News & Notes
Saturday 12 May 2018  A weekly bulletin for residents of Auroville  Number 749
HOUSE OF MOTHER’S AGENDA

(Continued) If one has walked long and steadily in the path, the faith of the heart will remain under the fiercest adverse pressure; even if it is concealed or apparently overborne, it will take the first opportunity to re-emerge. For something higher than either heart or intellect upholds it in spite of the worst stumblings and through the most prolonged failure. But even to the experienced Sadhaka such falterings or overcloudings bring a retardation of his progress and they are exceedingly dangerous to the novice. It is therefore necessary from the beginning to understand and accept the arduous difficulty of the path and to feel the need of a faith which to the intellect may seem blind, but yet is wiser than our reasoning intelligence. For this faith is a support from above; it is the brilliant shadow thrown by a secret light that excedes the intellect and its data; it is the heart of a hidden knowledge that is not at the mercy of immediate appearances. Our faith, persevering, will be justified in its works and will be lifted and transfigured at last into the self-revelation of a divine knowledge. Always we must adhere to the injunction of the Gita, “Yoga must be continually applied with a heart free from despondent sinking.” Always we must repeat to the doubting intellect the promise of the Master, “I will surely deliver thee from all sin and evil; do not grieve.” At the end, the flickerings of faith will cease; for we shall see his face and feel always the Divine Presence.

The Master of our works respects our nature even when he is transforming it; he works always through the nature and not by any arbitrary caprice. This imperfect nature of ours contains the materials of our perfection, but inchoate, distorted, misplaced, thrown together in disorder or a poor imperfect order. All this material has to be patiently perfected, purified, reorganised, new-moulded and transformed, not hacked and hewn and slain or mutilated, not obliterated by simple coercion and denial. This world and we who live in it are his creation and manifestation, and he deals with it and us in a way our narrow and ignorant mind cannot understand unless it falls silent and opens to a divine knowledge. In our errors is the substance of a truth which labours to reveal its meaning to our groping intelligence. The human intellect cuts out the error and the truth with it and replaces it by another half-truth half-error; but the Divine Wisdom suffers our mistakes to continue until we are able to arrive at the truth hidden and protected under every false cover. Our sins are the misdirected steps of a seeking Power that aims, not at sin, but at perfection, at something that we might call a divine virtue. Often they are the veils of a quality that has to be transformed and delivered out of this ugly disguise: otherwise, in the perfect providence of things, they would not have been suffered to exist or to continue. The Master of our works is neither a blunderer nor an indifferent witness nor a dallier with the luxury of unneeded evils. He is wiser than our reason and wiser than our virtue.

Our nature is not only mistaken in will and ignorant in knowledge but weak in power; but the Divine Force is there and will lead us if we trust in it and it will use our deficiencies and our powers for the divine purpose. If we fail in our immediate aim, it is because he has intended the failure; often our failure or ill-result is the right road to a truer issue than an immediate and complete success would have put in our reach. If we suffer, it is because something in us has to be prepared for a rarer possibility of delight. If we stumble, it is to learn in the end the secret of a more perfect walking. Let us not be in too furious a haste to acquire even peace, purity and perfection. Peace must be ours, but not the peace of an empty or devastated nature or of slain or mutilated capacities incapable of unrest because we have made them incapable of intensity and fire and force. Purity must be our aim, but not the purity of a void or of a bleak and rigid coldness. Perfection is demanded of us, but not the perfection that can exist only by confining its scope within narrow limits or putting an arbitrary full stop to the ever self-extending scroll of the infinite. Our object is to change into the divine nature, but the divine nature is not a mental or moral but a spiritual condition, difficult to achieve, difficult even to conceive by our intelligence. The Master of our work and our Yoga knows the thing to be done, and we must allow him to do it in us by his own means and in his own manner.

The movement of the Ignorance is egoistic at its core and nothing is more difficult for us than to get rid of egoism while yet we admit personality and adhere to action in the half-light and half-force of our unfinished nature. It is easier to starve the ego by renouncing the impulse to act or to kill it by cutting away from us all movement of personality. It is easier to exalt it into self-forgetfulness immersed in a trance of peace or an ecstasy of divine Love. But our more difficult problem is to liberate the true Person and attain to a divine manhood which shall be the pure vessel of a divine force and the perfect instrument of a divine action. Step after step has to be firmly taken; difficulty after difficulty has to be entirely experienced and entirely mastered. Only the Divine Wisdom and Power can do this for us and it will do all if we yield to it in an entire faith and follow and assent to its workings with a constant courage and patience.

(to be continued)


SRI AUROBINDO

The Ponder Corner

It is especially the will for progress and self-purification that lights the fire. The will for progress. When those who have a strong will turn it towards spiritual progress and purification, they automatically light the fire within themselves. The Mother

ref. The Spiritual Significance of Flowers, p.110

Cover: Precious water and earth, at the roots of the Matrimandir - by Victor/Goliath Studio
NEW LAND PURCHASED THANKS TO YOUR DONATIONS!
CONSOLIDATING THE INNER GREEN BELT
FOR AUROVILLE’S UNIFIED GROWTH & MANIFESTATION

Over 8 acres of new land was added to Auroville’s land base just last week. This large parcel of forested land is strategically located along the tar road across from Rêve and Courage, helping to consolidate the Greenbelt zone that includes Adventure, Evergreen, Abri, and the Service Area.

We warmly congratulate Auroville’s Land Board for this new unifying success!

OUR COLLECTIVE SOLIDARITY BRINGS RESULTS!

This new addition to Auroville’s land was entirely financed by donations to Acres for Auroville, along with contributions from Green Acres and the LFAU Land General fund. We sincerely thank all of the donors who made this purchase possible. Your contributions are vital - they are the main resources for the Auroville Land Board in its mission to harmoniously unify the City of Dawn’s land!

At this time, we want to take a special note of the beautiful example of Tibetan teenagers from Dharamsala in their recent stay at Auroville’s Pavilion of Tibetan Culture. Recognizing the essential importance of Auroville’s needed land, they contributed their pocket money and organized a fundraising sale to benefit Auroville’s land! Inspired by the young, may we all follow this example of solidarity!

Together we’re building a beautiful 50th Birthday present for Auroville - the gift of its land!

The Land fundraisers
Aryadeep, Mandakini LB, Sigrid, Jothi, Slava, & Nadia
REMINDER - NEWS&NOTES SUMMER 2018 HOLIDAYS - no publication for 3 weeks

News&Notes Team: Summer Break
The next publication will be on Saturday 9th of June. (deadline for this issue will be as usual Tuesday 5th of June, at 5pm - or noon for reports etc.) (there will be no publication on 3 Saturdays: 19/05, 26/05, and 02/06)

News&Notes Staff Tour Appeal
The News&Notes Team would like to go on a short tour, after a long year of constant service, without failing, week after week! A break is needed from the high noise, heat and ink conditions of the offset manual printing room, from the weekly pressing deadline, and the mud/dust of the delivery roads....

If you can help, you are welcome to contribute to the account #103821. Please mention: "Staff Tour 2018"

Wishing you all a nice relaxing summer,
the N&N team

WORKING GROUPS REPORTS

Forest Group meeting of Friday 4 May 2018, at Miracle
Present: Enea, Vengatesh, T Saga, S Balu, D Segar, R. Kumar, Yuval, Natasha, Cristo (Notes), P Elamalai, Christof, David, Rita (Chair), Shivaraj, V Boobalan, Agnes, Julu, Jan, Johnny, Island, Alex, Vinny, Anandi Z, Iyanar, Madda, Shanti, Kareem, Jonah, Jessamy, Thanajarian, Fiona, Agnes 2.

Announcements
David - Aurodam: Has plenty of seedlings available in particular Vengai and others. Please contact him if interested
Avenir: We were informed that the new Interface team needs help with looking at development of green areas and parks in the city. Volunteers please contact L’avenir.
Apprentices: Island asked for feedback regarding forest communities requiring help and willing to take on and train apprentices. The apprenticeship program would be for anyone interested in working in the forest whether in stewarding a forest or in collaborating with stewards. The funding requirements for this program are currently not met however, it is something that needs to be put in place and therefore a solution will have to be found to provide an extra incentive for people to join.

Agnes - Darkali: Agnes wanted information regarding the price for 2nd rate timber. In April 2017 the forest group rate was ₹5000 per ton. Is this still the correct price? Since the foresters most knowledgeable about wood prices were not at the meeting the question could not be answered.

Kareem: He is working at Forecomers, doing the hard work and needs a maintenance. The same requests are discussed at most meetings and it is quite a sad story for the Forest Group members to go on begging forever for maintenance, especially for young people who are keen to work physically in green activities.

Regional Planning & Development: Cristo informed that his time at L’avenir-TDC is over since March 31st. He informed also that this very important activity that was meant to create a bridge between villages & Auroville for co-development of lands in the Green Belt, among other topics, is not being pursued by the present L’avenir Interface Team that is mainly engaged in preparing a DDP for the city area.

Eternity
Yuval requested the Forest Group to send a mail to FAMC asking them to provide funds for the payment of the government surveyor and to cover the cost of a pucka fence in order to solve the very long pending border dispute with a neighbor.

Hermitage
Vinny provided an update of the situation of the land he is co-developing with Hermitage stewardship. He said that we should be more vigilant with regards to his neighbor Mr. D., who has encroached AV land and has cut some trees recently, having a lot of building work in progress on his land. Vinny also hopes Mr. D. does not create further difficult situation for Hermitage since the matter is in court. It is understood that Vinny faces a lot of pressure from this neighbor and he keeps addressing the Land Board for solutions. Vinny procured a Building Application from L’avenir for erection of a house and for the digging of a borewell. Vinny was advised to follow the current procedure. First get an agreement of the Hermitage stewardship, prepare pucka plans, drawing, estimates as per L’avenir BA form and submit the same to Forest Group. If Forest Group agrees to the application, the documents are forwarded to Green Group who in turn will send its final recommendation to L’avenir.

Adventure Sub-station
Following the mail sent by L’avenir regarding the projected erection of an 11 Kva sub-station on the north of Adventure, Kumar came with a map showing an additional request for 2.44 acres on the west of the plot that was already agreed upon in 2017. The request comes without any explanation as to why suddenly the areas needed for the sub-station needs to be doubled beyond the 2 acres plot that was reluctantly agreed upon due to lower forested density. The newly requested plot has been reserved since very long time for the extension of the burial ground. If truly more land is needed for the station then it is advised to revise the plot south of the one agreed last year that is since years laying fallow and used as a drinking ground by antisocial elements, instead of being used for sports activities as originally proposed. Forest Group will request the Green group to send a mail to L’avenir requesting answers to these questions:
- Can you share an image of the TNEB 33/11KV and 11KV substations to assess what sort of impact it will have?
- Why does this development require 2 acres, and why has the required area now even been increased to 4.44 acres?
- Why was the area for extension chosen to the west and not to the south?
- What is the projected user base for such a development?
- Why have the plans not been posted at the Town hall for all to see and assess?
- Does a study exist on public health regarding the EMF generated by this type of development?

Northern Green Belt
Jan enquired about the procedure for accounting of cashews and other products harvested collectively by the Northern Forest Collective. The Collective has already a PT account for depositing the proceeds but they wonder how to make these incomes part of the Forest Group consolidated accounts.

Youth Hive
Christoph gave an account of the recent developments of the Youth Hive project in Bliss Forest. The Youth Hive team has

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decided not to continue with the project for the time being. A meeting of all stakeholders took place on April 23rd and the notes of the meeting will be circulated by Mandakini in due course. It was pointed out that till date the Forest Group has not received a reply to its query why the alternative site proposed was not considered by L’avenir. The Youth Hive project had received our unanimous support and we are happy to hear that it will be continued in the future in another location.

Christoph shared that as a result of learning from this process a team of Bliss stewards will map the forested areas and other natural features of the land with the view to understanding possible development.

**Aspiration Team:**

Anandi, a newcomer herself, had written to Forest Group for an opportunity to introduce Yucca program for “pre-newcomers”. She is proposing to organize once a month visits of forest communities and request all to send her their availability in order to prepare a calendar of such visits. She can be contacted at <aspiration@auroville.org.in>.

**Entry Board letter**

A couple of months ago the Housing Board asked the Green Group representative Yuval, how many houses are allowed per acres of forest. It was communicated that the Green Belt Guidelines adopted by L’avenir mention 1 steward’s house per 25 acres of forest. On April 25, a mail was received by Forest Group where Entry Board questions the development taking place at Fertile under Johnny. At the meeting Johnny clarified that there are 20 people living in several houses built in the area under his care and all the houses have been transferred / built going through the Forest Group process. Johnny said: “More and more people want to live in green communities, so everyone can live in the forest if they want to”. After this statement was made some commented that at the very least those whom Johnny accepted as residents could have come to present themselves to the Forest Group. Members of the Green Group reminded that permission for building is required in all cases. Some members did not agree that anyone can settle in the greenbelt and again it was reemphasized that preferably settlers be engaged in green work, if any green belt is to survive at all. The letter by Entry Board came also under criticism for what was perceived as an insensitive and bureaucratic tone. Many felt that its effect has been to reinforce the ‘They vs We’ perception that is poisoning the atmosphere between greenbelt and city residents of Auroville for too long.

**Next meeting:** Next meeting will take place in Adventure, on Friday, June 1st, at 3pm.

**Av Council Report of Feb. March April 2018 Council internal functioning:** The 3 new members of the Council have been well integrated and have taken up tasks. All members from the Council explored the basic principles and deeper meaning of Restorative Justice. The three sessions on this topic were guided by L’aura and the Restorative Auroville team. The discoveries have been very beneficial for us and will help us to review our way of looking at certain topics and hopefully we will find evolving pathways to deal with conflicts.

**Open hours for the community:** The Auroville Council had offered / tried open hours to the community on Wednesdays in the month of March. Only two Aurovilians showed up for the interaction. Due to lack of participation, we will be open for meetings on request.

**Work completed or in progress:**

**GROWTH**

- **Entry:** The new Entry Board has completed three months in office and it is understood that they are functioning well. The AV Council and the WCom met the Entry Board in April. In this meeting the Entry Board members shared their challenges, achievements and also some recommendations of policy adjustments, which mainly addresses practical issues. The Council and the WCom will reflect on these recommendations.

**GOVERNANCE**

- **The Working Committee:** The Working Committee members have faced for several months some challenging time among themselves. In order to support them, the Council has called a Restorative Circle facilitated by Laura and Janet. Two circles happened and the process is complete at this stage. Further actions have been agreed by the Working Committee members. Two members of the Council attended this process. The Council expresses its deep gratitude and appreciation to the WCom’s members who have shown a high level of courage and integrity in their sincerity to understand what has happened, each taking some self-responsibility and their group willingness to learn, grow and reach a higher level of collaboration. Our gratitude goes also towards Laura and Janet who held a beautiful and meaningful space to allow this emergence.

- **Matrimandir:** A sub-group composed of members from WCom and AvC have been following with the MM executives through several meetings. A GiM was held by the new executives in April informing the community of their work. The transition has been completed and we want again to offer our thanks to Manas, Leena and Marc who were supporting the process all along.

- **Housing Board:** through Mita, our HB representative, we have been working closely with the Housing Board team, and a few of us have attended meetings on topics such as guidelines for housing stewardship and about conflicts on housing assets.

- **Support for the new Land Board**

**Land Board selection process:** Presently, the TFRC is completing its work, the feedback review process will be handed over soon to the Land Board Selection Committee. Several members withdrew from the TFRC but some courageously kept on and allowed the work to be completed. The Land Board Selection Committee is already in place and its composition is by members from the four main working groups and members from the community at large. The names are as follows:

1. Sacha (Grace); Representing the Community at large
2. Navroz (Aurodam); Representing the Community at large
3. Judith (Sunship); Representing the Community at large
4. Min (Maitreyee); Representing the Community at large
5. Divya Kapoor (outgoing Land Board);
6. Ranjithkumar (Working Committee);
7. Mita (Auroville Council);
8. Daniel (FAMC member); and

- **Mandate reviews:**

**Av Council mandate:**

The review of the mandate is in process. The WCom will be responsible for its review and subsequent community process.

**BCC mandate:**

The mandate was reviewed by the FAMC after changes suggested by BCC. Presently Council is finalizing with the FAMC to present it to the community.

**Green group mandate:**

The FAMC has given its input on the mandate and L’avenir’s feedback is awaited.

**PEACE & JUSTICE**

- **Work to re-establish harmony**

The Conflict Resolution Policy review continued during the last few months and the completion is expected soon. The Appeal Process is also under review after 1 year of application.

- **Nandini Service:**

A conflictual situation arose in the service and an arbitration request has been registered before the Council. The Council has met with the Service Trust Trustees and we agreed that they will hold the process and look at the situation of Nandini to establish a healthy way forward for the Service to ensure its proper structuring and functioning. The arbitration process has been therefore stopped.

- **Windarra arbitration:**

The Auroville Council has closed the Windarra arbitration after feedback from the Implementation, Monitoring Group (IMG), and the 3 arbiters. Both the farms are now functioning in a harmonious manner. The next step of allocation of stewardships for the 2 farms rests with the FAMC and the Farm Group. An appeal for funds for a water storage tank for Back to Basics, now being called Windarra, has been made in the News and Notes and Auronet.
- Aspiration sports ground arbitration: the Aspiration arbitration implementation is still in process. The Council is looking into it with the IMG. One member from the IMG has stepped down.

- Ganesh arbitration: Implementation process ongoing.

- Selvi / Kumar Nickadas: the arbitration process has been postponed to July/ August as some arbitrators are not available during the summer holidays.

- Stray Dogs: a meeting between concerned people from the community and a few Council members took place in April. It was a fruitful meeting with many actions suggested and now in the process of being implemented by the subgroup which has been formed.

1) creation of a pet audit through a massmail.
2) writing a set of guidelines for pet owners……
3) Coordination/cooperation with Lavenir team in order to have a clause for NOC’s that new construction sites will request contractors not to feed any stray dogs on the site.
4) Request architects and project holders not to encourage stray dogs on their sites.
5) Taking care of hotspots of dog nuisance (where we have received complaints from: Ganesh Bakery, Kottakarai Kolpu, Transition/Transformation area, Madhuca, Maitreyee 1 & 2, Prayatna, Vikas, Kalpana, Neem tree etc.)
6) Forming a responsible dog owners group which will help each other.
7) Writing a project for funding from NGOs for sterilizations and anti-rabies preventive vaccinations for as many stray dogs as possible in the area.

Individuals declared non-eligible by previous and present TFRC to participate in selection processes:
A subgroup of the Council is working to establish processes towards re-eligibility of those individuals affected by their exclusion from participating in Selection Processes - Work in progress

Selection Process review:
A feedback form regarding the amendments to the PWG process by the Study Group has been massmailed to the community and awaiting process once feedback is received from the community.

Youth Hive:
The Council has been working to help defuse tension and to facilitate the process of conflict resolution. The individuals involved and impacted still need some time to agree to a process.

HRT:
The Council was approached by the HRT for help as a member has stepped down. A proposal for re-organizing the HRT into a HRD (department) matching the needs and skills available in the community besides the present work held by HRT has been submitted by the Council to the FAMC.

Regarding the Individual Contributions issue, a subgroup has been formed with members from AvC, BCC, FAMC and HRT to review old cases and assess pending requests.

New Economy
Efforts are being made by the Auroville Council to create an umbrella group for collaboration of the different groups and individuals who have worked in various ways on alignment of Auroville’s economy with our principals and ideals.

Warmly,
For the Auroville Council: Angelo, Elisa, Enrica, Martin, Matiriprasad, Mita, Sandrya, Selvaraj and Shivaya.

GOI Grant Management Committee Annual Report (2017-18)
Dear Community,
Expenditure in 2017-18
This is to inform you that in the past financial year, Auroville received and spent Rs. 15.3 crores, that is received via Auroville Foundation from the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India. The attached file on Auronet shows how much each project received in the two categories of funds: General and Capital.

Our work this year
Our main work this year has been and continues to be to bring about procedural clarity, transparency and accountability in the accounting of GOI projects. The work here entails following the accounting procedures outlined in the SAIIER manual. This summer, we are working on adapting this manual for all GOI projects. The GOI Accounting Cell operated by Tasnim kept track of size of expenses under Administration and Housing and next year will take responsibility for more project. The GOI Project Management Cell under Michael G takes the responsibility for checking on the quality of the buildings. FAMC member Dhruv has always been available as a resource person to check estimates and advise us on building plans and procedures, and we thank him for his work.

All GOI housing projects meet with the community’s guidelines as upheld by TDC and FAMC. So to achieve greater effectiveness, TDC, FAMC, and Housing took part in a workshop facilitated by Elvira. We express our gratitude to Elvira for doing this, and we will continue this process if needed after the summer.

Work in the coming year
For next year, we are yet to receive final confirmation from Auroville Foundation as to the size of the grant. Final budgets are decided once we have this confirmation. Final budgets for capital expenses are also decided on the basis of the “readiness” of the project to start, based on a scale of 1-5.

Limitations of the GOI grant
We would again like to remind the community that the GOI grant is mainly given for educational and cultural purposes from the Ministry of Human Resource Development. So historically, the grant was given to Bharat Nivas and SAIIER. Since a few years now, Auroville Foundation has approved a budget for TDC for community housing and infrastructure, and a much smaller budget for Administration expenses for Auroville working groups, namely WC and FAMC that have to liaise closely with the Auroville Foundation. This means that we are limited to taking up projects that have been approved by the aforementioned groups and accepted by the Governing Board for funding. The GOI grant management committee, therefore, regrets to inform the community that it cannot invite or grant any project proposals for funding.

Membership of GOI grant management committee
Working Committee representatives: Carel and Hemant
FAMC representative/nominee: Bindu and Divya
Unity Fund representatives: Lyle and Rathinam
Community-at-large nominees: Stephanie
Meeting time: Tuesday 11.30-12.30 at 1st floor, Town Hall
Contact: goi_grant@auroville.org.in
Thank you, Bindu (E&OE)

Update from the 50th Anniversary Team
The winds of Auroville’s vivid and unforgettable birthday-week celebrations may have left our sails, but the 50th Anniversary Team is navigating on, continuing to oversee ongoing activities as well as plan the upcoming projects that will take place during the rest of the birthday year.

New team members, Ravi and Ganesh K, have joined us while both Dave and Ulirieke have stepped out. A few more members will be lending hands throughout the summer breeze.

Regarding finances, almost all of the INR 10 crore special grant for capital from the Government of India (GOI) has been earmarked, with nearly 70 projects that have received funding in various categories such as education, conferences, celebrations, waste management, publications, sports, public works, arts & culture, green works, mobility, security, outreach, communication, and unity activities. The Monitoring Committee which is chaired by Mr. Chunkath, Secretary Auroville Foundation, includes under-Secretary Mr. Srinivasmurthy, members of the Working Committee, 50th team, and FAMC (Funds and Assets Management Committee), and continues to meet weekly to review and allocate funds to the proposals presented by the 50th Anniversary Team. The full overview of the projects that have been allocated funding so far can be viewed at the 50th desk in SAIIER, for those who may be interested. This will be published too, once finalised and compiled.
In the beginning of April, the GoI has sanctioned INR 4 crores for the much-awaited special grant for general expenses for Auroville’s 50th Anniversary. As this grant came post-birthday week, a lot of the expenditures before and during the birthday week were financed through other means, such as on the basis of an advance by the Auroville Foundation, through Auroville International Centres (AVIs), etc.

Did you know that a commemorative stamp for India on the occasion of Auroville’s Golden Jubilee was released by the Honourable Prime Minister during his visit to Auroville? The 50th team has started to prepare the project reports for each of the activities that have received GoI funds. Awaiting these, stories, photos and videos of many activities can be seen here: www.outreachmedia.auroville.org.in/50th-anniversary/ and here: www.flickr.com/photos/128238309@N07/albums.

You can continue to reach us by email (50core@auroville.org.in) or by dropping in at our office space on the first floor of SAIER. Warmly,

Your 50th Anniversary Team (Chali, Claudine, Fabienne, Frederick, Ganesh, Guy, Jurgen, Inge, Nilen, Pala, Ravi)

**Land Board Report - April 2018**

- Land Board has managed to purchase a large piece of land of 8.175 acres, situated next to Aroma Gardens, diagonally opposite Auro Velo. The registration of this deal which took place on 26.04.18, brings to an end a period of negotiations which lasted more than 2 years. It feels like a nice conclusion at the end of 3 years of office of the present (reduced) Land Board. The substantial funds required for such a piece of land were largely collected through the untiring efforts of our dedicated fund raising team.
- We look forward to welcome the new members of the Land Board in the next few weeks.
- Legal issues arising out of land disputes are being followed up by our team.
- We have completed a compound wall of around 90 meters next to Mangalam in order to prevent encroachment and protect Auroville Land.
- Rs. 46,757 have been generated through the sale of timber and firewood in April. This amount has been credited to the Unity Fund.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS - PART 1**

**Your Feedback Please: Land Protection Proposals**

Dear Friend, this letter is to:

- 1. provide you with a follow-up to Monday’s (May 7) General Meeting called by the Land Protection Group; and
- 2. invite your feedback on their presentation and proposals

**General Meeting Report: Land Protection Group Recommendations & Progress Report**

- **Land Protection Group Recommendations: The meeting, attended by 63 participants heard a presentation from the Land Protection Group (Carel, Martin Littlewood, Pashi, Paul V, Sauro, Suhasini) on their progress on and recommendations for land protection in Auroville. The presentation was followed by discussion and questions and answers session.**
- **NTDA & Land Purchase Strategy Proposed: The LPG outlined two possible forward pathways for protecting land in Auroville against unwanted development (development that does not operate within Auroville’s values, principles and planning). These were:**
  1. the formation of a New Town Development Area (NTDA) that included Auroville within it; and
  2. a coherent and structured long-term land purchase strategy.
- **Where to Read their Presentation:** Their presentation to the General Meeting is available online here: www.auroville.org.in/file-download/68837/33423 and in print at the RAS Lounge, first floor Town Hall.
- **How to Submit Feedback:** To submit your feedback, please either send it by email to raservice@auroville.org.in or visit us in person on Tuesday and Thursday mornings (10am - Midday) in the RAS Lounge, first floor Town Hall, until 11/06/2018.

- *For more information: please don’t hesitate to email us at the above address or call us on 948 6623 749.*

Much love,

**Your RAS Team**

**Eaters contribution to City Services**

The contribution policy for eateries, published in June 2017, is 5% of turnover. Eaters, including Guest Houses that serve food to their clients (i.e., breakfast, lunch, or dinner), are expected to open a separate account at Financial Service to collect the food charges. Five percent of the amount collected less GST will be contributed to City Services. **FAMC**

**Call for Micro-programs 2018**

At their meeting in April 2018, the Stichting De Zaaier Board allocated a grant for a Portfolio for Micro-projects covering the following categories:

- **Informal Education**
- **Women’s Empowerment**
- **Youth (projects written\by\carried out by Aurovilians 15-35)**
- **Innovative Initiatives**

These grants aim at promoting new activities and are not meant for financing the running costs of existing activities. The budget for any proposal should be in the range below INR 1,40,000 (one lakh, forty thousand); not including individual maintenance or other forms of remuneration for Aurovilians. Please understand that, as per the express wishes of the donors, no funds are available for infrastructure, buildings or transport; and requests for equipment will only be considered if specifically required for the implementation of the project. Within each category, proposals written and carried out by Auroville youth will be given priority consideration.

The **FINAL DATE for submission is Monday, 16 July 2018.** Copies of the grant application will be emailed to you via ppc@auroville.org.in on request or may be **downloaded from Auronet.**

If you are submitting a project that has anything to do with Auroville or Auroville Outreach schools, or students of any individual classes, your project is to be reviewed by the Auroville and/or Outreach School Boards before being submitted to the Project Coordination Group. It is important that all the relevant bodies (i.e., schools, teachers, school board, etc.) are aware of your project and support it.

If you have received funding for a project through the Project Coordination Group in previous years, be certain that you have sent in a report for that project before making a new application for another grant.

Project holders are invited to send their projects as a Word document, saved in the name of the project title, to ppc@auroville.org.in **FINAL DATE for submission is Monday, 16 July 2018.**

NB The Project Coordination Group will be making further calls for proposals for funding later this year. These calls will be announced in the News & Notes and posted on Auronet.

You are welcome to email ppc@auroville.org.in or contact the Project Coordination Group at the ACUR (Town Hall) by phoning 0413-2622250 if you have questions, or need further information or assistance. **The Project Coordination Group**

**FROM THE ENTRY SERVICE - N&N # 749**

**Dated: 12-05-2018**

Our team is happy to recommend the following individuals as Aurovilians and Newcomers, joining Auroville. Prior to Newcomer and Aurovillian status confirmation, for Newcomers two weeks and for Aurovilians one month window for community feedback. Kindly forward your support or grievances to entryservice@auroville.org.in

**NEWCOMER ANNOUNCED:**
- Manikandan ANNASAM (Indian) staying and working in Buddha Garden.

**NEWCOMERS CONFIRMED:**
- Janmejay MOHANTY (Indian)
- Prakash AZHAGAMUTHU (Indian)
NIHARIKA ROUT (Indian)
William A.R. SOOSAI (Indian)

AUROVILIAN ANNOUNCED:
Hubert TASSIN (French) Staying in Sunship, working at Svaram.
AUROVILIAN CONFIRMED:
Babu ELANGOVAN (Indian)
Jeyandra S YAFAROVA (Indian)
Lavanya SURESH (Indian)
Narmadha SANDJIVY (Indian)
Ramakrishnan RATHAKRISHNAN (Indian)
Senthamarai RAMESH (Indian)
Vasanth RAMACHANDRAN (Indian)

LEFT AUROVILLE ON THEIR OWN:
Isis ROUX PAGES (French)

NOTE: Individuals are entered into the Register of Residents (maintained by the Auroville Foundation) shortly after filling the B-FORM and meeting with the Secretary of the AVF.

The appointment date for these is set and communicated by the Entry Service to the individual at the respective time, and NOT AT THEIR PERSONAL REQUEST.

This is the last step of the Newcomer process where the status of Newcomer Resident is switched to Aurovillian Resident.

ENTRY SERVICE OPEN TO PUBLIC TIMINGS
Monday, Wednesday, Friday 09:30AM - 12:30PM
Monday to Friday (by appointment only) 02:30PM - 04:30PM
Yours, the Entry Service

Houses available for transfer:

1. Aspiration - Ex Riju's house: Ground and First floor: Plinth area: 59.68 Sq.m. Suitable for Single. One Bed room, toilet and bath room and one study room at the first floor.

Re announced:

2. Apartment in Arati - 3B Second floor: Plinth area of 161sq.m. Double storied RCC framed structure Residential building with Brick walls plastered in cement mortar, RCC flat roofing consisting of front verandah, Living cum Kitchen, Three Bed room & Two Toilet - Bathroom. (May also available for house-sitting with affordable contribution)

For more information contact: Housing Service (Town Hall) - (0413) 2622658 / housing@auroville.org.in

3. From Sunship: Immediately available: One single unit of 42 Sq.m completely furnished and equipped-kitchen, bathroom and cupboard with Collective cafeteria, Laundry, technical maintenance and management by Aurovilians!* *(Contact louis@auroville.org.in for visit and more information)

Housing Projects under construction:

1. Kalpana Housing Project:
Project Holders: Satyakam and Devasmita - Architect: Ovoid Atelier / Neel and Supriti. Contractor for the finishing work: Auromira / Jothi Prasad. Since 15th January 2018 the finishing work (flooring, painting, wood and plumbing work, false ceiling) has started in full swing. Out of 42 apartments 8 units are still available: 3 units Studio, 3 units 1 BHK, 1 unit 2 BHK, 1 unit 3 BHK. We will be ready by 30th July 2018.

Contact Person: sathyakam@auroville.org.in / is available in the model apartment the third floor of the South Block on the site on: Thursday: 3pm to 5:30 pm and 3rd Saturday: 10 am to 12.30 pm. Surya is available the second and fourth Saturday.

2. Auromodele Orchard - Booking available for 9 family house units.

3. HOUSING AND UNIT/OFFICE OPPORTUNITY IN THE INDUSTRIAL ZONE: STRIP DEVELOPMENT on the Verite Radial:
A new development in the Industrial Zone - a two storied mixed use project of ROW units (commercial on ground and first floor) and residential apartments (on second floor) with a covered colonnade has received site permission and is looking for interested individuals / units to book spaces.

The basic design is based on a module of 21 sq mt carpet area and approx 35 sq mt built up. Activities / residences can take up one or more modules depending on their need. Common facilities like shared bathrooms, covered parking, storage, genset, overhead and underground tank, wastewater treatment plant will be provided.

Aurovilians and newcomers who are looking for a simple, affordable small unit space of offices, start-ups, or residential apartments are encouraged to approach Mona ( Architect, Yantra, mona@auroville.org.in) or housing service for further details.

HEALTH & SAFETY

IMPORTANT INFORMATION following AV Ambulance incident
Following a serious recent incident (currently dealt with by the Auroville Council and Working Committee with all involved parties), we would like to share with the community the following recommendations on an accident site, because a person put the patient and the Auroville paramedic in danger. We have to feel safe while giving our services in Auroville.

For more information about the incident that occurred, please visit Auronet: https://www.auroville.org.in/article/68798.

Please see this information below to better understand how emergency medical service is provided the world over (Ref: Brady Emergency Care, 8th Ed., Michael F. O'Keefe, U.S.A., 1998)

Emergency Medical Service Providers consist of:

4 levels of trained personnel:

1) First Responders: Their role is to provide immediate care for life-threatening injuries, controlling the scene and preparing the arrival of the ambulance. Often it is the police officers, fire fighters or other certified personnel who belong to this category.

2) EMT Basic - this is minimum level of certification for any ambulance personnel. The role is assessment and care of the ill or injured. The 108 personnel in India are supposed to provide this aid.

3) EMT-Intermediate: In addition to the above, this category provides advance life support, advanced airway techniques and administration of a limited number of medication.

4) Paramedic: This personnel is qualified to perform endotracheal intubation, intialation of IV lines, administration of a variety of emergency medications, interpretation of ECG and cardiac pacing and defibrillation.

The Paramedic of the Auroville Ambulance has an Advanced Paramedic Certification issued by IHCD, UK and PIMS, Pondicherry.

Roles and Responsibilities of the Paramedic

1) Enter the scene only after assuring that the scene is safe. It is not possible to help a patient if the paramedic is injured before he reaches the patient or while he is providing medical care.

2) Assess and identify the life threatening condition of the patient so as to provide needed emergency care.

3) Transporting the patient in the ambulance is a serious responsibility. It consists of stabilizing, securing and caring for the patient in the ambulance as well as the safe operation of the Ambulance.

4) Transfer at Hospital requires that the Paramedic provides the case record consisting of information on patient’s condition, observations of the scene and treatment/medication administered.

Scene Safety Protocols

1) Dangerous persons, people with weapons, intoxicated persons, may present problems at the scene. If the dispatcher knows that violence is present, she/he will name a location where the ambulance will wait, far enough from the scene to be safe but near enough to respond as soon as the scene has been secured. The scene safety is the responsibility of the police/security personnel to enable the paramedic to perform his duties.

2) Emotional family members are sometimes capable of violence directed towards the ambulance personnel.

3) Many people gather at the scene of accident. If any bystander shows aggressive behaviour, call for the police. In some
situations, it may be necessary to leave the scene with the patient in the ambulance rather than wait for the police.

It is not the responsibility of the paramedic to subdue a violent person above his medical duties. The clear and justified action in such cases is to retreat from danger.

<table>
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<th>Ambulance call protocols:</th>
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Call the Auroville Ambulance on 9442224680, speak clearly and provide following details:
1) Caller’s name,
2) name, sex and age (if known) of patient,
3) Is the person conscious?
4) Is the person breathing?
5) describe injury briefly
6) location of site with landmarks

The caller should wait till the ambulance arrives. Do not move the injured person.

Do not load the injured person into a taxi where he cannot get medical support needed during transportation. It is strongly recommended to wait a few minutes more if required for the ambulance to arrive than carry away the patient in a panic stricken manner.

The Auroville Ambulance Team, the Auroville Safety and Security Team, and Santé

Support for Auroville Ambulance and Security Service
Dear Community Members,
The Auroville Council would like to take this opportunity to offer its support to members of the Auroville ambulance and security teams in carrying out their duties which are essential to our community. We have read carefully the report issued by Santé and have heard all those involved in the incident, along with the Working Committee, and we will be pursuing the matter further with those involved as needed.

We request all community members to remain calm and fully cooperate with all emergency services attending an incident. We understand that there are high emotions and tensions during such an incident, but the Ambulance and Security services are fully trained to deal with these emergencies and only need your cooperation and support.

We will be discussing the matter again with the services involved, and looking at ways which they may be better supported, so that they feel safe and able to offer their services to the community to serve our collective needs.

Warmly, For the Auroville Council (Angelo, Elisa, Enrica, Martin, Matriprasad, Mita, Sandhya, Selvara and Shivaya)

Auroville Emergency Contact Numbers

- Auroville Safety and Security Team: 9443090107
  (Email: avsecurity@avuroville.org.in)
- Ambulance: Auroville: 9442224680 - Pims: 0413-2656271
- Farewell: mobile number: 8903832646, reachable 24/7.
- Emergency Service of India: 108

Auro Vision Center opens at AvHC on 16/05
On May 16th, Auro Vision Center will be opening an optical counter for eye-checking and corrective glasses, at Auroville Health Center. Thank you and regards, Peter for AvHC

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Challenges and changes at the Free Store
Auroville aspires to provide for the basic needs of all who have dedicated their lives to this experiment. The Free Store is a service to provide for the basic need of clothing. It started many years ago as a service for Aurovilians and for the past two years has included long-term volunteers (that is, those in volunteer service to Auroville for 6-12 months and registered with SAVI)

In the light of a growing population of Aurovilians, volunteers and guests, the amount of work is constantly growing and the service is under strain with limited space and human resources. Added to this, it is often hard to distinguish between short term and long term volunteers and guests, as many tell us that they don’t carry their identification cards.

We opened to volunteers 2 years ago as a step towards inclusion and in recognition of their contribution to Auroville. However, it has created an added physical and emotional burden on our small team and a more limited service to others.

Therefore, we regret to inform we cannot continue to offer the service to non-community members until more space and resources are available.

Thank you for understanding, The Free Store Team (May 2018)

PRE Creche to open again in Summer
Dear Parents, PRE Creche is planning to open again in Summer for children born from March 2017 to Feb 2018. The successful experiment from last year has allowed us to continue this year as well.

As we have already given enough information to parents already this is just reminder again.

We will open 3 days (Monday, Wednesday & Friday) a week for 3 weeks. The school will be open 9:00 am to 12 am. The program is scheduled to start from 21st May and will end on the 8th June.

We have been in contact with most parents who have been coming to the Babies Section and a detailed program has already been shared with them, in case you have not been in contact with us and your child is part of this group and would like to join the team please contact us at the earliest before it’s too late… we are already full now.

At the same time PRE Creche is looking for help from present and future parents and well-wishers to build a small Swimming pool and with other repair works that maybe not be covered by our summer repair Budget.

For more details pls contact Auroprem (9443215065) or Marie Angele (0413 2623072). Regards, Pre Creche Team.

Auroville’s Growing Bamboo Shiva Tower
Dear Community, greetings from Mohanam and Bamboo Centre.

We would like to introduce to you our latest initiative to create a 50 feet bamboo tower to celebrate 50th anniversary of Auroville. This tower is an art installation and a scientific research on bamboo as a construction material. We will demonstrate through this structure the capability of bamboo to make multi-storey structures and also the design of the structure is in the shape of Shiva Linga as a symbol of channeling energy into Auroville.

The tower is being grown inspired by nature, using a patented technique by a German artist, which mimics the way the plants grow. It’s a once in a lifetime experience to be a part of this project as it is being documented also by Guinness World Record. The ultimate use of the project will be a viewing tower, 18meters/50 feet high (nearly 5-storey high)

One of the tallest structures in Auroville, it would be overlooking the Alangkuppam Lake and also most of Auroville.

On top of the structure will also be a place to do tea ceremony and make meditation practices, Yoga sessions and Auroville viewing point. You could see Matrimandir from the top along with most Auroville city. It will be a special experience. It is being created in the Auroville spirit using Volunteers and inspiration.

We are also inviting students to learn bamboo construction techniques through the construction of this project.

We need your help in facilitating this project and bring the correct energy and attention to our endeavor to ignite passion and help dreams come true.

We invite you, to come and visit us to view the structure in person, to feel and understand the vision.

A fusion of ART and SCIENCE to make a Masterpiece.
Mohanam and Bamboo Centre.

News&Notes 12th May 2018 [749]
Introduction: Tamil is the language of the bioregion and it is one of the languages of Auroville specified by the Mother. It is important that we all should have a basic knowledge of the language and culture.

- Goal: To teach basic Tamil conversation to everyone, Aurovilians, Newcomers and volunteers. This would strengthen the relationship between the non-native and native speakers and promote human unity.

- About the Class: From October 17, 2016, the classes have been conducted twice a week. From February 20, 2018 two more classes for beginners began weekly on general demand. The duration of the class initially was one hour, but it was extended an additional 45 minutes due to the interest and enthusiasm of the participants.

  - On average, 16 students are attending the class.
  - The learners are taught in a joyous and interactive manner which enhances their perseverance for learning Tamil.
  - The class, besides offering instructions in spoken Tamil, but provides also an introduction into Tamil culture.
  - We are attempting to give the student a basic understanding of the language and at the same time give them the opportunity to learn practical and proper conversational Tamil, so that they can use it in their everyday life not only in the bioregion but anywhere.

  - The students are now interested to learn the proper cultural Tamil that is not always used in the local spoken language.
  - Output: While collaborating with the people of diverse nationalities, we found how Tamil and other foreign languages namely Japanese, Portuguese, Korean, Russian are connected.

  - Difficulties: Once the course began we were not able to accommodate students who did not come on a regular basis because it disturbs the other students to repeat over again the same things for those who missed classes and did not come regularly.

  - Benefits/Impact: From the feedback of the students we learned that these classes allowed them to communicate in Tamil with the people from the region. The learning went quickly because of the positive approach and lots of laughter and enjoyment and satisfaction from the learning.

- Future Plan: We would like to offer reading and writing but we will see how to arrange it. We thank SAIER for providing space with all facilities and Aurotraductions team for their support. If you are interested to join our class, please contact: chitrab@auroville.org.in. Regards, Chitra Babu from Aurotraductions.

**NEW ECONOMY**

**Exploring Prosperity Update**

We are in the month of May, the beginning of a calm period in Auroville activities and there is no better time than, now to look back and ponder on what the “Exploring Prosperity” movement has accomplished in raising the awareness and need for change towards a cashless economy.

Since inception in September 2017, we have shared our approach and ideas with a very large number of residents through News & Notes and Auronet and direct mailing including two public presentations through CAT.

It is satisfying to share with you, that silent majority seems to be in line with our approach and the actual comments have been positive with a number of suggestions to work more deeply in various Areas that impact directly on the future of Auroville Economy in the Mother’s vision of the cashless economy. In the field of Human Resources, Auroville Council has taken up the issues of developing a dynamic Human Resources Department and our inputs have been incorporated.

The Service Trust has taken a positive position to align with the idea of reducing the large number of trusts, existing to-day to basic two verticals to limit the impact of Goods and Services Tax(GST) on individuals using Prosperity Services. But still there is lot to change in attitudes and actions as far as present established processes are concerned.

Exploring Prosperity movement is seen as a long term initiative to overcome the present attitudes and difficulties and we strongly feel that for this movement to succeed to any extent, we need very active participation for those of you who strongly feel for effective change from individualized economy to collective cashless economy and this will be possible if we receive your support in active participation in following focus groups:

1. Self-organization
2. Human Resources and Assets
3. Farms and Forests
4. Secretarial Services
5. Essential Collective Services
6. Commercial Services and
7. Education

So let us do it together, lets support each other by giving the financial support and the participation that this important work needs.

For any contribution, the account number is Exploring Prosperity 252700. At the service of Auroville Exploring Prosperity Core Team Pashi, Luigi, Umberto, Giacomo, Mita and Joseba exploringprosperity@auroville.org.in

**News about For All / Pour Tous Foundation - USA**

Dear All in Auroville:

During the 50th Celebrations I happily informed Mauna that the For All / Pour Tous Foundation got its Tax-Exempt status as a 501c3 Public Charity in the USA in Fall 2017. Mauna said, “Inform the Aurovilians.” Thus, this letter to the Community as a whole. The Exemption Application was a long and arduous task, 87 pages in total. The Mission statement of the Foundation (which we created in Auroville in 2015) is essentially, “To support the charitable townships of the future based on the world’s first, Auroville, and under the Aurovillian Expertise and Charter.” The Internal Revenue Service has agreed to allow the USA bank account of the Foundation to channel funding only under the Umbrella of the original Auroville, Financial Services. The check book is securely held with the Financial Service at present (in care of Otto), though funding is not yet ready.

Symbolically, we set-up on Auroville’s 50th Birthday, a portal to receive donations uniquely for Senior Care on our first temporary site via goforall.org. For those of you who can offer support to be a Guardian-For-All, on a monthly basis, it will be a great help for the Caring Economy. Internally there is a Guardian-For-All, PT account #252054 for internal support.

For those who do not know it, historically, the name For All/Pour Tous was giving by the Mother in 1972, when I wrote: “Mother, if this is the work to do and money comes for this work, what should be the name of the bank account?” She had just read this very succinct proposal, which asked “If Auroville is to function fluently for need and demand without the internal exchange of money, perhaps time has come, to create that ‘Proper Channel’. We could start in a temporary building and see how the experiment evolves.” At that time money was randomly everywhere in Auroville. Thus, was established Auroville’s financial and distribution services where accounts were first opened only for food distribution. It has grown abundantly, thanks to our volunteer society of caring individuals. It will also extend to all future townships that mirror Auroville’s Charter. When writing Mother to join Auroville, the letter said, “I would love to join Auroville and be part of this wonderful adventure ahead, because if it works, there can be others.” Under that personal vision the Mother made me an Aurovilian.

Ideally, the inspiration for this work came in 1971 when reading Mother’s definitive of Money. She wrote, “Money is the Divines’ power in the material world, but it is unfortunately, in the hands of the vital, hostile and adverse forces. It needs to be won back for the Divine.” The Transparency of this account and all activities/projects will be especially protected through the block-chain security, disabling any change of records. No Officers or Board Members may be salaried. A 2% limit for the Foundation’s activities is imposed, which will give us an A+ rating as a not-for-profit in the USA.

Keep a positive thought on this work from your heart. We move ahead slowly. Please be patient.

Love & Light, Clare Fanning

News&Notes 12th May 2018 [749] 10
ANNOUNCEMENTS - PART 2

Editor's Note: Please find below the second part of the ANNOUNCEMENTS following a last minute technical problem...

Re-integration of those rejected from selection processes
Dear community members,

The Auroville Council recognizes the concern expressed by a number of community members who have been declared non-eligible as candidates for Auroville working groups. Many people are understandably concerned that their non-eligible status has not been cleared, and that they remain ineligible because of incidents which for some may have occurred many years ago and are hurt and frustrated regarding their exclusion. With this concern in mind, we are now designing a process in order to help re-integrate members back into our selection processes and to be reconsidered as eligible to serve as working group members. This process is at the beginning stages and we are making sure that it will properly address all the issues concerned and those affected from all sides. We have a list of affected community members since 2014 and will be addressing all of those cases as soon as we can. We hope to start the process itself in August, and we will be notifying those concerned at this time. In the meantime, we ask those affected to be patient, as we won’t be able to start the process for everyone in one go, but only 1 or 2 at a time. If anyone has urgent concerns, please contact the Council, but we would not at this stage be able to address individual cases in detail.

With love, For the Auroville Council: Angi, Neel, Enrica, Martin, Matriprasad, Mila, Sandyra, Selvaraj and Shivaya

NEW SITE AND BUILDING APPLICATIONS
-12th May 2018. The following projects are recommended by L’avenir d’Auroville and feedback is now invited from the larger community. The last date for this is 26th May 2018.

BUILDING APPLICATIONS
Residential Zone: T. Soffio Block B: Anita, Neem & Paulo at Sector 1. Built-up area: 115.5 sq.m.

NOCS ISSUED IN THE LAST WEEK:
1. House for Vikraman @ Aspiration community

Please note:
- An NOC (No Objection Certificate) is issued only after evaluation and processing of the community feedback received during the two-week period.
- Any work on the site/building should start only with an NOC.
- Site permission is valid for one year. For fencing and clearing of the site, special permission of L’avenir d’Auroville is needed.

For additional information, please write to avenir@aurovill.org.in, call 0413-2622-170 or come directly to L’avenir d’Auroville office in the Town Hall. The maps and details relevant to these announcements can be found on the Auronet page of L’avenir d’Auroville.

Warm regards, L’avenir d’Auroville team
(Anita, Anu, Auroveci, Divya, Inge, Pino, Sindhuja, Tejaswini)

Matrimandir Closure for Maintenance
This is to inform all that Matrimandir remains closed to visitors from 4.6.2018 to 3.7.2018 for renovation and repair works. Matrimandir reopens for visitors’ concentration from 4.7.2018. The booking services by phone, email and the Visitors Centre Booking Office remain closed from 3.6.2018 to 1.7.2018. Booking for concentration reopens from 2.7.2018, closed on Tuesdays. Booking requests for July 4th 2018 and onward are to be sent no earlier than July 1st 2018. Please keep in mind that 3rd July is a Tuesday.
The Visitors Centre and the Matrimandir Viewing Point remain open as usual from 9 am to 5 pm, Sundays from 9 am to 1 pm only.

During this period, Aurovilians and Newcomers will be able to access the Matrimandir from 6 to 8 am and 5.30 to 8 pm only. We regret any inconvenience caused.

The Matrimandir Team.

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The Matrimandir Team.

Free admission to our Surya Creche - a free progress adventure:
To all our Friends of Tamil village and children from Auroville to facilitate the Tamil Language, as a gesture of friendship and love from Auroville. We offer, free of cost, to keep children from 2 1/2 to 5 years at the Creche with all facilities, admission up to 50 children. Snack, lunch, snack after rest, timing from 8.30 AM to 4.30PM. Beautiful creche with small cycle circuit, small swimming pool, river with ducks and small waterfall. Beautiful creche with small cycle circuit, small swimming pool, river with ducks and small waterfall. We visit regularly the Matrimandir. Educational games, music, and qualified teachers. Please contact Marie Babu, teacher, 0413 -2622909, or come directly to New Creation for inscription from 9 to 11:30am with copy of the Birth Certificate.

From Auroville Child Development, Unit of Auroville Foundation.

SUMMER PROGRAM AT KINDERGARTEN
Auroville Kindergartens at Center Field are offering during four weeks a Summer Program of crafts, games, swimming pool and more to children age 4 to 7 (not for Jallam and Yellow groups)
- on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, from 9 a.m. to 12.00
- from Monday 14th until Friday 25th of May at Nandanan Kindergarten
- from Monday 28th of May until Friday 8th of June at Kindergarten.

There will be no lunch and no school bus.
Parents are requested to pick up their child on time.
Adults and teenagers willing to help the teachers are welcome to come any of those days. Thank you.

POSTINGS
Aurosaya will be closed from May 17th to May 31st: for annual building maintenance. Reopening on the 1st of June. Sorry for any inconvenience.
Wishing you all a nice summer time, Aurosaya team.

Tailoring section at Freestore closed May and June
Dear all,

It is wonderful to receive such an amount of garments and other useful items from our community for exchange. But... due to this generosity we need all our time to go through it and display everything in a nice and convenient way for all of us. This also means that our only tailor is overloaded with repair- and alteration work, which is not easy to catch up with at the moment. That’s why we unfortunately have no other choice but to close our tailoring section for the months of May and June, and re-open at the beginning of July.
We are sorry for the inconvenience and hope you will understand our situation.
Looking forward to see you at Freestore, and back at the tailoring section after summer.

Love,
your Freestore Team
**THANK YOU**

A warm thank you to the students of Tibetan Children’s Village School.

From Kalsang’s letter about this inspiring support action by Tibetan students for Auroville’s land:

“Since 2010, the Pavilion of Tibetan Culture in Auroville’s International Zone has been inviting teenage students from the Tibetan Children’s Village school in Dharamsala to come to Auroville for a cultural exchange program during their winter vacation. This year we had the 9th batch of students from 12 to 15 years old. During the Marathon Market Fair 2018 at the Visitors Center, our stall was next to the LFAU (Lands for Auroville Unified) stand. We were given information about the land of Auroville and how crucial it is for Auroville to purchase the remaining land. One of the students mentioned that she was touched by the volunteers’ dedication and then the conversation picked up and we spoke about the topic for something like 35 minutes. Then one of the boys said, “Land is the main thing without which we may not be here today. For Auroville to reach Mother’s vision of a universal town with 50,000 inhabitants, Auroville really needs help to purchase the needed land.” One of the girls followed by saying “How can we help?” Later, they decided to contribute their weekly pocket money and they made postcards for the Pavilion to hold a fundraiser for land, which they then contributed to LFAU.”

With all our appreciation,
The Land Fundraisers

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**SHOW BHU in National Indian tour:**

From the depth of our hearts, a big thank you to all people in Auroville and the Units and Kalarigram who supported our creation ‘Bhu’, co-produced our show, welcomed the rehearsals and helped us for its promotion.

Our show is now, thanks to the French alliances, on an Indian national tour and it is a great success with full venues, amazing feedbacks, very good reviews in many newspapers (The Hindu, The Indian Express, Malayalam Newspaper and so on).

Thanks to you, our creation and message born in Auroville is spreading across the world.

We already have performed in Trivandrum, Chennai. We are now in Mumbai and we will soon be in Ahmedabad, Delhi, Kolkata.

“Philippe had combined the very martial art of Kerala called ‘Kalaripayattu’ with his French esthetic sensibility to create magic on the stage. The perfectly sculpted bodies, their sinews glistening in the light, enacted an ethereal tapestry of movement and emotion to send out one strong message. The message of preserving the environment and come to terms with oneself by conquering the demons of the restless mind “. Dr Acharya. Chennai

Special thanks to Ritam, Kalarigram, Salier, Auroville Art service, Swaram, Cripa, Barathnivas, New creation dance studio, Auroville Radio TV, and the French Alliances.

If you want to follow our tour, to read the reviews, to watch posters and pics, you can go on our fb page: BhU Experience, Philippe, Thierry and Bhu Team

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**APPEAL**

**Donations Call for HELPANIMALS:**

Dear Friends, this month we would like to start the sterilizations of stray dogs in the residential area of Auroville. We have some support but would require more funding.

**Please donate to our FS account number 252699.**

Thank you in advance,

Susan, Mitu, Rita, Ratna, Debu, Mirani, Shivaya, Shama, Martin, Kumar, Rita E., Enrica and Isha on behalf of HELPANIMALS team.

**3H Summer School**

From 15 July to 5 August, Auroville Green Practices will be conducting a summer school program (based on the 3H) of architecture, urban planning, and interior design. The theme for this program is “Urban Furniture and Place Making”. Place making includes the planning and design of public spaces. Urban Furniture is furniture within such public spaces; it is both visual and functional. Examples include Signage, benches, bus stops, and street light poles.

We have chosen the bus waiting area near the Solar Kitchen roundabout as the site for the program participants to “design and build”. Art sessions to facilitate feedback on the area’s usage were held last month with children from Deepanam and Transition schools. Their ideas shall form part of the design brief for the program.

To help make this program a meaningful exercise we would be grateful for donations that the students could work with. This includes materials such as wood, metal, stone pieces, ceramics, etc.

**Can you help?**

Contact Balu (balu@aurovilleconsulting.com, +91 99437 07570) to donate materials or to know more about the program.

**Dear AV friends,**

In case you would be too shy or too lazy to Deliver my TV set + DVD player directly to my holy home, you can simply pour out any amount on my account #2457 (with specification). The surplus will be kindly offered to the Housing Service. Loving Gratitude, S❤️am

**Dear sisters and brothers Aurovilians**...

For 5 years, I have been waiting to change house and then, it’s happening. At Mother’s Grace, thank you.

I managed to save some money, but a bit is missing and I need help. I’ve calculated that 50,000 Rs will be enough and for the rest, I can add my savings.

I believe in kindness and generosity, which I witnessed a few years ago.

Then, each rupee will count. Special account for fundraising: 252550 (YaHe).

Loving and Gratitude,

Veronique (VersHaut) - +91 994 85 12 678 (Whatsapp too)

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**Savi Summer Break 28/05 to 10/06/2018:**

Dear Community Savi office will be closed from the 28th of May till the 10th of June. Love & Gratitude, Savi Team
**WORK OPPORTUNITIES**

**FAMC still looking for a secretary:** FAMC is still looking for a full-time secretary to work with Naren, our current secretary. Ideally, we are looking for an Aurovilian or newcomer, whose first language is English, to handle correspondence and write monthly reports. Other secretarial tasks, skills, and responsibilities include organization of data, ability to take responsibility for following up on multiple issues and keeping track of the same. Maintenance is available. Applicants should apply with a short bio profiling their work experience, provide 1-2 references, and a short writing sample in English. Applications to be sent to adminfamc@auroville.org.in

**Work opportunities at Entry:** The Entry Board and the Entry Secretariat are urgently looking for new colleagues to help with their office work. Maintenance are available.

- 2 office staffs/secretaries for the Entry Secretariat

**Job description:**
Welcoming applicants / Administrative follow up of applicants / Managing email inbox and email correspondences / Scheduling appointments / Managing database / Collaboration with other working groups / Taking minutes.

Good command of English; basic writing & computer skills (Word, Excel) and capable of teamwork. Speaking Tamil will be an advantage. After an initial one-month trial period a minimum one-year commitment is required.

Send us an email at entrieservice@auroville.org.in with some information about yourself and a resume with your skills and experience. Thank you, and welcome!

The Entry Service teams.

**4 POSITIONS TO BE FILLED at Aurelec-based office:**

We are a Strategic Communications unit specializing in Social Causes. We are based out of Aurelec and serve our clients across the world, mostly in India. Our services include Actions for our clients across the world, mostly in India. Our services include Actions for communication, Fundraising support, Campaigning tactics, Documentation, and Reporting. To meaningfully carry out our services, we are looking for motivated people who can fill up the following roles. Please write to us for detailed skills required and job profiles: manisha@auroville.org.in

- **Position 1:** PERSONAL SECRETARY
- **Position 2:** PROJECT MANAGER
- **Position 3:** SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER
- **Position 4:** GRAPHIC DESIGNER

**SPORTS**

**Change in Darkali Fitness Track open hours for Summer**

Starting 8th May Darkali Fitness Track is open every day

From 4.30 p.m. to 6.40 p.m.

When it’s getting dark later we’ll be open until 7.00 p.m.

From 4.30 p.m. to 6.40 p.m.

Starting event onwards.

**EATING OUT**

**LAST PIZZA NIGHT at YOUTH CENTER on Saturday 12th!**

Dear community,

We at the Youth Center feel that it’s too hot
To keep making pizza for you lot
We’re gonna stop for the summer
Sorry for the bummer
Dot dot dot....

But don’t be scared! You can still enjoy our pizza one last time, on this Saturday the 12th! After which we will retire to a shady spot and start up again, some time after the summer heat goes away... Thanks and see you this weekend!

Love, the YC pizzalord

**LE MORGAN Café will be closed for 3 weeks** for summer vacation, from Sunday 13/05 to Monday 04/06.

We will be waiting for your faithful presence on the first week of June, in a freshly cleaned café, for a new year full of delight and friendly bliss! Le Morgan Café Team

**Naturellement company and Naturellement Garden Café closed from 28/5/18 to 3/6/18, reopening on 4/6/18**

Dear community,

Naturellement Company as well as the Garden Café will be closed for summer break from Monday 28/5/18 to Sunday 3/6/18, reopening on Monday 4/6/18. If you need to get stock of goodies from us, please do so either before the break or after. Love, Naturellement team

**Dreamer’s Café at Visitors Center** will remain closed on the 21st May till 25th May for repairs and summer tour.

**Marc’s Café at Kuliappalayam** will remain closed for repairs and tour also from the 21st till 25th May.

**Dear Zephyr fans out there,** we will be closing 14th of May onwards for summer holiday, reopening dates are still not confirmed. Much love, Zephyr Team

**AUROVILLE RADIO / TV**

Greetings Auroville...

We are happy to share with you all what we managed to capture in past week as a team of AurovilleRadio/TV. Please do collaborate with us in sharing events details and video clips of events happening in the community of Auroville.

We would be happy to hear from you, and also for you to make use of our services. Please do follow our updated website which offers a wide range of information with written, audio and video content and stay connected with us for more event updates on our social media sites, Facebook and Twitter.

Website: www.aurovilleradio.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/auroville.radio
Twitter: AurovilleRadioTV (@AurovilleRadio) | Twitter

From our volunteers we have:

- Gino The Artist Collective Meet
- D - Flau and the Growing Tower Gang
  Rtm: satsang-with-prahladji-tipanyaa, GM-on-land-protection-musical-offering
  Marion reads Nasira Begum and The New Girl

Out of regular programs

Marlenka continues with Synthesis of Yoga
GangaLakshmi Selections of Sri Aurobindo and The Mother’s teaching in French.
Here are also news of Thursday, Friday, Monday.
Your AurovilleRadioTV Team

**NOTES**

**The God’s Gift**

“Yet we have held communion with the trees and flowers known, their secret essence shared, marveled at such miracles as these two spirits in the net of God ensnared” (Richard Egenberger or Narad, “Poems to Mary Helen”, 2016, published in Las Vegas, Nevada, US, p.25).

First, an update on the water situation. The big question looming overhead: how will the summer go? Let’s think back to last summer. The 2017 NE monsoon was average, and given the failed monsoon of 2016, the water situation was dire. We even had a Crisis Management Plan in place for the summer. With the failed monsoon of 2016, the water situation was dire. We even had a Crisis Management Plan in place for the summer. The 2017 NE monsoon was average, and given the previous year’s situation, only a partial recovery of the groundwater level happened. We’ll need to be cautious and consciously use water this summer. A few things we know for certain: 1) it’s always best to conserve water, 2) you can always check the levels of monitored wells on our website/web-gis, 3) we will keep you informed of the latest, 4) we can revive the Crisis Management Plan if need be, and 5) as long as we continue to depend on one source of water (underground aquifers), we will remain vulnerable in future drought situations; water security relies on multi-sourcing.

The Water Group has been busy with its regular work, including: assessing new borewell applications, helping with the implementation of Residential Zone wastewater treatment system, starting a survey of all waste water treatment plants throughout the township, and documenting and continuing to measure the levels of wells in Auroville - we are up to 269 wells and still counting! We are also documenting rainfall data, and getting both well and rainfall data up on our website. (Please note, you can now access well and rainfall data directly at: gis.auroville.org.in. It might not work on the Aurinoco network, but if you contact us we can give directions to make it work. Also, if you need any help in using the web interface, we’ll be happy to assist!) We recently met with people who are in charge of water distribution networks in their communities and learned about their work, concerns, and needs. We met with members of the Farm Group and look forward to continued conversations in order to improve the irrigation in Auroville farms.

We have also re-focused our efforts on the Water Management Strategy. Thanks to the tremendous work of Aditi, the evolving document is now in draft version 7. We are going to introduce it to you and request your feedback on it - either pro or con -, but we’ll wait until temperatures have cooled and everyone’s back from summer holiday. If you absolutely can’t wait to see what we’ve been working on, you can browse through it on our network.

**NEWS & NOTES 12th May 2018**

**Green Matters**

**Report and Reflections of the Water Group, May 2018**

First, an update on the water situation. The big question looming overhead: how will the summer go? Let’s think back to last summer. With the failed monsoon of 2016, the water situation was dire. We even had a Crisis Management Plan in place for the summer of 2017, in case wells started to go dry, although fortunately we did not need to use it. Fast forward to this summer. The 2017 NE monsoon was average, and given the previous year’s situation, only a partial recovery of the groundwater level happened. We’ll need to be cautious and consciously use water this summer. A few things we know for certain: 1) it’s always best to conserve water, 2) you can always check the levels of monitored wells on our website/web-gis, 3) we will keep you informed of the latest, 4) we can revive the Crisis Management Plan if need be, and 5) as long as we continue to depend on one source of water (underground aquifers), we will remain vulnerable in future drought situations; water security relies on multi-sourcing.

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**Comments? Questions? Contact us:** watergroup@auroville.org.in.

**Water Group** (Aditi, Bala, Christian, Dorle, Giulio, Ing-Marie, Jeanne, Meera, Pavneet, Tency, Tom)

**WEB www.aurovillerwater.in / gis.auroville.org.in**

**WATER & EARTH NEEDS:**

Earth Day just passed but it’s time to make every day Earth Day now. With water reserves low and all the dryness, as well as all the plastic everywhere including in the ocean, we really need to start thinking about the way we are treating our only home. Our planet is changing fast. **What is the future?**

Here is a graph which is a bit shocking. India has the largest number of cows in the world, is also the largest exporter of beef, the largest producer of dairy and a large producer of leather!

**BIOMASS OF ALL THE LAND MAMMALS ON EARTH**

**Source:** Kalahari Lion Research, based on date from *Harvesting the Biosphere: What We Have Taken From Nature* (MIT Press, 2015) by Vaclav Smil.

Here is an excellent film about the situation in Brazil which is very similar to ours: [www.codeplanete.fr/2012/12/video-alma-film-de-patrick-rouxel-green.html](http://www.codeplanete.fr/2012/12/video-alma-film-de-patrick-rouxel-green.html)

- Submitted by Dr Nandita Shah of SHARAN Auroville

**ACCOMMODATIONS**

**Available 1:** My house in Quiet is available for housesitting from 25th May to 1st July. I am looking for a single person or at most a couple who like animals and can look after my dog and cat. Please keep in mind that Quiet is at the beach so you would need a vehicle. If you are interested please email - nandita@sharan-india.org or SMS 9488483286, Nandita

**Available 2:** Dear Friends, I’m looking for a house sitter for a three-week period from the 18th of May till the 8th of June. If you are interested, give me a call 944 36 17 308 Sara - Baraka Community

**Needed 1:** Dear Aurovilians, I am looking for house sitting opportunity in July. If you are traveling and need someone responsible to take care of your house, I am pre newcomer experienced in house sitting, able to take good care of pets and garden. Please contact me at 9655177556, Thank you. Ra

**Needed 2:** 31-year-old American woman coming to Auroville May 11th: August looking for a house or pet sit with extensive house and pet sitting experience - both long and short term. Good references. Please contact at nijbelenky@yahoo.com, Thanks! Norma Jean

**Needed 3:** single person, male, 65 years old, looking for room/house/apartment (contribution possible). I have applied for Entry Service and am volunteering teacher at Isai Ambalam school. Teetotaller, non-smoker, no bad habits. SMS preferred or call +918281197760, Rajan Daniel.
AVAILABLE

Auroville Library of Things (ALoT), an initiative by earth&us, at the container opposite PTDC: borrow tools, toys, kitchenware, travelling & hiking gear at your convenience. aloa@auroville.org.in.

NOW ONLINE! aurolot.mytum.com/library/inventory/browse

Sweetest Cats looking for lovers and a home: this is your chance for a cuddly sweetheart, always loyal and soft furred. Only two more are free yet we are all looking forward to meeting you! Please contact Ulrike at ulrikrishna@gmail.com, 94420 69249 (sms, what's app) or 0413-2622966.

Bullet Bike: Diesel Bullet 1995 Original model all papers in current FC till 2021, insurance current, well maintained, 80 km per litter. Contact V. Boobalan: 9787084506, boobalanbullet@auroville.org.in, thank you.

Bike: Honda Unicorn 150cc 2009 model in really good condition 27400 kms. Contact 7402797266 or 9159997266. Xavier

e-scooter: 14 months’ motor and battery use, new body, new charger, new brake shoe. magalichirouze@gmail.com

2x Blue Tarpoline roof sheets: 2 big size (32x27 feet) best quality blue Tarpoline, only used for two weeks to cover our roof during works on the roof. To give away for half cost prize. Contact Dariya 9786658967

Drawing and painting for donation every Sunday morning from 9am-10am at Mila compound (Town Hall Area). All art work from the last exhibition “Ivana’s Art from Auroville” (Kala Kendra, Bharat Nivas) and more. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any inquiries. Ivana: 709 434 4154, ivana.frousou@yahoo.co.uk.

Various Items: 1x Sprint pink and white Girls bicycle (new), 26inch wheels, single gear / 1x Queen size Spring mattress / 1x Queen size heavy cane base / 1x Single foam coach - 5 mts long in marine blue and deep red. Please return my scarf………It is 30 years old and has historical value for me. Suhasini 94431 62784 / suhasini@auroville.org.in

Drawing and painting for donation every Sunday morning from 9am-10am at Mila compound (Town Hall Area). All art work from the last exhibition “Ivana’s Art from Auroville” (Kala Kendra, Bharat Nivas) and more. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any inquiries. Ivana: 709 434 4154, ivana.frousou@yahoo.co.uk.

Mobile phone: Samsung Galaxy note 4 in good condition. Call 8300492834.

Fire sticks: for juggling. 2 pieces. In good condition. 1-meter long. Very affordable. Contact me for more information: 9635177936. Thank you, Roa

House work position 1: We are looking for fulltime/part time amma who can make North Indian food or is willing to learn how to make it. Need to know Hindi or English. Please contact Prem Shakti 9489244823 premshakti@auroville.org.in

House work position 2: Hi all, we are looking for someone experimented to work as an amma at our house 5 mornings a week for the month of May, and full time from June onwards. It would be preferable if basic English is spoken, and to be comfortable around dogs as we have two of them indoors. If interested, let us know on: 9384459055 or by email: aurrima@gmail.com, Aurrima and Victor from Sukhavati

Amla: dear friends, I’m a long-term volunteer at AV and I use the Amla fruit for diet and medicinal uses. Does anyone have trees of Amla in their garden / farm / forest and would be willing to share/sell some of the fruit? It is known as ‘amalaki’ in Sanskrit, ‘Indian Gooseberry’ in English, and ‘nellikka’ in South Indian languages. Small round green fruit mostly astringent and sour in taste. Thanks! G - sattvig@gmail.com / (0) 840 799 7970.

Laptop: As my work more and more requires laptop, I am looking for a laptop in good condition for the work. If anyone has one, wish to donate/give away at a reasonable contribution, kindly contact: Dheena, Aspiration, Mobile No. 964 765 4077. E-mail: dinar@auroville.org.in. Thanking you in advance for your support

3 bicycles: Dear community, we are looking for three bicycles, one for a child (5 years old) and two for adults. If you don’t need yours anymore please write to sarah@the-taiji-family.com or WhatsApp: +491766648035. Thank you! Sarah

LOST & FOUND

Scarf (Lost): Someone picked up my scarf that was draped over the back of the chair in the canteen between the town hall and AV foundation office at 11.45 am on 4th May 18 - Friday. The scarf (“dupatta”) has a herringbone striped pattern in Indian block printed - cotton - 3 mts long in marine blue and deep red. Please return my scarf………It is 30 years old and has historical value for me. Suhasini 94431 62784 / suhasini@auroville.org.in

Phone (Lost): Dear all, on May 7th, 2018, I lost my mobile - MOTO G4+ with a green colored back-cover. If you find it, please email at divyanshi.0222@gmail.com. Love, Divyanshi

TAXI SHARING

Auroville service of taxi sharing available with STS at: http://sharedtransport.auroville.org/ (an initiative by earth&us)

May 14th: Shared Taxi leaving Auroville to Chennai Airport on 5th am. Contact Johannes: Phone: +91 7598153380, Whatsapp: +91 1575088123, email: johannesbaumfalk@gmail.com

May 15th: leaving Auroville for Chennai airport at 3 a.m. Sharing both ways possible, please contact 9486623465 Maggie

May 15th: Hello I am leaving for Chennai airport on 15th at 11 a.m. If you like to share a taxi, please contact 9943368410 Kay.

May 16th: leaving from Auroville at 7 pm to Chennai airport. You can also use it on its way back around 10.30pm share Chennai Airport to Auroville. Rosa: rosa@aurivoile.org.in or send me a message +917094299924.

May 16th: leaving from Auroville at 7 pm to Chennai airport. Contact Karuna: 0413-2623 024, karuna@aurivoile.org.in

May 22nd / 23rd: Taxi will leave Auroville on May 22nd at 9.30 pm to Chennai Airport. (Preferred) If you are interested, please call 944 3619 403, Thanks Sandarya

May 24-25th: Taxi sharing Auroville between 10.30 p.m. and 11.30 p.m. on Thursday, 24 May to Chennai’s airport, returning early morning on Friday, 25 May. Taxi sharing is possible both ways. Call, SMS, WhatsApp 9047468584, Ruslan D.

May 28th: leaving Auroville at 10pm to catch emirates flight on 29th at 4am, at Chennai Airport. Phone 0413-2623336 or sms 9443085038 or send a mail dubouchetmarianne@gmail.com

May 30th: Taxi leaving Auroville at 1pm to Chennai Airport. My mail btv.12@mail.ru, thanks, Tatiana.

TRAVEL

Yatra Nova will be closed from Friday 18.05.18 till Saturday 19.05.18. Kindly finalise any pending request as soon as possible… Have a good summer!

For international emergencies contact Sridhar 9344615803 or sridhar@yatraNova.com. For domestic tickets call Doulat 9944756292.

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**TALKS**

The FRENCH PAVILION presents

“A journey across the country for a global vision”

A Talk (in French) by Animesh Rai

Saturday 12th May 2018 at 5pm (dur. 90 mins)

Town Hall - Cinéma Paradiso

Getting off an airplane at the international airport in Srinagar, taking a cab looking for a mechanic to fix parts of his vehicle, Animesh Rai set out on his Italian bicycle first on a 34-day journey covering 3,994 km from the North to the South and again for 36 days travelling across the East to the West covering 4,242 km.

He undertook two trips - beginning from Srinagar, which is symbolically at the top of North of India and Kanniyakumari, the southern tip.

This journey was an investigation of a process of creolisation. Through this journey, I was trying to get the macro picture of India to examine its relationship with this part of the country. It does not give a good picture of ground realities in India. Cycling through these places forces one to think and get in touch with what is happening on the ground,” he says, adding that bicycle is an environment-friendly transport. “There is no pollution, it is a medicine that relieves stress, reduces weight and facilitates joint movement. It has cerebral merits too. It becomes a research tool. The main objective of this journey was to acquire a global vision as much as possible”.

Animesh Rai earned a doctorate in French literature from the Graduate Center of the City University of New York under the guidance of the late Edouard Glissant, a Martinican writer and leading theorist of creolization. His doctoral thesis, “The Legacy of French Rule in India (1674-1954): an investigation of a Process of Creolization”, 2008. He comes to teach French language classes at the Alliance Française of Pondicherry during the teaching sessions.

This is the last event for the French Pavilion until August.

SEA (Social Entrepreneurship Association)

Is happy to invite you to the talk:

Learnings from Sristi Village

- an inclusive, self-sustaining community for the marginalized & people with intellectual disabilities.

29th May (Tuesday) - 4.30 - 6.30 pm

SAIIE Conference Hall

G.Karthikeyan, founder of Sristi Foundation, is a psychologist and a native of Pondicherry who grew up for 15 years in an orphanage. Realizing the differences in society's treatment of 'normal' and the 'intellectually disabled', he was inspired to create a fair and sustainable world for them.

Sristi Foundation is a non-profit organisation, establishing an inclusive, self-sustaining and eco-friendly village community 'Sristi Village', which offers marginalized individuals and people with intellectual disabilities the chance to live, learn, work and generate income, thus allowing them to reach their full potential. Spread out over 30 acres of fertile land at Kunamangalam village in Villupuram District, it wishes to serve as a role model project. It is their mission to economically and socially empower the marginalized and intellectually disabled, through providing them work opportunities and social inclusiveness. ([www.sristivillage.org](http://www.sristivillage.org))

All are welcome! For more info: 9487600564

Are we afraid to talk about the quality of art in Auroville?

Artist, a critic of art, lover of art, researcher, neuroscientist, you are invited to an informal discussion at Mitra compound (Town Hall) on Tuesdays 15th, 22nd, 29th May and 5th June from 5 pm till sunset. See last week News&Notes for details or contact Ivana. (91) 7094344154, e-mail: ivana.froussova@yahoo.co.uk.
He arrived at the knowledge that Matter is Brahman.
- Taittiriya Upanishad

The Present era of the world is a stage of immense transformations… No nation or community can any longer remain psychologically cloistered and apart in the modern world. It may even be said that the future of humanity depends most upon the answer that will be given to the modern riddle of the Sphinx by the East and especially by India, the hoary guardian of the Asiatic idea and its profound spiritual secrets.

Sri Aurobindo Centre for Studies
India and the World
Bharat Nivas

This exhibition, curated by Olivier Barot, will be open until May 31, 2018
9:00 am – 12:30 pm & 2:00 – 4:30 pm
The Dawn of Auroville

An exhibition with basic information on the concept of Auroville, its inauguration and the beginning of Matrimandir till November 1973. It has been curated by Sri Aurobindo Ashram Archives in collaboration with Auroville Archives and Bharat Nivas. Every Tuesday (4:00 – 5:30 pm), there will be a sharing session offered by different members from the Ashram and Auroville on the Foundation Ceremony started by the Mother and the early days of Auroville.

All are welcome!

Daily: Tuesday 15th May – Sunday 30th September 2018
Time: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm (Closed on Sundays)
Kalakendra Gallery, Bharat Nivas, International Zone, Auroville

Contact: 0413-2622488 / 94421-21315 / bharatnivas@auroville.org.in
**SCHEDULES**

**CREEVA**
- ‘ART MATTERS’. A monthly discussion series on art and related matters.
10am to 12pm, every second Saturday. 12th May at the CREEVA Open Studio in Kalakendra, Bharat Nivas.
- COME, LET’S CREATE TOGETHER: Let’s experiment with Art for realizing Human Unity. Let’s learn from one and all, through this journey of Unending Education. Let’s express together forgetting the barriers and baggages, to understand each other.
We will all create together on a 5-meter long canvas, every month. Annually, we plan to display the 12 works as a mural, part of our Auroville Creations’ Exhibition.
At CREEVA Open Studio, Kalakendra, Bharat Nivas
From 10am to 4:30pm, 20th May (Every Third Saturday).
Spend as much time, as you want.
Materials like canvas, paint and brushes will be provided. You’re welcome to bring your own.

**OTHER EVENTS**

**Improvised Theatre Storytelling Workshop for Children!**
Does your precious little princess or prince act like they’re made for the stage? Do their regular daily performances cry out: future film star? Are they aged between 6 - 9 years?
If the answer to all of the above is yes, or you just think that your child might benefit from an opportunity to flex some creative cerebral muscles in the form of improvised theatrical storytelling, then this is the workshop for you (and your child)!
WHERE: Unity Pavilion - COST: Free
WHERE to register for this workshop: To register for this workshop, please email Jesse@Auroville.org.in or call/message/WhatsApp me on 948 6623 749, Much love, Jesse

**Improvised Theatre Storytelling Workshop for big kids and ‘Grown-ups’!**
Are you ready to explore new dimensions of your being? Are you ready to discover the myriad personalities that lie hidden within you? Are you aged 10 or over?
If the answer to all of the above is yes, or you just think that you might benefit from an opportunity to flex some creative cerebral muscles in the form of improvised theatrical storytelling, then this is the workshop for you!
WHERE: Wednesday May 15, 7.30pm - 9.00pm
WHERE to register for this workshop: To register for this workshop, please email Jesse@Auroville.org.in or call/message/WhatsApp me on 948 6623 749, Much love, Jesse

**WordPress introduction course**
The 4-week programme for WordPress introduction will guide the students through the following processes:
- How to set up a local development environment
- What is WordPress? How it became the most popular content management system
- How to install WordPress on your local machine
- What are themes, how to get dummy data to start building your blog
- Introduction to plugins
- Create a live personal blog project with WordPress
- How to purchase a domain name and hosting service
- Deployment to the live server
- Step up, Happy Blogging

Key features of the program are:
- No prior knowledge of any computer language necessary
- Hands-on project and instructions to help you build your own website

What will not be covered in the course:
- Design and development of a custom WordPress theme
- Wordpress hooks and actions

Prerequisites for the program:
A working laptop / A personal notebook (Yeah I am old school, I want you to take notes) / A curious mind
Timings: 5.30 PM to 7.00 PM

**Dates:** From 16th May to 8th June on Wednesday and Friday
**Location:** ISMART classroom, STEM land, Udavi School
**Course Charge:** None
**Attendance:** You can miss 1 of the 8 classes. You drop the course when you miss the second class.
If interested contact Poovizhi Poovizhi@aurauro.com by 15th May for application form.

**Social Entrepreneurship Association (SEA) warmly invites you to “The Mahabharata Exploration”**
Description: The Mahabharata is one of the most important epics of the world, and like many of the other great myths, it too is an archetypal drama that is unfolding in each of us in our everyday lives. However, we are often unaware of this and play out habitual patterns of behaviour unconsciously. Through this workshop we hope to create a space for identifying what the Pandava archetypes within us could be and how they are being expressed and suppressed in the different contexts we inhabit. This increased awareness offers the possibility of recognizing our hidden potentials and capabilities and deploying them with greater ease, clarity and appropriateness.

This methodology is strongly based on Yoga, Theater and Process work and has been successfully applied for more than two decades in various companies and NGO’s across the country, in the form of leadership and personal empowerment workshops. We would like to now make it available for those in the Auroville Bioregion as well, especially to volunteers, rural youth and social entrepreneurs as we feel it would help in their own personal growth and self-awareness.

**Date:** May 23rd, Wednesday - Timings: 9:30AM - 5:30PM
**Venue:** Bhumika Hall, Bharat Nivas
**Fees:** The workshop is being offered on a Gift Economy basis.
Participants are welcome to offer what they are called to from their hearts. The contributions would go towards supporting the activities of SEA in the future and the venue and logistics costs.
**Registration:** Participation by prior registration only. Please mail naveen.ritambhara@gmail.com for registering.
All are welcome!

**Earth and Bambo: 21st - 25th May 2018**
Auroville Green Practices is organizing a 5-day hands-on workshop titled “Earth and Bamboo”. This workshop at the Auroville Earth Institute is intended as an experience workshop in earth construction with both traditional and modern earth techniques. Participants will learn basic principles of soil identification and how different soils can be used for earthen construction. They will split into groups to build walls with both traditional raw earth construction (e.g. adobe and cob) and modern stabilized techniques (e.g. stabilized rammed earth and compressed stabilized earth block or CSEB). Construction “within & daub” earth technique will be integrated in the workshop at the Bamboo Centre.
Concessional fees (to cover food expenses) for Aurovilians working in this field are being offered. Full program attendance is required. If you are interested to attend, please send an email to: info@agpworkshops.com. For more details please visit: www.agpworkshops.com

**Mural Paintings in Summer:** The European House and CREEVA invite you to learn Mural Paintings. Jean Marie, a French designer volunteer, proposes with CREEVA to teach a few Aurovilians how to make mural paintings.
After a 2-days theoretical teaching at Kala-Kendra Open Studio, you will have to collectively paint 2 projects, the European House storeroom and the Bakery container (5 days’ work each).
The workshop is open to beginners, who commit doing at least project out of the 2 (minimum 1 week)
Let’s make this mural project a great summer experience.
For further inquiries, please contact Jean Marie: 8270071991 or Denis: 9500721460

**Summer School at Sacred Groves:**
1st-10th June 2018
Open to all professionals and students.
An opportunity to build with natural and reclaimed materials by hand-crafting foundation, walls, floors and plaster finishes. Learn techniques like: Stone foundation / Cob / Adobe / Wattle and Daub / Plastering and flooring with Mud and Lime. Also be a part of technical presentations and site visits in and around Auroville.
For more information and registration: Contact Sacred Groves at sacredgroves@auroville.org.in / 0413-2623696 / 7845362068
Find us at www.sacredgroves.in
**Films**

**THE ECO FILM CLUB**

**Here are the programs for the next 4 Fridays until the News&Notes returns!**

**Sadhana Forest, May 18th, Friday**

Schedule of Events: 16:00 Free bus from Solar Kitchen to Sadhana Forest for the Tour / 16:30 Tour of Sadhana Forest / 18:00 Free bus from Solar Kitchen to Sadhana Forest for the Eco Film Club / 18:30 Eco Film Club begins with "previews" of short Sadhana Forest films / 20:00 Dinner is served / 21:30 Free bus from Sadhana Forest back to Solar Kitchen.

Before the movie, at exactly 16:30 you are welcome to join us for a full tour of Sadhana Forest and an update of our most recent work! After the film, you are welcome to join us for a free 100% vegan organic dinner!

**Note:** Families and children are welcome! Dinner for children will be served at 19:00.

**Money, Happiness and Eternal Life - Greed: Part One**
42 Minutes / English / 2016 / Directed by Jörg Seibold

"The Greed Program," which has made us crave possessions, status, and power, is coming to an end! Or is the frenzied search for more and more still an indispensable part of our nature? We set out to look for the essence of greed. And we tell the stories of people who - whether as perpetrators or victims or even just as willing consumers - have become accomplices in a sea change in values.

(Reminder: 11/05: Peaceable Kingdom: The Journey Home)

Sadhana Forest, May 25th, Friday.

**Money, Happiness and Eternal Life - Greed: Part Two**
42 Minutes / English / 2016 / Directed by Jörg Seibold

Continuing part of the film explores, anyone who fails to satisfy his or her desires in this age of the Ego is deemed a loser. But with more than 7 billion people on the Earth, the ramifications of this excessive consumption of resources are already clear.

Sadhana Forest, June 1st, Friday.

**Inhabit: A Permaculture Perspective**
2015 / 92 minutes / English / Directed by Costa Boutsikaris

Inhabit explores the many environmental issues facing us today and examines solutions that are being applied using the ecological design process called 'Permaculture.' Permaculture is a design lens that uses the principles found in ecosystems to help shift our impact from destructive to regenerative. Focused mostly on the Northeastern and Midwestern regions of the United States, Inhabit provides an intimate look at permaculture peoples and practices ranging from rural, suburban, and urban landscapes.

Sadhana Forest, June 8th, Friday.

**Don't Panic: The Truth About Population**
59 mins / English / Directed by David Coleman & Ashok Prasad

Rosting is statistician and he'll show you the world in a new way. He'll tell you how world's population is changing and what today's data tell us about the future of the world we live in. We undeniably face huge challenges, but the good news is that the future may not be quite as gloom and that mankind already is doing better than many of you think.

The bus service is operated by Sadhana Forest. For more information about the bus service please contact Sadhana Forest at (0413) 2677682 or 2677683 or sadhanaforest@auroville.org.in. Or visit us online: sadhanaforest.org / facebook.com/sadhanaforest

**Cinema Paradiso**

Multimedia Center (MMC) Auditorium

**Pause** for several repair and improvement work at the Cinema until 3 June 2018 for sure - for now. Check out notice board or future N&N for announcements beyond that.

Donations to “Cinema Paradiso” (account #105106) at the Financial Service are welcome or set up for a monthly contribution. We appreciate your continued support.

Thanking You, MMC/IP Group, mmcAuditorium@auroville.org.in.

**Multi Media Centre Auditorium (MMC, Town Hall)**

Reminder: --Friday 11 MAY, 7:45pm “MADADAYO” by Akira KUROSAWA - Japan, 1993

There will be no film show after May 11th; please see the next announcement in June. Enjoy the Summer! - Aurofilm

**Film Screening at BOOMIKA HALL**

Saturday, 19th May, 2018 - 7:45 pm
at Boomiika Hall (Old Bhavishyate Building), Bharat Nivas

**Ghare Baire** (The Home and the World): directed by Satyajit Ray & based on a novel by Rabindranath Tagore

In 1905, Lord Curzon, Viceroy of India, announced his decision to partition the large Bengal Province, into Hindu majority West and Muslim-dominated East. Once the formal decision was announced the call to boycott “bideshi” (foreign made) products in favor of “swadeshi” or Indian goods appealed to the masses. Tension between Hindus and Muslims escalated into violence; as anti-British sentiments ran high, idealists carried out a series of attacks against the ‘rulers’. In this political ‘backdrop’, Rabindranath Tagore set one of his best novels, Ghare Baire, which is “shockingly relevant today in its delineation of the conflict between the forces of nationalism and humanism” (The Hindu Literary Review) - (This is being organised on the occasion of Tagore’s 157 birthday on 7th May)

**Documentary Night at UP**

This week at Unity Pavilion, on Thursday 17-05-2018 at 8 pm we will be screening the documentary "Yogis of Tibet". In this documentary, we will be diving into the lives and practices of the Tibetan yogis in the Himalayas. Welcome all to take part in this weeks immersion. :)

**Musical Night at Unity Pavilion**

We are starting a new weekly series for collective listening of classical concerts which uplifts the mood and spirit of the listeners. In this spirit, this Saturday 19-05-2018 at 8pm will be opening the night with The Valley Recalls 1995: 3 Indian raga - Peace, Love, Harmony by Pandit ShivKumar Sharma and Pandit Hari Prasad Chaurasia.

**See you all after the News&Notes SUMMER BREAK! Next publication will be on Saturday 9th of June, 2018.**