirituality. Day 29 for the numerologist is eleven, which means realisation of inner power. It is the Mother’s number. The day corresponds to childhood, young years of life. Number of months, seven, corresponds to the middle part of existence. Seven means balance between spirituality and materiality.

Narad’s birth year, 1938, is 21 for the numerologist, which means gate in a new world, number of transformation. The Mother was born 21. February 1878.

I arrived in India on the 21st. September 1991. It was for me a really new world, a magic world. I had only a tourist visa for three months and lived in Auroville with it for five years. Magic, fairytale! Everything is possible with Divine help.

In the Sri Aurobindo Ashram I met Dmitrii. He told me about Narad. In the Matrimandir gardens I met Narad, he spoke about Dmitrii. They both told me about the Mother. Once the Mother saw a sick kitten. She brought it to Sri Aurobindo. He took the kitten in his palms – and the kitten forgot about its sickness.

Sri Aurobindo and the Mother created the medicine for sick humanity, sick planet. This magic medicine is Integral Yoga. Aurovilians know: Their teaching is mighty and effective.
REFLECTIONS ON THE LAST FEW DAYS

Dear Friends, We are all deeply touched by the events of the last few days and beyond the strong emotions that everyone has felt, particularly our youth in Auroville, I believe that many of us are also wondering why and how this critical situation in the development of Auroville has come to this extent...

It is quite obvious that this is the bursting of an abscess which since the very beginning of Auroville has paralyzed its development: the forest or the city, two aspects experienced as apparently antithetic, thus generating all the conflicts and paralyzing forces, something that we have painfully experienced throughout these last 53 years, when we came to build the City that the Earth needs, a laboratory of Human Unity.

But we all also know that this is part of the immense challenge of dualistic ideologies or concepts that are experienced in our human mental dualism as opposites and irreconcilable, when in reality they are complementary aspects of the divine unity that we must reconcile within ourselves, both individually and collectively.

All of Mother’s and Sri Aurobindo’s writings point to this reality, which represents the great test of our present humanity in order to make the passage, the mutation that we have all called to live and incarnate at the dawn of the 21st century, to build the City of the Dawn, which will be the one capable of reconciling all apparent opposites and manifesting them in terms of complementarity and unity.

Let us now consider our present crisis and see what we can do together to move in this direction and live collectively as a laboratory dedicated to human unity.

The first step is to rebuild a Youth Center in its rightful place, which would symbolize architecture integrating the creative, multicultural and humanly warm nature, along with the contribution of the youth, their dreams and creativity, a place of life, of sharing, of meeting on the scale of the City of Dawn and human unity.

This would begin with a collective fundraising that could be extended worldwide so as not to be constrained by financial resources, a construction symbolizing a collective work of love and sharing, initiating a new stage in the development of Auroville in parallel with the implementation of the Crown Road (*).

It was said to me earlier this year that Mother wanted her City to come down and be embodied on our Earth (**). This would be the most beautiful symbol of our collective response, the time has come, the whole world is suffocating and calling.

Let us all work together for progressive human unity: Aurovilians, members of the AV Foundation, and all our friends in the world who carry Auroville in their hearts. Let us transform this pain and destruction into a new creation for our young people and into the living and concrete embodiment of the City that the Earth so urgently needs.

Time is running out

With love, Bhagwandas

(*) In a lifeless desert at the very beginning of Auroville, a forest was planted, a symbol of life and biodiversity, in which the greenest city in the world will be built, in total respect of this biodiversity.

(**) On February 21, as we were immersed in a magical moment during the flute concert in the amphitheatre, a voice was heard in my heart: soft and penetrating words carried by the music, familiar and prophetic words like those we had the privilege of hearing 50 years ago (“Talks with Aspiration”).

Here are these words received as a gift to be shared, from the One who is at the origin of everything and to whom we owe everything...

Tell them that the time has come, the time we have been preparing for many years, the time of the unexpected, of revelations; my city is coming down to earth, it and all humanity are in great need of it.

Tell them that in a burst of faith and enthusiasm they manifest it in their thoughts, words and deeds!

Sincerity, fraternity and courage are three pillars on which it will rest...

Tell them that I love them that I am in their hearts ready to manifest.

Tell them that a great light is going to invade the earth and that it is good, that this is part of the divine plan!

No fear to have; free yourself from all fears, beliefs, dependencies...

Dare to be yourselves, love each other as I love you, reveal your divinity.

Words received by Bhagwandas on February 21, 2021

EVALUATION ON ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT OF PRESENT DEVELOPMENT IN AUROVILLE

To Whom It May Concern

I would like to give my input in regard to the present, aggressive fast track development in Auroville from the background of my professional expertise in the domain of sustainable integrated water resources management. It is based on my experience, the observation of the ground, as well as scientific and practical knowledge of the area. This statement is deliberately based on logic and reason while I cannot escape that our present situation is impacted with emotions and badly hurt feelings, to which I do not wish to add.

Feel free to circulate this input.

Abstract

The actual planning and recent development of Auroville is based on decisions and actions done without prior consultation of residents and without detailed planning, by initiating enforced development that shall lead to multiple roads, fast track development and related major increase of population. It is to be expected that this way of proceeding with the development will result in serious damage for the coherency of Auroville and for the practical life of the villages located in the direct vicinity of the planned urban area, the green belt and farther villages. This includes 6 local villages with related populations and activities.

Main findings

The development, as pushed forward today, would offer a bypass from the NH 26 to the ECR, thus building up the traffic tremendously as well as invite uncontrolled business development with all related and well-known nuisances.

While a mobility study was conducted years ago, it is not considered in today’s move and there is no alternative study available today. Missing is also a usable overall topographic survey: The one conducted in 2002, or so, being unusable today.

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To my knowledge, the following preliminary but absolute necessary work has not been conducted:

- Soil tests for any road and structural developments have not been conducted.
- Studies of elevation variations have not been conducted.
- No environmental impact assessment study has been conducted.
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To be continued in Appendix 1 on page 23.
STATEMENT
10th December 2021

Auroville, 28th February 1968, The Mother (Mirra Alfassa) called youth from all countries of the World and States of India with a handful of soil to kindle a new vision, with a spirit of freedom to choose a new way of life, ‘a Youth that never ages’.

Days and nights from 4th December 2021 to 9th December 2021 have been intense with a severe attack by the forces which are against the new spirit of Auroville, using unlikely mediums as channels, unleashing dominance doing a vulgar dance wearing black robe of unconscious physical violence, all in name of the Divine. A trick which has been successfully practiced over millennia to suppress new light of free spirit in our human journey.

Beginning on morning of 4th December 2021, with an unsuccessful move of demolition by sending a JCB which then moved to 1 am on 5th December, day of Samadhi of Sri Aurobindo, with siege of 200 policemen arresting youth and thrashing women, leading to a final destructive move on Mahasamadhi day of Sri Aurobindo, a merciless destruction using brutal force of strong men shamefully hired to harass, aggress along with manhandling women on way to destroy the Youth Centre. The soil of hope and youth with which Auroville was born was trampled to dust.

On the way of this destructive drive was opening of a 16 m clearing of Bliss forest to make way for a Crown Road, involving merciless crushing of trees tended like children over years.

All this has shaken me to the core and everyone around me in Auroville and in larger family in India and worldwide. Utter distraught, utter dismay, disheartened sadness or any other word are hard to express my feelings. Trampling of the Youth under the tires of a JCB is like running chainsaws on our future.

Auroville town plan design is a unique and beautiful form of a galaxy, a mandala releasing energy of a future humanity, a cradle of a new man. In the galaxy plan is a 75 m crown which is a circular backbone connecting different zones of the circular town plan. Over past months intense discussions have happened on how to manifest the Crown. Auroville has its diversity and has a multiplicity of views which need to be harmonized to come to an acceptable solution. The synthesis was near when a group of people with green fingers proposed a meandering road around the trees instead of following a perfect rigid circular road as planned in a master plan in 1999, very much a possibility with a 75 m wide space in a circle of the Crown. However, the Auroville Town Development Council (ATDC) remained rigid and insisted on a perfect circularity of the road which needs destruction of few buildings and many old trees. Instead of choosing to sit and discuss the matter within the community forums of the Resident Assembly, ATDC chose to approach the Office of the Secretary of Auroville Foundation to deliver a fixed rigid circle.

In any collaborative engagement openness, flexibility, suppleness and ingenuity is needed to arrive at an acceptable solution. This process needs to be given time and space instead of stiff targets of hours and days to achieve implementation. In a place like Auroville, which works like a giant family, one cannot build with corporate or governmental style systems. A circular participatory process is needed which is supple, organic, natural, experimental and evolves with time and grow.

Insempass which has now grown like a monster of horrendous proportions. Heated discussions gave way to brute state might leading to intimidation and strong arm tactics. Are the next steps going towards more violence, arrests, visa cancellations or deportations, which bring the weight of a very heavy karma? I hope not. I pray for a peaceful path towards collaboration which opens up space for harmony to descend.

Many well wishers and friends are worried about my well being or being exposed to unforeseen risks on the way. I would like to thank all the protection, love and support I am getting from my worldwide family of elders, brothers, sisters, friends, mentors, mentees in an overwhelming generosity. My answer to everyone is to keep praying for peace, harmony and protection. Salute to the spirit of Youth of Auroville, who have made destruction into an event of celebration, by coming together to rebuild the Youth Centre. You are my heroes.

I urge everyone to pause to retreat and reflect on working towards a harmonious solution. We will come out stronger and be closely together.

Love, Hemant Lambda
Member, Working Committee of the Resident Assembly

NEED TO COMMUNICATE

Events have developed very rapidly over the last few days, and quick, accurate communication (especially in languages other than English) has been very challenging for those gathered at YC and elsewhere. And like so much else these days, it has been carried somewhat by the Youth – not by working groups or professionals who aren’t already navigating recent traumas and exhaustion before attempting to do this work. And in a way which promotes peace & progressive harmony!

I feel sad and partly responsible that the speed and amount of communications has not been what we really need, and that this call for structural support was not made earlier, but I’m making it now.

I would love to see a shared effort to collect, synthesize and share basic information internally within Auroville – Ideally held by a recognized group of people like RAS, outreach media, or a resource team or AV Council. This would not be for opinions, but a clear reporting and timeline of the many events as they develop, any clear positions reached in large meetings (informal or GMs), updates from working groups, YC representatives etc.

I don’t know who should hold it, but I personally feel it should come together today and take up this work – and if outreach media feel unable to prepare external communications following instructions received from the AVF, maybe their members could consider being a part of this internal communications work? Others may be appropriate also, from the radio, or N&N, AV today etc... there is a need, so I hope something can come together.

I invite those who are interested to confirm by email, and to meet at 11:00 at the Youth Centre unless updated otherwise based on availability and other options of venue.

And as soon as I find someone better placed to coordinate this little project I’ll hand over gladly!

Sincerely, Allan
(Newcomer)
8110832722
QUERY REGARDING THE AV FOUNDATION ACT

From the AV Foundation Act:

“The powers and functions of the Governing Board shall be— ‘...to prepare a master-plan of Auroville in consultation with the Residents’ Assembly and to ensure development of Auroville as so planned’

The question is regarding the words ‘To ensure’: what does that actually mean and how does it translate in our given situation?

• Could one safely suppose ‘to ensure’ – would mean to allow/monitor/pressurize/to make sure that Aurovilians are going ahead with the ‘development of Auroville as so planned’ (as per the master plan and through their agreed processes) and to reorient them in case they went off track?

• But the words ‘to ensure’ (which has a more passive connotation) is not synonymous with the words ‘to intervene’ (which has a proactive connotation). The ACT does not use the words ‘to intervene’ or either the word-combo ‘to ensure and to intervene’.

• So my genuine question is- as to what the words ‘to ensure’ actually means and how do they translate – and under what actions (administrative level actions? Or direct ‘operational’ interventions) Or.

• The next question would be – what would be considered ‘development of Auroville’ as being outside of “as so planned” – which would consequently require the ‘ensuring’ of a course correction in the planning/actions?

• If the crown road is not a perfect geometric circle and allows for slight deviations to accommodate for example – ground realities (such as water catchments areas that have been built with a practical connection to a natural canyon etc) – would that (the slight deviation of the crown road) be considered to be ‘outside of the plan’?

• Would the presence of a Citadyn/Sunship in the non-residential zone be considered to be ‘outside of the plan’?

• The question is – ‘how much’ and ‘how far’ would be considered as being outside of the plan?

• The next question would be – what happens when the Crown road traces its way through poramboke land, canyons or cut through the sacred groves of the Kali temple (a concept that one could imagine as being impossible in our dear country). What happens then? How does one ‘ensure (the) development of Auroville as so planned’?

• One might then suspect that the ensuring agent – together with the applying agents might ‘ensure’ a harmonious outlining of the (crown) road at the peril of its perfect geometry and even a possibility at ‘flexibility’ in the application of the Master Plan.

• How has this part been planned/foreseen in its application, one genuinely wonders?

All of the above is an attempt to try and understand the ‘technical’ aspect of the issue – and one would appreciate any elucidation from ANYONE – as we are ALL here in our Love for Auroville.

And just to ‘ensure’ we are talking about the same ‘Auroville’ – below is a definition of the ‘Spirit of Auroville,” by The Mother in conversation with Satprem on 25.10.1967:

“The spirit of Auroville, which is a spirit ... [Mother remains absorbed for a long time] ... At bottom it is The art of building unity out of complexity. Without uniformity, you understand: unity through harmony in complexity, with each thing in its place....”

Dinesh Gupta

HELPFUL HINTS/ADVERTISEMENTS

PROBIOTICS HOUSE TIP SERIES #33
How to Whiten Sheets in 4 Simple Steps
(continued from last week)

4 Steps to Make Sheets White Again

Even with the right ingredients, it’s important to use the right whitening agents in the correct order to get those crisp, white sheets. Follow these tips for each stage of the washing process to make your sheets white again.

• Pre-Soak

If you’re pre-soaking your sheets, be sure to use warm or hot water for at least one hour. Use the below pre-soak to ensure your sheets stay crisp and white.

- 125 ml of white vinegar for each 4 liters of hot water
- 125 ml of lemon juice for each 4 liters of hot water

• First Cycle

Once you’re ready to start the first cycle, you have several different whitening options. However, if you’re using a whitener in this cycle, be sure to skip the fabric softener, since vinegar or lemon juice will do the trick. Use any of the below options during the first cycle.

- 125 grams of baking soda
- Juice of 1 lemon
- White vinegar to the line in the fabric softener dispenser
- 1-2 tablespoon of Probiotics laundry liquid

• Second Cycle

If you notice any residual odors or buildup after the first cycle, try using a hydrogen peroxide rinse and run a second cycle without detergent. Hydrogen peroxide is safe to use on all washable, dye-stable fabrics and breaks down safely in water.

• Dry

If possible, air-drying your sheets in the sun is another great way to keep your sheets crisp and white. The sun has natural bleaching properties and won’t set any stains as a dryer would.

(to be continued next week)

CLASSES, WORKSHOPS & HEALING ARTS

NAADA YOGA WORKSHOP

We welcome you for an experiential workshop on:

- NAADA YOGA

- What is Naada Yoga Sadhana?
- How does sound impact us?
- How can singing, music and awareness of sound support in integral well-being?

Facilitated by Mandar & Dakshayani, bolthak.org

- SATURDAY, DEC 18
- 8:30 AM TO 1:00 PM
- BUMUKHA HALL,
  (BHARAT NIVAS)

For questions or registration, please write to: devabhasha@auroville.org.in
Samskritam Auroville & Bharat Nivas Team
Watsu® & OBA® Basic with Dariya & Daniel

Tuesday 4 January – Sunday 9 January: 1.00 – 6.00pm

Watsu & OBA are aquatic bodywork modalities given in a warm water pool (ideally 35°C). Watsu, during which your face always stays on the surface, introduces the qualities and body mechanics required to work with someone in water in order to create a profound state of both physical and mental relaxation. During the OBA part you are also brought under water (with a nose clip), which offers a unique experience.

In this course, you will practice basic techniques and qualities (grounding, presence, stillness, movement, attention) of being and moving another body in water. You will experience floating other people and being floated, on the surface and underwater, thereby creating space for deep relaxation and nurturing body, mind and spirit.

Watsu & OBA offer an opportunity for profound relaxation and letting go, for building trust, for being nurtured and held, for expanding inner and outer boundaries, for releasing emotions and traumas – ultimately, for freeing body and mind in a flow unique to each person and each session.

Participants in this course often appreciate the group space, which fosters deep, meaningful, and nurturing connections.

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

Woga (Yoga in Water) 1 & 2 with Dariya

Saturday 25 – Sunday 26 December 2021 8.45 am – 6.00 pm [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 is required (also no need to know how to swim)!

Anahata, The Sound of Silence

A Four Week Course with Manoj Pavithran

Dear friends, I am happy to offer once again: Anahata – The Sound of Silence. A 4-week online course to cultivate a silent mind, the foundation for developing yogic consciousness. It is distilled from my own personal sadhana and its process. You are most welcome to join.

For more details visit: https://purnamlabs.auroville.org/anahata

MUSIC-WORKSHOP ON WESTERN MUSIC

Thursday, December 30, 4-6pm

History and Introduction into Theory, Part Two

The Classical Period and the history of the Opera

Thursday, December 30, 4-6pm, SAIIER-building, first floor.

ALL ARE WELCOME.

The demonstration of the different points of the workshop will be supported by Videos and Music Samples.

The workshop is given by Hartmut in the SAIIER building 4-6 pm each month one time

For date-details please contact me under 7094812897 and vonlieres@gmx.de

Ecstatic Dance at Cripa every Saturday from 5.00 to 6.45pm.

What is Ecstatic Dance? Ecstatic Dance is a Freeform Conscious Dance. As soon as you enter the space, you are invited to let go of judgments and expectations, and allow yourself to feel your emotions, sensations, body, mind, and spirit. Because this is a safe space for movement and expression, for more information contact +919345315894

Warmly, Tahir
Essenian Healing with Patrick D.

We welcome the Newcomer family Elisa, Patrick and son Thao to Auroville and to Pitanga’s team. Elisa is already teaching Qigong classes at Pitanga and Patrick is now joining offering this ancient, yet timeless therapy of Essenian Healing to the community.

This ancient knowledge passed on orally by the Essenes and Egyptians has been received by Daniel Meurois and is used to integrate the sacred energy of the subtle and physical bodies, applying essential oils on certain energy points.

“Healing with the hands in accordance with the subtle anatomy of the body is an innate reflex in any person who is aware of the existence of the soul.” Daniel Meurois

Essenian treatments are a therapeutic approach that uses the healing power of light and sound as well as the massage of energy points with the aim of maintaining or restoring a harmonious balance between body, soul and spirit. The healing acts by restoring the flow of energy that has been disrupted by stress, illness, negative thought forms and the difficulties of everyday life.

Patrick has been trained in magnetism, geobiology, hypnosis and Essenian Healing. His trainer in Essenian Healing was directly trained by Anne Givaudan.

Sessions with Patrick will take about 1.5 hr to 2 hrs time. The use of the therapist’s hands on energy centres and the use of essential oils on parts of the body requires direct access to the skin. The recipient rests wearing underwear on a massage table while the body will be covered with linen sheets and only uncovered in the area that needs to be worked on.

A session has 3 parts: An interview to understand concerns and backgrounds, the treatment with light, sound and essential oils and exchange on questions and feelings afterwards. French speaking or understanding will be of help; otherwise, his English will grow with practice…

For your appointment you will need to bring your own bed-linen and a larger towel to cover your body.

If you wish to take an appointment for Essenian Healing, please call us at 262 2403 or write to us at: pitanga@auroville.org.in

Iyengar Yoga have resumed

| Iyengar Yoga For Ladies  
[Level 2-3] | Monday | 11.00 – 12.30 pm |
|----------|--------|-----------------|
| Iyengar Yoga Drop-in  
[All levels] | Tuesday | 7.00 – 8.30 am |
| Iyengar Yoga  
[Levels 2-3] | Tuesday | 4.30 – 6.30 pm |
| Iyengar Yoga  
[Levels 2-3] | Thursday | 7.00 – 8.30 pm |
| Iyengar Yoga Drop-in  
[All levels] | Thursday | 5.00 – 6.30 pm |

Iyengar Yoga practitioners, please note the following:

- Classes earmarked “Level 2-3” mean:
  1. The class is designed for experienced practitioners!
  2. In each lesson, inverted poses are performed.
  3. If the student cannot perform the basic version of the asana, he/she should know alternative options for replacement according to the peculiarities of his/her practice.

If you wish to receive our program of activities by email, please write to us: pitanga@auroville.org.in

See you at Pitanga, with a smile!

DEEP TISSUE MASSAGE AT AUROMODE

We are offering Deep tissue massage at Auromode.

Deep tissue massage involves applying firm pressure and slow strokes to reach deeper layers of muscle and fascia (the connective tissue surrounding muscles).

It’s used for chronic aches and pain and contracted areas such as a stiff neck and upper back, low back pain, leg muscle tightness, and sore shoulders.

For more information and booking contact@auromodeyogaspace.com

+91 9345315894, Warmly, Tahir

WALLPAPER CHRISTMAS WORKSHOP FAIR

Saturday, 18 December, 11am – 5pm

“The Wellpaper Auroville team and women invite you to our Christmas Workshop fair this Saturday, 18 December. Feel free to drop in anytime between 11am till 5pm to learn how to make your own upcycled christmas ornament or to decorate one!

All are welcome, and the workshops will be free. Any contributions will be accepted lovingly. Let’s get in the holiday spirit together with some upcycled fun!”

Sincerely, Wellpaper team
To The Content

PURNAM LABS COURSES

Dear friends, We are happy to share with you the launch of our new website Purnam Labs, https://purnamlabs.auroville.org

At Purnam Labs, we have a range of community-based online courses for you. Some of these courses are peer-led and some are expert-led courses, but all of these courses are based on three principles:

1. Learn to Evolve, to self-transform in one or more areas of the fivefold integral education framework,
2. Learning by Doing. That’s why they are called Purnam Practice Labs, for in these labs, the focus is on doing. Through doing, getting into action with awareness, intention and intensity, we learn and transform.
3. Learn with Community, the major capital in these labs is learning from each other.

All these labs are online, and we have several of them starting soon:

1. Discover and Recover Your Creative Self, a 12 week learning journey in light of Julia Cameron’s book The Artist Way, offered by Surya, a budding musician, with an inborn sense of beauty and aesthetics, who is seeking to unleash his creative spiritual self, with a group of fellow artists with a similar aspiration. Application Deadline: 20 December. Apply at https://purnamlabs.auroville.org/artists-way

Like this, there are several learning opportunities and courses. Have a look: https://purnamlabs.auroville.org

2. Befriending Time: A lab where all learn together to consciously harness the power of time, with the power of the works of Sri Aurobindo and The Mother, and using tools like Google Calendar and Asana. This lab is offered freely by Bindu, a fellow practitioner on the path, seeking to develop a harmonious relationship with time. Application Deadline: 18 December. Apply at https://purnamlabs.auroville.org/befriending-time

3. Playing Sports Daily, a support group to get back into the habit of playing sports daily, offered freely by Rishi, a devotee of the works of Sri Aurobindo, who deeply understands the power of sports in Self-Transformation, but lately, with the pressures of office etc., sports has taken a backseat in his life. He is offering this collective space to give a boost of inspiration and sacred accountability to anyone who wishes to play sports daily, and learn it’s deeper value, in light of The Mother’s words. Application Deadline: 18 December. Apply at https://purnamlabs.auroville.org/sports-daily

Warmth, Divyanshi For Purnam
As Julia Cameron puts it “Much of the work is really play, and the course takes little more than an hour a day.” For more details and to apply, visit: https://purnamlabs.auroville.org/artists-way

Apply at the earliest as it will be an intimate cohort of 12 at most. Applications close on 23rd December. For any queries, please contact Surya at surya.ravishankaran@gmail.com.

“There is an underlying, in-dwelling creative force infusing all of life – including ourselves. Creativity is God’s gift to us. Using our creativity is our gift back to God.” Julia Cameron, The Artist’s Way

NEW LANGUAGE COURSES!

**Italian Beginners:** we are going to start Friday 17th December 2021 at 4:00 pm

Course duration: 3 months

Days & Time: Wednesdays & Fridays, 04:00 pm – 05:00 pm

**Hindi Beginners:** starting date January 8th, 2022

Course duration: 3 months

Days & Time: Saturdays, from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

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

**Please Note:**

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

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**ALL: Schedule Of Classes as of 11.12.2021**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Day(s) of Classes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>English</strong></td>
<td>Complete Beginners!</td>
<td>To be determined!</td>
<td>Inquiries Welcome!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Beginner &amp; Pre-Intermediate</td>
<td>10.00am – 11.00am</td>
<td>Tuesday &amp; Thursday</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Beginner &amp; Pre-Intermediate, Group 2</td>
<td>10.00am – 11.00am</td>
<td>Wednesday &amp; Friday</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Intermediate</td>
<td>02.30pm – 03.30pm</td>
<td>Wednesday &amp; Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Intermediate/Advanced</td>
<td>New cycle in December!</td>
<td>Inquiries Welcome!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>French</strong></td>
<td>Beginner</td>
<td>To be determined!</td>
<td>Inquiries Welcome!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>German</strong></td>
<td>A1.1 Beginner Online</td>
<td>07.30am – 08.30am</td>
<td>Tuesday, Wednesday &amp; Thursday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hindi</strong></td>
<td>NEW to start, Beginner</td>
<td>10.00am – 12.00pm</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tamil</strong></td>
<td>Spoken Beginner</td>
<td>09.30am – 10.30am</td>
<td>Tuesday &amp; Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Written &amp; Spoken Beginners, To Start, Inquiries Welcome!</td>
<td>04.30pm – 05.30pm</td>
<td>Monday &amp; Thursday</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tamil for Children</td>
<td>04.15pm – 05.15pm</td>
<td>Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spanish</strong></td>
<td>Beginner</td>
<td>02.30pm – 03.30pm</td>
<td>Tuesday &amp; Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Intermediate</td>
<td>03.30pm – 05.00pm</td>
<td>Monday &amp; Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Conversation</td>
<td>02.00pm – 03.00pm</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Japanese</strong></td>
<td>Beginner</td>
<td>10.00am – 12pm</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Italian</strong></td>
<td>Beginner</td>
<td>04.00pm – 05.00pm</td>
<td>Wednesday &amp; Friday</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**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@aurovillelanguagelab.org
In spring, when all nature is a festival of beauty, Savitri takes birth. Returning from the transcendent planes she takes up her unfinished divine task. Once more the Mother-wisdom, which is constantly at work in Nature’s breast to make dumb Matter conscious of the divine, puts on a human shape. The land where Savitri is born and grows up is full of the greatest works of God and Man, a land of majestic mountains and wide plains beneath the sun, and where great influences and ancient Godheads surround the growing child.

A brooding world of reverie and trance, / Filled with the mightiest works of God and man, / Where Nature seemed a dream of the Divine / And beauty and grace and grandeur had their home, / Harboured the childhood of the incarnate Flame. (p.359)

Even the closest partners of her thoughts cannot match the measure of her soul. She is their leader and the queen of their hearts and souls, close to their lives and yet divine and far beyond their reach. Amongst these hearts, none can stand up as her equal and life-partner.

On an exceptionally beautiful spring morning, in a moment of revelation, Savitri’s father King Aswapati sees in his daughter the great spirit who has taken birth as his child. He is inspired to tell her that somewhere on the earth her unknown beloved is waiting for her – the second self her nature needs – and that her soul has enough strength and does not need any other guide than the One within her. He advises her to go, depart where love and destiny call her and venture into the world to find her mate. Her father’s words, forming THE CALL TO THE QUEST enter into Savitri like a mantra, and a seed of great change is sown in her. She leaves the palace and turns to the world and the vastnesses not yet her own.

At first, her mind is absorbed by the strangeness of new scenes, but as she travels further a deeper consciousness wells up within her which takes all classes and peoples for her own, until the whole destiny of mankind becomes hers. The cities and rivers and plains she passes through come to her like memories from the past. The wheels of her chariot are being guided by hooded divinities. She passes through the capitals of powerful city-states and slumbers in the palaces of kings, and she travels through free and griefless spaces not yet troubled by human joys and fears and experiencing the unspoiled childhood of the primeval earth. She halts in hermitages at night or rests in the open on the banks of rivers, in desert spaces or solitary tracts. Months pass, summer is approaching, but she has still not found the one predestined face which she is seeking.

Still unaccomplished was the fateful quest; / Still she found not the one predestined face

For which she sought amid the sons of men. (p. 385)

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.

**Friday 24 December
Our planet – Forests
2019 / 48 minutes / Jeff Wilson
This film is a visual treat that explores the beauty and majesty of forests on our wonderful planet. Forests have a way of finding their way back to restore many of our damaged ecosystems, rejuvenating the planet in ways we are only now learning about.

**Gau Seva at Sadhana Forest!
Join us on any day at 7am

Your heartful service is needed at the Sadhana Forest Gaushala! You are most welcome to join us on any day at 7am, and have a vegan breakfast at 8.45.

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 or call 8525038274.

Looking forward to welcoming you!

The Sadhana Forest team

Warmly, Shek

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
21:30 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:)

AUROFILM PRESENTS

At Multi Media Centre Auditorium
(MMC, Town Hall)

There will be no film Friday, 24 December (Christmas eve).

We just remind you this week end program:

- **Friday 17th, 7.30 pm** at MMC Town Hall: “KLAUS”, Spanish Animated film for General Audience! (English Version)
- **Saturday 18th, 5 – 7.30pm** at Aurofilm/Kalabhoomi, a Cine-Master Class by Prof. Sehdev Kumar on Elia Kazan’s film “ON THE WATERFRONT” with Marlon Brando, Rod Steiger and Eva Marie Saint.

“CINE-master class” Saturday, 18 DECEMBER
- **5.00 – 7.30 pm** at Aurofilm, Kalabhoomi (next to CRIPA)

If you like to discuss, share and learn more about films and Cinema, we invite you to our Cine-Master classes! Welcome to the 15th chapter with Prof. Sehdev Kumar presenting “ON THE WATERFRONT”. Directed by Elia Kazan, US, 1954 With: Marlon Brando, Rod Steiger and Eva Marie Saint.
Cinema Paradiso-Multimedia Center is in operation at 50% seating capacity as per the regulations. It is open to all. Mask is a must (no hats, no scarves etc.) as well as standard Covid19 protocols. Please come and enjoy the films. To organize a seminar/program please contact us via email.

Please note: though the regulations now allow us to operate in full capacity, being cautious with the new news of rising numbers, we are extending the half occupancy for now. We will keep you informed if those changes.

Indian – Monday 20 December, 7:30 pm
JAI BHIM
India, 2020, Writer-Dir T.J. Gnanavel w/Suriya, Lijo Mol Jose, Manikandan, and others, Crime-Drama, 164 mins, Tamil w/English subtitles, Rated:NR (R)
Based on real events this film tells the story of wrongful arrest of three men belonging to the Irula tribe for theft. One of them is Rajakannu. He and his pregnant wife worked as a daily labor in the field of an upper-caste person to catch rats and poisonous snakes. After he was called in to catch a snake from inside the household he was charged with theft. And all hell broke loose on his wife, his family, and him. Against an ace lawyer defending the police case, Chandru, a lawyer stands by them! Jai Bhim is a slogan popularized by followers of Bhimrao Ramji (BR) Ambedkar, an eminent scholar, a Dalit leader, and chaired the committee that drafted the Indian constitution. This is rather long but an amazing film. A must see!

Interesting – Wednesday 22 December, 7:30 pm
MOVE
USA-France, 2020, Dir. Unknown, Documentary, 114 mins, English w/English subtitles, Rated: NR
Discover the brilliant dancers and choreographers who are shaping the art of movement around the world. Jon Boogz and Lil Buck employ artistry and originality to take street dance to the next level, turning to popping and “jookin” to tell powerful stories. Israeli choreographer Ohad Naharin, creator of the Gaga movement technique, pushes the limits of what the body can do. This film is part of an amazing series. If you know about this film, especially who the director is, please let us know.

International – Saturday, 25 December, 7:30 pm
THE DUCHESS
UK-Italy-France, 2008, Dir. Saul Dibb w/ Keira Knightley, Ralph Fiennes, Dominic Cooper, and others, Biography-History, 110 mins, English-French w/English subtitles, Rated: PG13
Georgiana Spencer became Duchess of Devonshire on her marriage to the Duke in 1774, at the height of the Georgian period, a period of fashion, decadence, and political change. Spirited and adored by the public at large she quickly found her marriage to be a disappointment! She befriends Lady Bess but finds she is once again betrayed by her husband who wields his power with the three eventually living uncomfortably together. Against this background, and with the pressures of an unhappily married, strict social pressures and constant public scrutiny, Georgiana falls passionately in love with Charles Grey, a rising young Whig politician.

Children’s Matinee – Sunday, 26 December, 4:30 pm
PAW PATROL: THE MOVIE
USA, 2021, Dir: Cal Brunker, w/ Tyler Perry, Ron Pardo, Will Brisbin and others, Animation, English w/English subtitles, 86 mins, Rated: G
Ryder and the pups are called to Adventure City to stop Mayor Humdinger from turning the bustling metropolis into a state of chaos.

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. Pl donate to “Cinema Paradiso” (account #105106) or set up for a monthly contribution. We need it now more than ever.

Thanking You,
MMC/CP Group Account## 105106, mmcauditorium@auroville.org.in

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT NEWS & NOTES

Hard deadline for submissions or cancellations: Tuesday 3pm
The content of News & Notes is a reflection of the growth process of this community towards its ideals of harmony, good will, discipline and truth. Editing of submissions, mainly for reasons of space and clarity, is done according to an established policy.

How to submit material:
- Max size of the published poster is 9cm x 9cm independently of the size you sent. The bigger posters will be reduced.
- Please AVOID CAPS letters
- Material (no pdf files, please) may be sent in English only to newsandnotes@auroville.org.in.
- Articles for the Notes section should ideally be no longer than 500 words.
- Please do not send submissions and inquiries as a “Reply” to the digital subscription mail. There is no guarantee that anyone will see communications sent this way.
- Please try your best to send your announcements, reports, film schedules whenever they are ready. Any modifications of submitted News items must be sent to the editors before Tuesday 3pm.
- We regret not being able to attend to visitors on Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thurs AM due to work pressure.

Visiting hours: call or email for appointment.

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

News & Notes, Media Centre, Town Hall, 0413-262-213
Auroville made tremendous efforts to regenerate the environment in the area, a well-acclaimed effort, and to protect the local natural and human resources from further degradation and decline, finally promoting such recognized efforts and methods locally, state-wide, country-wide and worldwide. Contributions include: wildlife, afforestation with indigenous, at times very rare trees, soil preservation, water conservation, ground water recharge, sustainable agriculture, preservation of local culture, supporting villagers quality of life and well being.

Still calling for proactive action and progress, these efforts, benefiting the bioregion and its population, are recognized and supported nationally but also by worldwide government organizations through various programs and endorsements.

The present kind of actions and unconsidered planned development – brutal, violent, destructive – is not integrative and is putting Auroville’s ground reality, its gained experience and substantial benefits, in jeopardy – whatever the justification given. It is as well as a denial and weakening of the values and exemplary practices, knowledge, solutions and models Auroville has developed in response to harmful urban, industrial and rural activities, ultimately resulting in climate changes humanity and Nature are confronted with.

There is still a long way to go – true, before the City the Earth Needs is manifested – strong opposition of views still prevailing. And an even stronger impetus is necessary to prevent falling into inertia and decline. Nevertheless, enforcement is not inducing Human Unity and trust. What is already established, vivid, healthy and good today must be preserved and integrated to ensure a harmonious tomorrow.

I strongly recommend that in the present planning process the participation of residents is included, local adjustments to address specific issues are made and flexibility in the overall planning approach, in full accordance with Mother’s indications for Auroville, is shown. Experience has proven that such practice is addressing issues successfully and prevents conflicts.

With regard to the ongoing decisions one can observe that such practices are absent from these processes. Requests for a more inclusive approach, often based on practical experience, ground observation and solid scientific evidence, are systematically disregarded.

This is, in my understanding, in contradiction with the very aim of Auroville, ultimately impairing its manifestation.

Some tools and practices may help to sort out of this dead end.

Under the Environment Protection Act, 1986, India notified its first Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) norms in 1994, setting in place a legal framework for regulating activities that access, utilize, and affect natural resources. Every development project has been required to go through the EIA process for obtaining prior environmental clearance ever since. The social impacts of a project are defined as direct and indirect impacts that affect people and their communities during all stages of the project lifecycle. If they are not addressed, a project may create conflicts. To amicably solve such conflicts and to achieve a sustainable and inclusive development Social Impact Assessment (SIA) is an effective tool. The SIA with its components is an integral part of EIA studies.

To The Content
Environmental Impact Assessment and Social Impact Assessment are therefore not a choice but a necessity for Auroville’s development processes, prior to consolidating any planning, DDP, moreover implementation for any significant development such as the Crown, Outer Ring Road, Radials and large buildings in Auroville.

Consideration for social and environmental protection is not a luxury; it is a necessity (and a legal obligation) for the benefit of all, present and future.

Gilles Boulicot, Aurovilian, 12/12/2021

**APPENDIX 2**

**ACCESSIBLE AUROVILLE PUBLIC BUS**

### Auroville TO PONDICHERRY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Trip 1</th>
<th>Trip 2</th>
<th>Trip 3</th>
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<tr>
<td>Svaram</td>
<td>7:00</td>
<td>9:30</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>9:34</td>
<td>14:19</td>
<td>17:04</td>
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<td>9:36</td>
<td>14:21</td>
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<td>9:41</td>
<td>14:27</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>SBI Bank / Kuilapalayam</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Quiet Healing Center – Junction</td>
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<tr>
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**Pondicherry TO AUROVILLE**

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**Bus Charges**
- Monthly Rs.550 (Aurovilians & New comers)
- Rs.100 one way for Aurovilian & New comers
- Rs.150 one way for Guest

**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:**
- Mattram – 9487746051

**India Emergency Response Service (24/7)**
- 108