

News & Notes

16th April 2016.....A weekly bulletin for residents of Auroville.....Number 645



HOUSE OF MOTHER'S AGENDA

“At one pole of it the seeker may be conscious only of the Master of Existence putting forth on him His energies of knowledge, power and bliss to liberate and divinise; the Shakti may appear to him only an impersonal Force expressive of these things or an attribute of the Ishwara. At the other pole he may encounter the World-Mother, creatrix of the universe, putting forth the gods and the worlds and all things and existences out of her spirit-substance. Or even if he sees both aspects, it may be with an unequal separating vision, subordinating one to the other, regarding the Shakti only as a means for approaching the Ishwara. There results a one-sided tendency or a lack of balance, a power of effectuation not perfectly supported or a light of revelation not perfectly dynamic.

It is when a complete union of the two sides of the Duality is effected and rules his consciousness that he begins to open to a fuller power that will draw him altogether out of the confused clash of Ideas and Forces here into a higher Truth and enable the descent of that Truth to illumine and deliver and act sovereignly upon this world of Ignorance.”

The Synthesis of Yoga, p. 117

Yes, if he sees the two aspects – that is to say, the Master of Existence and the World-Mother – he may see them with an unequal vision, which would mean that he still separates them and gives more importance to one than to the other. And in that case there is a one-sided tendency; he sees only one side or there is a lack of balance between the two perceptions. And so the power of effectuation is not perfectly supported, that is to say, the action of the Mother does not have the support of what he calls the Master, the action of the Mother does not have a sufficient basis of support from the Master; or else it is the light of a revelation – that is, the Consciousness of the Master which is not realised, not perfectly dynamic, that is, it is not translated into a creation.

Either the creative Power is not supported by the revelation, or the revelation is not expressed in the creative Power. This is what Sri Aurobindo means. There is a tendency to go towards one or the other, instead of having both at the same time, if one no longer separates them in one's consciousness.

Sri Aurobindo says that when one succeeds in not separating them in one's consciousness, one can fully understand who the Lord of the Sacrifice is. Otherwise one leans to one side or the other and naturally what one does is incomplete. He says very clearly, doesn't he? that if one leans to the side of the Master without laying stress on the Shakti or the Mother, one goes into the Impersonal and out of the creation, one returns into Nirvana. He says that this tendency towards the Impersonal may exist even in the yoga of works, in Karmayoga, and that impersonal force, impersonal action is always considered as the liberating aspect which frees you from the narrowness of the person. And that is why there is nothing surprising in the overwhelming strength of this experience. Till today this is what has always been considered as yoga: to abandon the personal and enter into the consciousness of the impersonal. Sri Aurobindo speaks of it as an overwhelming experience, for it gives you the impression of liberation from all the ego's limitations. And later, he describes the union: insistence on the personal side and union with the divine Person; then the world is no longer an illusion nor something transient which will disappear after a time, but the constant and dynamic expression of the eternal divine Person.

That is the other side.

And when one has the two together, one is perfect.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS, 18 April 1956

THE MOTHER

The
Ponder
Corner

*It is well not to be too loosely playful in one's games
or too grimly serious in one's life and works.
We seek in both a playful freedom and a serious order.
Sri Aurobindo
ref. MCW, vol 10, On Thoughts and Aphorisms, p.320*

Cover watercolors: “Home” by Marie (See her slideshow on Thursday 14th - 6 pm -at Joy Guest House)

Kalpana update by the TDC

Dear community members,

Following several emails, postings and events over the past days, the TDC would like to clarify that there are 43 apartments in Kalpana, and maximum 4 of which can be allocated to Friends of Auroville, so the project is for Aurovilians and Newcomers.

There is an amount of 1.6 crore available for financial assistance to Aurovilians and Newcomers donated by the project holders. The FAMC has decided to constitute a group to look into their allocation after making a public announcement. The range of subsidy can be from 10% to 90% depending on the case, for a minimum of 8 to a maximum of 14 apartments. The financial assistance can be of help for Aurovilians that want to improve their housing situation or move into the City area.

The project of Kalpana had a long process and history over almost 5 years, these were the basic steps followed:

- a site was allocated between Grace and Arati by the previous L'Avenir in August 2011. The site was allocated on the basis of a plan in progress made by the participatory planning group
- a consultative process followed, involving architects representing the neighboring communities
- the project was announced for site permission in the N&N of October 13th 2011 and got site NOC on December 3rd 2011
- the project was announced for building permission in the N&N of May 18th 2012. Approval by Dr. Doshi was given in June. The project was now ready for BOQ and tender. A first stone ceremony happened in August 2012
- September 2012: a new team of L'avenir is nominated. Questions were raised concerning the location of this project and the social angle. However, as the project got all the sanctions of the previous L'avenir, it was not put in question
- the project did not proceed because of a dispute between the project holders and the architect which was followed by an arbitration from the FAMC.
- as the consequence of this situation, the previous design could not be used anymore and this opened again the option to consider a new site
- the new existing site was proposed in a meeting on July 31st 2013. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Doshi and attended by TDC members: Cristo, Sauro and Toby and the following consultants: Gilles Boulicot, Luis Feduchi, Suhasini, Tency. All present approved the new location
- a brief for the project was sent in writing to the project holder in August 2013
- a peer review took place in December 2013
- a meeting with Vikas residents took place in December 2013
- the site was announced in the N&N for feedback on January 25th 2014 for the housing project and the sport centers
- a general meeting called by the RAS was held during the feedback period on February 20th
- NOC for the housing site was signed on February 26th, whereas the sport center would be relocated
- on April 4th 2014, an updated brief was given in writing to the project holders
- in May 2014, a survey for the border and the vegetation was made by the TDC team
- in August 2014, the TDC gave an update in the N&N about the status of the project
 - a second survey for vegetation and trees only was made by the TDC team in October
 - the building application was filled on October 5th 2014

- the new layout of the project was presented to the TDC on October 24th 2014 and the following architects were invited: Anita, Helmut, Lata
- the TDC met Vikas representatives on November 8th 2014 to discuss their points of concern in relation to the construction site
- the project was published for feedback in the N&N on January 31st 2015 and the 3D drawings of the site were uploaded in the AuroNet on February 24th 2015
- a meeting with all people having provided feedback was held on March 9th 2015
- after a tender process held in November and December 2015, the project was submitted for financial approval to the FAMC in January 2016
- financial clearance was given on March 15th 2016, following which the TDC issued the building NOC

Submitted by TDC

Funds and Assets Management Committee (FAMC)

February and March 2016 Report

Regular members: Anandi (Auroville Board of Services), Chali (Sri Aurobindo International Institute of Educational Research), David (Forest group), Matripasad (Auroville Council), Michael (Auroville Unity Fund), Ranjith (Working Committee), Rathinam (Budget Coordination Committee), Sauro (L'avenir d'Auroville), Sonja (Housing Service), and Ulli (Auroville Board of Commerce).

Temporarily out of station: Jeff (Farm Group).

Other: Mr. Srinivasmurthy (Finance & Administrative Officer, Auroville Foundation; currently Secretary-in-Charge) is no longer attending.

TRUST & UNIT TOPICS

The Auroville Board of Commerce (ABC) recommended, and FAMC approved, the appointment of a new Artisan Trust trustee Kumar K., and the trustee resignation of Myriam I... The other trustees are Michel H., and Sundar Rajamani.

ABC requested FAMC input on the pending registration of an activity by Malar and Shivaraj called Malar India Quilts, under the unit, Auro Small Scale Activities (ASSA). In February FAMC had no objections with the clear understanding the activity (for example, storage/production) are not being done in the Rayapetei housing asset, the status of which the FAMC are still reviewing. *The ABC was informed.*

The Auroville Board of Services (ABS) recommended, and FAMC approved, Social Entrepreneurship Associates (SEA) executive reappointments (after initial 2 year term) of: Aran, Dave S., Gijs, and Marc T... Amir asked not to be reappointed. *This was approved.*

The FAMC approved the unit, Sumark Construction, move from Auroville Service Trust to Kattida Kalai Trust, with effect from 1 April 2016, and the executive reappointment (after initial 2 year term) of Peter K.

FAMC has continued to be in contact with Gillian and Palani about the smooth running of Hers. FAMC recommended, and Gillian and Palani welcomed, Kumar (currently at Aspiration Financial Service) to work there on a 3 month trial basis. This will have started on 1 April. FAMC also gave support to Roy working part-time, filling in when Gillian, Palani, nor Kumar can be in Hers. FAMC reviewed account details and questions were answered clearly and in a timely manner. Finally, the FAMC let Gillian and Palani know that soon they want to meet to discuss a more long-term vision of Hers.

The FAMC has been in email communication with most of the Auroville eateries regarding the possibility of changing the contribution to City Services. Some responses were received.

FAMC then requested the eateries to account for contribution in-kind, for example: 1. total billing per month; 2. billing to Aurovilians paid via City Service account; 3. the amount of discount given to Aurovilians; 4. the amount of discount given with regards to total billing (in %) to be determined as: discount divided by (total billing + discount) and; 5. details of other contributions to City Services. *FAMC await the eateries responses to these questions.*

FAMC has proposed to create a Hospitality Trust. It is believed this has been presented to the Governing Board (GB). FAMC await the GB meeting minutes before proceeding with creation of the new Trust Deed, and appointment of trustees. Daniel and Susan have been asked and already agreed to be trustees as a start.

The Working Committee (WCom) informed FAMC of the trustee changes of the Bharat Nivas Trust. The changes are: additional trustees Sanjeev A., and Deepti T. Anu resigned as a trustee.

The Guest Facilities Coordination Group (GFCG) forwarded a Home Stay application from Shivaraj and Malar and requested FAMC input. In February the FAMC replied that it wants to see how the existing unit, Martuvam Healing Forest, functions under Auroville Services / Projects for 1 to 2 years before approving any new activities such as a Home Stay. *The GFCG were informed.*

FINANCE TOPICS

In February FAMC approved a Rs. 20 lakhs loan for Auroville Language Lab. In mid-March some FAMC members visited the Auroville Language Lab building site located in the International Zone. After the site visit the subgroup shared with the FAMC members that Mita and Tapas have done a very good work there and they have a lot of energy and enthusiasm. They have many plans for the building and will utilize well the space. It is almost ready and the activities will be moved there very soon. Based on this report the FAMC had no further questions. FAMC thanked them for their time, and let them know there was nothing further now.

The Auroville Council (AVC) recommended a Leaving Auroville Allowance for Victoria P. After some questioning by the FAMC it was determined that Victoria may want to return to Auroville therefore her request for financial support could not be seen to under Leaving Auroville Allowance. The FAMC agreed, on an exceptional basis and due to health reasons, to provide a Rs. 6 lakhs loan to be recovered from the transfer of the stewarded housing asset which will be transferred by the Housing Service to a new steward. The balance of the value of the asset will be kept for Victoria's future housing if she returns to Auroville.

The Investment Group established in 2006, under the FAMC, was revived. The members are Otto, Torkil, and Michael T.

Auroville received some unspecified donations from several donors in a total amount of about Rs. 39 lakhs. After a lot of thoughtful consideration it was finally agreed to provide funds for land protection, Rs. 15 lakhs to the recently approved Assisted Living Home, and an amount to go towards elder care (both in-home care, and convalescence). Presently the FAMC are reviewing the possibility of a 1 room renovation, to be made into 2 rooms, at Arka to be used for patient convalescence. This is being done in consultation with the Housing Service (renovation work). A report of how the unspecified donations have been utilized will be sent to the donors.

FAMC made its two year review, March 2014 to March 2016, of the Repatriation Fund scheme. Some text needed to be clarified. Changes were made and the document redistributed.

FAMC was requested by L'avenir d'Auroville for a Rs. 10 lakhs overdraft to meet immediate expenses in response to Government of India grant cuts. L'avenir proposed to return the housing 'infrastructure contribution' to 1% (it was reduced to 0.5% a few years ago). The overdraft was approved. The request to increase the infrastructure contribution is on hold while FAMC, with the WCom, discuss creation of an Economy

"Think Tank" to address the need for Auroville to generate more income internally.

LAND TOPICS

FAMC met with Land Board (LB) members several times in February and March to discuss city and greenbelt land purchase, as well as exchange; land protection; cash flow for emergency situations; and more funds for strategic greenbelt purchases.

HOUSING TOPICS

The Housing Service (HS) requested funds to fence a plot allocated for housing near the Visitors Centre which is in danger of encroachment. FAMC agreed in principle and requested two estimates. FAMC approved Rs. 1 lakh be provided for the fencing, and asked HS to confirm the plot number. The Land Board was requested to confirm this is a plot they have identified as 'at risk'. HS was requested to begin construction as soon as possible.

In February and March the FAMC reviewed several key aspects of the Kalpana housing project. Normally FAMC require an amount of 40% of the estimated costs to be able to start the project. In this case that would be Rs. 5,2 crores. There has been considerable time and energy put into making sure there is no financial risk to Auroville. The project holders have given a financial guarantee, which were included as conditions for issuance of the L'avenir d'Auroville No Objection Certificate (NOC). Other requirements of the FAMC included: 1. a limit of only 10% apartment allocation to Friend of Auroville [of 43 apartments total]; 2. an FAMC constituted group to review eligibility, and make financial assistance allocations from 10% to 90%, for from 8 to 14 apartments. The project holders will be participants in the group; 3. The project holders, working presently in Housing Service and Housing Board, need to step out to create clarity of roles. [reference elsewhere in the report the Auroville Council (AVC) question of 'conflict of interest']; 4. need to include in the project team more Aurovilians, and; 5. respect of process and making good communication. After FAMC met the project holders in March, and all points were discussed and agreed, it was agreed to inform L'avenir that FAMC is giving financial clearance on financial conditions: A. The project has secured at least 40% of estimated costs before beginning construction; B. The project holders assume full financial responsibility for the project; C. No more than 10% of the apartments may be allocated for stewardship of an individual with the status Friend of Auroville (FOA); D. All funds for the project are channelled through the Unity Fund. The next step is for the FAMC to create the review and allocation group. The individuals will be requested to make a clear invitation so that all residents have an opportunity to apply to the Kalpana housing project. Clear eligibility criteria and process information will be provided to the residents.

In March FAMC met with Venkatesh, Vika, Alexey, Robert, Sundar, and Ole from HS, and Vici from the Housing Board (HB) to discuss the FAMC and AVC decision about the Kalpana project holders stepping out of HS and HB. Everyone present was invited to share their thoughts, ask questions, seek clarification and generally express themselves. After an hour of sharing one of the repeated concerns was the request that Satyakam and Devasmita step out of HS/HB "*with immediate effect*" as had been communicated to them by the FAMC. After the guests left the meeting the members agreed to follow-up with support for a 1 month transition period (through end-April). It was reiterated clearly that: A. When an Aurovillian on a personal initiative is the project holder of a housing project, or is a project holder and is offering financial support to potential residents, they will not simultaneously serve in the HS or HB and; B. This is applicable to the current situation, and will be applicable to future situations. *This was communicated to the HS, HB, Satyakam and Devasmita.*

In February FAMC reviewed the Sunship housing project and wrote to the project holders with questions and comments. Questions included: A. do they have documented eligibility and allocation criteria [for the pro bono apartments]; B. How many

apartments are already allocated, to whom, and on what basis; C. How many apartments are 'promised' but there has been no financial commitment made yet; D. How are they collaborating with the HS on allocation; E. For the allocations already made, who was involved in the decision-making and; F. How many of the apartments are planned to be allocated on a pro-bono basis. Comments: 1. housing needs to be for Aurovilians and Newcomers; no more than 10% of the total apartments may be allocated to Friends of Auroville; 2. the project holders did not approach FAMC for approval of the contractor, after the tender process. This is part of the known and accepted approval process. FAMC asked them to explain why this step was circumvented. The project holders responded to the FAMC in a timely manner. At the end of this reporting period the FAMC were setting up a meeting with them primarily to talk about a review and allocation group to be formed, similar to the one for the Kalpana housing project, as well as their responses.

FAMC continued to be in communication with the Sacred Groves project holders and to track the progress of the three prototype houses. The project holders asked the FAMC to substantiate comments regarding the volunteers or to retract the statement in writing. They also requested Rs. 5 lakhs to continue the work. After a thoughtful sharing among the members, the FAMC recognized that its communication concerning the well-being of Sacred Groves volunteers could have been worded more clearly, that a tone of inquiry (which was the intention) was not conveyed, and that the statement made could be perceived as accusatory. It was clarified that the FAMC felt a responsibility to inquire. Therefore based on the project holders response and that no subsequent substantiated complaints were made, the matter is considered by the FAMC as resolved. All of this was communicated to the project holders in writing, as they requested. Also, the FAMC approved Rs. 5 lakhs so the work could begin again without any further delay. FAMC requested confirmation of an up-to-date projected cost to finish, and the revised completion date (ie stewards can move in).

The HB drafted a "Housing for Recognized Work" paper. They received suggested changes from Carel and Lyle, some of which they agreed to, and some not. The HB then requested the FAMC to comment on all the proposed changes. At the end of this reporting period the FAMC had reviewed the document, made its changes, and was sending the finalized version back to the HB.

HS recommended that Ole become a member of the HB. He is presently a member of the HS. FAMC approved Ole to replace Devasmita on the HB, as one of the HS members, on a 3-month trial basis in accordance with the mandate. *The HS was notified.*

In March the Active Residents Assembly (ARA) submitted to the FAMC several housing-related questions, as well as a presentation of housing-related research observations and figures, and requested to discuss them with the FAMC. At the end of March the FAMC met with Eugen, Mita, Sandhya and Umberto who shared an overview of their work. The FAMC members answered their questions, and shared their observations and experiences concerning housing.

OTHER TOPICS

The FAMC and WCom met and discussed: a. guidelines for Trusts and units to be changed to Trust and Unit Regulations and to be approved by the GB; b. centralized Auroville Accounting Service; c. preparation for the GB meeting that took place at the beginning of March.

The Office of the Secretary, Auroville Foundation, requested accounts submission by 15 May 2016. With the WCom the FAMC discussed that this is an impossible date. More realistic is that accounts are ready for audit by end-May, and the audited accounts done by end-June. It was noted that when accounts are submitted on time there are delays of the auditor which are not accurately noted. It may further be recommended the chartered accountants (CAs) do an interim audit (at 6 or 9 months). And the Office of the Secretary may be requested to

call a meeting with the CAs. WCom asked FAMC to write a request that they will share with the Office of the Secretary. *This was done.*

In February FAMC prepared its meeting agenda with the Governing Board. The following topics were highlighted: 1. Auroville's authority to conduct land sales and the impact that will have on city area and greenbelt land purchasing power; 2. Government grant procedure; 3. Relations with the Office of the Secretary: to express a need of support and presence from the Foundation Office. a. Internal audit questions and; b. The submission of balance sheets.

Frederick and Jothi requested FAMC to approve a small plot of land in Kottakarai village for Annanagar sports activities and to make a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) regarding the same. This plot is in the middle of the village. FAMC have requested the LB to consider how it can be used in a land exchange. At the beginning of March Frederick and Jothi were informed that this land will be used either for commercial development or land exchange, therefore FAMC will not make a MoU with the sports club. The sports activities may continue with the knowledge that there are other plans for this plot of Auroville land.

The AVC requested clarity from FAMC concerning the Human Resources Team (HRT). It was clarified that HRT is answerable to FAMC; communication between HRT and the Budget Coordination Committee (BCC) is for budget purposes only. In March FAMC met with Jyotiprem, Venkat and Veronique who work in HRT. Padmanabhan was absent. They shared that one problem is not having a clear policy on who can get a maintenance and who cannot. Another is not reviewing current maintenances when an individual's financial situation changes. The team also faces a space problem. The FAMC shared some ideas and made several comments however it started to move into details that will be discussed in the study group (see next paragraph).

In March it was agreed a study group of FAMC/AVC/BCC/HRT will be constituted by FAMC to review maintenance. The initial brief is to look at the organization / mandate and to develop maintenance criteria. It was agreed both the overview and the specific need to be worked on. *FAMC is forming the study group now.*

The AVC asked the FAMC: 1) Can Housing Service (HS) executives be at the same time Project Holders of Housing Projects? 2) What is your view on the matter of conflict of interests that this may entail? FAMC responded that there may be a conflict of interest while one is serving in the HS and becomes the project holder of a new housing project because the Aurovilian would be inclined to engage potential stewards towards the personal project, to the exclusion or diminished representation of other appropriate housing projects, which is clearly one of the main roles and responsibilities of someone serving in the HS. When the Aurovilian, HS member and project holder, gets a benefit from the project, it may conflict with their maintenance allocation and with the time dedicated to the service and to their personal project. If the Aurovilian is not getting any benefit and works on voluntary basis, their responsibilities and duties in both areas may not be clearly separated and act as project holder when they should neutrally be informing and making agreements with interested persons. However if a project holder working in HS is giving or getting the donation towards the housing project, so that houses are offered on fully pro-bono basis, in that case there would not be any conflict of interest, provided it is the HB (or the approved committee) who establishes the clear criteria and makes the selection of the beneficiaries of these houses. FAMC recommended to the AVC that this be addressed, and conferred with the Residents Assembly, at the earliest.

Auroville Consulting proposed to form a fund raising cell starting only with their own projects for the first year. In March FAMC gave its support to this initiative however it was made clear that it may not be considered or stated that Auroville Consulting is 'the' fund-raising entity of Auroville. In addition,

FAMC have asked to be provided information about the projects for which they're going to fund-raise and to be given a report after one (1) year. It was reminded that creation of any immovable assets (buildings) needs to be pre-approved by FAMC before fund-raising. *All this was communicated to Auroville Consulting.*

FAMC reviewed the financial viability of the proposed Assisted Living Home. The project holders replied to the FAMC concerns stating they have Rs. 101 lakhs needed to begin. FAMC approved the Assisted Living Home and informed L'avenir d'Auroville of the same. FAMC requested of the project holders to be provided the criteria for a resident to be welcomed into the home. FAMC asked how it will be managed when a resident decides they do not want to stay and need alternative housing in Auroville. FAMC expressed its concern that the home is truly for Aurovilians who need daily care (noting one Aurovilian listed does not at present require daily care). The project holders were informed of the Rs. 15 lakhs unspecified donation which was allocated by the FAMC (see more above).

The FAMC continue to be in communication with Muna and Christine concerning their needs to establish their new housing in the plot located near Dana. FAMC requested infrastructure estimates, and re-evaluated how much could be provided for the housing, including a septic tank, parking, a storeroom, and architect fees. *The details are being worked out collaboratively and harmoniously.*

There has been a team reviewing 50th Auroville birthday event budgets under "Accelerated Development". It came to the attention of the FAMC that its members may want to review these proposals. The FAMC asked the 50th anniversary planning team to provide relevant budget information for all proposals that would generate recurring costs. At the end of this reporting period the requested information had been submitted. *The FAMC review is pending.*

Newcomers S. Rollin and family have terminated their Newcomer period and request compensation regarding funds put into Auroville Child Development School, and a housing asset in New Creation community. It is noted an amount of about Rs. 36 lakhs was provided by the Newcomer as a donation to Auroville Child Development, which included the estimated value of the housing asset of Rs. 22 lakhs. An evaluation of the modified housing asset will be done as per usual procedure for future transfer considerations. FAMC and WCom representatives met with S. Rollin to talk about the family's expectations, and to share about Auroville's usual practices and processes.

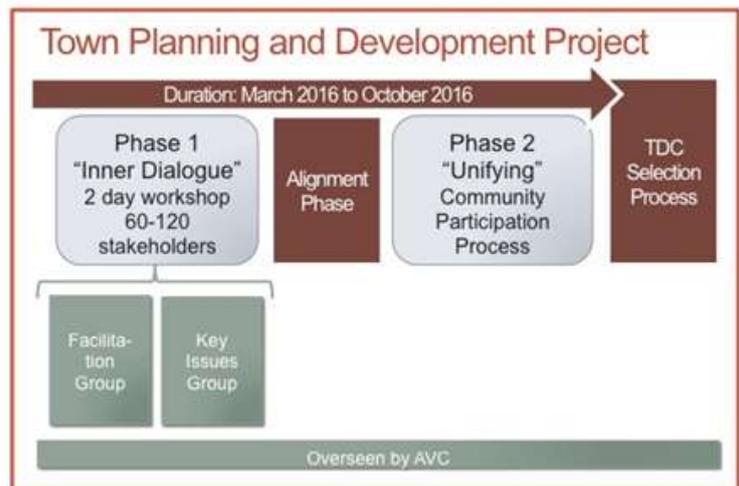
Following up from previous reports

In October it was reported the Farm Group and team at Matrimandir were negotiating farm land for a compost project. In February FAMC was informed the negotiation did not reach an agreement. The Matrimandir team is looking at other options for the compost project.

In December it was reported Chandresh made a proposal to the FAMC concerning the annual payment of house tax which would entail the total amount being divided equally by all housing stewards. FAMC recommended the BCC create a budget to pay this tax. In January the BCC replied that it agreed with the FAMC proposal that it is the City Services that will from now pay the house taxes which currently comes to about Rs.4 lakhs annually.

2nd update on the Working Committee proposal "Restructuring TDC/l'Avenir d'Auroville"

Following the last announcement of this topic in March, we have made progress in the organization of Phase 1 of the Town Planning and Development process. Please refer to the following diagram that was published earlier, showing the approach of this process:



Objectives of the Phase 1 workshop scheduled for the 30th April and 1st May:

1. To generate a **shared vision for planning** as a true base for collaboration and initiating a participatory process for emerging from values into action
2. To find **agreement around key issues** with regard to Town Planning and Development in Auroville and how we can work together with integral vision and inclusiveness towards their realization.
3. To **identify levels and stages of participation** to put in place a process of a larger community participation in order to encourage and gather community input to Auroville planning.
4. By November, create a **strong, vibrant and collaborative l'Avenir d'Auroville** with an integral approach which takes into account all the facets of Auroville's ideals and development, working together, transcending opinions and positions.

Who are the "Stakeholders"?

Although every Aurovilian is technically a "Stakeholder", an effort has been made to keep the first workshop as focused as possible. A list of 180 "stakeholders" has been drawn up representing different areas, considerations, approaches and ideologies in Auroville grouped in the following categories:

- architecture, art and culture
- ecology, food, farms and forests
- land and ownership patterns, infra-structure
- Mobility
- village and bio-regional cooperation
- Auroville Services
- integral educational environment (life-long learning)
- economy, business, entrepreneurs
- liaison with GOI-GB-IAC etc
- prevalent opinions

The intense process undergone by this group of about 15 Aurovilians (Amy, Bridget, David, Deoyani, Eugen, Fabian, Heather, Helena, Isha (Swayam), Jana, Jaya, Mamata, Meera (inspiration), Mona, Pashi, Peter A., Sandhya, Sauro, Shama, Shivaya, Sindhuja, Suhasini) over the past two months with active facilitation, has been one of building up Trust and Hope in the next steps to the Planning of Auroville. Our aim is that all the current Issues and Challenges facing Town Planning and Development in Auroville can be put on the table with honesty and sincerity so that we can address them without brushing the uncomfortable issues under the carpet.

We will come back to you soon with a detailed update on the workshop outcome, as well as the outline of the planned community process.

Thank you for your trust, patience and support!
Sincerely yours,
AVCouncil

ANNOUNCEMENTS

General Meeting to Discuss Kalpana Project

The Residents' Assembly Service (RAS) encourages you to attend a General Meeting to discuss the Kalpana Project.

WHEN: 4.30, Friday, April 15

WHERE: Unity Pavilion

The meeting will give residents an opportunity to:

- a) Discuss concerns; and
- b) Seek clarifications regarding the project.

Representatives of the following groups have all confirmed their attendance and will be available to answer questions related to Kalpana:

- The Town Development Council (TDC),
- The Funds and Asset Management Committee (FAMC) and
- The Project Holders

For more information, please don't hesitate email the RAS at: raservice@auroville.org.in or call: 948 6623 749.

Kind regards,

Your RAS Team

Opening of the Solar Kitchen Roundabout

The Solar Kitchen roundabout was planned to be opened on the eve of the Tamil New Year. Road Service has completed its work, but last Monday, the Working Committee has informed the TDC and Jan Imhof (a qualified consultant) that they "have visualised a few scenarios and still have some concerns". Four of these scenarios are elaborately described.

The Working Committee "proposes a trial run of the roundabout in the presence of Jan and the TDC team, so as to address any concerns on the spot, and to do it together. They would propose that the school bus as well as a car and several motorcycles attempt the roundabout, and then give feedback." They "would appreciate it if the TDC could organize the trial run with the SAHER bus" and they ask them to "inform about date and time".

Matter is under progress.

Road Service

L'Avenir d'Auroville: 16th 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. Suryamayi in Gaia on plot no. B015/6 for dismantable house for an area of 65 sq.m.

Individual Project:

Building Application Feedback

1. Jeff & Angelika, Grace, House extension for a built up area 106.2 sq.m.

Collective Project

Building Application Feedback

1. European House in International Zone for Temporary House on plot no. IR 250/4 next to international Zone house for an area of 120 sq.m.

Project write-up given by the project holder.

Project Title: European House

Proposed Site Location: International Zone

Project Holder: Martin Littlewood, Linda Grace

Architect: Sonali

Contact Persons: Martin Littlewood, Linda Grace

Description:

Plot No: IR 250/4

Total Area of the project: 120 m²

Build up Area: 40 m²

Target Group: Aurovilians, guests and visitors interested in the cultures of Europe and seeking to manifest national pavilions of European nations, as described by the Mother, for the Intentional Zone

Background:

Triggers: The manifestation of the International Zone according to the Mother's vision

Goals/Objectives: Human Unity through the experience of the diversity of the cultures of the world. The Temporary European House will plant a seed for the manifestation of the European area of the International Zone, and will be a place for European nations to meet for this work. It can also be a place for exhibitions and events relating to the diverse cultures of Europe.

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 Housing Service

Frequently asked questions regarding housing in Auroville

Question: Do Newcomers have to make a donation for an apartment to become Aurovilian?

Answer: No, not necessarily. To be able to live in Auroville a permanent housing solution is needed, and for everyone's needs there are several options, depending on the budget. The Newcomer house that Housing Service has provided has to be vacated at the end of the Newcomer process. Special permission for a 6-month overstay maximum can be granted by the Housing Service only if a permanent housing solution has been found (In some cases Newcomers are not in a Newcomer house, but live somewhere else in Auroville, in agreement with the Housing Service).

The following conditions define a permanent housing solution:

1. An agreement with the project holder and the first installment paid for any new housing project under preparation or under construction.
2. A House Transfer Agreement signed with the Housing Service confirming the stewardship for an existing house.
3. A co-stewardship agreement with another Aurovilian.
4. A guarantee of being accepted into the "Housing against recognized work" project.

5. The construction of a house (whether temporary or permanent):
 - a) In places where it is possible inside the City area, with community agreement and NOC (No Objection Certificate) from L'avenir d'Auroville / Town Development Council (TDC).
 - b) In places where it is possible outside the City area, like in Auromodel, Petite Ferme, Aspiration, and so on, with community agreement and NOC from the TDC.
 - c) In the Green Belt, with permission from the Green Group (Farm and Forest Group), community agreement and NOC from the TDC.
6. A staff quarter with permission of the unit holder or school and with a commitment to stay and work for a minimum of 5 years or until another permanent housing solution is found.
7. A confirmation for a placing in the Humanscapes project from the Housing Service or a written confirmation from a project holder who proposes a subsidized house in his project.
8. To have a long-term house-sitting agreement with a steward, for a minimum of 3 years. In this case, a deposit (2 lakhs for a single person, 3 lakhs for a couple) will be asked as a minimum guarantee for a future housing possibility. This is refundable within 5 years including the Newcomer period in case the concerned person decides to leave Auroville.

Question: Does the Housing Service support the newly proposed Entry procedure?

Answer: No, it would be a mistake to accept this new policy. The Housing Service and Housing Board are very worried about the fact that the housing aspect is proposed to be de-linked from the process to become an Aurovillian. Housing foresees that Newcomers will not invest in housing solutions for themselves anymore and will try to keep moving from one house-sit to another.

The effect will be that after one or two years all Newcomer houses will be occupied by Aurovillians who have not taken the next step to secure permanent housing for themselves, and that there is a full circus of people who go from house to house and have small holidays to pass the time in between two house-sits. Present building activities will come to a halt as nobody will invest in a housing asset anymore. We will have to close Auroville for Newcomers for years, because we cannot accommodate them. According to the VISA regulations of the Government of India Aurovillians must live in Auroville, so renting in the village is not an option.

The policy linking housing to Entry has been agreed upon by the community in 2012, and it should remain so until housing for people without funds can be provided by the community. You might not be aware of it, but Housing Service pays every year lakhs of rupees for grants for the housing needs of Aurovillians who have no money. If building activity comes to a standstill, we no longer have the income to do that.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Auroville Village Action Group (AVAG) Update



Dear Friends,
Here are some highlights of our work for the past two months for Auroville in the bio-region, should you like to contact us please do so at avag@auroville.org.in. You can also see [Thamarai on YouTube](#), [Thamarai on Auroville.org](#), and [Thamarai on Facebook](#)!

• **Women's and men's group federation selections**

AVAG has an affiliation of 5,000 women and 700 men in networks of 300 self-help groups in 80 villages surrounding Auroville. The federations has just elected the new office bearers for a 3 year period. for the general body, executive body and executive committee. These people will be the link to help AVAG manage this extensive network of self-help groups, partner in decision making and in planning all new activities.

• **AVVAI scheme extended and summer program**

AVVAI, one of AVAG's biggest schemes, has received a new grant for girls education from Motherson Sumi Systems Limited (MSSL) under their Corporate Social Responsibility funding. Last year the scheme has enabled 457 girls, selected by AVAG Self Help Group network from marginalised families, to continue their primary education or pursue higher education at a college or university. AVAG has organised a six week summer program that starts next week for some of these girls which is designed to give the opportunity to develop English and computer skills, health education and yoga, career guidance, cultural activities and leadership and personal capacity skills.

• **Paalam - youth empowerment**

"Paalam" (meaning "Bridge" in Tamil) is a bio-regional youth leadership training programme that emerged from collaboration between AVAG, Youth Link and The Auroville Bio-region Action Group. The aim of this project is to establish links with youth from the villages surrounding Auroville in order to foster relationship and co creation and in particular 1) to identify the most urgent needs for the future, 2) offer training

in sustainable village development and 3) initiate projects together that will benefit the whole bio-region.

Thirty five youth (including youth link members) from eighteen villages in close vicinity to Auroville have reflected upon the ideals of Auroville, the relationship with the surrounding villages and have had lectures and group discussions on the principles of development, the region's water management, government schemes, coastal erosion and leadership/capacity training. Stage 1 of Paalam will be completed in June with 1) an exposure trip to best practice models in other villages and 2) a day of reflection for an action orientated stage 2 which will start youth lead development projects with the help of expertise from Auroville and Government of India funding schemes. New youth groups will be established in villages close to Auroville to strengthen relationship and develop infrastructural projects, environmental awareness and health-related services. Paalam also offers the potential of a much needed dynamic communications channel between Auroville and the villages.

• **Caste exchanges - fostering equality**

Highlighting caste issues, breaking barriers and fostering integration is the basis that AVAG's popular caste exchange program is built on. This program encourages members from Dalit areas to visit caste settlements and vice versa. Most of the time, this is the first occasion the caste member has entered a Dalit settlement and is invited into homes, temple and other common places. The women cook, eat and share life stories and this is also used as a chance to get ideas to improve the performance of the clubs. The program has been very successful in breaking up caste barriers, during the exchange women often refer to each other as sister or daughter and keep in touch afterwards, showing it is possible to change cultural norms.

• **De-addiction - fostering well being**

Though alcoholism has been a prominent problem in Tamil Nadu, the habit of drinking had always been looked down on by the society. People, when drunk, were afraid to face families and friends. Now there is a big shift in the way the habit is viewed and people tend to accept it as normal - men drinking is quite a common event on all occasions. Mass media plays a considerable role in promoting liquor consumption which is a big source of revenue for the state government and is much more widely available than before.

But citizens are calling for a tightening of access and political parties with candidates running for the up coming state elections have responded giving commitments to reduce access by shortening opening hours and eventually closing many of the liquor shops.

During our interactions with the communities we hear stories from the people, particularly from women and children, which highlight the effects of alcoholism on individuals, families and communities. AVAG and Thamarai project teams have initiated several recent activities to address these issues such as 1) site visits to de-addiction centres in the region to identify best partner organisations for referrals, 2) awareness seminars 3) a one day wellness campaign that we can road show in other villages 4) weekly support meetings at AVAG and village community centres. AVAG and its members would like to develop its work in this area. We will undertake a survey of the current situation and then develop more extensive awareness programs and support services working directly with youth and AVAG federations.

In a recent AVAG seminar, rehabilitated alcoholics and family members spoke of the struggle of being addicted and the respect and dignity earned back once rehabilitated. The AA (Alcoholics anonymous) and Al-Anon (AA family support structure) was described as a “fort to protect alcoholics and families”.

• International Women’s Day celebrations

To commemorate International Women’s Day, AVAG Self Help Groups initiated different activities in their villages. While some of the women’s group’s organised games and dance performances for themselves and children, others chose to have village level gatherings of Self Help Groups to exchange gifts and speak about group experience. Quite a few went to the schools in their villages to happily distribute stationery to the children and a few other groups celebrated women’s day in the homes for the aged and physically challenged.

With best wishes, *AVAG Team*

Accessible Bus Trip to Pondy on 24th of April, Darshan Day

There will be the Accessible Auroville Bus to Pondy on 24th of April, Darshan Day.

Starting at 8.30 am, following the usual route and coming back at noon.

The trip is restricted to those who are going for the Darshan.

With the card-pass the cost is Rs.42 one trip (Rs.420 for the 10 trips), without pass-card it is Rs.45 one way.

As it is a 12 seats bus, It would be better to book in advance to be sure to get your seat.

Contact: 9443074825 - Raju / Email: avbus@auroville.org.in

With Gratitude, *Susmita*

City Transport now free within city area

City Transport has been operating as a quick pick up and drop shuttle service for the last 3 years, running on per-passenger rates. Now just in time for Tamil New Year we will take a small leap towards the future and it will become a **free service for trips within the city area**. This means that you will be able to hop on and hop off according to your needs.

It will still operate on a call up basis, as well as running regular routes - meaning that you can call it to come and pick you up and take you to your destination, but we will also start running regular routes at certain times to be worked out as we go along, when we see which routes are most needed and at what time of day - e.g to and from Solar Kitchen at lunchtime - updated schedule information will be announced through notice boards/AV News/Auronet, and be available in the vehicle. Trips beyond the city area will be chargeable as before. Timings: 9.30 am - 6.00 pm - Contact: 262-2611 or 94876-50951 visitorscentre@auroville.org.in

Kavunji nature camp - Group 1

COMPULSORY MEETING for everyone (adult participants, children and children’s parents) on Saturday April 16th at 5 pm in Certitude Sports Ground.

- Leaves Auroville on May 2nd in the evening (Transport Service)
- Leaves Kavunji on May 12th in the afternoon..
- The children will be back in Auroville on May 13th early morning

Name	Duty
Dinesh	Gr.Leader
Suresh	
Mahi	
Jackie	
Palani	Tech.
Vadivel	
Swadha	
Arumugam	Caretaker
Ashwin	bike
Swaha	bike
Sudha	amma
Thenmozhi	amma
Purani	amma

Name	School	Gender
Hariharan	Udavi	Male
Kabilan	Udavi	Male
Punithavel	Udavi	Male
Viknesh	Udavi	Male
Arini	Aikyam	Female
Bavani	Aikyam	Female
Pachaivazhi	Aikyam	Female
Vijayakumar	Aikyam	Male
Murugan	Aikyam	Male
Godwin Joswa	Aikyam	Male
Yugasri	Transition	Female
Kathiravan	Transition	Male
Logesh	Transition	Male
Kishore	Transition	Male
Prithvi	Transition	Male
Suryan	Transition	Male
Sama	Transition	Female
Zara	Transition	Female
Zoe	Transition	Female
Yogesh	Transition	Male
Jianghao	Transition	Male
Jason/ Jingchun	TLC	Male
Noe	Transition	Male
Elio	Transition	Male
Ramon	Transition	Male
Narchelvi	Transition	Female
Eva	Deepanam	Female
Pia	TLC	Female
Imayaval	Transition	Female
Yeshoda	Transition	Female

POSTINGS

Inge TOS

Dear Friends,
This is to inform you that Inge from the RAS will be TOS from end of April till end of October 2016.
Warmly, *Av Council*

Vijay's encyclopedia

In the last 15 years I have written and compiled a kind of spiritual and human issues "encyclopedia" with quotes from every possible religion and spiritual teaching to show that their essence is One; questions to the reader to make it a bit interactive, anecdotes, some simple techniques and meditations - which is now over 1,800 chapters, over 10,000 pages, divided in twelve books. The first two books can be found online at: <http://www.fireandwater.com>, the other 10 books will also gradually be put online.

I had originally offered this work to SALiER, some were interested and one had already put the first book in the AV Wiki; then the usual haters and slanderers attacked me personally and it was taken out. Everyone who read a bit of it found it interesting. If so inclined, you can contribute to the text and expand it and interact with others in the forum.

Om Namo Bhagavate, *Vijay*

Marika, some news

Dear friends,
We would like to inform the community that Marika (Samasti-homeopath) hasn't been well for many months and is in need of support in different areas. Marika is suffering from respiratory difficulties, so since a month she has been given exercises that have improved her overall health condition. These simple movements should be practiced daily for which she needs people's help (1h / 1.30h.).
Giving her company, phone calls, presence would be a great emotional support as well. Marika is physically independent, still sharp and full of good will to improve her condition. So if you have some smiles and time to offer, please come forward and call me, *Claudia*: 9488483312

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

Applications now open!

UnLtd Tamil Nadu is an Auroville-based social entrepreneurship incubator which searches, selects and supports social start-ups in all sectors including health, waste, food, education, energy, crafts, livelihood, etc.

We offer hands-on Social Enterprise development, professional and personal coaching, access to mentors, experts, markets and follow-up investors, peer learning platforms, seed funding and fund raising support and leadership development.

We are inviting applications from potential social change makers for a year long incubation support. Interested early stage social entrepreneurs from Auroville, Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry are encouraged to send filled-in application on before 20th May 2016. Applications are available on our website: www.unltdtamilnadu.org.

For more details, please contact us via incubation@unltdtamilnadu.org or call 96-268-040-25.

Please let me know if you need more information.

Thank you!! Regards, *Souaad*

Support for AV performing artists

Dear Auroville Performing Artists, if you plan a performance for the financial year 2016-17 and you need financial support please send a mail to: av.artistgroup@gmail.com - With love, *Rolf*

Foodlink tour

The Foodlink will be closed on Friday and Saturday (15/4/16 to 16/4/16) due to its annual tour - *Sorry for the inconvenience.*

What is Mime Menu?

It is a Menu with Mime Acts which you can choose in order to see it perform!!! It is rightfully called MIME MENU - You Pick I Perform.

The I in it is BLIP and you can see him this week on **Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 10 am to 3 pm at the Dreamers Cafe at Visitors Centre.** For more information you could write to: mime@auroville.org.in or call +91 96 26 56 12 56 - All are Welcome - *Drupad*

AVAILABLE

M&M cheeses

Cheeses, ricotta and yogurt from pure goat milk. Home delivery. Email to : Massimo@auroville.org.in or phone 2622438. *Massimo*

Items

Massage table not foldable made in Germany ("klapp zu" brand); Honda Activa scooter in best conditions; House furniture; A few books, videos, essential oils, crystals, pashmina shawls, kitchenware and cutlery - many clothes, many small items for free. Please call *Laura* at Quiet: 9486366413

Cat

I have had the joy of sharing my life with a gloriously beautiful, soft bellied, sweet voiced creature for the past two years, but I have recently discovered that I am radically allergic to him, and therefore have to give him away. He does absolutely nothing all day except rolling around in the sun looking all cute

and relaxed. I don't know his age as he just randomly appeared in my garden one day and decided I was going to be his human

whether I liked it or not. He is castrated and does not get along with other cats. If you are interested in adopting this very low-maintenance, highly aesthetic cat, please write to me at: valentine.hemdan@gmail.com - *Valentine*

30-40 Outlook magazines

From last months. *Dinesh* - 759 839 43 58 (also Whatsapp possible)

Ceramic water filter, gas oven, cycle

1. Ceramic Water filter, with two filters/ 2. Gas Oven with a generator 3. Bicycle for men. Please contact 7639318959. *Ally*

Juice extractor

If anyone for health reasons has to make carrot or beetroot juice I have a juice extractor for free. It is a centrifugal Havels juicer, a bit noisy but it works well. Call *Ben*: 9159275735.

Granite block splitting machine

With four foot diameter blade, 10 HP motor. Contact Mr. Manimaran at 2622153 or Mr. Elumalai at 994338854 at Matrimandir Auroville. Minimum sales price is 2.25 lakhs. Sealed tenders must be received by May 1st 2016.

Office place

Dear all, we have a new office place available in papyrus 2nd floor. Shared with papyrus office. If someone is interested, please contact us. Contact person: *Bruno or Subha* - Contact number: 0413 - 2622129 (from 8.45 am to 12.45 pm).

Steel pots

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

Premium quality Mattress and water purifier

Queen size. Only three months old so it is in excellent condition / Water Purifier-Kent Gold 10-Litre Gravity based (non-electric).

I'm leaving Auroville after a short visit so I need to find them a new home! Contact *Verity*: 8979601163 or verity.thorburn@gmail.com

LOOKING FOR ...

A mountain bike

From a good brand in excellent condition. If you have one (or more) just sitting around, please contact me. Love, *Vera* - 9751633084

A phone 1

I need a telephone, preferably cordless and an UPS (uninterrupted power supply, only for a modem) very urgently please! *Chieko*, Newcomer - Email me, text me or call me: nihongochiekita@gmail.com / 9159052180

A phone 2

If someone has an old simple mobile with camera I would be happy to get it. A little payment can be available if needed. 2622684. Please call in the afternoon time. *Rosa (Citadines)*

A second hand mattress

If you have one to give or sell, please contact lilimalaf@gmail.com or 9159352906. Thanks! *Elise*

A new member

Dear community, *Muyarchi* is looking for a new member (Newcomer or Aurovilian) - In Surrender, *Muyarchi* is a house for youth people (from 21 to 35 year old). For more information contact housing or email us on: muyarchilist@auroville.org.in

Looking for second hand laptop for Unity Pavilion

We need a laptop mainly to connect with projector and sound during presentations, workshops, community meetings and alike. The laptop needs to be in good condition. Most happy if the laptop can be donated but equally possible for Unity Pavilion to contribute for it. Please contact Unity Pavilion office 2623576 or write to unitypavilion@auroville.org.in

A safe and secure storage space

For 5-6 large cardboard boxes filled with clothing, books and kitchen items (can be stacked in a corner) whilst I visit my home country until this September. Contact *Verity*: 8979601163 or verity.thorburn@gmail.com.

Used jars

If you have used transparent plastic jars with lid (from 250ml up to 2l content), kindly keep them for me. Just call and I'll pick them up: 2623038. *Schima-Dorit*

A bicycle to use this summer

Please respond back if you have one, can give it back serviced, or buy it from you, or if you have one lying around that you wouldn't mind me using, please let me know at: 8531828586 | sidjainn@gmail.com. Thanks, *Siddharth Jain*

CD player

Looking for a second hand CD player or Walkman in working condition. Please call 2623038. *Schima-Dorit*

LOST & FOUND

Smart Phone (Lost): Samsung GT18262 (Galaxy Core), black with black cover. Lost on Wednesday 13/04/2016 on the way from Swayam to Town Hall. I am staying at Mitra Youth Hostel so find me there or at Dustudio where I am an architect, or call: 8110065515 or 9769489459. Thanks! *Oshin Vikas Malhara*.

Backpack (stolen): My Muji backpack, an anthracite grey color, made of light material, was stolen from a house in Certitude Saturday night. If you find a bag like this, please inform *Stephanie*: 9943106616. We hope the thief dropped it somewhere. Inside were my passport, my phone, some clothing items, money and keys. Thank you!

Water bottle and its Bag (Lost): I have lost somewhere my brand new SS-Water Bottle (0.5 l) with a hand stitched green shoulder bag exactly fitting for this bottle! Please if you found it, kindly phone *Schima - Dorit* 2623038

My CROCS (Lost) (brown leather, size 10) feel sooo different : (YOU may have mistaken mine for yours ?! Exchange happened at Nandanam book release event Sat 2nd April. Please call if you got a feeling ... 948 848 3348. *Peter*

ACCOMMODATIONS AVAILABLE AND NEEDED

Housesitting1: Hello, I am *Siddharth*. I came to Auroville for two months beginning February as a volunteer. These two months have been so full of discovering that I plan to stay for a long time now, which puts me in a position to find a good space to live in. The primary proposition for me to stay in Auroville now is to find time for myself and invest in mutual

growth. I would be happy and grateful to take care of your house (including pets, if any), if you would like we can meet and find out. I am a simple man, young and energetic, single at the moment, maintain cleanliness, and am on a path of self-discovery. Reachable at: 8531828586 | sidjainn@gmail.com - Thanks, *Siddharth Jain*

Housesitting2: Hello, I am *Sophie*. I am a single woman and I work with Aquadyn. I am looking for a house sitting (preferably with an AC bedroom) in Auroville from now on till end of May. I would love to take care of your house/apartment and your cats. I'll keep your place clean and organized. Please contact me at: 0975 124 6332 or send me an email at: s.chaboche@hotmail.com

Housesitting3: Hello! We, two SAVI registered German long-term volunteers, are looking for a house sitting from May onwards. We will be in Auroville until mid-August and would very much appreciate a place to live in and take care of for (a part of) this time. We are looking forward to your reply. Please contact us via email (darius.meissner@outlook.de or f.pander@gmx.de) or via mobile (Felix: 7639318496 or Darius: 7639205474). Thank you and best regards, *Felix and Darius*.

House-sitter1: Seeking an Aurovillian or a Newcomer to house-sit a 2 bedroom house in New Creation Field from May 1 to beginning of January 2017. House has UPS, western toilet.... Contact *Kalai* or *Murugam* to see the house: 09047232986. or 0413 262 2479. Contact *Tlaloc* (tlalocct@hotmail.com) to discuss contract and expenses.

House-sitter2: Looking for a strong person or a couple, who likes to live in nature and loves animals (dog and cat), to take care of a house in Newlands in June and July. Contribution towards salary of the amma and other running costs. Best would be someone who could also give some time to the forest and garden. There could be a possibility to stay longer if it is a well-fitting person who is interested in green-work. Contact *Shivaya*: 9489601312, shivaya@auroville.org.in

TAXI SHARING

April 17th: My father will leave around 9 pm on the 17th of April to Chennai airport. Taxi sharing both ways possible, he could also go earlier if needed. *Carla*: 89 036 77 141 or carotenthoff@gmail.com

April 20th: I arrive on the 20th of April at 11.15 am, and need a taxi at Chennai airport. If you would like to share the taxi either going or coming back please email me: shahnandi@gmail.com or SMS only after the 18th of April at: 9488483286. *Nandita, Quiet*

April 22nd: Friday, leaving from Auroville Samarpan guest house around 9 am to Chennai airport. *Giacomo* 8524959675 or giacomonovi@gmail.com

April 22nd: I'm leaving Auroville on 22 April 2016 at 8.00 pm for Chennai airport. If you like to share my taxi please phone 095 66 624 295 or mail Valleria141@hotmail.de

April 27th: At 10 pm. I leave with a cab from Auroville to Chennai airport. I you would like to share call *Ben*: 9159275735

April 28th: Is there anybody on Emirates flight on 28th of April, 4 am and wants to share a taxi? I am planning to leave Auroville on 27th at 11 pm. *Biggie*: 9443698002=

May 4th: Taxi to share to go to Chennai airport Wednesday 4th of May; departure from Auroville around 3.30/4 pm. Contact otrachristine@yahoo.fr or 9943921916 - *Christine*

WORK OPPORTUNITIES

At Unity Pavilion

Unity Pavilion is still looking for a person to take up repair works, handling of sound/ projector equipment, supervision of building activities and help in improvement / expansion of facility.

This is a part time work. Presence is needed on 5 mornings and possibly also occasionally for late afternoon or evening events. A half maintenance is available.

We dream of someone who has a good understanding of Auroville, is passionate like us to work for Human Unity, has skills in the domain of the work aspect mentioned above, has good communication skills, is fluent in English (spoken and written) and has ability to work self-motivated and independently.

Therefore one more call out to the community, to Aurovillians and Newcomers, to come forward if this work interests you.

We can find an intermediary solution during the summer but in the long run would very much like to find a committed person for our Unity Pavilion team.

If this speaks to you, please write to: unitypavilion@auroville.org.in.

Thank you! *Shivaya for Unity Pavilion*

At Aikiyam School

Aikiyam School is looking for 2 full-time (or 3 part-time) people to help Shankar, the principal, run Aikiyam School from June 15th onwards. There are two main areas of work that need attention, so if either of them appeals to you, please get in touch with us for more details. We need:

1. A person who can manage the office, and take care of all administrative matters. We have two young women already in the office who will assist you. Laura, the person who is currently doing this work, is available to train you. Very good

written and spoken English is required for this work. Attendance at weekly Support Group Meetings is required.

2. A person who can oversee the care of the physical campus, making sure that things get fixed in a timely and cost efficient manner, and also that an acceptable level of hygiene is maintained in the school's kitchen. A self-motivated and proactive person, who can see what needs to be done, is required for this work. As we are just completing a new building, and redoing the garden, It would be a bonus if this person "had an eye" for things like choosing curtains, and creating special corners in the garden for students to meet. Attendance at the weekly support group meeting is required.

We are also looking for someone to take care of our website, and take pictures and videos of the school. This could be done by a separate person, but also could be combined with one of the above. Although we prefer people who will be a full-time presence in the school, we are definitely open to part-time applicants as well.

If you are a person who loves children, is comfortable working in a village related milieu, has a good sense of humour, is both organized and flexible, and has some of the competencies and qualities required for the above-mentioned, we would love to hear from you.

Aikiyam School Support Group: assg@auroville.org.in (*Devasmita, Francoise, Janet, Laura White, Marion, Martin, Shankar, and Sudhir*)

HEALTH

To all members of the AV Health Fund,

If you still have any medical bills from the past month (March) at home please drop them, together with your doctor prescription and your PT account number, in the Health Fund box at Aspiration Health Centre.

Only the medical bills from March 2016 can be paid till end of April 2016.

The audit service has told not to process any bills from the last financial year after March 2016.

Please check your cupboards while there is still time!

From AV Health Fund

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.

Make Love not War (Music 12/04/2016)
2nd edition of rock and roll, a time of Supramental descent which changed the consciousness of humanity, affected all. -[English, 75 Minutes]

Blissful performance-Prajakta Raj (Performing arts 12/04/2016)
Kathak performance at CRIPA, Kalabhoomi, by Prajakta Raj - Program by Stephen Anurag. -[English, 28 Minutes]

Puthāndu Vāzthukkal! (News from Auroville 11/04/2016)
Classical Kathak dance performance tonight at 8pm at CRIPA. Tamil New Year celebration on 14th at Youth Centre. -[English, 11 Minutes]

Carpe Diem (Visual Arts 10/04/2016)
Carpe Diem - a photo exhibition by Lisbeth and Amara was inaugurated yesterday at Pitanga. -[English, 12 Minutes]

Interest and Passion matters (Multimedia 09/04/2016)
Interest and Passion matters views by David Dinakaran - [English, 11 Minutes]

Theatre Festival in Adishakti (Culture 09/04/2016)
In a conversation with Vinay we learn about Veenapani, Adishakti, and their upcoming festival, Remembering Veenapani. -[English, 29 Minutes]

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

Peace in Cacophony (Beyond Religion 08/04/2016)
Our daily soundscape is the one of birds, starting with brain fever in the middle of the night along with peacocks cry - [Sound, 5 Minutes]

Introduction de notre chroniqueuse Gangalakshmi (History 08/04/2016)
Une introduction sur la vie de notre chroniqueuse Gangalakshmi et son parcours à Auroville. -[French, 58 Minutes]

Mother's Q & A - 14/12/1955 (The Mother 07/04/2016)
Mother speaks of our universal being, three necessary stages of our development and how to keep the divine Presence. - [English, 51 Minutes]

Blip Mime, TLC Open House (News from Auroville 07/04/2016)
TLC invites us today to an open house 2 -5 pm. Blip - 9,10 and 11 the best mime artist on 9th,10th,11th -[English, 12 Minutes]

Rocking Last Waltz (Music 06/04/2016)
The descent of the Supramental has huge impact on the planet - collective shift of the consciousness - and rock . -[English, 77 Minutes]

TRAVEL

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.

More new interesting flight offers valid from April onwards have been published, please contact our counter staff for your travel.

Lufthansa introduced a special offer for premium economy to Europe. Oman Airways has now two flights daily to London and special one month fares to Europe.

Insurance: We strongly recommend to avail of a Travel Insurance for all foreign travels.

Hotels: International and Domestic hotels can be booked through us on 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

EATING OUT

Sunday Chill at AuroAnnam

Feeling the heat? Drop by our farm for an evening of delicious food, god send breeze, trees, hanging lights and of course lovely music!

Bring instruments of any kind if you want to kick start a jam session. CYA!

Call: 8523915031 for registration.



Can Auroville be built with Mumpties? or the Adventure of Harmonising..... the Eternal Opposites...

Not so long ago, in a meeting on sustainable building, a participant burst out: "I'm fed up with hearing the words 'sustainability' and 'eco-friendly', for me this is all new-age mumbo-jumbo and has nothing to do with building the city of Auroville!" Blunt and extreme as this statement sounds, it reflects a reservation that lives in many minds and is heard in countless variations. No topic heats up more tempers in Auroville than the cutting of trees... And in any conversation that touches on the future of Auroville, we find ourselves carefully gauging where the person we speak to stands in the polarity between 'favouring the City' or 'protecting Nature'...

This old entrenched 'divide' could be disheartening, especially when we realise how hardened it is in some cases and how loaded with long-standing hurts and unresolved conflicts. It will haunt us as a community until we have started to deal with it, and opened some sort of dialogue between the 'camps' and ideologies instead of erupting into shouting matches on- and off-line... Recent events have shown this as starkly as it gets.

Of course, if answers were easy, they would have long been found. And just as obviously, Auroville is facing a tension that exists across the world, ever since cities were born... None of us needs to be reminded of the urban-rural contrast, even though in or around Auroville we are not faced with the extremes: Even what we term 'luxury' is far from the excesses of glitzy metropolis, nor do we witness the most abject poverty and neglect of rural populations treated as second-hand citizens or dispensable masses ... But the contrasts are undeniably in our midst, tangible and uncomfortable. Could it be that, as so often, we are made to work on something that is crucially needed in the world?

The tension takes many forms. It lives in stereotypes about greenbelters who want to 'keep Auroville as a forest', stubbornly oppose any growth and prevent any 'development' and infrastructure for the city in the making. We use flattering labels for them ranging from ignorant, primitive, naïve and anti-progress, to dope-smoking hippies, fanatics, anarchists and (self-confessed) eco-terrorists, who are clearly unspiritual and here for the wrong reasons... From the deep forest, some of the labels for the 'city people' and especially for city planners, are hardly kinder. They refer to all the ills of a greed-driven, sick and corrupt way of life, blind and hell-bent on self-destruction, a rotten world from which we came in search of refuge or which we hope to heal by choosing a life-style of modesty and respect for Nature, attempting to create a harmony which instead finds itself ever more threatened...

We're not speaking of people who are here for an easy ride, but of Aurovilians with a strong motivation and admirable dedication, whose anguish at seeing their aims frustrated is just as deep on both sides of the gap. A wise friend commented the other day that the roots of these tensions go deeper than the 'city versus nature' orientation. He suggested that we should explore how we relate to authority, and how we believe - consciously or unconsciously - the Divine is guiding us and working things out, in Auroville and the world.

There are those of us whose aspiration makes them look intensely to the central Ideal, in the conviction that if only we can be more loyal to what had been said about building the city, our collective knots and blockages would start resolving at last. Entrusting the responsibility of executing the Plan into competent hands and submitting in faith to the chosen instruments, will call down Grace and Force to start manifesting the glorious Future. There are others who tend to look for the Divine in infinite forms and ever-changing

expressions, as an evolving Truth that can meet us in unexpected ways, be it the divinity of a dew drop, the wisdom of Nature or that of a human collective, however imperfect it may still be. There is a search for the footprints of the elusive golden Child in its play, or for the sound of its laughter or flute among the trees...

Metaphors and over-simplifications aside, what our friend was referring to is the principle expressed by the two triangles in the symbol of Sri Aurobindo, one acting from 'Above' (One to the many) and one from 'Below' (many to the One), both equally the truths of the Divine. It is in the space where they meet and are harmonised that a divine perfection can manifest. What would happen if we were to look at our deep-seated collective tensions in this perspective? If I am more aware of where I myself come from, if I concede that there might be a valid truth trying to express itself through my opponent too, perhaps we can start to discover a reconciling common ground? And, could it just be that we will suddenly realise that many of our oppositions exist mainly in our minds, and don't have to be mutually exclusive?

Once we open up to such possibility, not only will we live in a happier community, but it may open the door to new explorations. Just as an example, to stay with the topic of building Auroville, we may find ways to use eco-friendly, natural materials in fast, efficient and affordable construction; we may find that beauty does not have to mean high cost, and that a community can live relatively densely and yet in close contact with Nature... We may even start to trust each other and share more of our resources...! It may not always be easy to find such common ground, and we cannot predict the outcomes; but one thing is sure, a deep and courageous dialogue must start to happen and it cannot wait!

*Appearance looked back to its hidden truth
And made of difference oneness' smiling play;
It made all persons fractions of the Unique,
Yet all were being's secret integers.
All struggle was turned to a sweet strife of love
In the harmonised circle of a sure embrace.
Identity's reconciling happiness gave
A rich security to difference.*

(Sri Aurobindo, Savitri: The House of the Spirit and the New Creation)invitation

For AVGreen Center: *Jasmin, Lisbeth & Bridget* - avgreencenter@auroville.org.in

**Sunday
walk
Farms & Forests**

The Last two walks of the season; don't miss them!

Sunday 17th April Buddha garden with Priya 8.30-11.00 am - tel 2622653 / 2001238

Buddha's Garden concept is to welcome volunteers and to teach them hands-on know how in organic agriculture but also to host research students to study sustainable farm practice. Buddha garden is producing organic food for Auroville and has organized weekly work visits

Directions: From Visitor's Center keep following the road, take a left on the crossing, follow the tar road direction Edyanchavadi village. Turn right after a large pond. Follow the signs on the path that runs in front of a small temple and through the gate, go down the path till you can't go any further and voilà, there's Buddha Garden!

Sunday 24th April Aranya Forest

Since this is the last walk of this season, and in honouring of Earth Day, the Green Center offers transport to the Aranya sanctuary and an organic lunch to all participants. Departure 8.30 am from Solar Kitchen, back around 12.30. More in the next News & Notes!

Notes

Response to a disinformation campaign regarding Kalpana Housing Project

- **Disinformation 1.** Kalpana is only for the rich people. **This is wrong.**

This project includes,

- Solar back up system for the entire project
- Solar hot water
- Landscaping
- Common amenities, laundry, stores, office reception room
- Parking on the ground floor of the east bloc in a pukka construction
- Cupboards, study, dressing, equipped kitchen, equipped bath room
- Lights, fans, inverter fridge

At present with the above extras, the cost per sqm is Rs 29,000 and if the extras were not there the price per SQM would come down to Rs 22,000/sqm, not more than other projects in Auroville.

Most of the apartments (36 numbers) are costing from 21.5 lakhs to 38 lakhs. Only 5 apartments of much bigger size for family are costing more.

An average financial help of 40 % of the cost will be offered at first to the Aurovilians who cannot afford to make a donation for the full value of the apartment. **20 to 25 % of the total number of the apartment will receive the financial help.**

We are not going to compromise on quality because it will have a longer life whereas low cost houses have short life and at the end cost more.

- **Disinformation 2.** We have started the work without the building permission NOC. **This is wrong.**

While waiting for the NOC we were preparing the site, barricading, marking with the help of TDC. The tree cutting and the digging started only after the NOC was delivered on 21st March 2016.

- **Disinformation 3.** Most of the people who bought the apartments are from Pondicherry and that we promised them that they will become friends of Auroville. **This is wrong.**

As per the guideline put forth by the FAMC we have agreed that only 10 % of the apartment (4 apartments out of 42) will be transferred to the Friends of Auroville. **90 % of the apartments will be transferred to Aurovilians and Newcomers.**

- **Disinformation 4.** We are going to make money out of this project. **This is wrong.**

Since we joined Auroville we have not taken any maintenance, neither do we intend to earn on the name of Auroville. As project holders we are making a donation of Rs 3 crores for this project. (which we have earned in our career in France for 35 years on which we have paid high percentage of income taxes 60%)

Our work and experience at the Housing Service brought us the awareness about the necessity for building more houses, in respect of the process and the urban guidelines of TDC/l'Avenir.

- Write the concept and the philosophy of the project
- Architectural design concept.
- Site application
- NOC for the site (with 15 days feedback)
- Peer reviews 3 times at l'Avenir.
- Several Meetings with the neighbors
- Freezing the plans
- General meeting in March 2015
- NOC for the building application (with 15 days feedback)
- Working drawings
- BOQ to be validated by PEC
- Tender system
- FAMC economic viability
- Final NOC for the building permission

This process took 3 years in total.

This is to say that we have followed the process step by step and the guidelines of Auroville, TDC, l'Avenir and the RA who organized the GM in March 2015. We follow the process because we respect, love and have complete faith in the Mother's vision of Auroville.

Based on the disinformation described above another General Meeting is organized by the RAS for clarifications on some misunderstanding and confusion on Kalpana project.

The above disinformation is deliberately spread by a group of people. This falsehood spoils the name of Auroville and it is contrary to the Auroville spirit and ideal. It is such a pity that some Aurovilians believe in the rumors blindly without any sense of reflection or discernment.

We invite all the persons of good will, who have come to Auroville to build the city, to be present for this

GM on Friday 15th April 2016 at 4.30 pm at the Unity Pavilion.

The Kalpana Housing Project team

The Kalpana Project

I have been very happy to see finally the starting construction of the Kalpana Project. Not only because it is a beautiful Project and will help to tackle the Housing shortage in Auroville, but also because I know how difficult it is in Auroville to get a project over all the administrative hurdles and personal objections.

Having come to Auroville with the aim of Human unity in diversity, surely we have to expect that Housing also shows diverse aspects: some people prefer to live at Sacred Gove and others need more comfort and beauty in their apartment in the city. So???

I also understand, that to build a city, here and there some trees will have to go, but we can and will remedy the situation by planting again around our buildings and roads; just have a look at Citadine where I live...soon our building will disappear completely under the Greenery.

Having finally found after years the project in the city which I was looking for, since the past 6 years construction was going on around our building: SAIER, La Maison des Jeunes, now Sunship and the Archives. Of course there were noises over a certain period of time and there will be in the future but what selfishness one needs to object against new homes for Aurovilians next to us because one does not want to be disturbed?

I hope with all my heart that reason, good will and generosity will prevail finally, so that the construction of Kalpana can be pursued in peace.

Eva (Citadine)

Blocking Kalpana

Dear Friends, Aurovilians in heart and Spirit, Today I joined a group of Aurovilians who spontaneously came together to block the Kalpana project. I left my work undone and got my feet red because I feel, once again, that we are at a point in our growth, when we have to take a good look at what we want Auroville to be-not in the future, but now. Now, and for this Kalpana is the perfect opportunity to address several issues. What's wrong with this project?

Many things, mostly the disregard of the needs Auroville has, the people who live next to the site, the trees that have been there for hundreds of years and no least the Spirit of Auroville. There is nothing 'Auroville' about this project.

But to keep it short and concise...The bottom line is:

Kalpana is a speculative venture. The persons behind it have identified prime location real estate and are developing it not for Aurovilians but for wealthy people who have nothing to do with Auroville at all.

There is a guideline that says that there must be a 40 percent minimum occupancy of the project. But there are two people...

Just for one moment think about what kind of people have that kind of money? Young, idealists? Inspired by the dream of Auroville? Or more inspired by the luxury of a swimming pool and fresh air, and a spacious parking for the Mercedes SUV. Are we kidding? Or what? People like that have other things on their minds than the manifestation of Human Unity, and a more conscious way of living....

It is time for you, the working groups, who are also 'we' to address this and create some guidelines that will help support the development of Auroville in the right Spirit and Direction. How this can be interpreted, I know many better minds than mine are here to come up with suggestions.

Let's meet!

[Have any of you watched 'The Big Short' or even 'Spotlight'? It's time to address things that are being conveniently being ignored. Looking the other way is not an affordable option.]

Ange

Kalpana: The Tip of the Iceberg

The totally unnecessary cutting of the Palmyra trees was just the last drop. The indignant reaction by so many concerned residents follows a series of abuses, which the TDC admits not having been able to prevent and calls for immediate redress. This also exposes the partisan stand, or closing both eyes, of some major working groups. It is up to the RA to address directly the ordeal; in its capacity as the third constituent of the Auroville Foundation (together with the Governing Board and the International Advisory Council), it is the duty of the RA to exert its supreme power regarding all internal matters, whenever the legitimate rights of its members are infringed and the spirit of Auroville jeopardized.

And not only that: Kalpana is an infelicitous, insalubrious settlement. Not only the totally unnecessary palmyras cutting and disregard for the neighbors, violating all previous agreements, are eloquent proof of an ill-seated ideology - but, and this is of tremendous concern, the absurd design, wasting space and material in nonsensical concave and convex protrusions, puts at risk the psychological well-being of the inhabitants. Whereas sacred geometry has well known healing properties conducive to peace and wholeness, the zigzagging of forms of Kalpana, not only externally, but even inside the flats, is highly disruptive. Sensationalism may please tourists holidaying in Las Vegas, Miami Beach or some Club Méditerrané - the design could be successfully sold in such places - but is totally unsuitable for people seriously committed to work, day in and day out, year in and year out, to build *the city the earth needs*, in spirit no less than in matter. Buildings are the very face of the town we are called to build: a futuristic town, a model of sustainability and elegant simplicity - not some South India Disneyland for people having multiple residences wanting a pied-a-terre nearby Matrimandir.

It is the paramount duty of the RA to prevent the spreading of a pattern that would undermine, symbolically as materially, the very image, concept and realisation of the ideal town that Auroville is meant to be: a model to the world of beauty in simplicity and wise management of resources on a planet gambling with extinction, inhabited by dedicated idealists fully committed to its realisation.

Paulette

Reading Auroville Today

Living with Auroville must obviously be endless learning, not to mention the frustrations. Almost miraculously however, every month for the last twenty-eight years, I have received a bit of brilliant help called *Auroville Today*. How to appreciate enough this concise snapshot of the Community? Worse, it seems most Aurovilians never read it. Did we forget that Auroville is not an institution, that the Aurovilians have been legalized by the Government to run it themselves? Our Retreat, our Active Residents' Assembly keeps on sounding the alarm. There are lots of ideas and proposals, meetings and committees, but here's a readable portrait delivered to our doors. It is

not just meant for those who live outside Auroville, as some say. With all the events, research, and developments happening in Auroville, nobody can keep up.

Let's look at the current issue (April 2016). I missed the Auroville Choirs' performance for peace featured in the cover story, but I could sense its meaning and alignment with Auroville's purpose. The back cover story about Aurovilian Rockstar Motorcycle Racers, I had never even suspected that such a phenomenon existed, and had not a clue about it. On the inside page, I am greeted with the news of how the Auroville economy is in dire straits and all the research to back it up. In a separate piece, Bertrand also expresses his concern of our return to a market economy. Our collective intelligence needs to move on such data. Another event I missed is the "All for Water for All". Here is it connected to UNESCO as well as bioregional groups and the crucial link between "waste" and water is clearly spelled out. Unfortunately, it seems there was very little response from the Community for this event. Turning the page, I find the fascinating research on a personal acquaintance of both Mother and Sri Aurobindo. A visiting scholar is sharing her valuable findings for our benefit.

I never knew that the Dinesh Restaurant is listing itself as on "Mother's Golden Temple Road" where pioneer Aurovilian Gordon with a touch of sarcasm is recounting forty-eight years of this dusty time tunnel in a personal reflection. This dust that we have all endured for so long reminded me of the "fight lethargy" injunction in the article on the economy. Speaking of economy, Auroville get a huge boost each year from eighteen young German volunteers funded by themselves and the German Government. The big organizational task has been taken on by AVI Germany. I was so happy to have the full story of the Weltwaerts Programme because I have experienced personally the impact of the programme and what a group of motivated and skilled people can do in their one year of service.

I met Pashi forty-two years ago but not until I read this issue of *Auroville Today* did I know how he came to Auroville and his meetings with the Mother and with Roger. This is our collective memory and we need it "to keep going forward," as he puts it. Not one of us can keep up with the dynamics of the City of Dawn. The time is not there, but an hour a month to absorb *Auroville Today* is a great investment in our Future.

Submitted by B

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

AMPHITHEATRE - MATRIMANDIR

Friday 22nd of April from 6.45 to 7.30 pm

Musical meditation for the full moonrise

"Ô Lord of my life"

By Rabindranath Tagore (recorded music)

Access only from office gate.

Dear guests, please carry your guest card.

To maintain the place quiet, please be seated before 6.45 pm, no late entry!

Switch off your mobile phone, no photos!

Collective meditation under the Banyan

"A harmonious collective aspiration can change the course of circumstances" - the Mother

With an aspiration to crystallize the collective attention and consciousness towards securing the remaining physical base of Auroville, you are kindly invited to a silent gathering under the Banyan Tree

at Matrimandir on 24th April 2016, the day of the Mother's final arrival in Puducherry.

Time - 5.30 to 6.00 pm

Matrimandir - LFAU - Acres for Auroville - GreenAcres

INVITATIONS



LAST SATURDAY MARKET OF THE SEASON !

NOTE: special timings for this last one

****late afternoon****

Saturday 16th April . 5pm to 8pm, at Youth Center.

(And then stay on for the Youth Center Pizza Night ☺)

Localicious and Organic products from Auroville!

Book your stall and info at: localiciousav@gmail.com / Madda: 8489042213



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

'A DOME TO OWN'?!

We invite you to visit and appreciate a charming new meeting place for small functions **behind Unity Pavilion** For everyone or group who may need a quiet, sun-shaded space allowing a fresh breeze to enter thru its many openings all round

To mark its opening on **Friday 22nd April, from 5 to 8pm**, there will be some musical and sound performances with refreshments or come already this Friday 15th same time and experience ... more infos: 948 848 3348 or peter@auroville.org.in

WELCOME TO THE WOMEN TEMPLE

(Last for the season)

In Sve-dame, Butterfly Barn
Wednesday 20 April, at 7 pm - 9 pm
(Door opens at 6.45 & we start together on time)



"The relationship we have to other women reflects the relationship we have to our own feminine essence. We take a stand for a new way of being a woman together on this planet. Together we can heal and transform into a relationship of celebration and empowerment" Chameli Ardagh of Awakening Women Institute

In the temple group we explore, worship and celebrate our feminine power through meditation, movement, touch, introspection, beauty and wisdom of sisterhood.

The space we create together and the exercises help us towards soulful connections - we meet behind our personal stories.

Welcome to bring a friend and a flower or two!
(No registration needed)

INVITATION FROM THE RUSSIAN PAVILION GROUP

Dear all who are following the development of the International Zone and wishes to participate in manifesting the Mother's Dream about cultural pavilions of Nation's Souls.

We are glad to share with you that the Russian Pavilion group, by the agreement with the International Zone coordination group, has taken up the challenge of planning the whole area for the Eastern European and ex-USSR countries. The task is huge as at this point representatives of each country/nation involved in the work of manifesting its pavilion, have to come together and work out a harmonious plan. We as a group believe in professionalism and collaboration and care for the general architectural and landscape concept of the entire area. Russian architect, Sergey Kornienko, is working with us and he waits for the suggestions from the pavilion groups to be incorporated in a general plan.

We invite all the representatives of the countries mentioned below
- - members of existing pavilion groups or volunteers who want to start a pavilion group - to come together on:
19th of April at 4.30 pm at the Unity Pavilion.

We wait to see representatives of Abkhazia, Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Kirgizstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Nagorno-Karabakh, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovenia, South Osetia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan.

In case you cannot come, kindly contact: russia@auroville.org.in

Thank you,
The Russian Pavilion group



FOR SHAKESPEARE'S 400TH ANNIVERSARY

APRIL 23rd at CRIPA, 7:30 pm

Our plans continue to grow, more people, more enthusiasm, more great ideas!

For those of you who would like to try a speech of Shakespeare's, we will have copies of famous monologues available for you! Try it and see! It's easy! It's fun!
SPECIAL GUEST APPEARANCE BY "FOTON" from Bangalore with MACBETH (a work in progress)
A special singalong of "Brush Up Your Shakespeare", with lyrics - check it out meanwhile on Youtube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XJlpp2Jj8AQ>

Shakespeare quiz with prizes and treats for the kids!

Love, Jill [9486416173 / theaurovilletheatre@gmail.com]

SHARING ON ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION

Catherine, teacher for 25 years in the French "Lycée experimental" of St Nazaire, France, will be sharing about her experience on **Friday 15th of April at 5 pm in la Terrasse.**
This alternative and public school for teenagers aged 16 to 25, co-managed & ran by teens & adults may be inspiring for Auroville's schools (not only for teens).
See U there! *Céline*: 8098846079



CIRHU

Interested on a leap towards the future?

CIRHU Centre for International Research on Human Unity

Invites you to a GENERAL MEETING

on Saturday 16th April 2016 Unity Pavilion 3-5.30 pm

Subject: General information about CIRHU

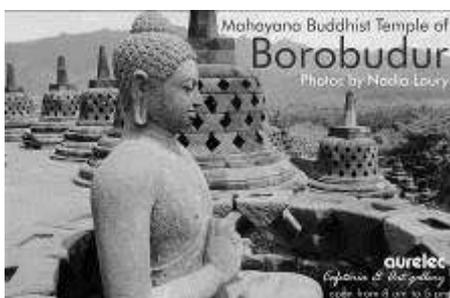
Vision in action, with focus on: applied research, volunteers and Auroville researchers. Communication and networking. First steps on organization, fund raising and construction.

You can access some CIRHU info on Google Drive:

<https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0BzdHrhBOWIsoUIVE-dU1tV3lQZms&usp=sharing>

A call for individuals or groups to bring their dream-projects as part of our collective Dream

EXHIBITIONS



aurelec
Cafeteria & Art gallery

Mahayana Buddhist Temple of Borobudur

Photos by Nadia Loury
Open from 8 am to 5 pm

CULTURAL EVENTS

'Remembering Veenapani: A Festival of Theatre, Dance and Music'

We are so happy let you know that our "REMEMBERING VEENAPANI" Festival kick started last weekend with much enthusiasm and energy amongst participants and audiences at our beautiful space, Adishakti.

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

As you know, the festival is structured around 4 weekends of April. For the second weekend; 15th, 16th and 17th of April we have programmed an eclectic mix that includes two solos, two concerts and an ensemble play that will grandly close the second weekend festivities. We are so proud to host varied performances such as these that in turn creates a wonderfully dynamic cultural community here in the Pondicherry area.

2nd Weekend: Eclectic Stories & Songs (at Adishakti)

Friday 15th and Saturday 16th, 6:30 pm

Jannal & Seethai Mark Seeyakkai Thool

A play by Anandsami, Chennai

Friday, 15th April, 8 pm

BlueRhythm

A music concert by Kirtana Krishna & Abhishek Prakash, Bangalore

Saturday, 16th April, 8 pm

Oxygen

An ensemble music concert, Chennai

Sunday, 17th April, 6:30 pm

Cheruvannur Diaries

A play by Paul Mathew, directed by Rajiv Krishnan, Chennai

Sunday, 17th April, 8 pm

7/7/07

A play by Faezeh Jalali & Team, Mumbai

CLASSES, WORKSHOPS

On Earth Day, take a pledge for the environment!

Come and learn how to make your own washable cloth pad. All are welcome to join us for a drop-in pad stitching session, facilitated by the lovely ladies of Eco Femme in a friendly atmosphere.

- Friday April 22nd (Earth day!)

- From 3 pm to 5 pm @ Dreamer's Cafe (Visitors Center)

Free materials provided!

Indigenous Colors: Natural Dye Workshops

A collaboration between Sankalpa: Art Journeys (a subunit of Thamarai) & Indigenous Industries, hosted at Sankalpa Art Center, just behind Pavilion of Tibetan Culture. Registration: sankalpa.art@gmail.com or 9843846458

Saturday, April 16th from 9 am to 1 pm

• Learn about the origins, history and process of using natural color pigments.

• Experiment with painting on fabric with natural colors.

• Introduction to Shibori dyeing technique (ancient and elaborate Japanese artform).

Sunday, April 17th from 4:30 to 6:30 pm

• Same as above (except Shibori), for open experimentation with the materials.

Please note: due to the cost of materials and to support our new space, a set contribution is required from all participants.

Expressions of Bharatnatyam

No registration needed, also at Sankalpa Art Center, just behind Pavilion of Tibetan Culture (please arrive on time).

Monday, April 18th from 4:45 - 5:30 pm

An introductory presentation and performance about the ancient art form, by Neela Bhaskar, volunteer from Chennai with 16 years of experience.

Every Monday from 5:30 to 6:30 pm

Regular classes continue with Neela, for all, including children 5 and up.

WORKSHOPS IN VÉRITÉ

(24 hour advanced registration required)

Please contact Vérité to register for the following workshops:

0413 2622045, 7094104329 or programming@verite.in

Contributions requested from guests/volunteers (volunteer reduction by advance application only)

• MERIDIANS & YOGA with Yaor

Half day workshop- Friday 22 April - from 9 am to 12.30 pm

The term "meridians" comes from Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) and describes the energetic channels that move and flow inside the body. TCM discovered 12 main meridians that are responsible for the circulation of qi (life energy or prana). People often carry blockages in one or more meridian, which can result in pain, problems, and disease. The purpose of this workshop is to open the meridian channels.

Part one - you will learn about the functions of the meridians and five elements theory. Part two - You will learn a series of meridian exercises and yoga asanas (standing, sitting, prone and supine) which are easy to practice at home on a daily basis. Kids age 10 and above are also welcome!

Note: The full day workshop allows more time for practice and guidance for the exercises. You are welcome to join either or both of the sessions.

YAOR is in Auroville as a Savi volunteer. He has completed a 2-year senior diploma in Zen Shiatsu therapy and Traditional Chinese Medicine, and has studied Hatha Yoga with Surinder Singh.

• FATE OR CHOICE? (FAMILY) CONSTELLATIONS with Yuval

Friday and Saturday, 22 & 23 April - from 9 am to 4.45 pm

In our lives hidden dynamics can unconsciously create our fate. To become aware of them, we can bring back choice by applying (family) constellation techniques.

YUVAL is a life & business coach.

• CONSCIOUSNESS AS MEDICINE with Dr. Yogesh Mohan

Saturday, 23 April - from 9 am to 12:30 pm

A consciousness approach to dealing with stress, common health problems and diseases, beyond what is written in medical texts. Experiential knowledge from a practitioner's perspective on inner healing.

Dr. Yogesh Mohan, MD (JIPMER), PGPM (ISB) brings the essence of 20+ years of work. Professor & Head Medical Education, Saveetha Medical College, Former Head Integrative Medicine Apollo Chennai.



CINEMA - Bharat Nivas - AUDITORIUM

Reminder: Friday 15 APRIL - THE FATHER OF MY CHILDREN by Mia HANSEN-LOVE, France, 2009

FRIDAY 22 APRIL- 7:30 PM (Film show starting at 7.45 sharp)
"NATOKER MOTO" - LIKE A PLAY
Directed by Debesh CHATTERJEE, India, 2015 - Music: Debojyoti Mishra
Cast: Paoli Dam, Rupa Ganguly, Rajatava Dutta, Saswata Chatterjee, Bratya Basu...
 The film, through an investigation of the sudden demise of an extremely reputed actress, delves into an ongoing search behind the causes of ceaseless conflicts a female artist has to confront. The film intends to get into precise details of the artist's life so as to expose the obstructions, understand the strength of creative aspirations, and to ablaze with the delightful journey of the artistic soul that unfortunately got cut short. However, this film is envisaged to be in coherence with the belief in the unending journey of the artist who still remains alive with the lively river and the living art. We have presented it in the Panorama of Contemporary Indian Cinema in February this year and wanted to screen it again for those who missed it and those who would not mind seeing it again...
Original Bengali version with English subtitles. Duration 2h.01'



THE ECO FILM CLUB

Sadhana Forest, April 22nd, 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!!

ANIMALS ARE BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE
 1974, 92 minutes, English, Directed by Jamie Uys
 A humorous documentary looking at the animal life over the course of a year that gather around an oasis situated in a desert in Eastern Africa.
 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.

VISITOR CENTER MOVIE SHOW

21st April Thursday 8 pm
JOY (2015)
 Genre: Biography/Drama/Comedy - Rated:PG13 / Dur:2 hrs 04 min / Language: English, Subtitle: English

Dir: [David O. Russell](#) / Cast: [Jennifer Lawrence](#), [Robert De Niro](#), [Bradley Cooper](#)
 Storyline: Joy is the story of the title character, who rose to become founder and matriarch of a powerful family business dynasty.

22nd April Friday 8 pm
STAR WARS: ATTACK OF THE CLONES (EPISODE II)
 Genre:Sci-Fi/Action/Adventure - Rated:PG 13 / Dur:2 hrs 22 min - Language: English, Subtitle: English
 Dir: [George Lucas](#) / Cast: [Hayden Christensen](#), [Natalie Portman](#), [Ewan McGregor](#)

Storyline: Ten years after initially meeting, Anakin Skywalker shares a forbidden romance with Padmé, while Obi-Wan investigates an assassination attempt on the Senator and discovers a secret clone army crafted for the Jedi.

AT SAVITRI BHAVAN

Monday, 18th of April 2016 at 6:30 pm

"THE TEACHINGS OF FLOWERS - THE LIFE AND WORK OF THE MOTHER OF THE SRI AUROBINDO ASHRAM"
 The Mother used flowers and their true essence for spiritual teaching of the Integral Yoga and for the manifestation of a new consciousness. It links our visible, tangible world with inner worlds using the true meaning and qualities of flowers. The earth is formed from the dust of the stars in the nebulae of our cosmos, and we are made of the earth. And in the evolution of earth - in all the beautiful multiplicities - each flower has some particular quality which we also have, or want to have, because people and flowers alike are children of the earth and stars.
 A film by Loretta Shartasis, Cinematography by Caren Lindfield. Duration: 121min.

THE FRENCH PAVILION PRESENTS

Marie Demont's book:
<< A Travers Terre >>

A long journey illustrated by a collection of watercolors. Let Marie show you what happened when she went through the Caucasus and Central Asian countries. She will share with you her feelings about her journey with her book and pictures.

Saturday, April 16th, 2016 at 5:00pm
at Cinema Paradiso
In English and in French





Cinema Paradiso: Eco Film Fest 2016

MMC Auditorium

Film programme 16 April 2016 to 22 April 2016

Reminder: 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)

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

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

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

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

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
Don't Miss.

Nagaland is Changing, But - India, 2015, Dir. Gurmeet Satpal, Documentary, 27mins, English w/subtitles for non-English conversations, Rated: NR (G)

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)

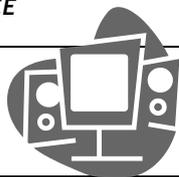
This is the premier screening for this film in India. It has been made possible through a generous sharing by the directors.

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)

This is a critically acclaimed, necessary and awe inspiring film that you just CANNOT miss !



Cinema Paradiso

Multimedia Center (MMC) Auditorium

Film program 23 April 2016 and 24 April 2016

International - Saturday 23 April, 8:00 pm:

- **THE LADY IN THE VAN**

UK, 2015, Dir. Nicholas Hytner w/ Maggie Smith, Alex Jennings, Jim Broadbent, and others, Biography-Comedy, 104mins, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: PG-13

Based on a true story, this film shows 1973 London when the playwright Alan Bennett develops an unlikely friendship with Miss Shepherd. Ms Shepherd is a homeless woman who Bennett found living in a dilapidated van parked in his driveway and who continued to stay there for the next 15 years.

Children's Film - Sunday 24 April, 4:30 pm:

- **SHAUN THE SHEEP MOVIE**

UK, 2015, Dir. Mark Burton, w/ Justin Fletcher, John Sparkes, Omid Djalili, and others, Animation, 85mins, English w/English subtitles, Rated: U

When Shaun decides to take the day off and have some fun, he gets a little more action than he bargained for. A mix up with the Farmer, a caravan and a very steep hill lead them all to the Big City and it's up to Shaun and the flock to return everyone safely to the green grass of home.

HENRY-GEORGES CLOUZOT Film Festival @ Ciné-Club

Ciné-Club - Sunday 24 April, 8:00 pm:

- **LA VERITE (The Truth)**

France, 1960, Dir. Henry-Georges Clouzot w/Brigitte Bardot, Paul Meurisse and others, Drama, 127mins, French w/English subtitles, Rated: PG

Dominique Marceau is on trial for the murder of Gilbert Tellier. The counsels duel relentlessly, elaborating explanations for why the pretty, idle and fickle girl killed the talented and ambitious conductor freshly graduated from the conservatory. Was it passion, vengeance, desperation, an accident? The evidence that come forward progressively paints a more finely-shaded picture of the personalities of Dominique and Gilbert, and of their relationship, than the eloquent and convincing justifications of the counsels.

Contact for info: mmcauditorium@auroville.org.in

ACCESSIBLE AUROVILLE PUBLIC BUS

MONDAY to SATURDAY

8.20 am - Verite
8.25 am - Matrimandir office gate
8.30 am - Solar kitchen
8.32 am - Certitude
8.40 am - Kuilapalayam (New Creation Junction)
8.42 am - Kuilapalayam(SBI Bank)
8.45 am - Last School
8.50 am - Quiet
9.00 am - Lotus Hotel, S.V Patel Salai, Pondicherry
9.05 am - Ashram
9.10 am - Ganesh Temple

12.00 pm - Ganesh Temple
12.05 pm - Lotus Hotel
12.15 pm - Quiet Junction
12.20 pm - Last School Gate
12.23 pm - Kuilapalayam(SBI Bank)
12.25 pm - Kuilapalayam (New Creation Junction)
12.33 pm - Certitude
12.35 pm - Solar Kitchen
12.40 pm - Matrimandir Office Gate
12.45 pm - Verite

WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY & SATURDAY

4.20 pm - Verite
4.25 pm - Matrimandir office gate
4.30 pm - Solar kitchen
4.33 pm - Certitude
4.40 pm - Kuilapalayam (New Creation Junction)
4.42 pm - Kuilapalayam(SBI Bank)
4.45 pm - Last School
4.50 pm - Quiet
5.00 pm - Lotus Hotel, S.V Patel Salai, Pondicherry
5.05 pm - Ashram
5.10 pm - Ganesh Temple

08.10 pm - Ganesh Temple
08.15 pm - Lotus Hotel
08.25 pm - Quiet Junction
08.30 pm - Last School Gate
08.33 pm - Kuilapalayam(SBI Bank)
08.35 pm - Kuilapalayam (New Creation Junction)
08.43 pm - Certitude
08.45 pm - Solar Kitchen
08.50 pm - Matrimandir Office Gate
08.55 pm - Verite

The bus is accessible to All. It means that everybody will be able to use it: People who have no physical problems, wheelchair users, mothers with buggies, people with temporary or permanently reduced mobility included. The differently able residents and guests who want to use the bus must call us one day or one hour in advance and they will be picked up at their community

Bus passes 10 Entries: Rs.420 (each entry Rs.42)

The cost of one way ticket without pass: Rs.45

The bus passes are available at both financial services (Aspiration & Town Hall). Ask for Auroville bus passes. People who don't have bus passes and want to travel could sign on the blue book with their Auroville account number. The book will be available with the bus driver.

For those who would like to contribute more to support the Accessible Auroville Bus, here is the account number: 251675

We, kindly request you all to provide your feedback after your journey with the bus to improve our service.

Any Suggestions or request contact: 9443074825 - Raju / Email: avbus@auroville.org.in

With Gratitude - *Susmita, Sauro, Raju*

SOME ESSENTIAL SERVICES

[Kindly let us know of any changes in opening/closing hours for the service. Eds]

Auroville Ambulance: 9442224680

Auroville Library, Crown Road: opening hours - 9:00 to 12:30 and 14:00 to 16:30 from Monday to Saturday

AvHC: The Pharmacy is open 8.30 to 5 pm daily including Saturdays. The doctor's consultation is the same, except Saturday up to 1pm only.

City Transport: Quick "Pick up and Drop" Shuttle Service in Maruti Omni 4-seater van, now free within the city area, destinations up to Aspiration/Auromodele and Repos/Quiet chargeable with per passenger fares, from Rs.110/- for 1 person single trip. Phone Visitors Centre main gate 262-2611 or to the driver directly 94876-50951 daily 9.30am-6.00pm. e-mail: visitorscentre@auroville.org.in

Please note that it is not a taxi that will wait for you for onward or return trips, but if needed will come back to pick you up again when called.

Day/Night Guard: Auroville Security: Please call Ramesh.V at 9443090107/9443362691 in case of emergency or if you need an escort (for people with bikes/cycles only) or assistance. You can also contact us at avsecurity@auroville.org.in

Auroville Dental Centre: Protection / Telephone: (0143) 2622265 or 2622007 / email: aurodentalcentre@auroville.org.in

EcoService, Kottakarai: Palani 9443535172 or Kali 9443090114

Entry Service, Multimedia Center: 1st floor, Town hall Complex: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays: 10.00am to 12.00pm for enquiries/applications. Thursdays: 2:00 to 3:30pm. B Form filling for newly resident Aurovilians and youth turning 18.

Financial Service, Town Hall and Aspiration: Mon to Sat, 9 to 12.30 and 3 to 4.30pm

Free Store: Monday to Friday: 9 to 12:30 pm - Tuesday and Thursday: 2:30 to 4:30 pm

Free Store Tailoring Service: Repair work will be received only from 1st to 15th of every month. Timings will be same as Free Store.

Auroville Gas Service, Service Area: Near Tele Service" and BSNL Telephone Exchange. Monday to Saturday: 9 to 1 and 2 to 4 pm

Green Care: Tree care, pruning, rigging, removal of trees, and or branches over structures. Garden maintenance grass and hedge cutting. Call: Jonas 9159843579 or Anadi 9655477329.

Guest Service Solar Kitchen: 1st floor. 9.30 to 12.30 Monday to Saturday, and 2. to 4 pm Saturday only: Introduction Session

Housing Service, Town Hall: Public Hours:

Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 9:30 to 12:30

Monday and Friday from 14:30 to 16:30

Wednesday: Closed to Public (Housing Board in session 9:30-12:30). Phone: (0413) 2622658. Email: housing@auroville.org.in

Integral Health, Prayatna: transpersonal regression therapy, classical homeopathy, counselling, vital remedies, child & women health, hypnotherapy. integralhealth@auroville.org.in-2623669 - Mon to Sat 9 am - 5 pm, preferably on appointment,

Santé Clinic: Crown Rd. near. Arka: Call 2622803 for an appointment. Hours: 8.45 am to 12.30 pm & 2 to 4.30 pm.

LOE, Lab. Of Evolution, Bharat Nivas: Monday to Friday: 9 to 12am and 2.30 to 4.30 pm - Saturday: 9 to 12am only.

Matrimandir: The Inner Chamber is open for Aurovilians daily 6am to 8.45am/11.30am to 12.30pm (2pm on Sunday)/4.30pm to 8pm. Please keep the Chamber neat and tidy. Straighten your mat and put back all extra cushions neatly by the door. Please refrain from rearranging the cushions which are laid out for you. The Petals are open for Aurovilians daily: 4.30pm to 6pm. To bring family members and personal friends please book by calling 2622579 from 9.30 to 11.30 am any day except Tuesday. Be at the office gate of Matrimandir by 8.40 am on the day of the visit. Please remain with your guests throughout the visit. Matrimandir is closed to visitors on Tuesday. Aurovilians wanting to bring their children to the Matrimandir are recommended to do so on Tuesdays between 9 and 11 am.

Music library, Town Hall: Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat from 9 to 12.30 and Tues, Thurs, Sat from 2 to 5:30pm.

Nandini Tailor section: (Auroshilpam): tel: 2622527

Open to public on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday full day: from 9am to 12.30pm and 3pm to 5pm. No new order taken last week of the month. Don't forget to bring your bag!

Nandini Distribution: (ptdc, solar kitchen) tel : 2622033

Open to public from Tuesday to Saturday morning from 9am to 12.30pm and Tuesday, Thursday afternoon 2.30pm to 4.30pm
Don't forget to bring your bag

OutreachMedia Services: The services provided by OutreachMedia include: dealing with all media that come to Auroville for filming, writing, photographing - reporters, journalist and writers. 2622-098 or 9443602194 or 9952463904 Multi-Media Centre. Office hours: Monday-Friday: 9.30am to 12.30pm. Afternoons and Saturdays by appointment.

Puncture service, service area: next to gas bottle service, opposite road service; Monday to Saturday 9am to 4 30pm; phone 2622741, cell 9442891235.

Auroville Residents Service timings: open from Monday to Friday morning's from 9:00 am to 12.00 pm and afternoon Tuesday and Thursday from 2:30 to 4:30.

Savi: Services for Volunteers and Hosting Units/Services of Auroville, a link between Auroville Projects and long-term Volunteers (minimum 2 months). We offer welcome information, placements opportunities, support with visa procedure and follow-up throughout the volunteers' stay. From Monday to Friday from 2 till 4 pm. at the Unity Pavilion. For more information call (0413)2622121 or go to Savi website: www.auroville-learning.net.

Skyworks: Tree pruning, removal of hazardous trees and branches over fragile structures, power line cleaning. SatYaaji 958 516 58 82

Vehicle Service, Town Hall: Monday to Friday: 9am to 12.30pm, 2. to 4.30pm. Saturday: 9am to 12.30pm

Video library, Town Hall: Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat from 10am to 1pm and Tues, Thurs, Sat from 3 to 6pm.

Women's Helpline: For women needing assistance after an incident of violence on Auroville roads, please call 262 2425 (mornings) or email avhs@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.

Please try your best to send your announcements, reports, film schedules whenever they are ready.

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

Any modifications of the submitted News items have to be sent to the editors before Wednesday.

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.

Visiting hours: Mondays, Tuesdays 9am to 11.45am and 1pm to 3pm; **No visitors on Wednesday.** Please, no dictations over the phone unless it is an emergency or you have a medical problem.

Soft Version: We encourage you to ask us for a soft version of News& Notes send directly on your own mail. First, it saves trees, cost of paper (Rs 12.000 monthly are spent only on purchasing paper) and labor cost (900 copies are printed every week). Second we send your soft copy as a PDF file (Same formatting as the printing version with colored pictures) on Thursday morning and you can get information earlier than the printing version which is delivered only on Friday and Saturday. Don't hesitate to mail: newsandnotes@auroville.org.in or to phone 2622133.

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