The Ananda Brahman

Brahman always reveals himself to us in three ways, within ourselves, above our plane, around us in the universe. Within us, there are two centres of the Purusha, the inner Soul through which he touches us to our awakening; there is the Purusha in the lotus of the heart which opens upward all our powers and the Purusha in the thousand-petalled lotus whence descend through the thought and will, opening the third eye in us, the lightnings of vision and the fire of the divine energy. The bliss existence may come to us through either one of these centres. When the lotus of the heart breaks open, we feel a divine joy, love and peace expanding in us like a flower of light which irradiates the whole being. They can then unite themselves with their secret source, the Divine in our hearts, and adore him as in a temple; they can flow upwards to take possession of the thought and the will and break out upward towards the Transcendent; they stream out in thought and feeling and act towards all that is around us. But so long as our normal being offers any obstacle or is not wholly moulded into a response to this divine influence or an instrument of this divine possession, the experience will be intermittent and we may fall back constantly into our old mortal heart; but by repetition, abhyasa, or by the force of our desire and adoration of the Divine, it will be progressively remodelled until this abnormal experience becomes our natural consciousness.

When the other upper lotus opens, the whole mind becomes full of a divine light, joy and power, behind which is the Divine, the Lord of our being on his throne with our soul beside him or drawn inward into his rays; all the thought and will become then a luminosity, power and ecstasy; in communication with the Transcendent, this can pour down towards our mortal members and flow by them outwards on the world. In this dawn too there are, as the Vedic mystics knew, our alternations of its day and night, our exiles from the light; but as we grow in the power to hold this new existence, we become able to look long on the sun from which this irradiation proceeds and in our inner being we can grow one body with it. Sometimes the rapidity of this change depends on the strength of our longing for the Divine thus revealed, and on the intensity of our force of seeking; but at others it proceeds rather by a passive surrender to the rhythms of his all-wise working which acts always by its own at first inscrutable method. But the latter becomes the foundation when our love and trust are complete and our whole being lies in the clasp of a Power that is perfect love and wisdom. The Divine reveals himself in the world around us when we look upon that with a spiritual desire of delight that seeks him in all things. There is often a sudden opening by which the veil of forms is itself turned into a revelation. A universal spiritual Presence, a universal peace, a universal infinite Delight has manifested, immanent, embracing, all-penetrating. This Presence by our love of it, our delight in it, our constant thought of it returns and grows upon us; it becomes the thing that we see and all else is only its habitation, form and symbol. Even all that is most outward, the body, the form, the sound, whatever our senses seize, are seen as this Presence; they cease to be physical and are changed into a substance of spirit. This transformation means a transformation of our own inner consciousness; we are taken by the surrounding Presence into itself and we become part of it. Our own mind, life, body become to us only its habitation and temple, a form of its working and an instrument of its self-expression. All is only soul and body of this delight.

This is the Divine seen around us and on our own physical plane. But he may reveal himself above. We see or feel him as a high-uplifted Presence, a great infinite of Ananda above us, — or in it, our Father in heaven, — and do not feel or see him in ourselves or around us. So long as we keep this vision, the mortality in us is quelled by that Immortality; it feels the light, power and joy and responds to it according to its capacity; or it feels the descent of the spirit and it is then for a time transformed or else uplifted into some lustre of reflection of the light and power; it becomes a vessel of the Ananda. But at other times it lapses into the old mortality and exists or works dully or pettily in the ruck of its earthly habits. The complete redemption comes by the descent of the divine Power into the human mind and body and the remoulding of their inner life into the divine image, — what the Vedic seers called the birth of the Son by the sacrifice. It is in fact by a continual sacrifice or offering, a sacrifice of adoration and aspiration, of works, of thought and knowledge, of the mounting flame of the Godward will that we build ourselves into the being of this Infinite.

When we possess firmly this consciousness of the Ananda Brahman in all of these three manifestations, above, within, around, we have the full oneness of it and embrace all existences in its delight, peace, joy and love; then all the worlds become the body of this self. But we have not the richest knowledge of this Ananda if it is only an impersonal presence, largeness or immanence that we feel, if our adoration has not been intimate enough for this Being to reveal to us out of its wide-extended joy the face and body and make us feel the hands of the Friend and Lover. Its impersonality is the blissful greatness of the Brahman, but from that can look out upon us the sweetness and intimate control of the divine Personality. For Ananda is the presence of the Self and Master of our being and the stream of its outflowing can be the pure joy of his Lila.

**THE SYNTHESIS OF YOGA,**


SRI AUROBINDO

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**The Ponder Corner**

We are not obliged to give responses of grief to certain impacts upon the mind, responses of anger to others, to yet others responses of hatred or dislike, to others responses of liking or love. All these things are only habits of our affective mentality...

Sri Aurobindo  
ref. The Synthesis of Yoga, p.649
Funds and Assets Management Committee (FAMC) Report

November 2015 Report

Regular members: Anandi (Auroville Board of Services), David (Forest group), Jeff (Farm group), Michael (Auroville Unity Fund), Ranjit (Working Committee), Rathinam (Budget Coordination Committee), Sauro (L’avenir d’Auroville) TOS from 17/11, Sonja (Housing Service), and Ulli (Auroville Board of Commerce).

Temporarily out of station: Chali (Sri Aurobindo International Institute of Educational Research), and Matriprasad (Auroville Council)

Other attendance: Mr. Srinivasmurty (Finance & Administrative Officer, Auroville Foundation; currently Secretary-in-Charge) has stopped attending.

Trust & Unit Topics

The Auroville Board of Services (ABS) recommended, and FAMC approved, executive changes for the service unit ‘Welcome in AV’: appointments of Lieve, and Sivacoumar; resignations of Hendrik, and Ellen.

ABS recommended, and FAMC approved, executive changes for the service unit ‘Guest House Umbrella’: appointments of Tineke, and Giovanni; resignations of Thomas, and Roberta.

The Auroville Board of Commerce (ABC) recommended, and FAMC approved, creation of a new commercial unit ‘Conscious Living’ with executives Fabien B. and Jane. This is a food manufacturing unit under Team Trust.

ABC recommended, and FAMC approved, the request of the unit ‘Varuna Auroville’ to amend the activities of the unit, namely: “Further to generating electricity by wind turbines, the unit may also generate solar energy and water and provide this free of charge to the Auroville consumers, in the same way, and under the same conditions, as for wind-energy.” During the discussion it was agreed to write to the Varuna Auroville executives with a request that they be sure to collaborate with existing services and units. FAMC members also shared that they would appreciate to see more receptivity and openness towards the community.

Finance Topics

The Government of India (GoI) Plan Grant subgroup informed the FAMC that it supported the request from the Town Development Council (TDC) for an infrastructure funds advance of Rs. 156 lakhs. The FAMC approved this request.

Land Topics

To respond to some comments about greenbelt land purchase, it was agreed to make a clarifying statement about it. In the February FAMC report it was stated that greenbelt land purchase will be considered on a case by case basis. The last greenbelt purchase was reported here in May. FAMC reiterate that greenbelt land purchase continues to be considered as presented by the Land Board (LB). Strategic value and land consolidation are two important decision-making considerations.

FAMC met with the LB several times this month to discuss: 1. land purchase administration; 2. Gokulam protection and neighbour issues; 3. cyclone timber liquidation; 4. permission for sale of outlying Auroville lands; 5. temporary land protection caretaker criteria; 6. Swami land exchange update.

The Land Board proposed, and the FAMC approved due to consolidation with adjacent Auroville-owned land, purchase of 1.46 acre in the inner greenbelt area.

Housing Topics

The FAMC formed a subgroup to discuss pro bono housing allocation. The proposal “housing against recognized work” was submitted. The FAMC shared its comments and suggestions and requested the Housing Board (HB), as a next step, to get input from the wider community before implementing.

Earlier this year the FAMC sanctioned Rs. 12 lakhs for the ongoing Sacred Groves housing project, under clear and agreed-upon conditions. The project holders requested the final instalment of Rs. 4 lakhs, which was approved. The FAMC requested the project holders to give an updated estimate to finish the three prototype houses, and a revised completion date.

The HS forwarded a request from Buildaur for staff quarters and requested input of the FAMC. During the discussion it soon became clear the members see this as the role of HS to review case by case situations and make a decision.

The FAMC received an Aurovilian complaint about the Swayam housing project done by Buildaur. The FAMC requested the HS to meet the Buildaur executives and the Aurovilian on site to review the repairs needed and see if some agreement can be reached.

FAMC met with the Kalpana project holders at the end of the month. The FAMC asked for clarification on overall project financing and on financial assistance that may be provided to some future residents. It was reported that 38% of the total cost for the first year are available. The FAMC shared its concern that eligibility and allocation criteria guidelines be clarified and communicated. The project holders and the HB have been requested to document the eligibility and allocation criteria and share it with the FAMC. Thereafter the information will be made public within the community. The FAMC followed-up in writing specifying that no financial support assurance or allocation decisions should be made in the interim.

Other Topics

The FAMC and Working Committee (WCom) met and discussed: 1. An Aurovillian’s letter to Dr. Karan Singh - Chairman, Governing Board, that is being followed-up by WCom and Auroville Council (AVC); 2. A non-Aurovilian occupying an Auroville housing asset; 3. WCom centralized accounting service proposal; 4. ABC and Integrated Entrepreneurship Lab (IEL) potential collaboration; 5. ABC-proposed mandate (dated 22/7/15).

The FAMC gave feedback to the AVC-published revised FAMC mandate and included comments on: a. selection process; b. membership; c. chairperson; d. membership staggering, and; e. distinguish ‘policy decisions’ from ‘operational decisions.

The FAMC reviewed the TDC agreement with the Irumbai Panchayat on a solid waste management project utilizing Auroville land. The FAMC requested that the wording of the agreement be amended to state clearly that the project is jointly coordinated.

It was reported that an Aurovilian architect and Aurovilian builder, worked on a private project in the Master Plan area. In the meeting the members acknowledged that the Aurovilians responded over email so it did not need to be discussed. However FAMC requested L’avenir / TDC to re-publish the government order concerning permission to build in the Master Plan area (ref: 2003 document).

Following up from previous reports

It has been reported here that the FAMC is insisting that Ramachandran repay a long outstanding debt to Auroville, and to respect the Home Stay guidelines he agreed to when he was provided support to manage a Home Stay. This month the FAMC had to meet with Ramachandran because he was not responding to written communications. Financial Service reported that Rs. 46,000/- known to be paid by Ramachandran.
Home Stay guests were not channelled through the collection account. The outstanding debt to Auroville was not being paid, as agreed, at least Rs. 10,000/- per month. The following decisions were made and he was informed after being invited back into the meeting: a. he will pay Rs 21,000/- into the Home Stay account before end of the work day 11/11/15. This is 20% of Rs 1,05,000 (advance paid by a guest), the amount that is owed to Auroville as per the Home Stay Guidelines; b. he will resolve with Nico, or Otto, the amount of the outstanding debt. This amount, including the interest from June 2015, will be paid in full into the Financial Services before end of the work day 31/12/15. Failing to comply with the conditions as detailed above will result in a review of Ramachandran's stewardship of the Home Stay.

The FAMC, in collaboration with the ABC, continue to monitor the situation at Hers, pending the decision about its future. The members reviewed the trial balance sheet (April to September 2015) and expressed a deep concern about what was revealed. Over the course of the month the executives answered more questions and by the end of November FAMC made specific and time-bound requests of the executives.

It has been reported here that Harini made a presentation to the FAMC about unit performance. At the request of the FAMC, Harini provided additional liabilities information on the following units: Auroville Press, Imagination, Sharnga Guest House, Atmarati Architects, Auroannam, Farm Fresh, and Maha Transport. It was decided to request ABC (for the commercial units) and GFCG (for the guest house) to research the details of the liabilities and make recommendations to relieve the same, up to an including recommending to close the unit.

In August it was reported that the FAMC asked the Free Flow Trust trustees to take a look into the situation at Auro Annam. Last month the trustees reported “Auroannam has no major outstanding liabilities to any clients. The losses shown in the balance sheet is mainly accumulated maintenances.” The Trust noted that an additional executive needs to be appointed. This month during a deep reflection among the members, sincere concerns about the overall healthiness and viability of the unit were voiced. It was agreed to ask the trustees to: a. make sure there are no more liabilities created by the unit; b. recommend a second executive who is involved in day to day operations; c. submit a financial report (trial balance) in 6 months.

Last month the FAMC reported on its review of the Mohanam–proposed Centre for Culture and Heritage. This month Mohanam confirmed they are ready to use land, previously allocated for bamboo research, for the proposed Centre. The members agreed to inform L’avenir of their support for the site application at this location. It was further stated that the structure of the different Mohanam activities needs to be clarified before building permission is given.

In October it was reported that Suryan informed the FAMC about a loan he made to the activity under Eco Service called Aurosccrap. During further deliberations the members stated their commitment that the loan amount would be paid back within 12 months. FAMC have inquired with the Budge Coordination Committee (BCC) about a reported Rs. 1 lakh grant that had been retroactively sanctioned but the funds were not actually given. If BCC confirm, and will provide these funds, that amount will be applied to repayment of the loan. Suryan was requested to report on the income from liquidation of the remaining Aurosccrap stock. Finally it was decided that the Eco Service accounts would be reviewed to see if it is a viable option to repay the loan balance from the unit.

It has been reported here, and announced separately, the FAMC is creating a study group on succession planning. About 10 individuals expressed their interest. In November it was agreed to confirm who from the ABC will participate; to write to those who expressed interest and let them know the time line is pushed out by 1 month: to start in January and; the FAMC will prepare a detailed brief.

LAND BOARD REPORT NOVEMBER 2015

Protection, encroachment, mapping and admin issues.

1. Land Board has initiated extensive work in Auroannam to develop the plot for exchange like improving the space, making boundaries, marking plots and doing what is necessary to increase value of the land. A donation of ₹4 lakhs received from an AV Unit is being utilized for this value addition to AV Lands.

2. Land Board members were interviewed by Auroville Radio on the 14 November.

3. The important work of government surveys which has been taken up by the Land Board is going on and 6 surveys have been completed. Follow up with the Commissioner and Director of Survey, Chennai for action to be taken on pending F-Line surveys since 2013, is ongoing.

4. Land Board has submitted to FAMC and TDC, map of the lands that are vulnerable to encroachment, misuse and outright land grab in the residential and International Zone bordering the villages of Edyanchavadi, Kottakuppam and Bharatipuram and has suggested that Auroville should take possession of these lands with activities or settlements as soon as possible.

5. Two important fencing projects at Bharatipuram namely Tamil Heritage Centre and Auroville Language Lab with the approval of FAMC are in the last stage of completion.

6. As you are all aware, the Hermitage neighbor has ongoing court cases against Auroville and that the Land Board along with the Forest Group and Working Committee continue to monitor and take up all issues regarding this case. Meanwhile we have filed a criminal complaint against him for trespassing Auroville land and for illegally trying take possession of the lands.

7. An important fencing project in the Fisherman’s quarters has been completed to keep Auroville lands safe from encroachments.

8. 360 coconuts were donated to PTDC.

9. The Land Board would like to appeal to all Aurovilians to monitor the fences around their settlements, forest and farms to prevent encroachment and contact the green group and then the Land board if there are encroachments and land grabs. If Stewards are unable to protect them Housing Service can be approached to allot places for Aurovilians and newcomers seeking houses.

10. The wood sale for the month of November was ₹38,212/.

11. For all units and individuals interested to buy firewood or timber quality wood - please contact 0413 262 1211.

12. Land Board members were interviewed by Auroville Radio on the 14 November.

13. 360 coconuts were donated to PTDC.

14. The Land Board would like to appeal to all Aurovilians to monitor the fences around their settlements, forest and farms to prevent encroachment and contact the green group and then the Land board if there are encroachments and land grabs. If Stewards are unable to protect them Housing Service can be approached to allot places for Aurovilians and newcomers seeking houses.

10. The wood sale for the month of November was ₹38,212/.

11. For all units and individuals interested to buy firewood or timber quality wood - please contact 0413 262 2657 and fix an appointment.

12. All Aurovilians who would like to contribute to consolidating Auroville lands can send in their contributions to the Financial Service account No 0100.
the members of your groups to make individual bookings for the Inner Chamber cannot be accommodated during this period due to the very high demand from other individuals. Apologies for the inconvenience and thanks for your kind understanding and cooperation.

2. from 18.12.2015: Aurovilians who wish to bring their personal guests to the Inner Chamber should book by email to mmconcentration@auroville.org.in or by calling 2622579 any day except Tuesdays between 9.30 am and 11.30 am.

On the day of the appointment, please go with them to the Visitors Centre to collect your passes by 8.30 am and come to Matrimandir with your guests in one of our vehicles in time for your concentration at 9 am. After your concentration, you will be brought back to the Visitors Centre in the same way.

Please note that no passes will be issued at the Access Office at Matrimandir.

In the public interest of minimizing traffic on the roads inside Auroville, all personal transport should be parked in the main parking at Visitors Centre and you and your guests are asked to use the shuttle provided to come to Matrimandir.

From Matrimandir Access Core Group

ABC - Dumping of waste

Dear all,

During the ABC Support Group meeting held on 09.12.2015 it was decided to have the following statement published in the News & Notes:

“All waste coming from commercial units should be handled exclusively by Eco Service. Commercial units will be held responsible for dumping of waste through other channels.”

For ABC, Ananda, Coordinator

Development on private lands

Dear community members,

It has come to our notice that several units have been associated to private developments within the Master Plan area.

We would like to bring to your attention that development in the Master Plan area would require an NOC from the Auroville Foundation as per G.O. of Tamil Nadu Govt dated 20.01.2003 in order to secure against the possibility of any misuse or unwanted development from private parties. This information was publicly shared by the Working Committee in 2005.

Please be aware that we have been trying for many years to have a proper regulation of planning and development in the Greenbelt. Keeping that in mind, participation of Auroville units in private initiatives should be avoided or regulated in coordination with the concerned groups and the Auroville Foundation.

Regards, L’avenir d’Auroville / TDC

Auronet - A Space for Conscious Communication

General Meeting with table discussion

How to use our communication tool AURONET? The next steps in the collective experiment.

When: Tuesday 22nd of December 2015, 2-4 pm
Where: Unity Pavilion

What happened till now?

• 6 months experiment of no moderation - initiated by the Auronet team

• Z20 Aurovilians responded to the Auronet survey

• RAS received an urgent request from the Working Committee/AVCouncil to look and eventually modify their “Proposal for removing postings from Auronet” (find below)

Please come forward with your creative ideas!

Let us explore:

• how to include your ideas into the given proposal and eventually modify it or

• initiate an alternative proposal.

You are most welcome to join us in exploring different models of developing Auronet as a tool for conscious, constructive and progressive communication.

You are invited to be part of the next experimental phase of 6 months.

The Proposal from WCommittee/ AVCouncil

A person(s) who feels offended by a posting(s) on the Auronet can request the Auronet managers to remove the posting, and the Auronet managers will do so immediately upon receipt of such a request and will then inform the individual who submitted the original posting that it has been removed.

The individual who submitted the original posting can request the Auroville Council to review the quality of the posting. Depending on their finding, the Auroville Council can either confirm the removal of the posting, or instruct the Auronet managers to reinstall the posting.

The decision of the Auroville Council will be binding.

In case the postings of an individual have been removed thrice, then the Auroville Council also has the authority to instruct the Auronet managers to block the individual from making any more postings on the Auronet for a period of time which will be decided by the Council.

Love, Slava and Inge from Residents Assembly Service

Greetings from MGECduties!

In 1993 it was discovered that the energetic information contained within the purple non-sulphur bacteria (PNSB) of Probiotics could be transferred to ceramics. This led to the idea that if Probiotics could be mixed into the clay ingredients, then the ultrasonic benefits of the PNSB could indeed be incorporated into the ceramics. Probiotics Ceramics have the unique ability to remove this pollution imprint from the memory of the water molecules through what is referred to as “far infrared signals”. By removing the pollution memory from the purified water, the molecules restructure back to the hexagonal micro-clusters. The regular consumption of the liquid crystals known as hexagonally-structured water has been recognized as one of the most important keys to improved health. It has been associated with rapid hydration, heightened immune function, the efficient removal of toxins, better nutrient absorption, longevity, weight loss, and overall greater health.

Probiotics Ceramics DO NOT PURIFY WATER - they energize and microstructure the water molecules. The cleaner the water, the better they work. The best purified waters are distilled, deionized, and reverse osmosis - in that order. Purified mineralized or spring waters also work well. Tap water with chlorine counteracts the micro-structuring. So if you use chlorinated tap water, be sure to let the water set overnight - so that the chlorine can off-gas.

We manufacture Probiotics Ceramic Rings here within India, making us the second one in the world!

You can find them on this Saturday December 19th in Pour Tous Distribution Centre (PTDC) from 10 am to 1 pm. You can get your Probiotic Ceramic Rings there, even if you are not member of PTDC, or contact us at: 2622339. We will instruct you how to use the Probiotics Ceramics Rings.
FROM THE ENTRY SERVICE - N&N NO: 628
dated 19.12.2015

We would like to inform the community that our team is happy
to recommend the following persons as Aurovilians and
Newcomers. We will wait for two weeks (Newcomers and
Returning Aurovilians) and one month (Aurovilians), from the
date of this publication, for your feedback, before confirming.

AUROVILIANS:
Sheba MAINI (Indian from Delhi) - Living at Swayam, working at
Bharat Nivas.
Leena DE CHAKRAVARTY (Indian from Orissa) - Living at
Swayam, working as a financial coordinator at Bharat Nivas and
helping in Matrimandir.
Yasmin LEVI (Israeli) - Staying at Maitreye -2, working as an
assistant teacher in Transition.
Julie PLOT (French) - Staying at Celebration, working as a
designer & tailor at Upasana and also working at Matrimandir
disc cleaning.
Ravindra SOLANKI (Indian from Gujarat) - Staying at Vikas,
working at Matrimandir Access group.

RETURNING AUROVILIAN:
Aurojina ALLEN (Australian) - Staying at Fertile, working at
Fertile.

NEWCOMERS:
Cyril BERCHER (French) - Staying at Bobby's guest house,
working at Revelation forest.
Morgane BERNIER (French) - Staying at Fertile, working at
Fertile & Pitanga as a therapist.
Celine Barbara DEVAUX (French) - Staying at New Creation,
working as a teacher at TLC & YEP Program.
Carolyn NEWMAN (Canadian) - Staying at Aurogreen, working as
a teacher at TLC.

CHILD OF A NEWCOMER(S):
Satyavann COT (French) - born on 22/09/2003, studying at TLC
Kimaya COT (French) - born on 28/05/2012, studying at OLI
school

Aurovilians can be either an extension of status or a decision to stop the
process. We have added Confirmation Section below:

CONFIRMATION OF NEWCOMER STATUS:
Pierre COT (French)
Michelle BERTHOLLE (French)
Itzhak HELMAN (Israeli)

CONFIRMATION OF RETURNING AUROVILIAN:
Milan KAPUR (German)

CONFIRMATION OF NEWCOMER TO AUROVILIAN STATUS
AFTER ANNOUNCEMENT IN N&N AND CONSIDERATION OF
FEEDBACK RECEIVED FROM RESIDENTS:
Poonam JIBANDASH (Indian from Uttrakhand)
Rabindra JIBANDASH (Indian from Orissa)
Elena IASHINA (Russian)

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

Note: Aurore has stopped working at the Entry Service. Thanks
to Aurore for her energetic participation and help to make the
office more efficient. We ask the Community for more help as
a selection process will begin next month and please be
advised of the need for Mentors to join the Mentor Pool as part
of the extension of the former contact person process in the
previous system.

Dear Newcomers,
The Entry Service team would like to inform you of the timings
designated specifically for you to collect or submit the
Newcomer Kit. Please pass by our office in Town Hall during
these hours only: Monday & Wednesday at 2 pm to 4 pm. We
look forward to seeing you.

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

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

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

Suggested Holidays List for the Year 2016

Dear Friends,
From the following list of paid holidays you could choose a minimum of 10 DAYS in a year to suit your workers/Unit/Community. But please note that the National Holidays are mandatory and see that they are included in the choice. Apart from this 10 days holidays we are recommending to give yearly 6 days leave (with pay) to the workers as casual leave for social and health reasons.

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News&Notes 19th December 2015 [628]
We recommend that the workers who are not covered by the Government Provident Fund Scheme better become a member of SEWA’s Retirement fund Scheme. The pamphlets on features and rules and regulations of the schemes are available at SEWA office.

National Floor Level Minimum Wage enhanced from Rs.137 To Rs.160 per Day W.e.f. 01.07.2015
For Annual wage increment for our workers SEWA suggests that up to the wages of Rs.250/= per day 10% increment, and above Rs.251/= per day 8% increment.
We also recommend that the workers be insured against accidents. SEWA provides assistance in getting accident insurance for our workers.

Above are only our suggestions according to the prevailing conditions & norms. We are open to your suggestions & feedback.

For further details or enquiries please visit our office in Ilaignarkal School Campus, Saaram Community, Auroville · or call 262 2709 / Email: sewa@auroville.org.in

Our Office Hours: Monday to Friday: 9.00 am t0 1.00 pm.Friday: 1.30 pm to 4.30 pm.Saturday & Sunday: Holidays
Wishing you all a “Happy Christmas & Prosperous New Year 2016”.

Meenakshi, Nolly, Klara, Saravanan and the SEWA Team

OBITUARY

Ursula proceeds...

In the morning of Tuesday 15 December, our good friend and long-term sister Ursula Mack quietly left her body at the age of 91, surrounded by friends in her Samasti house after a long period of gradual and peaceful withdrawal.

Ursula, who hailed from Germany and at a later stage mainly lived and worked in Switzerland and Italy, has been visiting the Ashram and Auroville since the very early years during which she met the Mother. In Germany she was an active member of the AVI team there (for instance by hosting in 1983 the AVI meeting in her brother’s house in Laubach). Immediately after retirement Ursula came to Auroville, in 1990, where she became the much appreciated, very first professional resident physiotherapist helping Aurovilians wherever she could. She became instrumental in the building of Pitanga and Quiet healing centre, and also in her Samasti house people were welcome when in need for treatment, advice or just a chat.

Ursula’s friendly and loving nature was apparent till the end. After a second stroke in June of this year, she became bedridden and quite indrawn but even while going through increasingly profound physical crises; she always managed to convey a steady, faithful and grateful disposition, evoking deep contact and love in the ones caring for her.

For years, around this time, Ursula ordered some hundred Christmas Stollen -breads baked by the Auroville Bakery as per her German recipe, which she personally delivered by taxi to her friends - now she has gone... Thank you for everything, dear Ursula, our love and prayers accompany you on the way to the Light.

Jay MA~

Ursula’s body has been taken up in the Farewell House on the Crown road for friends to pay her a last farewell; cremation will take place at Adventure’s mandappam on Friday the 18th at 7am. Our warmest condolences go out to Ursula’s adopted son in Italy and other members of her family.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Monsoon 2015

This was a monsoon we will remember. For Chennai, Cuddalore and other places, it was disastrous. For Auroville and it bioregion it was a blessing, as all its water bodies filled up and even spilled over. All the granite and concrete dams, mainly from Sukhavati till Bommyarpalayam, from Certitude, Aspiration canyon till Quiet and Auromodele functioned well. Newly made earth dams and bunds in Aurodam, International Zone, Hermitage and others had some top erosion and some broke, but had relatively little damage. The percolation of the watershed Sukhavati, Aurogreen, Bommyarpalayam, goes very fast. The last big basin near Bommyarpalayam and the end of the canyon filled up after receiving 264 mm in 24 hours and spilled over. The last time was 5 years ago. Then the dam was raised by 1 meter. This was made to catch exceptional rainfall. Within 8 days this water percolated. Here we lost hardly any water. The settlement at the end of the canyon was safe.

This monsoon shows very clearly that water bodies are important and should be maintained, monitored and improved if necessary. For Auroville it means that many water bodies should be cleaned, some bunds and dam raised and spillways widened or deepened.

Kireet

Security Advice

Dear friends,
This is to inform you that during the month of November 2015, 2 thefts (Invocation, Kalpavruksha), 1 attempt theft (Waves), 1 attempt bag snatch incident ( near Certitude), 1 nuisance incident (Gaia’s garden) and 1 accident case (near Pitchandikulam Bridge) occurred in different areas of Auroville. We request all Aurovilians/Newcomers/Guests to be more conscious of their valuable belongings and use additional locks for their vehicles and houses to lower the risk of thefts.
We recommend that women avoid travelling alone at night, and to store our security numbers in their phones to report any incidents as soon as possible.
Women of all ages and modest dress codes have reported
harassment, so be on your guard at all times. Be wary of
three boys on a bike and do not stop for local men asking for
directions. For post-incident support and counseling you may
call the Women’s help line (open in the morning) at 262-2425 or
e-mail AV health services: avhs@auroville.org.in.
For escort (for people with bicycles only), call Ramesh.V
at: 9443090107 / 9443362691. Please note that the guards
cannot leave their posts without prior permission from Security
management.
To those who leaving town: please inform your neighbours
to keep watch over your houses/apartments. Kindly inform your
watchman /gurkhas or house sitters to contact us immediately
when there are any people / incidents to be reported.
We recommend all residents and guests to travel in and
around Auroville:
1) With Xerox copies of your documents only. Leave the
originals in your guest house safe.
2) Not to carry large amounts of cash or valuables on your
person unless absolutely necessary.
3) To secure/ tie up your bags properly or to keep bags
person instead of in cycle baskets.
AV Security Service (Day & Night Security: 9443090107,
9443362691)

Regarding AV Flood Relief 2015

The rains have eased, the sun is out and so we have planned
our actions accordingly. What has been decided is that the
youth will focus on spraying EM (with support from EcoPro) in
areas, which are most ‘smelly’, in Auroville and any village
neighbouring that is ok with having us spray there.

AVAG will identify the areas, with the help of the village leade-
rs, and relay the information to AV.Flood Relief team. AVAG
will continue to spread awareness regarding the use of
Cleaning Water sachets and will try to reach out to
PIMS/Jipmer to explore what is being done for Health Camps
and if/how to get involved. There is very little money that has
come into the AV Flood Relief 2015 Account, so we will make
do and wrap up by the end of this month. There are efforts
being made to get our bioregion recognised as an area that
‘overflow’ aid could be sent to, as many areas are receiving
too much, but evidently there are no guarantees that any help
will come. If you would like any more information, please send
to: avfloodrelief2015@gmail.com.
Thanking you all,
Warmly, AV Flood Relief Team

The detailed report for the 3 days
Selection Process is ready!

You can enjoy and get an impression about how the 2
additional members for the Working Committee and 3 for the
Auroville Council were selected!

How to get it! Where to find it?
· You can pass by the Residents Assembly Service room on
the 1st floor of the Town hall
· You can find it on the Auronet on Saturday 19th
December 2015
· You will find it in your mailbox on Saturday 19th
December 2015

Love, Inge from Residents Assembly Service & Dominique,
Eugen, Helena, Isha, Jaya and Uma from the Study Group

Selling Your Products on Auroville.com!

The Auroville Online Store, www.auroville.com, is hoping to
add more Auroville-made products to the website. We are
looking for all kinds of products, especially pottery items.
Have a look at: www.auroville.com and check out how many
products are available on it. If you feel that you might have
something you would like to offer on our site, we would enjoy
meeting you.
For an appointment, please call us on: 2622119 or email
to: info@auroville.com.

Chess enthusiasts!

Anyone who is interested in playing chess or only learning is
warmly invited to join us playing chess every Thursday from 6
to 8 pm in Acceptance (enter white gate on the right side). Tea
and cookies will be served. More information: matej@auroville.org.in, 8098830169

Chess enthusiasts!

Anyone who is interested in playing chess or only learning is
warmly invited to join us playing chess every Thursday from 6
to 8 pm in Acceptance (enter white gate on the right side). Tea
and cookies will be served. More information: matej@auroville.org.in, 8098830169

From Nandini Tailoring section

No order taken from Saturday 26th to Thursday 31st of
December. We start again on Tuesday 2nd of January 2016.
Don’t forget to bring your bag with your new order. Anne,
Vidya, Ira

Conference room available for seminars at Sound
Wizard

Dear seminar/workshop/gathering organizers,
We have a conference room available on demand for Aurovillian
organizers only, 1/2 day or full day. The location is easy to find
right after the Pyramid building in Shakti community. It is
located in Walter and Tina’s former seed building. It can
accommodate some 20 seated people maximum, but only 16
people if tables are needed. There is a video projector for
videos/powerpoint presentations, a white board and an
internet connection. Water and juice can be organized.
Timings: any day except Sundays, anytime from 9 am to 5 pm
Cecilia on behalf of the Sound Wizard team • + 91 75 984 22
659 or 2622659

Second hand modem

In Joy Guesthouse we have a second-hand modem for sale for
half-price of a new one. Brand is Belkin. It is in good conditions
and a couple of years old. We are selling it as we decided to
upgrade for a better one, but for household use it is perfect.
We are also selling second-hand Indian style (male type) cycles
in good conditions. For info pass by Joy Guesthouse (Center
Field), contact us at 9442331820 or
joycommunity@auroville.org.in. Joy team :-)
**Bansuri Flute Lesson**
Do you want to learn how to play Indian classical music on the Bansuri and if you want to know more about ragas. Contact
Kees van Boxtel - I will be in Auroville till February 1st - tel: 9626884920

**LOOKING FOR...**

**Male Caregiver**
AVHS is looking for male caregivers (Aurovilians, Newcomers, volunteers/long-term guests) for our male seniors. Training provided; payment possible. Please contact us at: 2622425 (Mornings). *Auroville Health Services avhs@auroville.org.in*

**A partner for ping-pong**
Looking for a partner for ping pong to play together 1-2 a week. I am a semi-professional (played on the third league in Israel) and also willing to teach all ages once a week. Thanks, Yaor. Phone: 8525959872. Email: yaor30@gmail.com

**Part time job**
As a watchman, restaurant helper, delivery, caretaker, etc. Time 6 pm to 10 pm. Contact *Arumugam: 8940431717 or 9047232998*

**A maid**
We are looking for a maid for four half days a week. Should be honest, clean and if possible young. Please inform us in case you know of someone (Ph. 262 2372 / joy@auroville.org.in) - Thank you, Joy and Jean (Dana)

**An amma**
I am looking for a serious and courageous amma - three mornings a week: 8h30 am to 12h30. I live in Fertile - Christine: 9489805493 / christinep67@gmail.com

**Food safe**
Any size - Please write to: *bgr8ful@auroville.org.in - B*

**L O S T & F O U N D**

**Red specs in black Vision Care case (found):** On the Kottakarai road near Pony Farm. Collect from Svaram (Ganesh Bakery vicinity) desk.

**Winter Jacket, brand ‘Tommy Hilfiger’ (lost):** I lost a winter blue checked Jacket on 11th, Friday Morning in the Free Store, by my fault. I remember that I took out my Jacket from my bag and put it on the table next to the basket to take out other stuffs for contributing. I totally forgot to replace it into my bag. This clothe is blue checked with grey lining. Actually it was a gift for my son and he is missing it now. We would be very happy if you have it and sorry for confusion and inconvenience, please contact me: 80989 00364, Noeul

**THANK YOU**

**From our VIP’s, big thanks to our speakers and contributors**
Savi wants to express its gratitude for all those who have helped and made possible our VIP - Volunteer Introduction Program, held during 4 days on November 19 - 24th. For the disembarking long-term volunteers (and those arrived since some time), we had organized a session with a consistent span of activities: Introduction to Auroville ideals and founding principles in Savitri Bhavan, visit of farm, forest, craft workshop, ATB, pilot project on waste management with bio-region, intro to Tamil culture, Auroville economy and Integral Education. On Saturday evening we had a very friendly potluck in Joy Guest house with a tasty contribution from Pizza Tanto. Our group of 17 long-term volunteers were very appreciative of this program, and Savi plans to renew it every 2 months.

Thanks, Dominique for Savi

**Future School Open House and Fundraiser**
We would like to thank everyone who was involved in and helped with the open house. It was full of smiles, good food, great vibes, good people and all of our students (and teachers) enjoyed it immensely!
Until next time, *Future School* On behalf of Future School - Faithfully, Ágúst Leó

**From Mathilde and Andrés**
After almost a year in Auroville, we are now going back to our country... We would like to thank all the Community and the people who contributed to make our experience so rich and life-changing! And we will see you again in about 9 months… With love, Mathilde and Andrés

**ACCOMMODATIONS AVAILABLE AND NEEDED**

**House sitting1:** We are a NC family of 4, looking for a long-term house-sitting. Small houses which can fit a flexible family will do as well. Sent with love, *Ohad & Priscila*. Mobile: 9443763298 / Landline: 2623107

**TAXI SHARING**

**December 21st:** A taxi going to Chennai airport from Av to be there at 18.00 and coming back to Av. For sharing it both ways, pls call: 2622693 or avmatri@gmail.com. *Matriprasad*

**December 23rd:** Dear all, a taxi will go to Chennai Airport on Wednesday, December 23rd. The taxi will leave Auroville at around 5:30am and will arrive at the airport at around 9am. We have to 2 free seats and we hope to find somebody to share
the taxi with. We would really appreciate it! Contact: 7639318179 or hilal_durmaz@hotmail.de

Thank you! Hilal & Lukas

December 25th: I leave for Chennai airport on the 25th, Christmas morning at 8 am. If you wish to go at a similar time or return in the afternoon that day, and would like to share, please contact me - shahnandi@gmail.com / sms - 948843286 - Nandita Shah

December 26th: Taxi to Airport on 26th December to share. A taxi will be going to Chennai Airport on 26th Dec. at 2 am and returning empty. It can be shared either way. If interested please contact me. Contact Jeff: jeff@auroville.org.in / 9486475367

December 29th: From Auroville to Chennai Airport on the 29th December. The leaving time is around 7-8 pm. The taxi is only for leaving with 3 seats available, coming back all seats full. Please email: ally@auroville.org.in or call: 7639318959. Thanks. Ally

December 30th: I arrive on 30th Dec at 17.30 at Chennai airport. If anyone is travelling to Chennai that afternoon or returning from there around the same time and would like to share, please contact me - shahnandi@gmail.com /sms - 948843286 - Nandita Shah

December 31st: A taxi will pick up a friend from Chennai airport at 7:25 am, December 31st. Please contact me (7639319959 or lulaalaa@gmail.com) for taxi sharing if you are going to the airport that morning or coming back to Auroville midday. Best regards, Shang Chuan

January 3rd: Dear all, 2 adults plus a small child will travel from Auroville to Chennai airport at 6.30 am. For taxi sharing (either way), please call, message or email. 9650826622 or stefangebert@gmail.com - Stefan

January 5th: Do you like to share the Taxi I am taking from Chennai Airport to Auroville on January 5 sometime after 4 pm? I am landing at 15:15 coming from Delhi. Please email me: jojo.helbig@hotmail.de. Cheers, Johanna

January 6th: Dear all, a taxi will go to Chennai Airport to pick up a friend at 9 am. Please contact me if you wish to share the taxi either to Chennai Airport or on the way back to Auroville. I would really appreciate it! Contact: 7639205474 or darius.meissner@outlook.de

WORK OPPORTUNITIES

Auroville.com is looking for someone new to join our team!

The Auroville Online Store, www.auroville.com, is expanding its team and we have a full-time position available for a dedicated individual. This job requires good customer skills, the ability to work in a team, comfort with using the computer and a strong command of English. Maintenance is available.

If you are interested, please contact us at: info@auroville.com or call us on: 2622119 for an appointment.

Volunteer Well Café

Well Café is looking for an extra enthusiastic volunteer for the season, which is about to start now. At lunchtime we need some extra hands with serving customers from 11:30 until approximately 15:00, dinners start around 18:00 until 21:00. Preferably four days a week. No experience needed, just come with a smile. Please contact Orly or Connie at: 0413 2622 219 or 9655855368

At the Africa House

We are looking for a Newcomer or long term volunteer to join us in the work for the Africa House temporary project in the International Zone. Simple accommodation possibly available. If this speaks to you please send some info about you and your work experiences by e-mail to: unitypavilion@auroville.org.in

Eric Clapton, Iraguha and Taher, for the Africa House Team

HEALTH

Jade Beautysalon

Looking for a nice gift for Christmas - Voucher available, just contact me.

Facials, manicure, pedicure, waxing, facial treatments, support for any kind of skin problems.

Now you can find me in Aurosarjan complex, next to Rangoli support for any kind of skin problems. Facials, manicure, pedicure, waxing, facial treatments, contact me.

With love, Julia

Why take probiotica?

Probiotics restore the natural balance of good bacteria that can be depleted due to such factors as poor or inadequate diet, stress, and travel. They are essential in maintaining healthy digestion.

Probiotica contains only the highest quality ingredients: 14 live probiotic strains, certified organic jaggery, organic juice concentrates including aloe vera and pomegranate, organic apple vinegar, Auroville brown rice, structured water by probiotics ceramic rings, sea salt and a herbal blend with lemongrass - moringa - oregano - ginger - sauf - fenugreek and thyme. Through a fermentation process, the probiotics digest the sugars in the juice concentrates and jaggery and produce a drinking probiotic with zero calories and less than 1g of sugar per serving.

We manufacture Probiotica here in Auroville. You can find it on this Saturday December 19th in Pour Tous Distribution Centre (PTDC) from 10 am to 1 pm.

As we, in MGEcourtesies, are ZERO WASTE to landfill, we do not provide plastic bottles. Please bring your personal bottle and refill it with the PROBIOTICA food grade container. We will instruct you how to use the drinking Probiotica.

MGE coduties
Dear listeners and friends,
As you all may know, we at Auroville Radio are currently running our annual Fun(d) raising campaign. Launched from 05/12/15 to run for a month, we are glad to report here that the campaign helped raise donations to the tune of 20% of our target (of Rupees 8.50 Lakhs) for the year during the first week. We are extremely thankful to all our donors. There is of course a long way to go and would request a hand from all of you in our endeavor.

We have already begun to purchase needed equipment; a new mixing table has been purchased, a pair of professional headphones have arrived and a new computer is on the desk!

Despite the unfortunate circumstances of the recent torrential rains affecting the entire district of Cuddalore, Tamil Nadu, it has been an honour for us to participate in the effort of setting up an emergency radio station at the district headquarters of Cuddalore. Andrea and Prem have brought over some of the needed equipment and employed them along with those mainly supplied by BECIL, Bangalore. The Auroville Radio team worked alongside the district administration, local bodies and the BECIL Teams etc., and have succeeded in launching the FM radio station which has begun to broadcast on 107.8 Mhz in all of just three days! This was an unprecedented accomplishment of communication management in a disaster affected area.

The work load in general is growing at the Auroville Radio. The above situation further highlighted the need for an enlarged and committed radio team, which can only happen by providing a basic support for its members. Our 2016 target includes this need among others.

Our overall aim is to raise Rupees 850,000 (or US$ 13,000) for the following;
- Team members support Rupees 316,000 (US$ 4,860)
- Equipment purchase Rupees 438,000 (US$ 6,760)
- Acoustic treatment Rupees 96,000 (US$ 1,390)

Last year you were an essential part of this effort by actively participating through your contributions, we hope that you will consider us again this time.

Please visit: [http://www.aurovilleradio.org/donate](http://www.aurovilleradio.org/donate) for information on how to contribute by credit card. For transfers within Auroville our account number is #251369 - Any amount of your donation helps us reach our goal.

The latest programs published by Auroville Radio this week are listed below. All these 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.

**Mother's Q & A; October 12 1955 - Part 2** (The Mother 14/12/2015)
Mother teaches that the change of consciousness is what is important now, and that other changes will come much later. - [English, 50 Minutes]

**Farms, Our Volunteers** (News from Auroville 14/12/2015)
Featuring Riccardo de Amici who will share on 16th at UP along with Martine his story on volunteering. - [English, 14 Minutes]

**Selections par Gangalakshmi-66** (The Path 14/12/2015)
Selections par Gangalakshmi: La Manifestation Supramentale sur la Terre, Chapter; La Perfection du Corps - [French, 21 Minutes]

**Framework for Participation** (Social Development 13/12/2015)
Students of Queens Universitly for Urban and Regional Planning, Canada, shares framework for community participation. - [English, 60 Minutes]

**Off the Cuff - 55** (Performing Arts 11/12/2015)
We discuss elephants in the room skeletons in the closet, flood relief work and much more - [English, 17 Minutes]

**Framework for Our Participation** (Social Development 11/12/2015)
Ajay - Queens University, and Lalit - AV Sustainability Institute, talk on this year project - community participation. - [English, 23 Minutes]

**Savitri - Book 1 Canto 4 Part 1** (Sri Aurobindo 11/12/2015)

King Aswapathy gains the secret knowledge of what man is and can become and how this happens. - [English, 26 Minutes]

**Emergency Radio on FM 107,8Mhz** (News from Auroville 10/12/2015)
Andrea talks on setting up the emergency local radio station on FM 107,8Mhz at Cuddalore for flooding relief - [English, 18 Minutes]

**In and around Auroville** (Social Development 09/12/2015)
Auroville belongs to Auroville and no one else... - [English, 3 Minutes]

**AV Wants to Participate** (Social Development 09/12/2015)
Caroline, Joanna and Michael from Queens University, Canada, talk on community participation in planning. - [English, 19 Minutes]

**People Rise by Jeremy** (Music 08/12/2015)
While listening to People Rise - Jeremy's album, the talk with Jeremy goes on life, choices, passion, music, capoeira - [English, 66 Minutes]

**Roshan support Christmas Fair** (Non classã© 08/12/2015)
Roshan explains this year’s Christmas Fair titled “From What to Where” and the preparations remaining to complete. - [English, 2 Minutes]

**Mother's Q&A; October 12 1955** (The Mother 07/12/2015)
Mother speaks of the coming change of consciousness, how close it is, when it will come, who will be ready. - [English, 24 Minutes]

Thank you once again, Auroville Radio Team (Andrea, Yahalom, Miriam, Renu, Prem, Roland and our numerous volunteers.)

You can listen to all of the programs and more on: [www.aurovilleradio.org](http://www.aurovilleradio.org). For more info call 0413-2623331 or email radio@auroville.org.in

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**TRAVEL**

**Latest News from Inside India - The Travel Shop**

Our office timings are from 09:00 to 13:00 and from 13:30 to 17:00

Please let us know your travel plans and we will get back to you once a promotional offer is available, as some are only valid for purchase within a few days and for a specific time period.

We are also having special deals with many airlines which are often better priced when compared to prices on the internet.

- New Airline offers starting from Rs. 35,000:
- Emirates has promotional offers to Europe
- Etihad Airways has special fares to Europe
- Jet Airways has promotional offers to Europe
- Oman Airways has special offers to Europe
- Qatar Airways has promotional offers to Europe
International Flight Tickets and Hotel booking - 0413 - 2622078, travelshop@auroville.org.in / Domestic Flight, Trains and Bus Tickets / Travel Insurance 04132622604 / 2623030, domestic@inside-india.com, doulat@inside-india.com / Tours and Domestic Hotel booking - 0413 - 2622047, insideindia@auroville.org.in

**EATING OUT**

**News from Korean Shushi specialty restaurant “Jolly Kimbap”**

We are making various Kimbap items for Vege/ Vegan and Non-veg, here for Home Delivery only. For Christmas and the New Year, we are happy to prepare new Premium items: Prawn Kimbap and Mushroom Kimbap, Nude Kimbap (nude = rice is on the outside). It would be a special dish for your Christmas party or family gathering and celebration for the New Year. These items must be booked at least the day before. Please don’t forget too that we have the usual items that you know. 

Please look up on facebook: https://www.facebook.com/Jolly-Kimbap-1477043819277821/ and check our special items!

And we are very sorry to announce that we will not open on Saturdays from the 19th onwards. Thanks to all Jolly friends!

*Your Jolly Kimbap* (jollykimbap@auroville.org.in/ 97517 83912)

**Sunday Chill at Aurolannam**

Inviting all patrons for an evening of bonfire, music, free WIFI and mouth-watering ethnic food prepared by Mawite. From hand-picked mushrooms to tender leaves of a pumpkin grown at our farm, we strive to surprise your well-developed palate.

Open every Sunday 6 pm onwards.

See you!

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**GREEN MATTERS**

**Turning-Points Of Hope**

It was a marathon for sure... and for all who followed it, the Paris climate summit felt like an epic novel unfolding before the world’s eyes, at a decisive junction for humanity’s survival. Nearly 200 nations gathered for two weeks in a bid to save the Earth from irreversible catastrophe. Round after round of negotiations, stretching through the night into the early morning for almost a week, several draft agreements rejected one after the other, nail-biting sessions and a near-deadlock at the last moment...

What emerged in the end is a deal seen as a victory not only by governments, but by organisations and activists all over the world. An immense sigh of relief for the millions of people who had made every effort to let the voice of common-sense be heard, and the many more millions who had been holding their breath...

After two decades of foiled climate talks, at a time when scientists’ views differ between ‘it is irrevocably too late’ and ‘it is almost too late’; in the year where, for the first time in human history, global temperatures have risen to more than 1°C above pre-industrial levels, another failure would have been simply suicidal.

In short summary, the toughest negotiations involved the world’s greatest carbon polluters, China being no. 1, India no. 3, with the wealthy USA in the middle of two far more populous ‘developing’ nations. The latter were under pressure from an informal coalition of ‘high ambition’, which grew to over a hundred nations, including the USA, EU, most of Africa, Caribbean and Pacific island nations, Canada and Brazil. The final compromise relied in part on alleviating China and India’s worries that they would be held to the same standards as western countries like the United States.

**So what do we have?**

A historic climate deal that aims to hold global temperatures to a maximum rise of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, staving off the worst effects of catastrophic global warming, has been secured. Legally binding at least in part, and with monitoring and 5-year reviewing mechanisms for all countries, this is a vital first step towards a de-carbonised economy. All countries agree to reduce emissions, accept a new goal of zero net emissions by later this century, and wealthy nations promise to raise $100 billion a year by 2020 to help poor countries make the transition to a low-carbon economy and become more climate-resilient.

This first universal climate agreement will see an accelerated phasing-out of fossil fuels, the growth of renewable energy, as well as new ‘carbon markets’ said to enable countries to trade emissions and protect forests. Although it is a break-through, critical voices of NGOs and scientists remind us that the current pledges to carbon-reduction by all nations still take us to an estimated 2.7°C increase in global temperatures by 2100 (as opposed to 4-5°C if nothing was done!) and that more financial support is needed to ensure that poor countries are not left paying the price of a climate crisis that is not of their making.

A victory, yes, a leap, a great door of hope, despite its compromises. Formally replacing the ineffective Kyoto protocol in 2020, the agreement will ‘force countries to change the way they produce and consume energy, the way they cultivate food, the way they manage urban settlements, the way its people earn their livelihoods, the way the people travel, and in many other ways as well, the full implications of which are still to become apparent’. As all leaders emphasised in their concluding speeches, now the real work begins!!

Meanwhile some countries blaze the trail...:

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Christmas dinner at Cafeteria Visitors Centre

Come and enjoy a special Christmas dinner at Cafeteria on Thursday the 24th and Friday the 25th from 7 pm to 9 pm! As always, a choice of traditional, sea food, vegetarian and vegan options will be available.

Bookings welcome by email to: cafeteriavc@auroville.org.in

A peaceful Christmas to all, The Cafeteria team

**The Garden Cafe**

During the season we will keep our restaurant open every day of the week, 9 am-5 pm, starting Monday the 21st of December-2015.

Welcome! The Garden Cafe Team.

Christmas dinner and new opening from Well Cafe

Well cafe is happy to have our yearly Christmas dinner on the 24/12/15 from 7 pm onward...

We will have vegetarian and vegan world food buffet - including Asian, American, European and more.

Price for guest 500 / AV and NC 420.

For more information and booking please call Well cafe at: 2622219

Well Café will be open for dinner from Thursday 31/12

New opening time: Monday to Wednesday 8.30 am to 16.30 / Thursday Friday and Saturday from 8.30 till 20.30.

With love and good new year for all of us!!

Well cafe team

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**News&Notes 19th December 2015 [628]**
Russia bans all GMOs
The world’s biggest country has banned all genetically modified crops, joining another 30 nations that have done the same. The vision of its president goes even further: “We are not only able to feed ourselves taking into account our lands, water resources – Russia is able to become the largest world supplier of healthy, ecologically clean and high-quality food which the Western producers have long lost, especially given the fact that demand for such products in the world market is steadily growing.”

Bolivia gives legal status to Mother Earth
Bolivia has become the first country in the world to actually give Nature legal rights, in a huge effort to put a halt not only to climate change but the exploitation of our world, and in turn improve the quality of life for its people. The Law of Mother Earth, drafted by grassroots social groups and adopted as law, recognises the rights of all living beings, whether they be plant or animal. It refers to the mineral resources of the world as “blessings” and states that Mother Earth (traditionally revered as Pachamama) “is sacred, fertile and the source of life that feeds and cares for all living beings in her womb. She is in permanent balance, harmony and communication with the cosmos.”

Following Bolivia’s visionary change of Constitution six years ago, the law will play a large part of overhauling its legal system, in a bold shift away from the universally adopted western development model to a holistic vision. Its introduction states: “Living Well means adopting forms of consumption, behaviour and conduct that are not degrading to nature. It requires an ethical and spiritual relationship with life. Living Well proposes the complete fulfillment of life and collective happiness.”

The Law of Mother Earth includes:
• The right to maintain the integrity of life and natural processes.
• The right to not have cellular structure modified or genetically altered.
• The right to continue vital cycles and processes free from human alteration.
• The right to pure water.
• The right to clean air.
• The right to balance, to be at equilibrium.
• The right to be free of toxic and radioactive pollution.
• The right to not be affected by mega-infrastructure and development projects that affect the balance of ecosystems and the local inhabitant communities
• The right to a world of harmony and peace free from all nuclear, chemical and biological weapons.

Auroville Green Center invites you to share anything Green for a healthy Auroville, Bioregion and Planet Earth: avgreencenter@auroville.org.in
For AV Green Center: Jasmin, Lisbeth & Bridget

For your calendar

AMPHITHEATRE - MATRIMANDIR

Meditation with Savitri read by Mother to Sunil’s music
Every Thursday at sunset
From 5.30 to 6.00 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 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 5.15 to 6.00 pm.
Please be seated by 5.25 pm

Amphitheatre Team

Friday 25th of December from 6.15 to 7.00 pm
Musical meditation for the full moonrise
“Hymn to the Light”
The most famous and beautiful music of all time
(Recorded music)

Access only from office gate. Dear guests, please carry your guest card.
To maintain the place quiet, please be seated before 6.15 pm, no late entry!
Switch off your mobile phone, no photos!

INVITATIONS

We want to share with you the secrets of our salads at Solitude Farm Cafe.

Made with many different leaves that are found all over Auroville and are easily cultivated. These salads are both nutritious, delicious and even have medicinal properties. What's more is they are local, have no food miles and are easy to procure.

There will also be a guest appearance by our treasure house, “Green Papaya” and we will share a few little tips we use in the cafe.

We will have an interactive demonstration/workshop at Solitude Farm Cafe on Saturday 19th of December at 10:30 am.
Everyone is welcome, please come and benefit from these leaves that grow all around us. We just need to open our eyes to nature’s gifts!

Love, Krishna
Food Myths that kill

You are invited for a talk FOOD MYTHS THAT KILL by guest speaker Ram Aditya
Tuesday 22nd Dec from 5 pm to 6.30 pm followed by Q & A at Unity Pavilion

As humans we know the tremendous power of our beliefs. In this lecture, Dr Ram Aditya exposes with scientific evidence five of our deepest and most prevalent myths surrounding food and health that not only are powerful, but threaten our very existence. The talk will be followed by a Q&A session.

About the presenter: Ram Aditya, Ph.D., CCHT, is a naturalist, researcher, educator and consultant in Integral Health from the United States. Born in India, and currently settled in Europe, he has over 25 years of experience in scientific research and has taught in many universities across United States. Over the past 10 years, he has been giving talks and consulting for clients internationally, including the U.S., U.K., New Zealand, Spain, France, India, and Mexico. More information on his philosophy and work may be found on his website: www.gracefulhealing.org / www.ammatierra.org

Insight Seminars invites you to 'INTERACTIVE SESSIONS on AUROVILLE'.
Presentations made by Aurovilians on their areas of expertise and sharing of their experiences. These introductory sessions are for those who wish to explore various aspects of Auroville; whether they are Guests, Newcomers or Aurovilians.

- Introduction to the Vision & Concept of Auroville: 21st December 2015, Monday presented by Ela Thole
- Sustainable Community-based Livelihood for Women Empowerment: 22nd December 2015 Tuesday presented by (Parvathy Pitchandikulam)
- Education in Auroville: 23rd December 2015 Wednesday presented by Deepti Tewari
- Auroville Economy & Organization: 24th December 2015 Thursday presented by Bunty

Time: 10:00 to 11:30 am including question and answer session.

Also a presentation on ‘HIGHLIGHTS OF TAMIL NADU’; an introduction to the cultural and spiritual aspects of: Chidambaram / Thanjavur/ Thiruvannamalai /Mahabalipuram
on 23rd December 2015, Wednesday at 3 pm. Presented by Ela

Venue: Insight Seminar room, Ground Floor, in the Inside India building - Auroshilpam (opposite CSR; behind Auromode).
*The presentations are free of charge. Anyone may walk in.

Insights Seminar presents for the first time this year a one-day seminar on: ‘SHAKTI’ - the female creative energy, active executive force of the Divine and the great Divine Mother
In the Integral Yoga she is experienced as the evolutionary force that accompanies the growth of the new consciousness.

On 26th December 2015, Saturday
Time: 08:45 to 12:00 & 14:00 to 17:00
Presented by: Ela

Venue: Insight Seminar room, Ground Floor, in the Inside India building - Auroshilpam (behind Auromode).
Register in advance with Elizabeth at: 2622.047 between 09:30 & 12:30 & 14:00 & 17:00
Contribution required for guests. Aurovilians and Newcomers are welcome, no contribution required, but book in advance

Christmas Celebration at Unity Pavilion
on 24th December from 3pm to 6.30pm
We invite everyone to come and celebrate Christmas with us
Between 3-5pm we will cut Christmas stars to decorate the room with and you can also make stars to bring home. We have beautiful paper for all, but please bring your own scissors.
Between 5 pm - 6.30pm we will sing Christmas songs from different countries, dance around the Christmas tree, and enjoy cookies and Christmas punch together.
Please join us with your joy, bring your songs, music - live or on CD, and if you can, bring some cookies and sweets to share.
MERRY CHRISTMAS!
We Need Volunteers

Unity Pavilion is hosting a Christmas celebration on Thursday, 24 December 2015. We are expecting a lot of people from the community and guests. For preparing for the event and during the event we need volunteers to work along with our team. We are looking for volunteers for the following timings/tasks.

1. Star cutting  2.30 – 5.00 pm  
2. Food preparation: 10 am to 12 noon  
3. For errands/setting up/decoration: 9 am to 12.30 pm  
4. Preparation of candles outside and inside: 9 am to 12.30 pm  
5. General help during event: 4.30–8 pm

It will be fun. Dear Aurovilians, Newcomers, volunteers, guests, please come forward to make this event a big success.

Please get in touch with Unity Pavilion right away. Ph. 2623576 / e-mail: unitypavilion@auroville.org.in

Financial contributions towards covering the expenses of the event are most welcome (a/c no.251739)

Shivaya, Jaya, Kasthuri, Rema, Eric.

Come and celebrate Sadhana Forest's 12th birthday

With a tour, a collage of films, and a presentation of our work in Auroville, Haiti and Kenya and dinner!

Sadhana Forest, Friday December 25th, starting at 16:30

Free bus schedule is in the FILM PROGRAMMES Chapter

We hope to see you for our birthday celebration!!!

EXHIBITIONS

OFFERING

Nature prints by Mridula Vichitra

December 26th 2015 to January 9th 2016

At Pitanga Cultural Centre daily 8 am -12.30 pm and 2 pm - 6 pm

Mridula Vichitra has worked in the medium of nature printing for over two decades, discovering techniques and using a varied variety of plant material. Her art practice involves three distinct techniques-natural pigment transfers, direct ink transfers and collage with plant material.

Centre D’Art Citadines

To whom we adore

As

The Mother

Drawings&Photographs

Composition by Rosa and Satya

From 2nd January 2016-13th January 2016

Time: Opening day 4.30 to 7pm

Every day at 2.30 to 5.30 pm except Sunday

Parking Town Hall

FROM FOREST TO FURNITURE

The 4 Auroville units, LIGHTFISH, WOODSCAPES, AURORACHANA and PRAKRIT are doing a joint Christmas exhibition of their latest designs within furniture and light.

It will be open at Visitors Centre, behind the restaurant, from Friday the 25th to Sunday the 27th of December.

All 3 days from 10 am to 5 pm.

Tejaswini | samvit | Clemens | Torkil
KALA KENDRA, BHARAT NIVAS - Gallery Square Circle

PRESENTS

ONE

A series of spiritual paintings By Aparajita Barai

About the Artist: Aparajita Barai is a graphic designer and an Artist. She has graduated from National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad and completed her masters with a distinction from University of Westminster, London. She currently resides with symbols and metaphors from Indian mythology and folklores.

About the Work: This series is named ONE. It is dedicated to the ONE we are all a part of, to the ONE we will merge into. The core essence of the series is to show how this entire Universe is just “many” of the same “one”. The many gods and goddesses that represent the same one, the gods with their representations when found within ourselves become one with us.

From Thursday 17th December, 2015 till Thursday 7th January, 2016
Inauguration on Thursday the 17th of December, 2015 at 05:30 P.M
(Refreshments will be served)
Gallery Timings 9 am to 5 pm (Closed on Sundays and Public Holidays)
ALL ARE WELCOME

The Canadian Pavilion & Pavilion of Tibetan Culture

In collaboration with
Komali MeDi Clown Academy
Present

Light in Darkness
by Hamish

Book Launch and
Exhibition of Original Poetry and Photos

Pavilion of Tibetan Culture
Sunday, December 27
4:30 pm: Gathering
5:00 pm: Inauguration followed by tea
Exhibition runs till Wednesday, January 13

Light in Darkness is an inquiry and exploration into the human condition. It examines light and darkness wrestling in the heart, mind, and body. Using different points of view, it addresses consumption, justice, injustice, grief, joy, anger, death, wonder and immortality. What motivates the indivisible mindful contemplation and action both within the person and out in the world that is necessary in the practice of Integral Yoga?

CULTURAL EVENTS

Udavi Mid-Term Cultural program

Dear Friends,
You are cordially invited to our Mid-Term Cultural program on Sunday the 20th of December 2015 at 4 pm (Sunday)
Venue: Udavi stage

Udavi school students will perform plays, dances, songs and music.
Not to be missed!
Yours,
Udavi school

Piano Concert

Christoph Deluze

Tuesday 29th December, 8:00 pm at CRIPA
Jean-SEbastien BACH: 4 transcriptions pour piano
BACH - LISZT Prélude et fugue pour orgue en la mineur BWV 543
BACH - SILOTTI Aria de la suite pour orchestre en Ré Majeur No 3
BACH – KEMPF Sicilienne de la sonate pour flute No 2 / BACH - DELUZE Passacaglia
BACH – SILOTTI Aria de la suite pour orchestre en Ré Majeur No 3
Erik SATIE Le fils des Étoiles / Gnossiennes 1, 2, 3/ Dmitri KABALEVSKY 10 Préludes extraits de l’op 38
Aram KATCHTURJAN Toccata

News&Notes 19th December 2015 [628]
The Auroville Theatre Group

Presents

THE GLASS MENAGERIE

By Tennessee Williams

December 26, 27 and 28, 2015
@The Sri Aurobindo Auditorium - Bharat Nivas

At 7:30 p.m.

The play is introduced to the audience by Tom, the narrator and protagonist, as a memory play based on his recollection of his mother Amanda and his sister Laura. Because the play is based on memory, Tom cautions the audience that what they see may not be precisely what happened: “Yes, I have tricks in my pocket, I have things up my sleeve. But I am the opposite of a stage magician. He gives you illusion that has the appearance of truth. I give you truth in the pleasant disguise of illusion”.

With Swati Mukherjee as Amanda
Shilpi Singh as Laura
Vini Karthick as Tom
Sugumar Shanmugam as Jim, the Gentleman Caller

Set Design by Marta Cicionesi and Swar Weinberger
Lighting Design by Jean Legrand
Costumes by Kiran Kamal
Directed by Jill Navarre

CLASSES, WORKSHOPS

INNER-WORK-WORKSHOP

Introduction to the Integral Yoga of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother
22nd December (Tuesday)
• Overview with multimedia presentation• Questions and Answers• Practice in Daily Life• Complimentary Concentration Exercises
• Creative Arts, Interactive Games• Life of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother• Introduction to the Reference Books
Focus this week on: ‘Self-realisation’
These Workshops are conducted every Tuesday, each week with a different focus. Study, play and creativity go hand in hand with various inner exercises.
Place: Savitri Bhavan. Time: 9 am to 12.00 Noon (pl be present by 8.55 am)
Led by Ashesh Joshi. Contact: 9489147202, 2622922
No Registration required (except for groups). Fees: Voluntary Contribution
All are welcome
For details on the Integral Yoga and the upcoming workshops: please visit www.integralyoga-auroville.

DEEPENING COMMUNICATION

A 2 day workshop: 22 & 23 December at Sharnag GH, with Christine Pauchard & Sigrid Lindemann.
This 2-day workshop will help you connect with your inner power and will give you the knowledge to develop deep communication. You will learn and experience how to facilitate access to inner knowing.
Discover tools to understand the uniqueness of each individual and improve communication in work, relationship and with your inner self.
For more information: www.auroville-holistic.com
Contact@auroville-holistic.com / Mob Christine: 9489805493 / tel Sigrid: 0413-2623888

"IN THE DEPTH OF BODY AND SOUND"

Short 1/2 day workshop: a new approach to the use of voice and body and how to use this technique as an Art of Living on a daily basis.
Offered by visiting Friend of Auroville: Sophie PICHON
Saturday, 26th December 2015
Time: from 6 to 8 30 pm.
Venue: Pavilion of Tibetan Culture, Auroville
All are welcome.

Short introduction on Sophie PICHON: After a professional artistic journey as a choreographer and interpreter for a period of 20 years, Sophie took up to training of singing and dancing. She acquired the technique on the use of the voice and the vocal chords. She learnt also all forms of traditional dance, taking inspiration from Shamanism, Sufism, Taoism, Buddhism, etc...
This new approach through the use of sound, vocal chords and the body taught her a new art of living on a daily basis. It helped her to reconnect with her body, her senses, her perceptions and with her different memories.

Sophie wishes to share her experience and knowledge with Auroville and raise questions together as to how this quest led her to find the inner freedom of creativity that opens up new horizons? How the technique of chanting and dancing becomes for all of us a way to capture the invisible from the visible!
For more information, contact by e-mail: sophiepichon64@gmail.com
Submitted by Tapas Bhatt & Kalsang.

AYURVEDIC MASSAGE COURSE

Aurodam Harmony centre 28 December 2015 till 2 of January 2016
Ayurvedic massage is one essential contribution to heal every disease.
The massage that is taught is a complete full body massage that the student learns to master during this course.
The massage works from the feet to the head and the full treatment will be done in 1 hour.
The aim of this massage is to eliminate toxins and re-establish the connection between the physical, emotional, mental and energetic aspect.
Attention is directed not only to learn the technique, but also at other important aspects like: the body posture of the student, cleaning of the personal energy system and the workroom.
For more information please contact: umberto@auroville.org.in / mobile: 985975330
The teacher, Umberto Grippo, has been living in Auroville for the last 20 years. He teaches three different forms of Ayurvedic massages.
KALARIPAYAT

After the rains, the Kalari classes in Aspiration Sportsground are starting again regularly as usual:

Morning: 6.30 to 7.30 am on Monday, Wednesday, Friday
Evening: 5 to 6 pm from Monday to Friday

We remind our friends that we still need a little help for improving the floor of our Kalari, our Pour Tous account is: 252395.

Thanks - Aspiration Kshetra Kalari Team: Manesh, Vadivel, Kalyani

INNER DIALOGUE

With Jean-François Nicolet

- Have the courage to look at yourself -

Gently acquire the ability to know all about yourself, so that nothing stays hidden from you.

You must wish to see the entirety, to know what you like about yourself as well as what you do not like.

What you wish to know runs forward with joy like a happy stream.

What you do not wish to know, is like the water obstructed with dead leaves and branches;

21, 21, 23 December (in French)
28, 29, 30 December (in English)

From 1.30 pm to 4.30 pm
Location: Auromodel, Chanta's house (www.allkati.com/where)

There is no fee for the workshop.

If you are committed to be present for all the sessions (either the 21, 22, 23 December in French or the 28, 29, 30 December in English, please call Shanta at: (0143) 262 20 30 or email her at: chantalagowa@chantalagowa.org.

The workshop will be limited to a maximum of 15 participants (Auromillians, Newcomers and guests).

Jean-Francois has been residing in Asia most of his life, where he lived, studied and practiced Eastern religions and philosophies with masters and students of different schools. He is also a trained practical philosopher in the Western tradition, and would prefer to only say this about himself: "I have been a human being until now and plan to stay that way until the end".

QUIET HEALING CENTER

Courses & Workshops: 27 December 2015 - 4 January 2016

Shamanic Aquatic Bodywork with Shanti & Helen
Sunday 27 December 2015 - Friday 1 January 2016 (6 days)
9.00 AM - 6.30 PM (50 hours in total)

Quiet Healing Center (tel. 2622329 / 9488084966)

During this course, we will work in water and on land with each one's individual potential to find your unique strengths and gifts you share with the world and your clients. Together we will explore the developmental movements of life (inspired by Annie Brook & Bonnie Bainbridge Cohen), empowering our own cellular memory of what we experienced once in the womb of our mother.

Together we will rediscover the magic healing power of aquatic body work: touch with full awareness, intention, and heart-connection, peaceful mind, being connected with the breath of life itself in harmony with our inner and outer nature, which we will celebrate during our time together.

Shanti & Helen are trained in prenatal shock therapy, shamanic family constellation and other nature connected modalities, as well as highly experienced, long-time Watsu and Waterdance instructors.

Niramaya Ayurvedic Massage Course with Dr. Sankar
Monday 4 January - Saturday 9 January 2016 (6 days)
9.00 AM - 4.00 PM (30 hours in total)

Quiet Healing Center (tel. 2622329 / 9488084966)

Dr. Sankar developed his unique “Niramaya” Ayurvedic therapeutic massage technique, using the traditional concepts of Ayurvedic massage and marma (vital points) therapy in combination with modern anatomy and physiology.

A practical hands-on approach is used to learn this innovative massage, which rejuvenates the client and, at the same time, takes care of the well-being of the therapist. You will also learn to control your breathing before, during and after the massage, to protect yourself from negative energies, and to become a receptive channel for transferring positive healing energies to your client. In addition, you will be introduced to the basic principles of Ayurveda as well as anatomy, physiology, yoga, meditation, and breathing

Hailing from a traditional Ayurvedic doctors’ family, Dr. Sankar is a gifted 5th-generation doctor, who has been teaching in Asia and Europe. He also heads “Ayurtday”, an Ayurvedic therapy centre in Guruvayur, Kerala.

No knowledge or previous experience is required to attend.

Certificate is given upon completion of the course.

Watsu 1 with Dariya
Monday 4 January - Sunday 10 January 2016 (7 days)
9.00 - 6.30 PM (50 hours in total)

Quiet Healing Center (tel. 0413 2622329 / 9488084966)

In the first stage of Watsu 1, you learn Watsu’s Tai Chi-like basic movements and positions and how you, while staying grounded and connected with your partner’s breath, let the water do the work. In its regular return to the Water Breath Dance position, you will find the stillness that is the basis of being present.

In the second stage, the Transition Flow, you learn to connect these basic movements and positions with long, gracefully flowing transitions and to adapt this work to people of different sizes, shapes, and dispositions. You also learn about your own body mechanics and how to support and move each person as effortlessly as possible.

On land, you will be introduced to both Co-Centering and Tantsu, and explore and share what being held means to you and others.

BHAKTI MODERN DANCE

Deborah Abel, Artistic Director of the Deborah Abel Dance Company USA, will be offering a Bhakti Modern Dance Workshop on December 26 & 27 at Cripa, 10:30am-12:30

A Bhakti Modern master class is a modern dance technique class which focuses on the in-breath and out-breath of the unfolding movements and phrases, as they ebb, flow and spiral in varying dynamics. The technique is Limon inspired, and the music is drawn from world music, kirtan and singer/songwriter pieces.

Each class begins with an organically conceived warm-up that trains, strengthens, and warms the body in flowing combinations and contrasting dramatic rhythms. The class starts meditatively on the floor, moves to a standing center, and continues to a breath-infused, passionate dance phase which aims to evoke in each dancer a connection to divine beauty, inner longing, and personal artistry.

This is an intermediate level modern dance workshop. On day 2 of the workshop there will be an opportunity to choreograph together in small groups based on the music and intention of the dance we have been working with.

Please wear dance/yoga clothes, we will be dancing barefoot. Bring a water bottle.

Short Bio: Deborah Abel has choreographed and danced in her own works since 1987. Her work has been presented in Massachusetts, New York, and Connecticut, as well as in New Delhi, Jaipur, and Chennai. In 2010 she was awarded the Fellowship in Choreography by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, and in 2012 she served on the panel of judges that granted the award. In 1988 Abel was a finalist in the Massachusetts Artist Foundation Fellowship Program in
Choreography. Her most recent work “Calling to You: A Tale of Ancient Wisdom in the Modern World” which premiered in March 2012 at Boston University, toured India in December 2012 under the sponsorship of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations and the Kalakshetra Foundation.

Abel received a B.A. in Dance from Connecticut College and a Certificate of Dance from the Laban School in London, England. In the 1980s she established her own school of modern dance, which continues to grow and flourish today.

For registration: cripa@auroville.org.in. Contribution required.

NLP SESSION WITH CHRISTINE PAUCHARD.

On appointment. Free for Aurovillian. The NLP can help you:
- Become more efficient regarding your profession.
- Be aware of your limiting mechanisms and achieve your goals whether it is personal, social or professional or regarding your family.
- Acquire practical tools and easy application to improve your communication.

Inquiries: 9489805493.

HATHA YOGA CLASS

Hatha yoga class restarts at Sharnga guest house with Christine P.

On Tuesday and Friday: 4.30 to 6 pm

Information: 9489805493.

All are welcome.

DIDGERIDOO WORKSHOP AT AUROANNAM

Tuesday 22nd of Dec at 7 pm

Conducted by Anthony Glauser from Australia, a multi-talented instrumentalist and a good cook.

The 1 hour workshop will cover didgeridoo techniques from basics to intermediate. For registration please call Anthony: +918870933756.

Get your Didger or PVC pipes (35mm / 1 mtr).

Cafe will be open for dinner alongside a beautiful bonfire and music. See you!

MUSIC WORKSHOP BY JEAN-JACQUES LEMETRE, THEATRE DU SOLEIL, PARIS.

Date: Sunday, 27th of December 2015

Time: 10 am to 5 pm

Venue: India Space [white hall, entrance gate of Archives].

Jean-Jacques Lemetre, well known French musician and composer, has accompanied Ariane Mnouchkine’s Theatre creations for the past 40 years. All theater and music lovers are welcome.

SCHEDULES

WORKSHOPS IN VÉRITÉ: (24 hour advanced registration required)

FRESH PERSPECTIVES WORKSHOP with Julie

Wednesday, 23 December - 9.15 am to 12.30 pm

Are you at a cross roads in your life? Are you going through a transition? Do you want to get unstuck?

In this dynamic and interactive workshop we’ll explore how you can create clarity, make conscious choices and move forward.

Join certified life coach Julie to get fresh perspectives on your life.

JULIE a Certified Life Coach from the Coaches Training Institute in London, Julie combines her extensive coaching, yoga and business consulting experience to facilitate clients finding insight and purpose.

FATE OR CHOICE? (FAMILY) CONSTELLATION WORKSHOP with YUVAL

Friday & Saturday, 25 & 26 December - 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.

MERIDIAN YOGA WORKSHOP with Yaor

Saturday, 26 December - from 9.30 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) through the body. Each meridian is related to an organ in the body, and every pair of meridians is related to a phase/system/element. People often carry blockages in one or more meridian, which can result in pain, problems, and disease.

Organised by Bharat Nivas

Please note: Confirmation awaited and this will be published in next week’s News.

Submitted by Tapas for Bharat Nivas (Email: tapas@auroville.org.in)

THAI YOGA MASSAGE

10½ Day Workshop

January 4th - 14th 2016 Beginner/Advance

TerraSoul at Windarra Farm with Itzhak Helman & Bebe Merino (Teachers of Sunshine Network)

Principles, Foundations & Dynamics

The course is designed for Beginners and Advanced practitioners, for all who want to start, refresh and improve their practice. We provide space and learning opportunities for all - you are most welcome.

The course will have 60-80 hours intense training. The morning Vipassana Meditation session and yoga from 6.30-8 am is optional, followed by instruction and massage practice from 9-12 am. The afternoons from 2-5 pm are fully dedicated to massage practice. Thai Yoga Massage brings penetrating massage & gentle yoga movements into profound healing systems.

Itzhak Helman and Bebe Merino are in their Newcomer process. Both are experienced Thai Yoga Massage teachers from the Sunshine Network and deeply connected to Auroville since many years. For further information please look at the website: www.thai-yoga-massage.org

Registration: terrasoul@auroville.org.in, phone 944 3619 403.

Info: Bebe Merino 8940 597 379

LASYA RITUAL CIRCLE DANCE FOR WOMEN

With Yulia in Sve Dame, Butterfly Barn

Fridays from 5-7, being on time appreciated

The Lasya Ritual Dance practice is an authentic exploration of devotional dance, a revival of the ancient memory of worship and communion with spirit hidden in the body and its movements. We will improvise and learn forms, dance together and with ourselves, explore a different way of Being within a circle of Dance unity.

ZUMBA

Zumba is resuming at New Creation Dance studio with Lakshmi, a certified instructor.

On Monday December 21st there will be a demo class,

Then classes will take place on Mondays and Thursdays from 6-7pm
The purpose of this workshop is to open the meridian channels. You will learn a series of meridian exercises and some 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!

YAOR is in Auroville as a Savi volunteer. He has a 2 year senior diploma in Zen Shiatsu therapy and has been practicing and teaching Zen Shiatsu for the last 4 years.

SOUTH INDIAN DRUMMING with Kadir
Monday to Wednesday, 28 to 30 December - 9.30 am to 11:30 pm
Together we will play the ancient South Indian Ghatam (clay pot instrument), Khanjra (frame drum) and Konnakol (vocalized South Indian rhythm) to create states of happiness and well-being.

No prior experience necessary; instruments will be provided.

KADIR has been playing percussion with a variety of instruments since childhood, and he is passionate about teaching drumming.

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)

NEW CREATION DANCE STUDIO SCHEDULE
MONDAY:
5-6pm: Pilates basic (Marianna)
6-7pm: Zumba (Laksmi)
7-8pm: Capoierta (Jeremy)
TUESDAY:
5-6pm: Aerobics beginners/intermediate (Bobby until Jan/Elodie)
6-7pm: Hip hop small kids (Sathish)
7-8pm: Hip hop older kids (Sathish)
WEDNESDAY:
3-5pm: Ballet with students ages 10-15 (Grace)
5-6pm: Folk dance with children (Murugessan)
Then 5-6pm: Nia Dance (Sabine/Philippe) starting December 30th
6-7pm: Gymnastics with students (Terra)
THURSDAY:
5-6pm: Fitness (Bobby)
6-7pm: Zumba (Laksmi)
7-8.30: Biodanza (Isabelle)
FRIDAY:
3-5pm: Ballet with students ages 10-15 (Grace)
5-6pm: Aerobics (Elodie) (starting January)
6-8pm: Capoierta (Jeremy)
SATURDAY:
7.30-8.30am: Pilates basic (Apple)
3-4pm: Hip hop older kids (Sathish)
4-5pm: Hip hop small kids (Sathish)
5-6pm: Folk dance with children (Murugessan)
6.30-8pm: West Coast Swing (Kiara/Kiran)

NEWS FROM THE LANGUAGE LAB AND TOMATIS CENTRE

Tomatis Centre shifted: Our major news is that the Tomatis Centre has shifted from the rented house it was in, to the Language Lab building in Shakti. This is where it will be until both activities are able to move into the new building in the International Zone. The big round classroom has become the Tomatis listening space, and the classroom has shifted to the Library room. Things are a bit crowded but still lovely and neat and tidy!

We will be offering short-term intensive language immersion programs, with the Language Lab mediatheque and one-on-one/group classes supplementing the Tomatis sessions, so please contact us.

We are aware there are some pending Listening Tests, especially for some little ones of Auroville; please be a little more patient; we will definitely get back to you soon.

More information about Tomatis is available at the following sites:
http://www.listenwell.com/
http://www.aurovillelanguagelab.org/tomatis-method.php
http://www.aurovillelanguagelab.org/presentation.php

You can also come to the Language Lab and request to watch a film on the Tomatis Method. There is one in French and one in English. The phone numbers are: 0413-2623661, and 2623088.

New building: Work on the new building is continuing pace in spite of all the delays due to incessant power cuts, Bharat Nivas pole breaking, rains, etc. Unfortunately we could not finish the courtyard roof in time before the rains so we spent a wet few weeks, but work continued inside. As many of you know, this is quite a special building, with a system of cooling without air-conditioning, and it has a lot of sustainable features, including use of lime for mortar and plaster, probiotics, electro-magnetic compliance, respect of vaastu, etc. The special features are explained here:
http://www.aurovillelanguagelab.org/architecture.php. We are open to people visiting, but please inform us in advance (0413-2622467 or send an email).

We plan to have a regular open-house to explain the special features of the building, to Aurovilians, Newcomers, Guests, locals, etc. The first one will be on the 19th Dec, Sat, at 11am. As with any construction, in these last stages, some lakhs are missing to continue the work, but we still hope to be finished now in 2-3 months’ time. Donations are welcome into PT Account: 251414.

New Teachers welcome: We are still sorely missing Erika, our German teacher, and Jerry, our English teacher. We welcome teachers of various languages who would like to offer their teaching... in particular we are looking for English and German teachers, but now is the moment when “demand” increases, so other languages are welcome too. We often get requests for less-taught languages, and put students in touch with teachers for one-on-one classes, so if you are open and interested to teach, no matter what your language, please let us know.

Ongoing Classes: French with Christiane continues, and many students have appreciated her love for teaching, her commitment to her students and her approach. Please contact the Lab to join classes, and here is a reminder that she is available to Aurovilians and Newcomers for one-on-one sessions too. Tamil classes also continue with Saravanan, and Chandrima remains available as earlier for classes in Hindi, Sanskrit and Bengali. Piero remains available for Italian.

Contact us, phone: 0413-2623661, 2623088 and Email: all@auroville.org.in

FRIDAY 25 DECEMBER - 7:30 PM (Film show starting at 7.45 sharp)
TALES OF THE NIGHT (LES CONTES DE LA NUIT)
Animated film written & directed by Michel OCELOT, France, 2011
With voices of: Julien Béramis, Marine Griset, Michel Elias
Synopsis: Every evening, a girl, a boy and an elderly technician meet in a small cinema hall that looks abandoned, but is full of wonders. The three friends get information, create, draw, and find costumes. They enact all the stories they want in a unique locale, from Tibet, to medieval Europe, to the Land of the Dead.


THE ECO FILM CLUB
Sadhana Forest, December 25, Friday at 4.30 pm

Come and celebrate Sadhana Forest’s 12th birthday with a collage of short films, a presentation on our work in Auroville, Haiti and Kenya and dinner!

Before the presentation 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!!

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
19:00 A showcase of short films about Sadhana Forest made by volunteers from around the world
19:30 Presentation of the work of Sadhana Forest in India, Haiti and Kenya by Aviram
20:30 Dinner is served
21:30 Free bus from Sadhana Forest back to Solar Kitchen

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
24th December Thursday
NO SHOW
Merry Christmas to all the viewers

25th December, Friday, 8 pm
EVEREST (2015)
Dur: 121mins. Rated: PG13 / Language: English/Subtitle: Hindi, English

Dir: Baltasar Kormákur / Cast: Jason Clarke, Ang Phula Sherpa, Thomas M.

Story line: A climbing expedition on Mt. Everest is devastated by a severe snow storm.

AT SAVITRI BHAVAN

“SAVITRI - THE WAY OF LOVE”

In this video of a talk, Narad (Richard Eggengaer) honours Dr. Mangesh V. Nadkarni who has opened doors to “Savitri!” for thousands of people. Narad’s inspiring lecture explores many beautiful passages on Love occurring throughout the poem. At the end of the talk Narad is also sharing some special remembrances from disciples about experiences with Sri Aurobindo and his light and love.

Savitri’s last words in the poem of Sri Aurobindo are:

“Awakened to the meaning of my heart / That to feel love and oneness is to live / And this the magic of our golden change, / Is all the truth I know or seek, O sage.”

Duration: 64min.

Monday, 21st of December 2015, at 6:30 pm

THE FRENCH PAVILION

Presents

“L’ADN nos ancêtres et nous” (DNA and our ancestors)

Directed by Franck Guérin and Emmanuel Leconte
Documentary in French without subtitles (73mn)

How, thanks to genetics, researchers were able to go back in the history of mankind till its origin. A fabulous scientific epic coupled with a stimulating reflection on mankind. Franck Guérin and Emmanuel Leconte invite us to a fascinating exploration of DNA, highlighted by clear testimonies of prominent geneticists, paleoanthropologists and archaeologists. The documentary also focuses on “the irony of history” that was established, in the light of the latest scientific discoveries, the slavery of the black people, legitimized by the invention of “race”. But if the research tells us that we are all related, the geneticist of population Mark Stoneking argues that “it is up to us to decide our behaviour to one another. A beautiful way to remind us that respect for our differences should not rely on scientific justifications…

Saturday, December 19th 2015 at 5:00 pm - CINEMA PARADISO

Indian - Monday 21 December, 8:00 pm:
• MASAAN (Fly Away Solo)

India-France, 2015, Dir. Neeraj Ghaywan w/ Richa Chadda, Sanjay Mishra, Vicky Kaushal, and others, Drama-Romance, 109mins, Hindi w/ English subtitles, Rated: R(A)

Two stories intersect along the Ganges: Devi is ridden with guilt of a sexual encounter ending in tragedy. She is chased by the stigma of society - finally ending up in Allahabad. Deepak a low caste boy from corpse burning family - driven by the need to have a different life, goes to college. There he meets and falls madly in love with Shalu - from an upper caste. As the events turn Shalu dies and ends up in front of him at the burning ghat. Life finally takes him from Banaras to Allahabad, where he meets Devi. This award winning directorial debut is a powerful, lyrical, film that lingers with you even after it is over. A must see!

Other - Tuesday 22 December, 8:00 pm:
• TIAN ZHU DING (A Touch of Sin)

China, 2012 Dir. Jia Zhangke w/Wu Jiang, Baoqiang Wang, Tao Zhao, and others, Drama, 135 mins, Chinese w/English subtitles, Rated: R

Inspired by several shocking and true events - this film includes four independent stories set in modern China about random acts of violence that forced the world’s fastest growing economy into a period of self-examination. The stories are set in vastly different geographical and social milieus across China, ranging from the bustling southern metropolis of Guangzhou to India.
and Dongguan to the more rural townships in Jia's home province of Shanxi. This award winning and critically acclaimed film however has scenes of graphic violence; which is a stylistic departure from the director’s earlier work. It is a great film but not for the faint hearted.

Cultural - Wednesday 23 December, 8:00 pm:
- **LE PARC:** or Games of love in a French garden
France, 1999, Dir. Denis Caiozzi, ballet from A. Preljocaj w/ I. Guerin, L. Hilaire and others, 95 mins, French w/ English subtitles for the interview, Rated: NR

Angelin Preljocaj is one of the most original choreographers of French contemporary dance. Le Parc, created in 1994, meditates on the course of passion and games of love in the approach of the two sexes. In the search for what represents the “Art of Loving” he has turned to the French Literature of the 17th and 18th centuries which spawned myriad of codes for Love: observation, attraction, desire, resistance, finally abandon, danced in a wonderful duo with two great stars: Isabelle Guerin and Laurent Hilaire.

**Nordic - Thursday 24 December, 8:00 pm:**
- **NYBYGGARNA (The New Land)** - Part 1
Sweden, 1971, Dir. Jan Troell w/ Max von Sydow, Liv Ullmann, Eddie Axberg, and others, Drama-History, 90mins, Swedish w/ English subtitles, Rated: PG

Continuation of previously shown “Utvandrarna (The emigrants)”. The small group of Swedish people who wanted to emigrate to America in the mid-19th century have finally crossed the ocean and, after an eventful journey on land and rivers, have now arrived in Minnesota, where they plan to settle.

**International - Saturday 26 December, 8:00 pm:**
- **YOUTH**
Italy, 2015, Dir. Paolo Sorrentino w/ Michael Caine, Harvey Keitel, Rachel Weisz, Jane Fonda and others, Drama, 117 mins, English w/ Italian subtitles, Rated: R

Fred and Mick, two old friends, are on vacation in an elegant hotel at the foot of the Alps - experiencing their life long bond. Fred, a composer and conductor, is now retired. Mick, a film director, is still working. They look with curiosity and tenderness on their children's confused lives, Mick's enthusiastic young writers, and the other hotel guests. While Mick scrambles to finish the screenplay which will be his last important film, Fred has no intention of resuming his musical career. But someone wants at all costs to hear him conduct again.

**Children’s Film - Sunday 27 December, 4:30 pm:**
- **Miracle on 34th Street**
USA, 1949, Dir Les Mayfield, Valentine Davis and others, Family-Fantasy, 114 mins, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: PG

A little girl discovers dreams do come true if you really believe. Six-year-old Susan has doubts about childhood's most enduring miracle - Santa Claus. Her mother told her the "secret" about Santa a long time ago, so Susan doesn't expect to receive the most important gifts on her Christmas list. But after meeting a department store Santa who believes he's the real thing, Susan is given the most precious gift of all - something to believe in.

**Robert Altman Film Festival @ Ciné-Club**
During the 70s, an era widely recognized as a renaissance period of American moviemaking, few directors enjoyed greater prominence than Robert Altman. An iconoclast whose work acutely attacked the conventions of genre filmmaking. He both satirized and revitalized such warhorses as the Western, the musical, and the crime drama, waging war on the sterile artifice of mainstream storytelling by creating a singularly sprawling and deliberately messy cinematic world bursting at the seams with sounds, images, characters, and plot lines.

Altman’s quixotic career has been uneven at best, yet he remains fa true maverick responsible for many of the defining films of his times.

**Ciné-Club - Sunday 27 December, 8:00 pm:**
- **THAT COLD DAY IN THE PARK**
USA, 1969, Dir. Robert Altman w/Sandy Dennis, Michael Burns, and others, Drama, 113min, English w/English subtitles, Rated: R

A sexually repressed, emotionally disturbed woman becomes obsessed with a young man she meets by chance. He plays along, as a lark. Their situation becomes increasingly darker as her obsession fades into psychosis. Realizing, finally, what he's dealing with, the young man seeks to extricate himself from the "relationship" only to find violence and tragedy awaiting.

**Rating codes**
We often use these from Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA): G=General Audiences, PG=Parental guidance suggested, PG-13=Parents strongly cautioned, R=Restricted (equivalent to Indian rating: A i.e. for Adults), NR=Film Not rated, Rating awaited, or Rating not available.

**Kindly do not bring food, drinks, snacks, munchies or your pets into the auditorium**
As a courtesy to the fellow viewers please be sweet and stop chatting after the film starts.

For scheduling programs at MMC/CP venue: please email us at mmcauditorium@auroville.org.in.

We appreciate your continued support. Please make a contribution to “Cinema Paradiso” account (#105106) at the Financial Service. Thanking You, MMC/CP Group Account# 105106, mmcauditorium@auroville.org.in

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**SOME ESSENTIAL SERVICES**

**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, with per passenger fares, from Rs.80 for 1 person single trip inside the city area, destinations up to Aspiration/Auromodile (Rs.110) and Repos (Rs.150), Quiet (Rs.180). Phone Visitors Centre main gate 262-2611 or to the driver directly 94876-50951 daily 9.30am-6.00pm (summer season - no longer available evenings). 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

**Eco Service, Kottakarai:** Gillian - 9442067481, email: Ecoservice@auroville.org.in / 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: 9:00 to 12:30 pm. Tuesday and Thursday: 2:30 to 4:30 pm
ACT NEW TIME TABLE

EARLY TRIP (daily except Tuesday)
This service is conditional to MM being open to visitors. Usually not running on rainy days (enquiries: 2622235)
7:45 AM from Transport Service near Certitude Corner, opposite to Gas Service
12:00 Noon from Pondy rue St Louis (beach end of J.N. Street) opposite Ashram playground
SHOPPING TRIP
Tuesday and Saturday
8:50 AM from Vérité
12:00 Noon from Pondy Manakula Vinayagar Street (Ganesha Temple Street)
AFTERNOON TRIP
Monday
2:30 PM from Vérité
6:00 PM from Pondy Manakula Vinayagar Street (Ganesha Temple Street)
Wednesday and Friday
4:30 PM from Vérité

8:00 PM from Pondy Manakula Vinayagar Street (Ganesh Temple Street)

Please Note: In case the ACT bus is not available as per the time table please be on the lookout for a replacement by Auroville Jeep or Van, we will ensure that a small white and orange sign is visible on the replacement vehicle.

ACT continues to explore a voluntary contribution policy from its riders in alignment with Auroville’s ideals and aims. At present it is your contributions that help the ACT team to offer continued services. We appreciate all support and feedback to keep our service progressing. You can choose to contribute as you like, as often you feel to -- with cash paid to the driver, through your Auroville Financial Service account or by punching your Travel pass. Travel passes are available from Financial Service (Town Hall & Aspiration) and Guest Service (above the Solar Kitchen). For more information contact ACT (0413) 2622962 or act@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 News & Notes office, Media Centre, Town Hall. Phone: 2622133, email: newsandnotes@auroville.org.in

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