

News & Notes

9th April 2016.....A weekly bulletin for residents of Auroville.....Number 644



HOUSE OF MOTHER'S AGENDA

In modern civilisation, men work on the surface. The mind is the surface of the existence; they work on the surface and they try to find the Truth that is behind by studying more and more deeply. Whereas the true method is to enter into direct contact with the inner Truth, and impelled by that, to make an outer construction which is not a seeking for the Truth, but a creation of the Truth, that is to say, the Truth-force realises itself outwardly through the human instrument.

Men always make plans, mental constructions and attempt to create on that basis, but not one human creation is a total realisation of their mental construction. They always add something, or else it is always altered by a force they do not understand; they think it is chance, fortune, circumstances, all sorts of things, but it is in fact the Truth-force which is trying to manifest on earth and which is exerting a pressure and of course this changes the mental and vital creations which are only superficial ones. In the Bulletin there was a quotation from Sri Aurobindo on this subject. He said: first one must know, whereas men act and then try to know through their actions.

This statement was tape-recorded

**COLLECTED WORKS OF THE MOTHER, vol. XIV:
Words of the MOTHER, vol. II, p 346**

THE MOTHER

Quotation from Sri Aurobindo:

All this insistence upon action is absurd if one has not the light by which to act. "Yoga must include life and not exclude it" does not mean that we are bound to accept life as it is with all its stumbling ignorance and misery and the obscure confusion of human will and reason and impulse and instinct which it expresses. The advocates of action think that the human intellect and energy making an always new rush, everything can be put right; the present state of the world after a development of the intellect and a stupendous output of energy for which there is no historical parallel is a signal proof of the emptiness of the illusion under which they labour. Yoga takes the stand that it is only by a change of consciousness that the true basis of life can be discovered; from within outward is indeed the rule. But within does not mean some quarter inch behind the surface. One must go deep and find the soul, the self, the Divine Reality within us and only then can life become a true expression of what we can be instead of a blind and always repeated confused blur of the inadequate and imperfect thing we were. The choice is between remaining in the old jumble and groping about in the hope of stumbling on some discovery or standing back and seeking the Light within till we discover and can build the Godhead within and without us.

LETTERS ON YOGA, Cent. Vol. 22, pp. 151-52.

SRI AUROBINDO

The
Ponder
Corner

Message from Mother to the School:

"Sri Aurobindo does not belong to the past nor to history.

"Sri Aurobindo is the Future advancing towards its realization.

"Thus we must shelter the eternal youth required for a speedy advance, in order not to become laggards on the way."

Final Report of Outgoing Auroville Security Service

We started to take security in Auroville seriously in 2004 after the murder of one of our fellow Aurovilians. The Security Task Force (STF) was established to deal with matters related to the murder case, but also in maintaining a safe environment inside Auroville. In 2007 the STF was disbanded and the AV Security Service was formed with Ramesh, Shahar and Anandamayi heading the service.

Security on the roads, and as required in other occasional circumstances, is currently provided by experienced civilians and several Aurovilians. Matters occasionally requiring the involvement of the Indian Police were handled by Ramesh.V who did the necessary liaison work.

AV Security was composed of three Aurovilian Board members (Mr. Ramesh.V, Mr. Shahar and Ms. Anandamayi) along with WC and AVC representatives. The Board members acted and attended to all incidents and security related issues as required from the members. The field work was done by several Aurovilians, as well as the above mentioned experienced civilians. AV Security also worked closely with the Auroville Working Committee and Auroville Foundation Office on issues involving outside parties or the local police.

Security Guards: The Auroville Security Board hired the security personnel from G4s Company on a contract basis in 2004 till August 2011. During that time the G4s Company failed to fulfill the terms of their contract on numerous occasions. Several other Security Companies were tried out but with the same result. Since then AV Security Service has employed trained civilians. A team of 6 security guards were appointed in September 2011 and it has increased to a team of 18-20 personnel.

The main structure consists of several teams of security guards patrolling different areas of Auroville, 24 hours/day. They were coordinated by Ramesh.V and supervised by some paid personnel (Karuna).The guards were divided into 2 teams for day and night duty. They patrolled the roads, kept a watch on activities and visitors while providing assistance and security to those who were in need.

Asset development: When the Security Service was established in 2008, the only assets were 4 motorbikes and cell phones. Since then, a Security administration office has been established in Town Hall where all of the security records are maintained. All security issues were communicated to working groups as well as to the Security Board members through this office. The Security Board members held weekly meeting (Monday mornings) where they discuss security related issues. A monthly report was prepared and it was sent to the relevant working groups. One office secretary (R.Sakthivel) was available at the office from 9.30.am - 12.30.pm and 2.30.pm - 4.30.pm. He looked after the office work, accounts book keeping and often assisted with some police liaison work.

The Field Security Office is located in the Service Area where the personnel coordinated the overall security of Auroville. It was operating from 7.00.am to 10.00.pm. Ramesh.V was organising and coordinating the day and night guards from this office. Shiva was supervising the guards in the field. Since 2008, 2 motorbikes, 8 cycles and other equipment and tools were added to the Service.

Fire fighting: In the aftermath of cyclone Thane Auroville forests were strongly affected and there was a growing threat of forest fires. Two 6,000 liters water tankers, some fire extinguishers and various tools and equipment were purchased. They have been utilized in all the fire incidents that occurred in Auroville. The Auroville Security guards were trained to use the firefighting equipment and played a major role in putting out the fires.

Volunteers: In 2010 appeals were made to the larger community for volunteers to help patrol different areas of

Auroville and to escort people upon request. Initially there were over 60 volunteers, but within a year that figure had dwindled down to 2. A couple of years later another appeal was made but only 2 people responded.

Mobile Police Patrolling Unit: In 2013, a mobile Police patrolling unit was assigned specifically for the Auroville area and its presence on the roads and in nearby villages has significantly reduced the number of roadside incidents.

Meetings and Proposed Plans

Sub-Committee: From 2009 till 2013 a series of meetings were held with the offices of District Collector & the Superintendent of Police, Villupuram, along with the Auroville Foundation, Working Committee, L’Avenir, LRM and AV Security representatives to establish a Sub- Committee to help deal with law & order problems, and land related issues. There are several pending topics (see below).

Access into AV: At present there are over 34 different access points into Auroville. In 2009, 2012, 2013, AV Security requested a meeting with L’Avenir and they finally met in Sept 2013 to discuss this matter. A survey and map was made, plans of action made and priorities were set by L’Avenir but not much follow up has been done until to this day.

Pending Topics

Check posts:

Two more check posts have to be erected at the Certitude corner and Kottakarai.

Streetlights:

Additional solar streetlights have to be installed inside Auroville. There is a need to approach the local authorities to erect standard streetlights along the tar road between Kulapalayam and Edayanchavadi. Around 10 standard streetlights were installed on the tar road of Auro Orchard by the Thiruchitrambalam Panchayat.

CCTVs:

Installing speed dome or wireless CCTVs in key public areas (Certitude corner, Solar Kitchen, Dana area, Kottakarai area and Kulapalayam Tar road) to observe the movements of people in and out of AV and to help identify people/vehicles in case of accidents or other incidents. Since 2013, 6 CCTVs were installed at the Visitors Center by the management, 8 CCTVs were installed at the Town Hall by the management and 16 CCTVs were installed the Auroville Foundation Bhavan.

Fire Sub-Station: *In general, and especially after cyclone Thane in which the Auroville forests were strongly affected, there has been a growing threat of forest fires. The closest Fire Station is in JIPMER (8 kms away), Vanur (9 kms away) and Kalapet (12 kms away). Whenever fire incidents happen, the fire engines take a long time to reach the spot. Therefore a fire sub-station is required close to Auroville to protect Auroville forests from fire.*

Steel Overhead bars:

There has been an increase in heavy vehicle traffic; trucks and lorries that have been driving through Auroville as a shortcut to the by-pass (NH 66) and ECR. To control the heavy vehicles 2 steel overhead bars need to be installed, one in Chinnamudaliyarchavadi (the entrance road to Auroville) and the other at the junction of the NH66 (near the Toll Gate).

Police Outpost: *Over the years, several discussions have taken place on finding a suitable location for a Police Outpost.*

We would like to thank the community at large for their help and support over the years.

Ramesh V., Anandamayi Legrand & Shahar Yaari (Outgoing Auroville Security Board members - date: 04 April 2016)

Report from the Working Committee

1) Delayed report

We have been extremely busy with the preparation of the meetings of the Governing Board and International Advisory Council which took place in the beginning of March 2016. For that reason, our monthly report over the month of February could not be finished in time and we decided to publish instead a report over the months of February and March.

2) Meetings Governing Board and International Advisory Council

The Governing Board and International Advisory Council met with members of the Working Committee, TDC, Land Board, SLI, and FAMC. The members also had interaction with foresters and farmers at Pitchandikulam and with students of Future School, Last School and NESS.

The report of the International Advisory Council has meanwhile been published. The report of the Governing Board is still awaited.

The following topics were discussed:

- a) **New Secretary.** We have been informed that the HRD Ministry has decided on the appointment of a new Secretary to the Auroville Foundation. However, till date this appointment has not been effected. We hope that the appointment will take place soon.
- b) **Permission for the sale of lands.** The Working Committee presented two legal opinions on the need to obtain prior government permissions for the sale of outlying lands, in order to obtain the funds to purchase the lands inside the city and greenbelt areas. It appears that only HRD permission will be required.

- c) **Revision of the Rules of the Auroville Foundation.** The Working Committee has urged the Board to ensure that the HRD Ministry approves the revision of the Rules of the Auroville Foundation.
- d) **Land protection.** The Working Committee has asked the Board to set aside an adequate sum to cover legal expenditure for land protection.
- e) **Kottakarai area conflict.** The Board and Council were informed about the conflict in the Kottakarai area and the ongoing efforts to find a solution.
- f) **Restructuring the TDC.** The Board was informed about the new proposal of the Working Committee for the restructuring of the TDC. This proposal was discussed in a general meeting at the end of which the Working Committee, after hearing various views and objections, proposed a one-day retreat to further discuss the proposal. At the time of writing of this report, the retreat is in preparation.
- g) **Status New Town Development Authority for Auroville.** A discussion with authorities from the Government of Tamil Nadu is ongoing.
- h) **GOI grant 2015-2016.** The Ministry of HRD, Government of India, has effected cuts in the grants of all its affiliated organizations. The budget of the Auroville Foundation for the financial year 2015-2016 has been cut with Rs 2 crores, which means that the total grant of Rs 15 crores has been reduced to Rs 13 crores. The cut has been divided over the GOI grant beneficiaries. The final allocation over 2015-16 is as follows:

Projects	Actual Budget 2015-16			Received from AVF		
	Actual Capital	Actual General	Actual Total	Capital	General	Total
SAIIER	174.00	152.00	326.00	174.00000	150.50000	324.50000
Life Education Centre (LEC)	30.00		30.00	18.00000	0.00000	18.00000
Archives	40.00		40.00	60.68651	0.00000	60.68651
Bharat Nivas	194.00	61.00	255.00	88.60000	48.00000	136.60000
L'Avenir D' Auroville	320.00	90.00	560.00	330.09349	40.05973	370.15322
Habitat (added to L'Avenir)150	150.00		-	150.00000	0.00000	150.00000
Working Committee		15.00	15.00	0.62000	11.50000	12.12000
Land Board	20.00		20.00	20.00000	0.00000	20.00000
New Era Secondary School - NESS	20.00	15.00	35.00	20.00000	15.00000	35.00000
Network Centre	95.00		95.00	117.00000	0.00000	117.00000
AVES & Post office	40.00		40.00	40.00000	0.00000	40.00000
Ambulance	5.00		5.00	5.00000	0.00000	5.00000
Vision task Force					0.22500	0.22500
50th Anniversary					0.71527	0.71527
Auroville Planning Office	40.00		40.00	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000
Auroville Foundation		20.00	20.00	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000
	1,128.00	353.00	1,481.00	1024.00000	266.00000	1290.00000
				RECEIVED FROM AV FOUNDATION		1290.00000
				TO RECEIVE FROM AV FOUNDATION		0.00000
				AMOUNT FOR AV FOUNDATION		10.00000
				TOTAL GRANT for 2015-16		1300.00000

- i) **GOI grant 2016-2017.** The Working Committee has made a budget request for the GOI grant 2016-2017 for a total of Rs.26.50 Crores. This projection does not include any reservation for the preparation of the 50th anniversary celebrations. The budgets include all the ongoing activities like SAIER, Bharat Nivas and TDC and some new items as per emerging priorities in line with the outcome of the Retreat. The decision from the HRD Ministry is being awaited. Implementation of the budgets will depend upon the actual amount approved. Once we know sanction amounts, the budgets would appropriately be apportioned.
- j) **50th anniversary celebrations.** The Envisioning Committee appointed by the Governing Board has met with the 50th anniversary preparatory team and has requested the inclusion of a few essential programmes. On the basis of the final report of the preparatory team, the Envisioning Committee will make a proposal to Dr.Karan Singh after whose approval the proposal will be submitted for funding.
- k) **Administration of Government of India grants.** The Governing Board, in its previous meeting, had approved the *Procedure for Utilisation of Plan Grants*, which is based on its *Standing Order No. 7*. The Working Committee has scrutinised these documents and proposed a *Revised Standing Order* which it requested the Board to approve.
- l) **Internal audit and maintenance of accounts.** The Governing Board and the International Advisory Council had both made strong comments in the minutes of their October 2015 meetings on perceived 'lapses' in the maintenance of the accounts, and lack of transparency in the financial activities. These comments followed *The Internal Audit Note on Auroville Financial Management* prepared by the internal auditor of IPAI and an interaction between him with the Board and the Council. The Working Committee and the FAMC have expressed regrets that the Acting Secretary has not shared the Internal Audit Note either with the Working Committee or the FAMC, and expressed distress that the Board and Council have taken the observations of the Internal Audit Note at face value and have not asked the views of the Unity Fund executives, the FAMC and/or Working Committee before making censoring observations in their minutes. Subsequently, detailed comments were presented on the *Internal Audit Note* which shows that its observations lack substance. The FAMC's presented its observations and proposals on CAG audit and internal audit.
- m) **Regulations for Trusts and Units of the Auroville Foundation.** The Governing Board was informed about the changes effected by the Working Committee and FAMC in the Guidelines between Commercial Trust and Units of the Auroville Foundation, approved by the Board in its 45th Board Meeting. The Working Committee and the FAMC found it necessary to widen these Guidelines to be applicable to all trusts and units of the Auroville Foundation and change the name into *Regulations for Trust and Units of the Auroville Foundation*. These Regulations have been published in *mandates and policies* in the section *references* of the Auronet.
- n) **Auroville Foundation (Entry and Removal of Names of Persons in the Register of Residents) Regulations, 2013.** The Governing Board was reminded that these regulations (a.k.a. Entry and Exit Regulations) are still to be approved by the HRD Ministry as per section 32 of the Auroville Foundation Act. The Board was requested to ensure immediate approval of the Regulations.
- o) **Visa issues.** The Board and Council have been informed about the attempts of the Working Committee, helped by a few Aurovilians, to resolve the visa issues due to overstay or wrong actions of some Auroville residents, who have subsequently been blacklisted and thus prevented from returning to Auroville. Meanwhile Fabrice has been allowed to return, but we are still awaiting the return of Jean Yves and Mark Scott.
- p) **UNESCO resolution.** The Working Committee has suggested that for the occasion of the 50th anniversary of Auroville, the Government of India is requested to propose to the General Conference of UNESCO to pass a resolution on Auroville.
- 3) **Update about conflict between some members of Kottakarai village and Auroville.** The Working Committee continues to work towards a peaceful and respectful interaction with people of Kottakarai. A sub-group has been formed that now deals with this matter, consisting of members of the Working Committee, Land Board, AV security, Auroville Village Action Group (AVAG), as well as a few others. The sub-group is planning a meeting with the concerned individuals. Two Working Committee members visited the Collector of Villupuram District in response to a letter circulated to the Auroville Foundation dated 02.03.2016 (See previous report for details). She agreed to either chair or delegate a person to chair a peace meeting for which meanwhile representatives and village leaders have been contacted. Several individuals in Auroville and from the sub-group are continuing the dialogue and have reported back to the Working Committee. The aim and hope is for an imminent peaceful interaction, where the issues and concerns raised by the Kottakarai conflict can be addressed. The Working Committee takes this series of incidents as a feedback towards the importance of a continued cooperation with the bio-region.
- 4) **Guidelines for sharing data.** Jointly with the Data Management Group, a subgroup constituted by the Working Committee last year, guidelines for handling requests for data have been finalised. These guidelines have been published in the section *mandates and policies* under 'references' section of the Auronet. The Data Management Group consists of Vikram, Ulli, Jurgen, Lyle, Gumsoon, and Philippe and Angela on behalf of the Working Committee.
- 5) **Removal of the status of Persona Non Grata - Ms. Nahid Khan.** In 2012, the Working Committee issued the status of Person Non-Grata to Ms Nahid Khan, following allegations of deceitful behaviour towards several Guests and Aurovilians during her stay and volunteering in Joy Guest House. The Working Committee asked Koodam to facilitate a meeting with some of the concerned individuals where concerns have been addressed. The Working Committee announces the removal of Ms. Nahid Khans' status of *Persona Non Grata*, with immediate effect.
- 6) **Aspiration Sports Ground issue.** Jointly with the Auroville Council, the Working Committee has tried to resolve the long-standing conflict between neighbours and early morning badminton players of the Aspiration sports ground. The Working Committee and the Council have proposed a solution which included offering an alternative location for the early morning hours, but this has been turned down by the badminton players. Therefore the matter will be referred to arbitration.
- 7) **Reorganization of the Auroville Security.**
In March 2015 all three members of the Auroville Security Service, Anandamay, Ramesh and Shahar, submitted their resignation. Both Anandamay and Ramesh agreed to continue to serve till the process of redefining and restructuring the security system would be finalized. Upon receiving several proposals, the Working Committee jointly with the Auroville Council have worked on synthesizing them. The outcome is as follows:
- AV Security Service will be re-named AV Safety and Security Team (AVSST)
 - The AVSST will be composed of 3 segments: the Vision Team, the Coordination team and the Ground Force. 2 members of the Vision Team will be members of the Coordination Team as well, in order to bridge the gap between vision and ground reality.

- c) The AVSST has started to function with effect from 1st of April 2016 with the following Aurovilians, who have submitted proposals and also stepped up to be part of the new team: Carlos (Citadines), Peter Clarence-Smith (Gaia), Sam (Citadines) and Srijita (Matrimandir Nursery).

We take this opportunity to express our thanks and appreciation to Ramesh, Shahar and Anandamay for their dedicated work and commitment to the Security Service throughout these years.

- 8) **Information provided by RAS on town planning.** In the last few weeks, the community has received five emails dealing with various aspects of town planning. The RAS informed us that L'Avenir has taken the decision to approve the Detailed Development Plan through a 3 weeks feedback process and that the RAS felt it appropriate to inform the community in this way.

The Working Committee and Auroville Council, while appreciating the efforts of the RAS to properly inform the community, do not agree that the DDP is sought to be approved in this manner as the circulated emails are difficult to read and understand in all its implications. We have requested the RAS to start preparing a series of general meetings in which community members can discuss the various topics with the members of L'Avenir. Each meeting should deal with one topic only. The participation of all the TDC members, as well of those who are preparing for the retreat on town planning which is scheduled for the end of April in these general meetings is essential.

- 9) **Matrimandir Special Guest reception.** Jointly with the Matrimandir Access team, the Working Committee has formulated a working protocol between the MM Access Team, the WCom and the AVF for the reception of Special Guests to the Matrimandir. We have submitted it to the AVF for their feedback.

- 10) **Pending issues.** The Working Committee is also involved with the following pending issues:

- Water Harvest / Water Service complaints
- Non-Aurovilians occupying Auroville assets
- Drafting an appeal process (jointly with the AvC)
- Centralising Auroville's Accounting Services
- Windarra (jointly with the AvC)

The Working Committee [*Angela, Carel, Elisa, Hemant, Inge, Mandakini, Ranjithkumar*]

Farm Group Monthly Report for March

- AURO-ORCHARD LAND ENCROACHMENT; there have been two serious land encroachment events and a police report has been made. Another survey of the area was booked to take place within 20 days. This appears not to have been carried out. With the Land Board, the Farm Group are deciding on the next step.
- INDUSTRIAL ZONE ACCESS ROAD; the Farm Group decided that they would not enter into any discussion with TDC/L'Avenir about this proposed road until a proper community process has been established. This process should include all those directly affected by the road and representatives from the community at large and should be properly documented. There have been several communications with the TDC, requests for meetings at very short notice, but so far a process has not been set up.
- ALANKUPPAM LAND; for the second month the Farm Group has continued to follow up on this issue to find out how much land in this area is available for food production. The group continues to request this vital information from the relevant groups.
- FOOD DISTRIBUTION; the Farm Group discussed whether it should distribute only Auroville grown food or be open to distributing good quality organic food from elsewhere. This was linked to the specific issue of there being a demand for local grains which are in short supply. Annapura Farm and a few others

continue to grow some of these grains but it is financially high risk. Their market value is low and the cost of growing them high. It was agreed that for the time Foodlink grains will continue to source some of the grains from farms outside of Auroville which grow according to Auroville standards.

- MOONLIGHT FARM; the Farm Group agreed to allow one acre of this land to be used for a village waste processing project subject to certain conditions as agreed by the TDC. As these conditions have not been met a letter has been written to the TDC.
- SERVICE FARM; the Farm Group has decided that since, at the request of the FAMC, the land is no longer used for farming they will not continue to take responsibility for it. The Land Steward will write to the FAMC requesting they make an agreement with her direct as a caretaker of the land.
- SUSTENANCE FARM; a letter has been received from the FAMC about the ongoing situation at this farm. The Farm Group are deciding how best to respond.
- FARM GROUP MAINTENANCES; the Farm Group are starting a discussion with the BCC about how all farm/food growing activities in Auroville can be supported in the future. Including those projects that do not work according to Farm Group requirements.
- FOODLINK ORGANIC FOOD STANDARDS; the Farm Group considers it important to specify and adhere to certain organic growing and hygiene standards. It was agreed that issues about standards and the sourcing of food need to include members of the community as well as farmers. A trial with some dry products will be started in Foodlink from April and anyone interested in participating is requested to contact the Farm Group.

If you have feedback or would like more information please contact Vivek: farmgroup@auroville.org.in

Traffic Matters And Public Mobility For Auroville

Background of this study:

In August and September, the WCom tackled the topic of big buses entering Auroville and parking at the Matrimandir parking. It was decided to restrict access for big buses inside Auroville by diverting them to the Visitors' Centre parking. This, however, brought the question of how sustainable and collective provisions for internal mobility can be made. The WCom brought this topic of internal mobility and traffic matters to the AVCouncil which in turn created a task force to find practical solutions for public transportation for Auroville. The task force consisted of Veronique, Manohar from the AVCouncil and WCom respectively. They consulted with Aurovilians Chandresh, Paulette, Nicole, Peter, Isha, Sauro, Alain Grandcolas, Deoyani, L'Avenir, Susmita, Gillian C, Annemarie, Helmut and few others. Many ideas and challenges were brought to the table and discussed for over 3 months.

The key points that were studied in this process were:

- Moving from individual to collective transport
- Collective parking at entrance nodes
- Rental systems
- Check posts
- Traffic safety
- Development and maintenance of cycle paths

More detailed report is found in the Auronet on this link: <https://www.auroville.org.in/article/56790>

The AVCouncil

CIRHU takes a leap towards the future!

On Saturday 2nd April 2016, about 35 people met at the Unity Pavilion on the theme: "Vision in action" proposed by CIRHU, the Centre for International Research on Human Unity.

The meeting took place thanks to the demand of the International Zone Coordination Team for more information on activities and development of CIRHU.

Located near Matrimandir, CIRHU is an essential part of the International Zone educational campus, focusing on applied researches, higher learning and future oriented studies. CIRHU will be the bridge between the experience of Auroville and the world on human unity and universality.

A very interesting blend of "youth of all ages" participated in this lively and inspiring meeting. There was a feeling of a "momentum". The agenda included, but was not limited to:

- Report on acceleration of activities.
- Site and building application in the International Zone.
- Proposed CIRHU general meeting on 16th April 2016 Unity Pavilion
- 50th Auroville Anniversary
- CIRHU Board
- Communication and Fund raising.
- Study groups

First questions were about CIRHU identity itself and the answer were deep, broad and diverse, yet complementary.

Information was shared on ongoing activities: mainly students, volunteers, experts on social sciences, humanities, planning,

architecture, landscaping, engineering, water management, energy, environment, urban farming, design, communication and media, etc. Applications for internship are increasing exponentially.

Transversal networks are growing with Universities, Institutes of Research, Global Ecovillages Network (Gen) NGOs, UNESCO as well as with individual and associated group of researchers. The meeting agreed that now is the moment of **Connections**. Connection with Sri Aurobindo's Force but not in a dogmatic way. Connection with the consciousness within, with our brother and sisters, with all applied researches in Auroville inspired by the Dream in action. Connection with the seeds of the future around the word. And branching out, like in a Banyan.

The sparkling energy of the meeting gently transformed into concrete organized actions: study groups will meet this week on various themes.

There will be a second meeting this Saturday 9th April to continue the work-flow and organise the upcoming:

**CIRHU General Meeting, 16th April 2016, 3-5.30 pm,
Unity Pavilion.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

From the BCC about New Contribution Proposals in the Entry Policy under discussion

Dear Community,

In the new Entry Policy that is coming up for community consultation, there are proposals to change the current practice regarding contributions from Newcomers and Friends of Auroville.

Please note that the Budget Coordination Council (BCC), which is the working group in charge of maintenance and contributions policies, has not been consulted prior to proposing these changes to the community. While the proposal may have been in circulation since August 2015 -- prior to that or since, the process has not involved or consulted the BCC. Still, the fact remains that the proposed policies need to be studied and an agreement arrived at with BCC before this consultation can continue because they impact the Auroville budget and beyond.

There appears to be no logic in the way the contributions are being requested or suggested, making it a much better deal to be in certain status with likely far reaching consequences not only on a financial but more importantly on a social level. The rationale behind the proposed changes in the contribution structure and differences in treatment needs to be explained, and the socio-economic impact of what is proposed needs to be assessed. BCC had asked AVC if such assessment has been done - and have not received any assessment report or any definitive response.

We also found the proposed introduction of a contribution from resident relatives and spouses is very vague and Entry Service is therefore bound to find itself in difficulties over this lack of clarity.

In the light of these issues and the fact that BCC (and FAMC) has not been consulted for making ratification to the policy that has far reaching effect on Auroville's finances - BCC has requested Auroville Council on 25 March, 28 March and again on 1 April 2016 to postpone the community consultation on the new Entry Policy till the issues of financial implications that have been raised are cleared resulting in a document that makes sense for all of us. Auroville Council has so far refused to act on the request but we remain hopeful.

We request the community to be very alert and aware of this situation while participating and voting for such a process.

Thanking you for your understanding, Sincerely,
The Budget Coordination Council

Reply from the Auroville Council to the BCC about New Contributions Proposals

The Auroville Council replied twice to the same request by the BCC which can be read below by all concerned:

Mail 1:

Dear BCC members,

The Entry Policy document has been in discussion since last July and has gone through 2 feedback rounds. Feedback was invited from everyone, including the groups. We are currently in the middle of a Decision Making process for the same and certainly cannot stop the whole process at the very end. However, we believe that the policy, even if ratified, is an experiment, as all attempts should be in the Auroville spirit. In that light, amendments to the different sections of the policy based on practical experience as we go will be possible, and the amended policy will be reviewed after 12-18 months by the RA. The policy is published online for everyone's review. Please let us know if there are concerns from BCC and we will make a note of that during implementation.

Thank you for participation into helping Auroville move forward,
Sincerely,

Auroville Council

Mail 2:

Dear BCC members,

Regarding the contribution policy for Newcomers: The only change is the wording, from "must contribute" to "strongly encouraged to contribute".

Regarding the contribution policy for Friends: The change is that they are only encouraged to contribute during their stay in Auroville.

The reasoning behind these 2 changes were as follows: Nothing is compulsory in Auroville, least of all money related things. While we can strongly encourage all associated to Auroville to contribute to Auroville, we simply cannot make the monetary contribution mandatory for the very fact it goes against our vision of "money is not the sovereign lord". Contribution cannot and should not continue to be applied as a tax law.

While we agree with you that a deeper dialogue and reflection is necessary for the topic of contribution, it can happen not only between the BCC and AVC but also

involving the wider community. The AVCouncil intends to follow up on such a process to get a sense of needed change.

At this point, we see no reason to stop the entire Decision Making process because BCC does not agree with some of the proposed changes at the very end. As already stated in our last mail, the AVC considers all policies, ratified or not, as work in progress and hopes for collaboration to make it better during implementation. We sincerely hope to get out of the "set in stone" mindset when it comes to policies and mandates, which also allows to alleviate fear of change to a certain degree.

We once again thank you for your trust and collaboration,
Warmly, *AVCouncil*

AV Safety and Security Team

Dear community members,

Following our last announcement introducing the new AV Safety and Security Team (AVSST), the Working Committee and the Auroville Council wish to confirm and introduce the new team members with effect from 1st of April 2016: Carlos (Citadines), Peter Clarence-Smith (Gaya), Sam (Citadines) and Srijita (MM Nursery).

We again thank Ramesh, Shahar and Anandamayi for their long-term dedicated service and contribution to the Security Service.

PS: the emergency call numbers will remain the same (9443090107, 9443362691, 2623400)

Warmly,
The Auroville Council & the Working Committee

Feedback on the Entry Policy

Dear community members,

We are still receiving feedback from the community on the Entry Policy and we would like to thank you. The AV Council is hearing your concerns; however we are currently in the middle of a Decision Making process for the same policy. Nonetheless, we believe that this policy, even if ratified, is an experiment, as all attempts should be in the Auroville spirit. In this light, amendments to the different sections of the policy will be possible. We will either propose such amendments shortly after receiving the results of the voting process, or at that time when the amended policy will be reviewed by the RA, e.g. after 12-18 months.

Thanks again for your active participation into helping Auroville move forward together.
The Auroville Council

Haven't received your voting form yet?

Time to Decide on the New Entry Policy and FAMC Mandate

Last week the Residents' Assembly Service (RAS) started a Residents' Assembly Decision-making process (RAD) to approve or reject the new Entry Policy and the FAMC mandate. So far the response has been good and votes are pouring in.

If you're over 18 and would like to have your say on these decisions, but didn't receive a form, please contact the RAS today at: raservice@auroville.org.in and we'll send you one.

The final date for online submissions is 14th of April.

Sincerely yours,
The Residents' Assembly Service

L'avenir d'Auroville: 9th April 2016

The following Site and Building Applications (SA and BA) are announced for feedback from the community for a period of two weeks. The announcement is made for feedback only and does not mean that the project has final approval.

The final approval is given when L'avenir d'Auroville / TDC issues an NOC (No Objection Certificate). This happens only once the feedback period is over, the feedback has been evaluated, a final decision by TDC has been reached and the necessary financial formalities have been completed. It is only after issuing a final building permission that fencing, building or any other activity on the site can start. It has to be noted that site permission is given to reserve the site for a maximum period of two years in order to prepare a project proposal. It does not give any right to fence and clear the site unless, for practical reasons, there is a special permission of the TDC.

Individual Project

Site Application Feedback

1. Site application feedback for V. Suguna & Family for a house in Kottakarai Farm near existing house on Plot no IR 279/1 for a total build up area 85 sq.m.
2. Site application feedback for Miriam & Boobalan, Community - Habitat/Families, for total build up area 125X2 on Plot BO54/8A and BO 54/8B1 (behind Victory).
3. Site application feedback for Ranjithkumar, for a house in South of Visitors Center and the tar of Edyanchavadi and Kottakarai, in the North-west corner on plot no. IR231/1B.

Individual Project

Building Application Feedback

1. **Auroville Archives- Gilles/Thambidurai, Administrative area, 1st floor**

Project write-up given by the project holder:

Project Title: First floor of the new Archives Building

Proposed Site Location: on top of the new Archives Building (under construction)

Project Holders: Gilles Guigan & D. Thambidurai

Architect: Sonali Phadnis

Contact Persons: Sonali Phadnis, Gilles Guigan, D. Thambidurai

Description: Office space above the just completed RCC structure

Plot No: IR 403/3 (immediately to the east of SAIER building)

Total Area of the project: 500m²

Build up Area: 350m² office spaces + covered terraces on 3 sides

Target Group: One or several administrative services of Auroville

Background:

Triggers: Initially, the entire building was conceived to house Auroville's Archives.

Goals/Objectives: Provide office space to one or several administrative services of Auroville. Several administrative services have already expressed their need for additional space in the near future.

The first floor will be accessible from outside via the existing ramp of SAIER and a short bridge as well as by an external staircase (to be built). If necessary it will also be accessible via an internal staircase (in which case people accessing the first floor would have to go through the office of the Archives on the ground floor).

Spaces on the first floor of this building have not been allocated as yet. In due time the relevant authority of Auroville's administration will allocate spaces there.

TDC asks for feedback from the residents of Auroville within two weeks from the date of publication. If anyone wishes to have detailed information, feel free to contact TDC - L'avenir d'Auroville office: 2622-170 or come personally to the Building Application section.

FROM THE ENTRY SERVICE - N&N NO- 644 dated 09.04.2016

We would like to inform the community that our team is happy to recommend the following persons as Aurovilians and Newcomers. We will wait for two weeks (Newcomers and

Returning Aurovilians) and one month (Aurovilians), from the date of this publication, for your feedback, before confirming.

AUROVILIANS:

Sathiamuthu ARUNACHALAM (Indian from Alankuppam) - Staying at Solitude Farm, working as a helper plus helping the management at Solitude Farm.

Moiria Lisa HAYLLE DICK (South African) - Staying at Reve, working as a resource person for Auroville Council.

N.B. The announcements done in the News and Notes are FOR FEEDBACK ONLY and sometimes, after announcement, there can be either an extension of status or a decision to stop the process. We have added Confirmation Section below:

CONFIRMATION OF NEWCOMER STATUS:

Honor Ann CHANCE (Irish)

Frederic LATOUR (French)

Francisco CABALLERO (Spanish)

Durga Maya DAHAL (Nepali)

Juanah ANDRADE (Philippines)

Luise PAPE (German)

Patrick ROY HAYWOOD (USA)

CONFIRMATION OF NEWCOMER TO AUROVILIAN STATUS

AFTER ANNOUNCEMENT IN N&N AND CONSIDERATION OF FEEDBACK RECEIVED FROM RESIDENTS:

Robert L'HEUREUX (Canadian)

We will soon invite you to fill in the B-Form request for a meeting with the AV Foundation Secretary with the aim to add your name to the Register of Residents.

PEOPLE WHO HAVE LEFT AUROVILLE ON THEIR OWN:

Alexandre OUELLET (Canadian)

Sylvie HOUBRE (French)

In case the above person(s) wishes to come back to live and work in Auroville, (s)he will need to restart his/her newcomer process.

Dear Newcomers,

The Entry Service team would like to inform you of the timings designated specifically for you to collect or submit the Newcomer Kit. Please pass by our office in Town Hall during these hours only:

Monday & Wednesday at 2pm to 4pm.

Please return these Kits within one month or the process goes on hold.

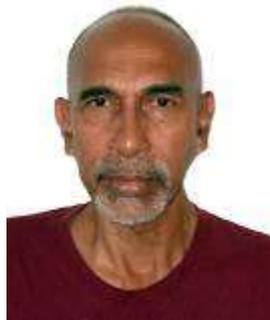
We are open for B-Forms and Recommendation letter matters, on appointment only.

For all other matters, the office is open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 10-12am, except for every last week of each month when we are closed to the public to do the internal office work.

The Entry Service team (B, Chitra, Christiane, Eva, Ishita, Matilde, Neeti)

O B I T U A R Y

RAUF



Very early in the morning of Friday, 1 April, our friend and brother Aurovilian Rauf Ali passed away in his house at Aurodam, surrounded by close friends and his sister-in-law, at the age of 61 due to severe physical weakening involving leukaemia.

Profiling himself as a “*maverick biologist*”, the tall and slightly stooping, Mumbai-born Rauf, obtained a doctorate in biology from Bristol, UK, did research at Harvard and the Smithsonian in the USA and was in India a well-known ecologist who advised top environmental organisations and universities. In the mid-eighties he came to Auroville to document its afforestation activities as a research assistant of Bangalore’s Indian Institute of Science, fell in love with the place and its philosophy, and decided to stay. He officially joined in 1992.

Throughout his years in Auroville, Rauf kept up with his advisory and academic work in India, also teaching in Auroville and Pondy schools. His in-depth knowledge of environmental matters and high

level connectedness with the Indian environmental & academic world proved to be helpful to Auroville’s green work. In the mid-nineties he served a term on the Working Committee, and has been helping a great number of Auroville-born youth through the years to obtain OCI status.

Many Aurovilians remember him through his ‘Roughspeak’, an irregularly occurring blog on Auroville’s Intranet, in which Rauf would not mince words when sharply criticising or ridiculing alleged mishaps, hypocrisies, policies or trends in the City of Dawn. His at times rather blunt ‘calling a spade a spade’ approach was a welcome treat for some while disturbing for others.

In the later years, Rauf worked for long stretches as a wildlife researcher associated with the [NGO FERAL](#) mainly in the Western Ghats and the Andaman & Nicobar Islands. (See a small interview at [goo.gl/o83qAW](#))

His exploring lifestyle, with frequent bouts of malaria and chronic asthma, has taken its toll. After visits to various hospitals in the last three weeks, he could not but accept that the body would not be able to withstand aggressive therapies, and was in peace with it. Extremely grateful to be able to spend his last days at home, with many Aurovilian friends lovingly taking care of him along with his close sister-in-law Tyaba, while receiving concerned calls from all over the world and with friends flying in from the Andamans and India, Rauf has now left us.

As per his specific wish, there was no viewing and the remains were cremated in Adventure in the afternoon of the very same day with hundreds of friends attending.

Farewell, Rauf. We’ll miss your lopsided grin and figure, and wish you courage, strength and love for this largest research of all.

OM-

Obituary for Rauf Ali

Today I received the shocking news that Rauf, far too young, has passed away. I have so many good memories of him.

He will live forth in my mind as not only as a friend but also as my mentor regarding the birds of Auroville. I had started out on my own to observe the birds but did very little with it, basically due to ignorance. When I met Rauf he taught me how to keep records and told me how to look. It culminated in a paper on the increase of the birds due to the re-afforestation efforts in Auroville. This paper was presented in 1983 at the

Congress of the Bombay Natural History Society in celebration of their centennial. It was Rauf who urged me to write and submit it. It was Rauf who taught me how to present it to an audience of 200 plus. It was attended by biologists from around the world and for them it was a hopeful sign that man can repair the damages done by them to the environment. Thanks to Rauf the tree planting work of Auroville became known to the world. There are lots more memories like the trips to Kaliveli or Lake Estate or bird netting or just having a good time in one of Pondy’s restaurants. It would fill a book and it is for someone else to write it.

Rauf I am envious, you are home now and I still have a few more years to go. But the memory of you will remain in my mind and I am grateful for the role you played in my life.

Pieter aka Big Pete (The Netherlands 03-04-2016)

My beloved friend

Yesterday (Thursday, March 31st), I spent the whole day thinking about Rauf. As if he was trying to tell me something. In the evening I got a call from my daughter Lia from Melbourne, Australia telling me he had left us. I was speechless, as if a jolt of electricity had passed through my body. I was very close to him and I miss him. Thank you Rauf for being there for me. Thank you for evenings at your place or at my place. Thank you for the balmy evenings hanging out at Palm Beach. Thank you for the trips to Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve. Thank you for our evening walks in the bush looking for tigers, leopards and other wildlife. Knowing you made my life richer. I miss you. Rest in Peace my brother, Rest in Peace brother Klaus, Rest in Peace brother Kenneth, Rest in Peace brother Lloyd, Rest in Peace sister Anne and brother Mark and all other who have left us over the years. You will never be forgotten.

Love and Peace, *Amando*

A tribute

Gilly and I would like to pay tribute to Rauf Ali, a much loved friend and a deeply committed Aurovillian. Getting to know Rauf and the friendship we formed with him has been one of the great privileges that Auroville has conferred on us. Our memories go back to many evenings spent under the tree which meant so much to him talking about Auroville and much else. He had an irresistible sense of humour which could be deceptive, often hiding his deep seriousness. For all his remarkable achievements as a naturalist he never took himself too seriously. For Gilly and me it was above all the love that he bestowed on us that brought us so close to him and which makes the fact that we will never hear that unique laughter again, so sad. We are comforted by the knowledge that right to the end he was surrounded by the love of Aurovilians for whom he was just quite simply such a special person.

Mark Tully and Gillian Wright

Rauf Ali - A Maverick Mentor with a twist!

In our lives we come across personalities who do not fit into any of our set definitions of relationships; be it a friend, a mentor, an acquaintance or any other for that matter; at times we even dislike them for some of their habits and their way of life & yet they fill up a space in your life, which is equally important, crucial as well as inspiring. Without their company life suddenly feels like a void, which can't be filled by any other; they are unique in their own ways, difficult to express! I have suddenly realized that with the passing of Rauf Ali, whose party I never attended; neither did I accept his casual invites for a drink, nor did I miss him in my daily life while he was around and approachable!

I don't even remember my first meeting with him, but have never forgotten our heated exchange on one of the community meeting sidelines, which ended up being our introduction to each other; This is when we started connecting in sort of a strange way, which I had no idea will be the beginning of a long cherished company. His occasional visits to my studio were never planned but whenever he felt like chatting up on some Auroville issues dear to some of us, it was something that I waited for deep in my heart. His visits were full of laughter, chai sessions very unlikely of Rauf & hindi galis adorning some real Auroville's typical characters & inside news! But over the last several years, we managed to communicate at a very intense level, as our love for Auroville to be a place close to what the Charter describes was equally intense, while he dealt with it through his Rough Speak in his own ways, I attempted some of it, expressed through my confrontational art

installations on Auroville policies and challenges! This is where we connected the most and that is what brought us together occasionally!

I seldom got a chance to delve into his immense knowledge of ecology, environment and all other fields he was a known expert of, but got chance to work a bit on it during my post tsunami study on people's perspective on development, in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands, of which he was a known expert and a frequent visitor. His guidance proved to us very valuable, giving insight into the community issues, environmental challenges that Andaman Islands face due to its special geographical and ecological characters. Each of our meetings were in the presence of some of our dear friends or some important visitors where we opened up and chatted on the million issues that Auroville faces and the possible solutions or approaches to deal with these challenges. I was always amazed by his persona that attracted so many youngsters to him and many of them whom he mentored unknowingly and spontaneously. Every time his name was mentioned to some of the experts we met in our professional life, I could see another dimension of his personality, which made him so special as a person and as the mysterious character that he was. Rauf has been an inspiring company throughout my two decades of knowing him; his presence for me is so real in Auroville in the smiles of many youngsters, in the tributes of some of his fellow travelers in the world of environmental research, where I am now discovering altogether a new Rauf, just as he decides to move on to his next journeys, so suddenly, so unexpectedly!

Rauf, I shouldn't have waited for your permission to come and spend my time with you this last time! This is now haunting me forever, as I wanted to start our scientific discussions with visiting experts and the topics we discussed on your last visit to Dustudio with Chamanlalji! I will not forget what we spoke of over that chai session in presence of Chamanlalji, where I had the pleasure of spending some of my time with two of you learned souls & your unusual amazing humour. Never had I thought I would long for another chai session with you; never thought that was to be my last session with you Rauf! I know you will hate me for this but I really wish you would now rest for a while, before you start shaking up the heavens! I proudly call you my friend now, Rauf, you will be missed forever, and I will miss your galis where we started! Auroville will never be so fortunate as to have another Rauf, as rough & as candid as you; You lived life on your terms, you moved on your way; your picture shared by a friend says it all!!

Dharmesh Vikramsinh Jadeja

Rauf Ali - Reflections and Reminiscences

According to Sri Aurobindo, a human being is a complex persona. Multiple elements, even individualities, exist within what appears a single human being with one name. Their interplay moulds the character and draws the boat of life in this or that direction. It also follows that some of us are more conscious of the relevance of our association with and presence in Auroville while some others are less conscious.

The fact that Rauf Ali came to Auroville in the mid-eighties to document forestation work on behalf of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore (as revealed by Mauna in her excellent write up), and thus begun the journey of his life long association with Auroville, could be inferred as the conscious choice of his higher mental being with the psychic being supporting it from behind the veil. Many years ago, Bindu wrote in her brief article on Rauf in Auroville Today that he was especially drawn to Sri Aurobindo's "The Synthesis of Yoga".

Having said this, several of his expressions, under the title of Roughspeak and his outright constant opposition of certain Aurovilians for many years, under the apparent reason of generating humour, were more an articulation of what I called at the start of this article: the nether, the obscure, unconscious or unwilling parts for the flowering and manifestation of Auroville. I repeat again that in each human

being there are hidden or nether parts which say No to Auroville.

At one point he felt that he could write things in such a way that make people laugh. So, he begun to pursue this line and started publishing episodes that made fun of people and things in Auroville. Some laughed. Others kept quiet. The crowning moment of this activity came on 1st April (in 1996 or 1997 or 1998) when Hero was the editor of Auroville News. Almost an entire issue of Auroville News of that date contained the parody, the mockery of various working groups in Auroville. It was extraordinary and outrageously witty. Reading it, I quietly laughed a good deal one quiet afternoon. In the next issue of the News, Savitra from the USA and I (from Fertile Windmill within Auroville) complimented Rauf. In his note, Savitra wrote: "Laughed out loud" and then quoted from Sri Aurobindo's 'Thoughts and Aphorisms': "God loves to play the fool in season; man does it in season & out of season. It is the only difference." (CWSA, V. 12, p. 446) - Savitra was alluding to the 1st April and saying that Rauf had made a good use of the date.

In my note of compliment, I compared his talent with that of Charlie Chaplin and then referred to the Mother's words about the quality of Charlie Chaplin's humor - probably in his early documentaries - which she termed as originating from "physico-vital" - and wondered if there could be humour originating from higher planes consciousness.

But that was (and that is) too much to expect. However, another point we must note here is that he, rather his psychic being, chose to leave the body on 1st April - the very date he had celebrated some 18 or 19 years ago in his own way by writing an entire issue of Auroville News, is almost mystifying. Perhaps Raul if making April Fool - hey, I died on 1st but well, that is just a joke. Nobody ever dies, they only change the rooms.

Also worth recalling are the Mother's words in answer to a question: "For Sri Aurobindo, "coincidences" do not exist. All that happens is the result of the action of the Divine Consciousness. The Force which is at work at this moment is a Force of harmony that makes for unity—the unification of all the symbols that express the Divine Truth." (5 May 1967

So, when we take out Roughspeak (in its broadest sense) from Rauf Ali, what comes out is something beautiful - ornithology (study of birds), environmental preservation, inventing and making available simple alternative technology to really needy people at Andaman and Nicobar. As Mauna tells us his details notes, "he had a doctorate in biology from Bristol, UK, and did research at Harvard and the Smithsonian in USA. In India he was a well-known ecologist who advised top environmental organisations and universities...."

Aryadeep (Abridged, Full article can be read on Auroville Intranet dt. 6.04.16 or write to aryadeep@auroville.org.in)

FOR YOUR INFORMATION



NETHERLANDS = Due to lack of any incoming news from the Centres these last weeks, the [Dutch March 2016 newsletter](#), colourful and informative as ever, had to wait for its announcement in this column. It can be found at: goo.gl/6j3uIS

FRANCE = AVI France continues with its late afternoon 'Café Auroville' sessions in Atelier Fil Rouge, Paris, with a special "Mirra, from Paris to Pondicherry" evening on Saturday, 16 April. The first part will focus on photos of Mother's time as 'researcher' and her meeting with Sri Aurobindo, followed by Laure Poinot's documentary 'Mirra, la Mère de Pondichery'. For further info, contact: aurovilleinternationalfr@gmail.com

RUSSIA = During their stay in Auroville in February this year, AVI members and Russian residents had a skype conference with Ruslan Bairanov, president of the 'Dialogue of Cultures - United World' foundation and the driving force behind the [Ethnomir project nearby Moscow](#), dedicated to the equality of cultures. Info on Ethnomir can be found at: goo.gl/EHHa29

A possible consequence of this contact may be a meeting in the summer of this year in Ethnomir of several AVI members with Mr Bairanov, who has connections with quite a number of Russian Aurovilians and appears to be interested in participating in Auroville's International Zone.

For all AVI matters, contact: vani@auroville.org.in. This column is maintained by: mauna@auroville.org.in

Management Training and Development

(Mt&D) PROGRAMME 2016 Call for applications

Since 1988, the "Management Training and Development (MT&D) Programme" has been offering training, research and educational opportunities through financial support given to Aurovilians who wish to attend a seminar, workshop, conference, short training course etc. provided the activity is related to their field of work for the community.

This year, with funding generously offered by the Foundation for World Education, Aurovilians are invited to submit their applications **latest by Friday, 29 April 2016**.

Participants will be selected on the basis of the following criteria:

- The programme is for Aurovilians.
- The activity proposed should be for educational, training or research purposes, and should relate to the work you do in Auroville.
- The activity is preferably a short training programme, conference, seminar or workshop.
- The activity takes place in India or while you are visiting another country.
- The MT&D Programme may pay for tuition, course, conference fees and/or reasonable in-country travel costs for getting to and from the activity. It will not pay for intercontinental travel expenses.
- An application form has to be completed and submitted to the Project Coordination Group.

Applications are evaluated on the basis of priority of skill acquired for Auroville, relevance to the work of the Aurovillian applicant, clarity and consistency of budget.

It is important to understand that all participants who receive funding are expected to fill in a reporting form once their programme is completed (describing the educational programme attended, the learning objectives and how they were or were not met; how this learning experience affected the participant's current activities in Auroville; along with a statement of income and expenditure). If you have received previous funding and have not filled in an evaluation form, please do so before applying for further funding.

You may ask for an electronic copy of the application form via e-mail at: pcg@auroville.org.in or download one from Auronet. Please remember that all applications are to be submitted as an attachment to: pcg@auroville.org.in on or before **FRIDAY, 29th April 2016**.

Auroorchard: chickens and eggs update...

During the year that just ended, we have invested a lot to repair and expand one of our chicken shed, and to make it compliant with the "AV egg" standard. The work is mostly completed now, and in the night from Saturday to Sunday, we received the day-old chicks of the next batch to be hosted there... More eggs to come in 5-6 months! *Christian*

Criteria for allocation of grants from the Housing Service

Amount single max. 2.5 lakhs / families max. 3.5 lakhs
Source of the grant: Fraternal contribution and income from houses left by their stewards and transferred again.

Criteria for receiving a grant from the HS (approved by the HB) Each request will be discussed and approved with the HB and is according to the funds available.

Criteria for requests: Aurovilians who have at least been registered for 4 years and working in a service since then, on a minimum maintenance. In case of a family with non Auroville

partners living with the applicant, these should not receive a salary for more than the basic City service maintenance and must be contributing towards the city service maintenance fund.

There is no other income from other sources.

Second generation Aurovilians with parents that have been working and fulfill the above criteria.

The need for a first time house or an extension when the family needs a bigger space because of children, and the plan has received an NOC from l'Avenir.

Regards, HS team

POSTINGS

Reminder: Rainbow Swan Gymnastics Studio

Invites interested children age 5 to 10 to attend the audition for the 2016 - 17 school year. Auditions will be held on Saturday, April 16th and Sunday, April 17th. Kindly register with: terra@auroville.org.in - providing your child's name and date of birth. The timings will be arranged individually. Terra

Shared transport for visiting Dr Acharya in Chennai

Dr Acharya and her son (dentist in Chennai) , are offering to organize one day a month to see up to 10 people on that day which would allow us to share a Tempo Traveler instead of using individual taxis . If you are interested contact Afsaneh (9159636318) if you are needing Dental care and want to participate in the plan - With Love, Afsaneh

Security Issues for Women in Auroville

Let's remember our responsibility to the village Ammas who come to work in Auroville. These women are subject to the same kinds of harassment on the roads as Aurovilian women. I have been told that many of them feel unsafe on the roads when they are asked to work late and the afternoon light is receding. Please remember to let your Ammas leave their work station no later than 4:30 pm and if you need to keep someone working late, kindly accompany them home or arrange a transport for them.

Let's keep all women, everywhere, in Auroville, safe.

Best wishes, Marti

Book given by mistake

Dear Tamil Aurovilians,
A Tamil novel called "VENGAIYIN MAINDAN" written by Akilan belongs to the Auroville Library. By mistake this book was given to the Free store then you may have taken it. I apologize for the mishap. Kindly return it either to the Free store or the library or just inform me, I would make sure that I collect it from you and return it our library. Please contact me immediately: 7639655833 or ananditrans@auroville.org.in - Thanks a lot, love, Anandi

Gecko! Sale in the Auroville Boutique and the Factory Outlet!

We are clearing our complete stock at the Auroville Boutique in the Visitor Center and our Factory Outlet in Aurosarjan Complex, Auroshilpam. **20% off everything** (except dirt shirts)! Bamboo, linen and cotton clothing for women, men and children available! As long as our stock lasts! Questions? Please call 0413-2622069.

Soul Slings Babywearing Meeting

Sat 9th April 4-6 pm at Pavilion of Tibetan Culture.

We invite any parents interested in carrying their babies and toddlers to join us for this meeting attended by Bangalore based company Soul Slings. You can try and experience their

range of products including ring slings, Soul Tais (hybrid wrap strap mei tais), woven wraps and full buckle (standard & toddler sizes) carriers as well as learning how to do so safely and ergonomically.

Refreshments will be provided so please confirm your attendance to: laura.o@auroville.org.in. Laura

Have a cool experience at the Quiet Healing Center!

Now that the guest season is slowly fading out, Quiet's pool is available again for Aurovilians and Newcomers to enjoy a Watsu treatment. Several practitioners are ready to give you a cool (and cooling) water session before the pool is closed for annual maintenance in June. Never tried? This is the time to check it out! Done and keen to have another one of those delightful and deeply relaxing experiences for body, mind and soul? Don't hesitate to contact the Quiet reception at: 2622646 (landline) or 9488084966 (mobile). We'll be glad to help you out!

Invitation to participate in the Auroville EastEurope Group

We would like to inform you that the Auroville EastEurope Group has formed, and it welcomes members. The aim of this group is to support the emergence of the East European Genius, to activate the area of East Europe in the International Zone, and to contribute towards human unity and peace through its work. We call all those who feel connected to the soul of East Europe to contact us, and participate in our work.

Our email address is: easteurope@auroville.org.in

Thank You for your support! Bogi, Nadia, Tatiana, On behalf of the Auroville East Europe

Auroville bakery closed for Tamil New Year

Auroville bakery and cafe will be closed on Thursday (14.04.2016). Please pick your Thursday order on Wednesday (13.04.2016). Happy Tamil New Year! -Auroville Bakery Team.

Big summer sale

The heat is up and our prices are down! On all our collection of baskets (big, small, with handles, without handles, laundry basket, dustbin basket), coasters, elephants, Indian figures, earrings, hairclips, necklaces...and more!

All in big variety of colors and shapes! Come and join the fun.

WHEN -- 15th, 16th, 20th & 21st April

TIME -- From 9.30 am to 4.30 pm

WHERE -Well Paper: we are just next door to the new AvDesign, between Bamboo Center and Kottakarai village.

OUR NEW PHONE NUMBER 9626055586

Waiting for you, The Well Paper team

AVAILABLE

No more power cuts!

U.P.S. = Uninterrupted Power Supply via all kind of rechargeable tubular batteries and Solar U.P.S./ Solar Panels. Also purchase of old batteries. Decades of experience. Installation and maintenance, also on Sundays, by Aurovillian Govindaraja / Sangamam Community. Cell ph.: 94 433 - 72 418 + 95 858 - 35 489. Thank you! *Amarnath*

An amma

Dhanalakshmi is looking for work 3 days a week. She is at present working three whole days in my house. She is young and needs a little training. Anybody looking for help with household work and who would like to hire her may contact *Srimoyi*: 9626915199 or 2622307.

Pots

I have some steel pots to sell. If you are interested please call *Luca* at: 0413 2623177 or 9443385563

Pure organic coconut oil

From Av Gokulam Farm -excellent for cooking, hair and skin care, massage etc...Contact *Anand*: 986 562 3504

Sweet offer

We have 2nd quality organic jaggery available. It has been processed of sugarcane grown in our farm. It can be used for EM preparations, construction, paintings and animal food etc. Discount 50%!!! Door delivery possible. *Lake-Farm-Siddhartha Herbert*: 900 37 38 560 / siddhafarm@yahoo.co.in

LOOKING FOR ...

Celebrating Shakespeare's 400th Anniversary

The Auroville Theatre Group is planning to celebrate Shakespeare's 400th Anniversary on Saturday, April 23rd by revisiting scenes and monologues from the 5 plays that have been performed in Auroville: *The Tempest*, *Hamlet*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *Twelfth Night* and *Romeo and Juliet*.

Any Actors from these plays who would like to participate - if I have not contacted you yet - please get in touch with me !

Accompanying these moments there will be music and dance which were originally created for the plays. We also would like to share some of what Sri Aurobindo has said about Shakespeare in his writings, in particular from *The Future Poetry* and Letters to sadhaks.

In addition, if anyone has a favorite monologue from any of Shakespeare's plays that they would like to present to the audience, please contact me. It would be a great chance for you to honor the Bard and share in the celebration!

Much Love,

Jill (9486416173 - theaurovilletheatregroup@gmail.com)

A DC table fan

Maybe you have one somewhere lying around in some corner? If so please contact: 9943368410 - *Krishna*.

Are you going abroad this summer?

Are you looking for something special for you, family and friends? Bring with you stunning beauty bath bars ,beauty bath muffins, probiotics ceramic, and more, **all natural**, handmade, homemade and artisan made. MGEcoduties open house every Thursday from 3 to 6 pm. We are located in Creativity. Contact us on: 2623239 or mgecoduties@auroville.org.in - For large orders, please let us know your thoughts. *Your Soap Chefs, Guidelma and Margarita - MGECODUTIES*

Wasabi and Nori From the Joy Team

Wasabi and Nori from Japan are available. Call 944 23 28 120 :)

Office space for rent

Completely newly renovated office space (40 square mtrs) very quiet and green surrounding for rent at Auromode with following facilities: 24 hours Security service, 24 hours Generator back-up, Aquadyne drinking water, Car & Bike parking. Call 0413-2622193-161 Mobile: 99433 90391

A dome to own ...

At the Unity Pavilion compound, a charming 50 sqm event dome will be available from April 15th onwards, to be used by individuals and small groups (up to15+) as a free space, good for various activities like yoga, meditation, chanting, sharings, dance, music (unplugged), any kind of circle work. Best timings are from 7 to 10am and from 4 to 9pm, for more details call 948 848 3348 - after April 15th, also 2623576 (U.P.). Best come and see! *Peter A.*

Bottle Tops and Tea Light Candle Holders

Well Paper needs all your soft metal bottle tops. We need all the not smashed soft metal bottle tops from you syrup bottles or any from your wine and liquor - Any color is fine. Once you finish your candle light dinner we need the small soft flat metal candle containers. Please bring them to Well Paper or call if you have any: 9626055586 - Thanks, *Well team*

Big Monkey Toy

Cuddly and warming. Long arms (it could skip with them;-)). Sweet and still remembered. It had been given to Ursula (Samasti) from us and after her passing it must have moved... We are sure it is somewhere - this precious gift which means so much to us. Please do inform us in case it lives with you... *Ulrike andn Drupad*: 9442069249, essence.touch@yahoo.de=

Swedish "personnummer"

Looking for a valid Swedish "personnummer" to unlock an iPhone sim-locked to Tele2 Sweden. Contact *Symeon*: 994 39 05 119.

LOST & FOUND

Leather Shoes (Lost): On Tuesday 5th April, someone walked away after lunch in the Solar Kitchen with my shoes. Size 45, leather, not so new anymore. But I would like them back, please ! call 0413 290 96 19 or toby@auroville.org.in Thank you ! *Toby, Aurogreen*

THANK YOU

Gesture of Gratitude

For all those who performed and participated in the Mimodrama SILENCE IS ALL at Savitri Bhavan on the 4th of April, 2016 - the 106th anniversary of Sri Aurobindo's arrival in Pondicherry; A Big Thankyou

I would like to thank The Om Choir Team including Joy, Hemant S., Aravinda, Carla, Jasmin, Walter, Margrit, Johannes, Mayank and Usha who provided the background harmony for the Mimodrama. Arati, Eva, Praveena, Arav, Vignesh, Pallavi, Gayatri and Aliya from the Peace class of Deepanam School for bringing such a Sweet Silence to the Mime Act. I also thank their teacher Priti who was nothing less than a Stage Manager of this performance. I also would like to thank The Savitri Bhavan Team for providing us the space and the required technical support in order to make this offering.

Thank You - With Gratitude. *Drupad*

APPEAL

Donation for a bow

Dear Friends,

My son Arunachalam has taken up Archery lessons since 6 months and is very interested to continue as it is helping him in many ways. We need to buy him a bow which is required for him to continue more seriously and this would cost Rs.15, 000 (fifteen thousand).

We would greatly appreciate support from the community for being able to buy one. **Our ac. no.:2774**

Thank you for all support,

Arunachalam & Raji

ACCOMMODATIONS AVAILABLE AND NEEDED

House sitting

Housing Service has some high standard house-sitting available for Aurovilians. The maintenance contribution requested is in the higher price range. Most suitable for families who are renovating or building a house and who are in need of a temporary housing solution. The house sitting contract offered is for one year. Thank you, *Robert for Housing Service*

House sitter

A house in the Center of Auroville from 4th of May till 20th of July. Care for garden and 3 dogs needed.

Phone or sms: 9626886029 - *Sonja, Umberto*

TAXI SHARING

April 11th: Arriving at Chennai international airport at 3 pm from Colombo with Sri Lankan airlines. Contact: sophie@auroville.org.in or *Raju* at Aurocabs. Thanks

April 12th: Leaving Auroville around 4 pm on 12th April, Tuesday. There could be some time flexibility while starting from Auroville (before 4 pm). Sharing is possible both ways. Taxi would be available from 8 pm onwards at airport for return travel. Thanks - *Lalit*, 94437-90172, lalit@auroville.org.in

April 13th: I have a plane at 3:15 on the 13th of April from Chennai Airport, and wish to share a taxi with someone from Auroville. Am flexible with time as long as it's not too early on the 12th. Send me an e-mail at: godetommy@yahoo.no and I'll call you back as soon as possible. *Tommy*

April 14th: Taxi will leave Auroville on 14.4.16 at 7.30 pm to catch Lufthansa flight (airport drop) with one person and very little luggage. The taxi can be shared both ways. Please contact *Tine*: tine@auroville.org.in ph 0413 290 96 19 & 984398 4181. Thank you.

April 15th: Leaving from Chennai Airport to Auroville on 15 April around 6 pm. Call me or send a text: 9927950335, *Stella*

April 16th: Leaving airport at 10 pm on 16th, Saturday. Sharing is possible both ways. Flexible timings possible for travel from

Auroville to Chennai. Thanks *Lalit*: 94437-90172, lalit@auroville.org.in

April 16th: Saturday leaving From Swayam Yuva community at 5.30 pm to Chennai airport. Share both way, call *Devayani* 9943179614

April 17th: I am coming back from Chennai to Auroville on 17 April from 7 am onwards....I am able to go anytime from 7 am on 17th April.... I will be coming back from Vipasana meditation centre so my phone will be switched on until 17 April after 7 am. My phone: 97-51-247092 / whazzap: 0041-766-41-35-42 / Email: fatso@smileylemon.ch. Thanks! *Bogdan "Smiley Lemon"*

April 17th: To Chennai Airport, I will leave Auroville on Sunday 17th at 22:00 (10 pm). If you want to share the taxi (both ways possible), please contact *Kati*, phone: 8489265342 or email: kati.hoetger@web.de

April 19th: To Chennai airport leaving auroville at 11 pm and returning empty. Please send me an email if you are interested: ynotsnevets@hotmail.com. Thanks, *Toby*

April 20th: Leaving from auroville to Chennai airport on Wed, 20 Apr 2016, at 4 am. If someone is interested, let me know. *Sunja*: 9787628294 / sunja.fr@gmail.com

WORK OPPORTUNITIES

Summer Job

The Certitude Kids Corner has been running well with the support of many well-wishers. As Nadia, who has been organising this service, will be away for a few months, a

Chinese couple, Bruce, Paty and their two boys, Hank and Ude, help till end of April.

We hope for a youngster, who would like to have a summer-job for about 30 hours a month for May and June. The pocket-money will be discussed. If you are interested pl call *Nadia* (m): 9489035457 or *Frederick*(m) 9486475457

Administrative assistant needed

SHARAN with an office in Aurelec is looking for someone for our administrative work. This requires a high level of English,

ability to communicate on the phone, precise filing and data entry abilities. It is a full time desk job. Please apply by email - write with full details and CV to: nandita@sharan-india.org

HEALTH

Health Centre closed on 15th and 16th April

Dear Community, The staff of the Health Centre and Pharmacy will be having their Annual tour from 15-17 April 2016. The Health Centre will thus be **completely closed on Friday the 15th and Saturday the 16th of April**. Special tests to be sent to Thyrocare will be done on Thursday the 14th of April - Please inform all your workers too. AVHC

Santé clinic will be closed on Thursday, 14th April

FOR TAMIL NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS. We will resume normal working hours on Friday, 15th April 2016. *Wishing Everyone A Wonderful Happy New Year!!*

AUROVILLE RADIO



These are the latest programs published by AurovilleRadio this week. All the recordings are available in CD or ready to be copied on your memory stick at the AurovilleRadio premises in Town Hall, opposite the Financial Service.

Selections par Gangalakshmi-80 (The Path 05/04/2016)

Cette semaine; les Entretiens de Mere, 1956-57; -[French, 28 Minutes]

Savitri, B. II, C. III, Part 2 (Sri Aurobindo 04/04/2016)

In his vision, the king experiences life's untarnished glories in worlds lifted halfway to heaven. -[English, 20 Minutes]

Silence is All, TLC (News from Auroville 04/04/2016)

Today at 7.30 pm special performance at Savitri Bhavan - Silence is All , Sri Aurobindo's poem performed in mime. - [English, 10 Minutes]

The Great Event (Music 03/04/2016)

The Ashram Music Group shared musical offering - The Great Event for celebration of the descent of the Supermind. - [English, 62 Minutes]

Interview Eco Service 25 03 2016 (Ecology Awareness 02/04/2016)

Eco Service reminds us of the dos and don'ts of waste segregation! -[English, 20 Minutes]

Off the Cuff-65 (Performing Arts 01/04/2016)

You can listen to all of the programs and more on www.aurovillerradio.org - For more info call 0413-2623331 or email radio@auroville.org.in

Renu and Wazo report on the massive change that took place today in Auroville -[English, 9 Minutes]

Unvironments 5: Breath (Music 01/04/2016)

A new meditation landscape by The Unstitute 'Unvironments 5: Breath' -[Music, 30 Minutes]

Voting Time, Mime, Music (News from Auroville 31/03/2016)

On Saturday 2nd kids book launch, Mime acts starts at VC, at SAWCHU at 8pm The Great Event by ashramites -[English, 11 Minutes]

All For Water For All (Water 30/03/2016)

All For Water For All (Water Festival 2016) -[English, 66 Minutes]

Joel- On Live blood analysis (Healing 30/03/2016)

Joel brings Dark Field Microscopy for live blood analysis to Auroville, discovers the prevalence of Borrelia and more - [English, 32 Minutes]

Interview Nuria music conductor (Music 30/03/2016)

Nuria music conductor -[English, 16 Minutes]

Selections par Gangalakshmi-78 (The Path 30/03/2016)

Cette semaine; Les Entretiens de Mere 1957-58; -[French, 24 Minutes]

SPORTS

Ten Kilometers Barefoot Run In The Auroville Forests - 17/04/2016

Running barefoot offers a feeling of freedom and communion with Nature. On the forest trails of Auroville, runners experience an even stronger, blissful feeling. Maybe the energy contained in the earth of Auroville, "the City the earth needs"?

We are thus organising a 10 km barefoot run on Sunday, 17th of April at 5 pm.

The run will start and finish at Certitude and will take you along many small soft paths of the Auroville forests, mostly avoiding tarmac and rough patches. It is a running race where you race with yourself and there is no medal, just the joy of running! We are working on a T-shirt.

LFAU (Land For Auroville United) is linking sponsors with runners, so let us know if you would like to run for the land of Auroville and raise money for this great goal. Check their announcement in the same edition of the News and Notes.

This is a barefoot run. The new thinking today is that running barefoot is more natural and better than running with shoes. However, be aware that barefoot running uses different muscles from regular running with shoes & that you should

transition slowly. Participate only if you have practiced barefoot a few times already and felt comfortable.

Register through this online form: <http://goo.gl/forms/t7EITePr7g> or contact us through email (ericav@, fgautier@, frederick@auroville.org.in). You will receive an email confirming your registration. The race is open to anybody above 10 years old, Aurovilians, Ashramites, friends from Pondy, Chennai and elsewhere. There is no registration fee.

Eric, François, Sukrit, Aurosylle, Frederick

Run for a cause... green and beautiful Auroville



In many of the Marathons around the world, the joy of running is interwoven with the joy of gifting. The Marathon organisers choose a social, educational, cultural, environmental cause and ask the runners to appeal to their friends & relatives if they would like to donate - voluntarily and joyfully - a specific amount for each kilometer that they

15

run. This is a fun-way of fundraising for a cause. This idea and concept now comes to Auroville, starting with the 10 km Barefoot Running through Auroville Forest on Sun 17th April, 05.00 p.m. The organisers of the Barefoot Run have collaborated with GreenAcres to fundraise for the purchase of priority plots in Auroville Green Belt.

How you can participate:

- 1) Once you register with barefoot runners, inform your friends and family and tell them that they could serve the cause of the green and beautiful Auroville by donating specific amount towards the purchase of priority plots for each kilometer you run. (It could be very humble amount, say, ₹25 for each km you run, with no upper limit. *(One can of course run without anyone committing to contribute to the cause. Also there can be more than one contributor for a single runner.)*)
- 2) Send an email to LFAU (lfau@auroville.org.in) and any of the Barefoot Run team member (frederick@auroville.org.in, fgautier@auroville.org.in eric.courage@gmail.com) informing the names of the

friends who have committed to donate for each kilometer you run, the amount pledged per kilometer and their email IDs.

- 3) After you have finished running, you and your friends will receive a congratulatory email informing the kilometers you have run and the account number in which they can transfer their joyful contributions.
- 4) Once this is done, you and your friends will finally receive an email of thanks and an electronic gift as well as periodic updates from LFAU and its two campaigns, - GreenAcres (for Green Belt) and Acres for Auroville (for Urban area).

Happy running! Bonne course! Je suis heureux de vous aider!
 Aryadeep, Sigrid, Jasmin, Mandakini for LFAU
 PS: Those who would like to sponsor a runner but do not know who to sponsor, kindly get in touch with Frederick at frederick@auroville.org.in or lfau@auroville.org.in
 [Photo Credit - Tim Wrey of Prisma who approached us with this idea and prepared a detailed write up on it.]

T R A V E L

Latest News from the Travel Shop - Inside India located in Auroshilpam

We are open from 09:00 to 13:00 and from 13:30 to 17:00
 The new flight offers valid from April onwards have been published; please contact our counter staff for your travel.
 Number of seats under these discounted fares for the return flights in June / July are very limited.
 Note - Most of the airlines' offers are valid for purchase before 31st march
 Insurance: We strongly recommend availing of a Travel Insurance for all foreign travels.
 Hotel- International and Domestic hotels can be booked through us at discounted rates.
 International Flight Tickets / International Hotel booking, flight date changes - 0413 - 2622078, travelshop@auroville.org.in, Domestic Flight Tickets / Trains / Bus / Travel Insurance - 0413 - 2622604 / 2623030, domestic@inside-india.com, doulat@inside-india.com / Tours and Domestic Hotel booking - 0413 - 2622047, insideindia@auroville.org.in

E A T I N G O U T

Garden café and Naturellement Closed on Friday the 22nd of April

On the occasion of Earth Day, our company day, Naturellement unit and Restaurant "Garden Café" will be closed. Our full team will be involved in cleaning up and collecting plastic in the surrounding areas. You are most welcome to join us! *Naturellement team*

G R E E N M A T T E R S



Sunday 10 April, 3pm: Sadhana Forest

The volunteer-based community, committed to reforestation and sustainable living in all aspects, hardly needs introduction, but their website www.sadhanaforest.org is always worth a visit. You are invited to a lively afternoon with an introduction to Sadhana Forest, a tour and an early, all-vegan supper. Thank you Sadhana for providing a bus for easy transport. Please bring sun protection and drinking water.

How to get there: The bus will leave at 3 pm from Solar Kitchen and return from Sadhana Forest after supper. Alternatively one can get there by two-wheeler (cycling, preferably in groups, is popular at Sadhana and will take ca. 30-40 minutes from Solar Kitchen, across the Tindivanam Highway). A google map is given on the website. Phone nos: 0413-267-7682, 0413-267-7683, or 0413-290-2655.

Sunday 17 April: Buddha Garden, 8.30 am with Priya
 Details and directions in the next News & Notes.

Enjoy the season's last few green Sundays walks, ending on 24th April!

Fresh Abundance from Auroville's Farms!

As seen on FoodLink's shelves this week:

- Vegetables: Tomatoes, pumpkin, fingers, gourd, cucumber, spinach, greens, various beans...
- Herbs: Mint, coriander, chives
- Fruit: Papaya, banana, chickoo, lemons and more
- Coconuts - tender and mature
- From the Nilgiris: Carrots, zucchini, broccoli, potatoes, chowchow



Please bring your own containers for farm-fresh milk - help avoiding plastic!

From farm to community: Foodlink (behind PTDC and Free Store), daily open 9.40 am - 3 pm.

Notes

Kalpana - it's not too late!

Apart from a small number of people in Auroville, it looks like the vast majority of our community is clearly unhappy - to varying degrees, from uncomfortable to deeply disturbed - by the Kalpana project which has recently been bullied through despite all protests.

There is unease with the commercial attitude perceived behind the concept and design of the planned complex, which is felt to be starkly out of tune with the modest, 'simply rich' life-style proposed for living in Auroville, and even more out of step with the urgent need for affordable housing for hundreds of community members.

There is unhappiness with the location of this project, in the very heart of the city, where a beautiful park, a precious oasis of green shade, has been razed to the ground to make place for a development perceived as incongruous and incapable of expressing Auroville values and aesthetics - a colony for wealthy people.

There is perplexity about many of the human interactions that have occurred along the protracted and exhausting struggle to prevent the project from becoming reality. And there is even more shock when it becomes known that construction activities were started behind that green curtain *before* an NOC was obtained, that the TDC's conditions clearly stated that no trees could be cut down, and when it is heard that the required 'green light' would have been given on a non-existing basis, namely the sale of apartment to future 'Friends of Auroville' - a policy only proposed, subject to a vote by the community, and already rejected by many!

These irregularities would in any modern society lead to an immediate stop to all building activities, with appropriate consequences for those responsible. A halt to the construction, and an impartial enquiry into the facts, must surely be the first step in Auroville too. In accordance with Auroville's ideals, we aspire to go beyond the limitations and drawbacks of a punitive justice system; but this does not mean that honesty and fairness can be trodden into the ground for the sake of personal interests. Much is at stake here, materially but even more at the level of the values and principles to which we subscribe.

We therefore call for an immediate halt to all construction activities at Kalpana and for a detailed enquiry into the situation, hearing the voice of all those who are directly or indirectly impacted by this project.

We invite the community to take back this space at the heart of Auroville, and to honour its name, Kalpana, 'Imagination', by collectively imagining the best and highest use we can give it, even now that many trees that guarded its peace are gone. To start with and bring back a positive collective energy, we propose to hold a community festival on the grounds, to be extended or repeated until there is a broad satisfaction with the situation, and a way has emerged into the future which the community feels happy with.

We hope that Kalpana's true destiny will be discovered and agreed upon by a vast consensus; but if needed, we propose to make recourse to our interim compromise in the form of a community vote.

Auroville Collective to Prevent Kalpana (No To Kalpana) [Vikas; Realization; Sailam and others...]

Feedback on Sumark Construction Project (N&N 26.3.2016)

Dear L'avenir team, dear RAS team,

The above mentioned project has been discussed amongst many Aurovilians. We offer the following comments and observations:

1. **Shortage of Housing in AV** - we fully agree and welcome the construction of houses and flats in the residential zone. However, we are totally against restaurant, bakery, etc. plus office space being part of a housing complex.
2. **3 - 4 years Experience of mixing office space and restaurant** - Both Swayam and Luminosity residents have first-hand experience of the mix and mostly, they are not happy living with it. Increased traffic, clients drive to offices in cars, apprentices drive their motorbikes at high speed to offices which creates air and noise pollution, added to that the restaurant smells and noisy clients are the daily reality.
3. **Introduction of Public/Collective Transport** - Since this has not yet been sorted out, people still have to drive motorbikes and cars to their destination. The majority of our visitors/tourists also come by car. Do we really want a Tanto style atmosphere in the Residential zone?
4. **Increased Inflow of People including Thieves** - In the past 2 months we have seen an increase in theft at Realization including a bag snatch outside the front gate. More day/weekend trippers (strolling about, eating at restaurants, visiting shops) and workers (in the service industry) means increased pollution footprint in every way. Thieves blend in seamlessly in such an environment.
5. **We live with Open Windows** - It is unpleasant to imagine what the people living above "Public facilities" will suffer with noise, smells and lack of privacy, all being a part of their daily lives. The 69 residents have far more at stake than the ground floor businesses, not to mention the residents living in the vicinity of this proposed Sumark Construction project.
6. **Existing restaurants and shops** have areas for shopping and eating with a large area for parking some distance away e.g. Visitor's Centre, Aurelec, Solar kitchen/PTDC and PTPS .
7. **Simple Living Housing** - There was talk earlier about a Golconde style housing project for the residential zone, initiated by Alan Grandcola. People may be interested in living a simple lifestyle rather than in grand housing projects. Many of us have come here for that reason.
8. **High Density Population Area** - Many residents do not agree with the concept of "high density population" area. This idea, together with the unresolved issue of collective mobility, will definitely bring a low quality of life in the area, and it is not fully justified, except from some idealistic perspective.
9. **Keep Green areas** - We propose that the current "green" areas, like the "Sumark" project and the previously proposed area for "Green Casbah", be dedicated to children's parks and green community initiatives. Currently our children have no park close to home in which to play. As more and more families are being encouraged to join Auroville, a playground is very important. Realization Community welcomes families with children. Children and traffic are not a good combination. At present, they have to cross the Vikas radial to access Mahalashmi Park, a dangerous proposition.
10. **Land Outside the Master Plan** - We hope that lands will be utilized for houses and farming because they will be gone to the encroachers before very long.

11. Years of ongoing Construction around Vikas Radial - We feel that it is inconsiderate on your part to ask residents to live with construction for years on end. And then, in the case of Sumark Construction Project, to live thereafter with more traffic, pollution and tourists.

We request that you take our concerns seriously.

With best regards - *Realization Residents, Susan and Silvia (Swayam) and Vani (Vikas)*

Where are my friends when I cry out for help??

Dear friends of Auroville,

I would like to share with you the difficult experiences that I went through the past two months.

A large group of gundas from the neighbouring village has come to my place to threaten me. In that moment of difficulty the only person who responded to my call for help was Ramesh who rushed to my place and managed to make them leave - I'm deeply grateful for all the support he has given me all these years at any time of day or night!

This experience has been dramatic and left me with a sense of being helpless and alone. The very next day another group came and demolished a part of my new built swimming pool. Again I tried to reach out for help but I was left alone.

Two weeks ago all my machines used for the construction have been stolen: 2 granite hand cutting machines; 1 granite water cutting machine; 1 big steel cutting machine (18 kg in Weight); 1 water pressure Jet (nearly new from Singapore and this one is really not a machine everyone has). Please keep your eyes and ears open and let me know if someone offers you any of the items for sale.

And please let us be more there for each other when in need and not turn our backs to the hurt one.

Thanking you all for listening to my deep pain,

Afsaneh

Dairy and Climate Change

The last *News and Notes* stressed the rise in global temperatures and living in Auroville it has become pretty obvious. We hardly need sweaters or blankets in winter now! The UN & FAO have repeatedly stressed that livestock (and mainly cattle) produce more greenhouse gases than all the vehicles on the planet - planes, trains and cars, buses, and bikes combined! Yet our consumption of dairy and other animal products keeps increasing year by year as does the cattle population in the Auroville area. It's the same all over India, unfortunately, we aren't the only ones. But as a community that strongly cares about the environment, we could lead the change we wish to see in the world. We can make a difference every day just by being conscious of what we serve and what we put in our mouths. With so many dairy alternatives possible, why not?

Nandita Shah

Hippotherapy

"Grazie, cara amica" (Italian) - thank you, dear friend.

Piera Jacometh was born in Italy 23 March 1957, her number in numerology is three - it means harmony and spirituality. Her constellation is Aries and 1957 - bird or hen year. She is a hippotherapist. In Greek, hippos means horse: Piera uses horses for the treating of sick children. She brought to Auroville her love for horses and children. Moreover she loved my cat in Aspiration community. Piera lived in the Aspiration Guest House for 2.5 months (Jan.-March), I felt a second sun was in Aspiration at this time.

Without doubt Piera has an old soul after many incarnations. She is a noble person. Previously in Europe horses gave nobility to people. In Italy, France and Spain the word "horse" are cavallo, cheval and caballo but words for the noble people were cavaliere, chevalier and caballero. The horses gave people health and happiness. We can see this event in Auroville too.

In August 1979 Savitri was born in Aspiration. She wrote in March 2002 in *Auroville Today* (p.5): *"Growing up in Auroville was very special. Many children had ponies and we would gather and go riding throughout the land with the feeling of ultimate unlimited freedom. There were very few fences and we could go everywhere. There were the days when joy was found in simplicity for material comfort and artificial entertainment. That was the magic of my childhood."*

You can see now in *Pour Tous* the bill: "Mobiles are harmful for birds". It is true like other sentence: "Technique is harmful for nature". Piera from Italy loves horses, children, and cats - the living creatures. This is called biophily. She has an instinctive knowledge: hippotherapy can treat any sickness - for example the greed of mankind. The love of horses is for gentlemen and ladies. Napoleon used thousands of horses and Paris was safe. Hitler wasn't a gentleman, he used tanks and Berlin was destroyed.

Using horses is a medicine against any malady, it is a panacea (in ancient Greece the healing goddess was Panakea). Now our planet is sick due to climate change because we betrayed our old friends - the horses. But I believe that people will forget their hegemony and horses will return to their good place in this world like the Phoenix. The new Hippocratuses will be born: Hippocrates means "power of horse". And new Philips will appear: Philip means "horse lover". We can remember the Amazons (women warriors on horses) and centaurs or centaurs: half human, half horse. Also Pegasus, winged horse among the poets, flying in the sky.

Boris

About Nightshades

There are more than 2,000 plants belonging to the family of the 'Nightshades'. Some of them we know very well and we like and eat them without thinking much about whether they are related or not. Best known are tomatoes, potatoes, eggplant (brinjal) and capsicum/chilly.

Like many other edible plants nightshades contain some toxins. Nothing to worry about, normally, as human beings usually can deal with such toxins if not eaten in too big quantities and often cooking even eliminates such toxins. Nightshades however produce some types of neurotoxins, different from each other in the way of acting and which are not eliminated through cooking. And while some of these toxins can be quickly eliminated by our bodies it is not like this with solanine. Solanine is eliminated very slowly, such that a 'normal' nightshade eater is accumulating lots of this toxin in his or her lifetime in the body.

Interestingly, some centuries ago, when tomatoes, potatoes and capsicum/chilly came from America, and brinjal from Asia to Europe, these plants were considered as poisonous and for a long period of time they were cultivated only for ornamental or medical reasons. Only periods of starvation and economic reasons finally brought them into the kitchen of the common people. Most of all potatoes as they have a lot of beneficial properties, they are easy and cheap to cultivate and can be stored for long periods of time.

Most people today can deal quite well with these vegetables, their bodies are used to them and it seems they digest them well. But, and that's why I write this article, there seems to be also quite a number of people who cannot. I went myself through the bad experience of years' long bad digestion which disappeared overnight after having stopped eating nightshades. Recently I read a book about this topic ('Nightshade free, pain free'), for which the author collected all kind of information about nightshades: history, toxins, university studies about health problems related to potatoes. He describes also how the powder of raw potatoes acts as a pesticide in agriculture and how in ancient times people used nightshades to poison and kill each other. And also, and this is important, how some very common modern diseases like Arthritis, Irritable Bowel Syndrome and other ailments might in many cases be related to the consumption of nightshades.

So what to do? Well, I think that people anyway will continue eating nightshades. But they should observe how their bodies react to them and keep in mind that if there are arthritis or chronic digestive problems or other reactions to give a try and stop eating nightshades for a while. There is a lot of information in the internet as well.

If you are interested in stopping eating nightshades or eating less for some time you will also find out that it is quite difficult in Auroville to find places where a nightshade free meal is offered. The only one I know and which I can recommend is Solitude Farm Cafe. It offers a Thali which is prepared without nightshades (only 99.9% nightshade free as there is a bit of chilly always) on request.

Steffen

You Two

(29 03: Anniversary of the First Meeting of the Mother and Sri Aurobindo)

You together
 We together
 From the beginning
 From the beginning
 You two together
 We all together
 From the beginning
 From the beginning

With You
 In You
 For You
 Till the New Dawn
 BE

Anandi - Realization-

For your calendar



AMPHITHEATRE - MATRIMANDIR

**Meditation with Savitri read by Mother to Sunil's music
 Every Thursday at sunset
 From 6.00 to 6.30 pm (weather permitting)**

Enjoy the beautiful open space, an immense sunset, heavenly music in the very center of Auroville!

Reminder to all:

The Park of Unity is a place for silence, meditation and inner work and is to be used only as such. We request everyone: please do not to use cameras, I-pads, cell phones, etc.

Dear Guests, please carry your Guest Card with you - No photos there.
Access only for the Amphitheatre from 5.45 to 6.30 pm.

Please be seated by 5.55 pm
Amphitheatre Team

INVITATIONS



NIRMITI Project

LAND-ART in Botanical Gardens Auroville

Invites you to see a slideshow about last year's work done by students of Aikiyam, Deepam, Oli school, Udavi at the Botanical Gardens

Saturday April 16th 2 pm to 4 pm



Everyone is warmly invited to an Open House at Transition School.

Please come on **Wednesday, April 13** between 10:30 am and 12 noon.

You will be able to meet the children and see some of the work that they have been doing this year. The Arts and Crafts Center and all of the classrooms will be open to all. Additionally, you can see an on-going slide show of ATB in the Multi-media room.

We all look forward to seeing you then.

Love,

The Students and Teachers of Transition School

Tamil New Year Celebration

Dear friends,

We are celebrating Tamil New Year's day on 14th of April, 2016 Thursday from 10 am to 5 pm at the Youth Centre

The aim is to introduce the Tamil calendar and celebration of the end of the spring and entering into the summer season. We also plan to share our Tamil experience on how to protect ourselves with proper food, clothing, protected water and the right type of cosmetics - Other artistic expressions and utility items suitable for hot sunny days - A mini exhibition which highlights the Tamil Literature (reference from Sri Aurobindo).

All are welcome - Ilaignarkal Education Centre- Mohanam
For More Information please contact on 0413 - 2623773 / 2623806

Me | Cycle | Places | People | Energy | Peace | Love

All friends of Auroville are invited for a pot luck and jam session as farewell to Kevin and Gopal, who are starting their cycling tour from Auroville to back home; spreading love and evoking energies from various spaces as they cycle along their path.

Kevin (Blacksmith) and Gopal (Architect) have been long term volunteer in Sacred Groves and other communities.

Venue: Youth Centre

Date: 10 April 2016 (Sunday)

Time: 06:00 pm - 09:00 pm

World Café

On Monday, 11th April 2016 at 7 pm in Le Zephyr

"Restoring Connection" - Healing the Hurts

What can we do as a community to openly share past pain and to restore connection and trust?
Come and join us as we explore some of the reconciliation processes being used in different parts of the world.

We are hosting a series of conversations in the co-creative World Café format throughout the year 2016.

The first Café was about the Truth & Reconciliation process in South-Africa, the second on a Restorative Dialogue in Nepal.

Today we explore a culturally-based healing process of Canadian First Nations. They still suffer from the devastating impacts of having been forced into Residential Schools for more than hundred years. This coercive assimilation practice of the Ministry of Indian Affairs dramatically shattered Aboriginal cultures, children, families and communities throughout North America.

The evening begins with excerpts from a documentary of the Choctaw Film Maker Phil Lucas, which had started the fire that ignited the Canadian Residential School Healing Movement.

After the film, we will share our thoughts and insights, inspired by the film.

At small group tables, we will also develop ideas of how we could use such a process to restore connection in Auroville among our different cultures.

A program of "Restorative Auroville" (L'aura, Janet, Shanti, Hélène and Kati) - facilitated by David Nightingale

YEN KALVI – My Education

An event for girls from the bioregion about college courses and career choices

More and more girls from the villages want to go to college after completing grade 12. They want to obtain degrees with the dream to work. Most parents are now willing to send their girl children to college. But they lack the guidance to understand the different courses and career choices available in the region. In Life Education Centre, we are increasingly seeing girls confused about what courses to choose.

The event is to guide these students and help them understand the choices available; guide them to choose courses based on their interests and to advise them about application processes.

Dr. Jayakumar, Professor and coordinator of career placement cell in Pondicherry University will present the information and answer questions from students and parents.

Date: 15.4.2016

Place: Life Education Centre (LEC)

Time: 2:30 pm

Please spread the word to ammas and workers about this opportunity. Girls who have completed grade 12 and their parents can attend. Students who have completed grade 10 also can attend to plan their careers a bit in advance. Please email: lec@auroville.org.in or call 2622082 for any questions. Registration not needed.

Devi N, Harini, and Indirani for LEC

Book Release and Japanese Dinner

Dear Community,
A long travel overland can sometime lead to a profusion of watercolors.
This is what happened after Marie crossed the countries of Caucasia and Central Asia to reach Auroville last year.
She'll share with us glimpses of these places through her book of drawings.
Come to Joy Guest House, Thursday the 14th, at 6 pm for her slideshow
And dine with us to extend the journey!
Japanese dinner only with reservation at: 944 36 17 308 :)
Love and Joy

EXHIBITIONS



Carpe Diem - Seize the day!

A photo exhibition by Lisbeth & Amara
Opening Saturday 9 April at 5 pm till Saturday 23 April 2016
Sharing images of everyday life - of people, landscapes and stillness
Opening timings except Sunday: 8 am -12.30 pm and 2 pm - 6 pm
Pitanga Cultural Centre, Samasti, Auroville, TN 605101, India.
(0413) 2622403/2622994 Pitanga@auroville.org.in

CULTURAL EVENTS

Classical KATHAK dance concert

By Prajakta Raj
She is known for an acute sense of rhythm and a fluid grace of movement.
Creative fine professional dancer soloist acclaimed by connoisseurs

AT CRIPA
Monday, 11th April, at 8 pm

MEET NINE, TEN & ELEVEN - The Best Mime Artists

We think that the numbers 9, 10 & 11 are Mime Artists which is why we chose
The 9th (Friday), 10th (Saturday) and 11th (Sunday) of April
To bring to you a unique Mime Experience
At THE DREAMERS CAFE in Visitors Centre

BLIP - The Mime shall be shooting ONE MINUTE MIME VIDEOS, clicking MIME SNAPS, conducting MIME SKILL CLASS, performing with MIME MENU and trying to hopefully show through Mime as to why the numbers 9, 10 & 11 are Mime Artists.

We have a trunk load of costumes for those who would like to be part of the Minute Mimes and Mime snaps but if you feel you can arrange one yourself feel free to do that.

Violinist and Flutists are welcome and so are our Aurovillian, Newcomer, Volunteer brothers and sisters.
So when you come to the Cafe please ask for BLIP!!!

Timings: 10:30 am to 7 pm on all three days
(BLIP will be taking the usual tea and lunch breaks)

With greatest happiness, the Adishakti team is announcing the second edition of:

“REMEMBERING VEENAPANI”, a festival of theatre, dance and music.

This Festival is a celebration of our beloved teacher Veenapani's work, life and art on the occasion of her birthday month, April.

The festival is structured around 4 weekends of April, where shows will happen on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.

For the opening weekend we are proud to have curated four autodidactic solo pieces created by women. It was Veenapani Chawla's dream to see her performers work and create pieces in an autodidactic manner. Especially women. And it goes without saying that Veenapani has inspired all four of these artists in some way or another during her lifetime.

See website for full program and info: www.adishaktitheatrearts.com

Weekend 1- Women Solo Artists

Saturday 9th April

6 pm: Malviki's Ramayanam: Excerpts from The Birth of Sita
Inauguration of A 'Graphic Vall' Arts Project by Malavika P.C.,
Pondicherry

6:30 pm: Song of Lowino
A play by Kalairaani,

7:30pm: Nidravathwam

A play by Nimmy Raphael & Adishakti, Pondicherry

Sunday 10th April

7:30pm

Notes on Chai

A play by Jyoti Dogra, Mumbai

CLASSES, WORKSHOPS

INNER-WORK-WORKSHOP

Introduction to the Integral Yoga of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother

12th April (Tuesday)

•Overview with multimedia presentation• Questions and Answers• Practice in Daily Life•Complimentary Concentration

Exercises• Creative Arts, Interactive Games• Life of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother

•Introduction to the Reference Books

Focus this week on: 'The Collective Yoga'

These Workshops are conducted every Tuesday, each week with a different focus. Study, play and creativity go hand in hand with various inner exercises.

Place: Savitri Bhavan. Time: 9 am to 12 Noon (pl be present by 8.50 am for preliminary study)

Led by Ashesh Joshi. Contact: 9489147202, 2622922

No Registration required (except for groups). Fees: Voluntary Contribution

All are welcome

For details on the Integral Yoga and the upcoming workshops: please visit www.integralyoga-auroville

MUDRA-CHI



**Sunday 10th of April - 5 pm
at Savitri Bhavan**

"A Body Prayer in a Tai- Chi Form"

- based on Mother's Mudras.

Facilitator: *Anandi*

All are welcome.

AVIVA'S METHOD FOR MEN

Aviva method is a physical exercise system which ensures healthy blood flow in the lower body and regulates the related glands for optimal hormone level. One practicing it can enjoy all the benefits of the healing oxygen, minerals and hormones carried by blood to the body parts in this area. These set of

exercises developed specifically for men to bring improvement for prostate problems, to increase fertility, to cease depression, and to regulate bowel movements. It uses elements of folk dances, certain habits of natural communities, wisdom of shepherds and facts stated by Western medicine.

In Arka Hall on 11 April 2016, timing: 4-6.30 pm.

For more information please contact Zsolti at bogizsolti@gmail.com or 8489535193

COOKING WORKSHOP

Dear Friends,

A reminder that the third edition of our cooking workshop is going to take place at Solitude Organic Farm Cafe this Saturday @ 3pm.

The workshop is taught by Sarah Kundig who has been a major part of the vision of how to use all this wonderful produce that Mother Earth offers us at Solitude Farm.

The workshops have been really inspiring so far! What we have been doing is making up a CSA basket of fresh local foods and going through the basket exploring interesting ways we can use these local products. Last week we made papaya mustard, we looked at Ramphal as a way to sweeten various recipes, we made plantain, pesto with loads of different greens including rosella, chicken spinach and basil and more!

After the workshop you get your own basket to practice with and it also gives you an idea of how our basket service works.

Saturday 3 pm - See you there. [Krishna Mckenzie: 9843319260]

FILMS



C I N E M A - Bharat Nivas - AUDITORIUM

Reminder: Friday 8 APRIL - "NOSTALGIA de la luz" - NOSTALGIA OF THE LIGHT, by Patricio GUZMAN, Chile, 2010

FRIDAY 15 APRIL- 7:30 PM (Film show starting at 7.45 sharp)

SPECIAL FILM PROGRAM - Homage to Cinema:

1/ an interview with Mr. pk nair - a 15 min. short film by Aurofilm (2007) interviewing the man who created the National Film Archive of India (NFAI in Pune), a fountainhead of Cinema (world and Indian). Mr. PK Nair (hailing from Kerala) recently passed away and this is in homage to him and his vibrant spirit.

"LE PERE DE MES ENFANTS" - FATHER OF MY CHILDREN

Directed by Mia HANSEN-LOVE, France, 2009

Cast: [Louis-Do de Lencquesaing](#), [Chiara Caselli](#), [Alice de Lencquesaing](#)...

Synopsis: This is the story of Gregoire Canvel a successful, popular and respected Parisian film producer who has always put artistic success ahead of making money, but having produced a string of classics finds himself in debt and running out of options to keep his company afloat. As things begin to look bleak, he is still wheeling and dealing, trying to get new projects off the ground and sort out problems with the director of a troubled production. But unbeknown to his loving wife and daughters, the pressure is becoming too much for him... *Based in part on the life of a great independent Parisian film producer, a convincing picture about the addictive and heartbreaking business of filmmaking. The film won the special award in the "Un Certain Regard" section, Cannes film festival, 2009.*

Original French version with English subtitles - Duration: 1h.50'.

VISITOR CENTER MOVIE SHOW

Month of STAR WARS (EPISODE I to VII) - Every Friday

Thursday 14th April 8 pm

SICARIO (2015)

Genre: Action/Thriller/Crime - Rated:(R) above 18 / Dur:2hrs /

Language: English/Subtitle: English.Dir: [Denis Villeneuve](#) /

Cast: [Emily Blunt](#), [Josh Brolin](#), [Benicio Del Toro](#)

Storyline: An idealistic FBI agent is enlisted by a government task force to aid in the escalating war against drugs at the border area between the U.S. and Mexico.

Friday 15th April 8 pm

STAR WARS: THE PHANTOM MENACE (EPISODE I)(1999)

Genre: Sci-Fi/Adventure/Action - Rated:PG 13 / Dur:2 hrs 16

mins / Language: English/Subtitle: English

Dir: [George Lucas](#) / Cast: [Ewan McGregor](#), [Liam](#)

[Neeson](#), [Natalie Portman](#)

Storyline:Two Jedi Knights escape a hostile blockade to find allies and come across a young boy who may bring balance to the Force, but the long dormant Sith resurface to reclaim their old glory.

THE ECO FILM CLUB



Sadhana Forest, April 15th, Friday

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!!

BILLIONS IN CHANGE

2015, 43 minutes, English

The world is facing some huge problems. There's a lot of talk about how to solve them. But talk doesn't reduce pollution, or grow food, or heal the sick. That takes doing. This film is the

story about a group of doers, the elegantly simple inventions they have made to change the lives of billions of people, and the unconventional billionaire spearheading the project.

The bus service is operated by Sadhana Forest. For more information about the bus service please contact Sadhana Forest at 2677682 or 2677683 or sadhanaforest@auroville.org.in.



Cinema Paradiso

Multimedia Center (MMC) Auditorium

Film program 11 April 2016 to 14 April 2016

Indian - Monday 11 April, 8:00 pm:

- **EBAR SHABOR (Now It's Winter)**

India, 2015, Dir. Arindam Sil w/ Saswata Chatterjee, Swastika Mukherjee, Abir Chatterjee, and others, Mystery-Thriller, 160mins, Bengali w/ English subtitles, Rated: U/A (PG-13)

In the recent years the Indian cinema has seen a revival of good old detective stories. This much acclaimed film is based on a story called 'Rwin' (debt) by Shirshendu Mukhopadhyay. In the story, a very much experienced police detective Mr. Shabor Dasgupta is assigned to do the task of solving the mystery of the murder of Mitali Ghosh who is a woman with a messy past. She was killed on the night she had thrown a house party for her close friends and family. The task is daunting for Shabor because of the number of people involved and the deep secrets that are in the family. As the detective probes further in to the complex relation the scene gets murkier. How would the truth be unraveled? *Should never miss a GOOD murder mystery!*

Italian - Tuesday 12 April, 8:00 pm:

- **L'ARMATA BRANCALEONE (For Love and Gold)**

Italy, 1966, Dir. Mario Monicelli w/Vittorio Gassman, Caterin Spaak, Gian Maria Volonté, Comedy-History, 120mins, Italian w/English subs., Rated: G

A group of rogues steal a scroll granting its bearer the property of the land of Aurocastro in Apulia (south of Italy). They elect

a shaggy knight, Brancaleone from Norcia, as their leader, and decide to get possession of this supposedly wealthy land. Many adventures will occur during the journey.

Cultural - Wednesday 13 April, 8:00 pm:

- **SUITE FLAMENCA: Antonio Gades choreography**

Spain, 2011, Dir. A. Luis Ramirez w/ Stelle Arauzo, Miguel Lara and dancers from A. Gades Company, Ballet, 80 mins, Rated: NR

Suite Flamenca consists of seven pieces of traditional flamenco dance presented with Gades's own unique insight of the aesthetics of Flamenco dance. Initially considered as avant-garde, Gades' interpretation is now considered as classic; solos, duets, group dances, all side of Flamenco dancing can be seen and this is a performance to enjoy.

Nordic - Thursday 14 April, 8:00 pm:

- **EN KONGELIG AFFÆRE (A Royal Affair)**

Denmark, 2012, Dir. Nikolaj Arcel w/ Alicia Vikander, Mads Mikkelsen, Mikkel Boe Følsgaard, and others, Biography-Drama-History, 137mins, Danish w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR

A young queen, who is married to an insane king, falls secretly in love with her physician - and together they start a revolution that changes a nation forever.



Cinema Paradiso: Eco Film Fest 2016

MMC Auditorium

Film programme 16 April 2016 to 22 April 2016

Eco-Film Fest 2016: 16 to 22 April 2016

In December 2015 at last there was an agreement between the states in combating Climate Change. The commitments however are voluntary. As locally we have experienced the deluge of the century and Maharashtra right now is experiencing an unprecedented drought, the questions looms large: "will countries follow through on their pledges?" and even if they do, "will that be enough?"

We dedicate our 12th Eco-Film Fest to the hope of garnering enough strength within each of us and in our communities to contribute more than our share to combat and reverse the effects of the Climate Change and lead a sustainable lifestyle that heals the earth while nourishing us. This time our films will remind of the effects of climate change in one hand and highlight the efforts of a growing 'forager' community around the world - through the short and full-length films *In the Weed* and *Weed Eaters*. Hope these films will alter us, inspire us, and rekindle positive efforts wherever we are.

Eco-Film Fest - Saturday 16 April, 8:00 pm:

- **IN THE WEEDS**

- **COLOMBIA MAGIA SALVAJE (Colombia Wild Magic)**

Colombia, 2015, Dir. Mike Slee w/ Julio Sánchez Cristo, and others, Documentary, 90mins, Spanish w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR (G)

Colombia, a biodiversity hotspot of the world, a wonderful country in South America - full of amazing creatures of the neo-tropics. Featuring this nature lover's dream - as seen as never before. *You simply cannot miss a glimpse of this natural paradise.*

Children's Eco-Film Fest - Sunday 17 April, 4:30 pm:

- **O MENINO E O MUNDO (The Boy and The World)**

Brazil, 2013, Writer-Dir. Ale Abreu w/ Vinicius Garcia, Marco Aurelio Campos, and others, Animation, 80mins, Rated: PG

The few dialogues that are in this film are in an imaginary language. In this story, Cuca, a boy who lives in a distant world, in a small village in the interior of his mythical country, one day, he sees his father leaving in search of work, embarking on a train towards an unknown capital. The weeks that follow are of anguish and confusing memories. Until one night, a breath of wind breaks into the bedroom window and takes the boy to a distant and magical place. This Academy Award nominated film is enthralling for both adults and young.

Eco-Film Fest - Sunday 17 April, 8.00 pm:

- **IN THE WEEDS**

- **A WALK IN THE WOODS**

USA, 2015, Dir. Ken Kwapis w/ Robert Redford, Nick Nolte, Emma Thompson, and others, Adventure-Biography, 104mins, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: R

The celebrated travel writer, Bill Bryson, instead of retiring to enjoy his loving and beautiful wife, and large and happy family, challenges himself to hike the Appalachian Trail - 2,200 miles of America's most unspoiled, spectacular and rugged countryside from Georgia to Maine. While Bill is looking for peace and tranquility his trekking buddy Katz has something else in his mind. Katz is a serial philanderer who, after a lifetime of relying on his charm and wits to keep one step ahead of the law - sees the trip as a way to sneak out of paying some debts and sneak into one last adventure before it's too late.

Eco-Film Fest - Monday 18 April, 8:00 pm:

IN THE WEEDS

ECONOMICS OF HAPPINESS

USA-Nicaragua-France-Germany-UK-Australia-India-Thailand-Japan-China, 2011, writer-Dir. Helena Norberg-Hodge & Steven Gorelick w/ Jan Barham, Ronald Colman, Eliana Amparo Apaza Espillico, and others, Documentary, 67mins, English, Rated: NR
The film features a chorus of voices from six continents calling for systemic economic change. The film describes a world moving simultaneously in two opposing directions. On the one hand, government and big business continue to promote globalization and the consolidation of corporate power. Simultaneously, all around the world people are resisting those policies, demanding a re-regulation of trade and finance - and, far from the old institutions of power, they're starting to forge a very different future. Communities are coming together to re-build more human scale, ecological economies based on a new paradigm - an economics of localization. *This is an important film that put things into perspective.*

Eco-Film Fest - Tuesday 19 April, 8:00 pm:

IN THE WEEDS

CHASING ICE

USA, 2012, Dir. Jeff Orlowski w/ James Balog, Svavar Jónatansson, Louie Psihoyos, Documentary-Biography, 75mins, English, Rated: PG-13
'National Geographic' photographer James Balog was once a skeptic about climate change. But through his Extreme Ice Survey, he discovers undeniable evidence of our changing planet. In the film we follow Balog across the Arctic as he deploys revolutionary time-lapse cameras designed for one purpose: to capture a multi-year record of the world's changing glaciers. Traveling with a young team of adventurers by helicopter, canoe and dog sled across three continents, Balog risks his career and his well-being in pursuit of the biggest story in human history. It is a film that depicts a heroic photojournalist on a mission to gather evidence and deliver hope to our carbon-powered planet. *This is a visually stunning fact filled film! Highly recommended.*

Eco-Film Fest - Wednesday 20 April, 8:00 pm:

IN THE WEEDS

CAVEDIGGER

NAGALAND IS CHANGING, BUT

Cavedigger - USA, 2013, Dir. Jeffrey Karoff w/ Ra Paulette, Pierre Delattre, Suzanne Eliel, Biography-Documentary, 39mins, English: In this Oscar nominated short, artist Ra Paulette digs other-worldly, sculptural caves using nothing but

hand tools. It is a truly amazing portrayal of an artist, his passion for creating cave shelters that are also a work of art. *Don't Miss. Nagaland is Changing, But* - India, 2015, Dir. Gurmeet Satpal, Documentary, 27mins, English w/subtitles for non-English conversations, Rated: NR (G): This award winning documentary documents the Community Conserved Areas (CCA) in Sendenyu under Tseminyu and Sukhai village in Zunheboto. The two villages have been conserving the forest on their private land for the past 15 years. As a result the Sendenyu Community Biodiversity Reserve is now teeming with wildlife. But, there are challenges. After restraining themselves for so long, some families now want to exploit the timber from their part of land in the biodiversity reserve. Is there a solution? *Find out for yourself!*

Eco-Film Fest - Thursday 21 April, 8:00 pm:

WEED EATER

USA, 2016, Dir. Eden Batki-Marty Windahl & Amy von Harrington w/ Nance Klehm, Documentary, 66mins, English, Rated:NR (G)
Nance Klehm is a self-described "steward of the earth." She is an internationally known ecological systems designer, a permaculture grower, a horticultural consultant and a talented and much sought after teacher and speaker. This film attempts to sketch Klehm's life and philosophy of living - as we go with a foraging walk with her, fix a salad, visit her garden, and listen to her. Through this the film reflects the depth and complexity of her intimate relationship with the earth. *This is the premier screening for this film in India. It has been made possible through a generous sharing by the directors.*

Eco-Film Fest - Friday 22 April, 8:00 pm:

RACING TO EXTINCTION

USA-China-Hong Kong-Indonesia-Mexico-UK-Japan, 2015, Dir. Louie Psihoyos w/ Elon Musk, Joel Sartore, Louie Psihoyos, and others, Documentary-Adventure, 90mins, English w/ English subtitles, Rated:NR (PG)
Scientists predict we may lose half the species on the planet by the end of the century. They believe we have entered the sixth major extinction event in Earth's history. Number five took out the dinosaurs. This era is called the Anthropocene, or 'Age of Man', because the evidence shows that humanity has sparked this catastrophic loss. We are the only ones who can stop it as well. The Oceanic Preservation Society, the group behind the Academy Award winning film THE COVE (which we had screened a few years back) is back with this film. Along with some new innovators, OPS will bring a voice to the thousands of species on the very edge of life. *This is a critically acclaimed, necessary and awe inspiring film that you just CANNOT miss!*

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.
Kindly do not bring snacks, food, candies, and drink to the venue. Also, please be sweet and not chat while the film is on.
We appreciate your continued support. Thanking You, MMC/CP Group Account# 105106, mmcauditorium@auroville.org.in

Important information about News & Notes (Absolute deadline for submissions or cancellations: Wednesday 11 am)

The contents of News & Notes are a reflection of the growth process of this community towards its ideals of harmony, goodwill, discipline and truth. Editing of submissions, mainly for reasons of space and clarity, is done according to an established policy.

How to submit material: Material (no pdf files, please) may be sent (in English only) to the N&N email address (below).

NB: Messages with large attachments (more than 1 MB) will not reach our inbox.

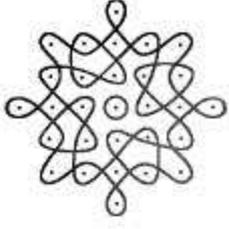
The Wednesday deadline (11am) is absolute as the News is given to the printers by Wednesday 2 pm.

We regret not being able to attend to visitors on Wednesdays due to work pressure.

Articles for the Notes section should ideally be no longer than 500 words. All articles need to reach us by Tuesday noon.

Soft Version: We encourage you to ask us for a soft version of News& Notes send directly on your own mail. **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. Phone: 2622133, email: newsandnotes@auroville.org.in



**இனிய தமிழ்ப்புத்தாண்டு
வாழ்த்துகள்**

TAMIL NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS WELCOMING SUMMER

**on 14th April, 2016 Thursday
from 10 a.m. to 5.p.m.
at YOUTH CENTRE. Auroville.**

The aim is to introduce the Tamil calendar and celebration of ending the spring and the season entering into the summer; we also plan to share our Tamil experience how to protect ourselves with proper food, clothing, protected water, the right type of cosmetics; other artistic expressions and utility items suitable for hot sunny days – a mini exhibition which highlights Tamil Literature – reference from Sri Aurobindo.

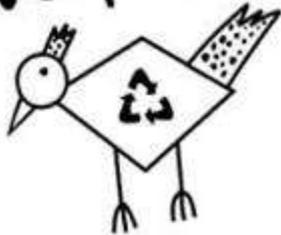
All are welcome!

Organized by
Tamil Heritage Centre
Mohanam
Ilaignarkal Education Centre



For More Info:
0413 – 2623773 / 2623806

Wellpaper



SUMMER

SALE!



Visit us in our biggest sale of beautifully handcrafted products, upcycled using waste materials!



15th ,16th , 20th & 21st April... Hurry UP

Tel: 9626-055-586 Time: from 9.30am to 4.30pm

Well Paper – next to new Av design, between bamboo centre & Kottakarai village