This larger integral knowledge and freedom liberates in the end and fulfills our whole existence. When we possess it, we see why our existence moves between these three terms of God, ourselves and the world; we no longer see them or any of them in opposition to each other, inconsistent, incompatible, nor do we on the other hand regard them as terms of our ignorance which all disappear at last into a pure impersonal unity. We perceive their necessity as terms rather of our self-fulfillment which preserve their value after liberation or rather find then only their real value. We have no longer the experience of our existence as exclusive of the other existences which make up by our relations with them our experience of the world; in this new consciousness they are all contained in ourselves and we in them. They and we are no longer so many mutually exclusive egos each seeking its own independent fulfilment or self-transcendence and ultimately aiming at nothing else; they are all the Eternal and the self in each secretly embraces all in itself and seeks in various ways to make that higher truth of its unity apparent and effective in its terrestrial being. Not mutual exclusiveness, but mutual inclusiveness is the divine truth of our individuality, love the higher law and not an independent self-fulfillment.

The Purusha who is our real being is always independent and master of Prakriti and at this independence we are rightly seeking to arrive; that is the utility of the egoistic movement and its self-transcendence, but its right fulfilment is not in making absolute the ego’s principle of independent existence, but in arriving at this other highest poise of the Purusha with regard to its Prakriti. There is transcendence of Nature, but also possession of Nature, perfect fulfilment of our individuality, but also perfect fulfilment of our relations with the world and with others. Therefore, an individual salvation in heavens beyond careless of the earth is not our highest objective; the liberation and self-fulfilment of others is as much our own concern, — we might almost say, our divine self-interest, — as our own liberation. Otherwise our unity with others would have no effective meaning. To conquer the lures of egoistic existence in this world is our first victory over ourselves; to conquer the lure of individual happiness in heavens beyond is our second victory; to conquer the highest lure of escape from life and a self-absorbed bliss in the impersonal infinity is the last and greatest victory. Then are we rid of all individual exclusiveness and possessed of our entire spiritual freedom.

The state of the liberated soul is that of the Purusha who is forever free. Its consciousness is a transcendence and an all-comprehending unity. Its self-knowledge does not get rid of all the terms of self-knowledge, but unifies and harmonizes all things in God and in the divine nature. The intense religious ecstasy which knows only God and ourselves and shuts out all else, is only to it an intimate experience which prepares it for sharing in the embrace of the divine Love and Delight around all creatures. A heavenly bliss which unites God and ourselves and the blest, but enables us to look with a remote indifference on the unblest and their sufferings is not possible to the perfect soul; for these also are its selves; free individually from suffering and ignorance, it must naturally turn to draw them also towards its freedom. On the other hand, any absorption in the relations between self and others and the world to the exclusion of God and the Beyond is still more impossible, and therefore it cannot be limited by the earth or even by the highest and most altruistic relations of man with man. Its activity or its culmination is not to efface and utterly deny itself for the sake of others, but to fulfil itself in God-possession, freedom and divine bliss that in and by its fulfilment others too may be fulfilled. For it is in God alone, by the possession of the Divine only that all the discords of life can be resolved, and therefore the raising of men towards the Divine is in the end the one effective way of helping mankind. All the other activities and realizations of our self-experience have their use and power, but in the end, these crowded side-tracks or these lonely paths must circle round to converge into the wideness of the integral way by which the liberated soul transcends all, embraces all and becomes the promise and the power of the fulfilment of all in their manifested being of the Divine.

THE SYNTHESIS OF YOGA, Pt II, Ch XVIII: The Soul and its Liberation - SRI AUROBINDO

When the danger comes a call to the Mother is the first thing to be done, that makes the general protection at once effective.
AV Council Report of November, December 2018 and January 2019

AV COUNCIL INTERNAL FUNCTIONING

The group has been functioning well. While realizing that we are caught in quite a firefighting mode concerning community issues, we are eager to put more effort in the systemic level of the functioning of our governance. The Council will be losing four members at the upcoming selection process. The members that are leaving, as informed earlier, are: Angelo, Elisa, Matriprasad and Sandarya. We hope we get new fresh inspired members who help to look at the bigger picture.

WORK COMPLETED OR IN PROGRESS
- Resident Assembly Service (RAS)
A process of finding new members for the RAS has been completed by the Council. We are happy that the new team, consisting of Mael, Sathish and Tania, has integrated themselves well and are a great support for Tatiana to handle the ongoing tasks. Suryamayi and Elvira are helping with group internal processes.
- L’Avenir interim members
The AV Council together with the Working Committee appointed 3 interim members for L’Avenir d’Auroville, after consultation with the remaining members of L’Avenir. The interim members are: Srimoyi, Sreevatsa and Selvam Rajamani: https://auroville.org.in/article/71774

- Selection Process
The Selection Process is mainly in the hands of the Study Group and is supported by the RAS. TFRC (Temporary Feedback Review Committee) and Clearance Panel have been set up and have started their work. The previous Selection Process took up a lot of resources and is being questioned by the community. The Council will look into this topic after the present selection process, together with the community.
- Clearance Panel
The AV Council together with the Working Committee, selected the members of the Clearance Panel from the nominations, made by the community. The group has started to work. Please look for more details: https://auroville.org.in/page/clearance-panel-2018
- Temporary Feedback Review Committee (TFRC)
The AV Council selected the members of the TFRC from the nominations made by the community. The group has started its work. Please look for more details: https://auroville.org.in/page/selection-process-working-groups
- Land Board
The Land Board is short of members and we have been informed by them that they are working with Resource Persons. However, there is a need to strengthen the team. The LB Selection process will begin soon.

MANDEV AND POLICY REVIEWS:
- Entry Policy: A subgroup of the Auroville Council and the Working Committee has started reviewing the feedback on the Entry Policy received from the community and from the Entry Board, Entry Secretariat and Aspiration team. Discussions with the relevant teams and work on reviewing and integrating feedback is going on.
- Code of Ethics for Auroville Practitioner
There is a request from Paula Murphy to look into the guidelines for health practitioners. A subgroup of the Council is looking into this matter.

WORK TO RE-ESTABLISH HARMONY
- Conflict Resolution Policy:
Work is ongoing to make some revisions to the Conflict Resolution Policy. This will soon be presented to the community for feedback.

The Appeal Process is also under review after 1 year of application.

- Nandini Service conflict:
The issue at present is being looked into by the FAMC.
- Selvi / Kumar Nickadas arbitration:
The arbiters have arrived at a decision with regard to division of garden space which has been conveyed to both parties and has been implemented by the IMG constituted by members of AV Council and Housing.
During the renovation of Selvi’s flat another conflict erupted which led to the cutting of the recently planted hedge, which is part of the implementation of the arbiter’s decision. In the meantime, this damage has been repaired.
- Conflict at Serenity/ Maitreye:
At the center of this conflict is the open question: Is it possible, and, if so, how to have dogs living in dense urban habitat, while respecting the needs and tolerance level (noise) of very different individuals from most diverse backgrounds and sensitivity.
A conflict resolution process held by Koodam has been initiated.
- Appeal process registered by Anan and Yuval against a FAMC decision:
Anan and Yuval have requested an appeal to be registered on an FAMC decision related to the Eternal Builders Unit. The Council has registered the appeal, yet the validity of this appeal was put in question by the FAMC, which stated that the decision was taken on behalf of Auroville’s collective interests and responsibility, and as such cannot be appealed. The Council requested the Working Committee to look at this aspect of validity of this appeal request. The latter agreed that the matter is appealable, but stated that at this stage the appeal wasn’t valid, as the decision was not final, and missing the involvement of the Working Committee in the decision.

OTHER TOPICS
- Stray Dogs: Auroville keeps on being challenged with puppies being dropped at public places and strays roaming around. Some puppies were dropped off at the Town Hall. Recently there have been incidents of cats and peacocks being killed by dogs which are forming packs, and attacking other animals. Also dogs, if untrained and not kept properly, can get very aggressive, and kill other smaller animals, including smaller dogs.
An issue between members of Auzolan and Reve guest house regarding dogs was resolved amicably between the parties.
It was reported to AVC that recently near Auromodele stray dogs suddenly died showing signs of poisoning. Let us be aware that harming animals, including strays, is unethical and can have legal consequences.
The Council, with the help of individuals from the community, has formulated a second sterilization project for dogs/ cats, with the aim to reach into the villages. The project has been submitted to Project Coordination Group. Simultaneously a fundraising effort in the Auroville community is also on the way.
- News & Notes:
We appreciate the hard work and dedication of the editorial team of the News and Notes and their commitment to constantly improve the quality of our publication.
The Council would also like to thank Jayamoorthy and Arumugam for their long and dedicated service in the printing section.
Unfortunately to find an adequate solution for Jayamoorthy, who due to the new printing arrangements no longer has a job with News and Notes, has not yet emerged.
He urgently needs a job in which he can learn new things, and contribute to Auroville in a meaningful way, feel safe and taken care of. Suggestions and work offers are welcome.
- Communication through Auronet and News & Notes:
The AV Council has formed a subgroup that is looking into editorship for both publications.
Existing guidelines are being looked into and improved. The intention is to have a small group of community members that can support the editors when they face difficult decisions or are questioned in their editorship.
- Sign Boards:
A sign board group consisting of Devasmita, Mathieu, Jacques, Martina and others, have met regularly for a brief period. A
guideline for sign boards is expected soon from this group to the Council and the community.

- Housing: https://auroville.org.in/article/71717

- Tamil Forum / Auro Sangamam:
The AV Council met with some members of Auro Sangamam to understand the scope of their work. They have shared with us their mission statement, which is being looked into presently. It has been expressed by them that the name of their work group is Auro Sangamam, and it is rooted in the aspiration for human unity and the realization of Mothers Dream. The Tamil Forum came into existence when they felt that they had to stand up for themselves, in order to be heard, and to accomplish that issues troubling them, would be addressed. They conveyed that the Tamil Forum is now, as things have moved forward, obsolete (no longer necessary).

- Outcome of Dialogues on Discrimination held by Restorative Auroville:
In order to support native Aurovilians and others, when they face a challenging issue in their work and life in Auroville, a Circle for Hearing, Healing and Growth has been started. The Circle meets every second Sunday at 4.30 p.m. at Unity Pavilion. The Circle team consists of individuals who care, from the community, and some members from AV Council.

- Well Café:
An arbitration process has been proposed to resolve the dispute between the Well Café team, and other members of the community, regarding events organized by Well Café. The executives of Well Café continue to disregard the request of the Council, the Working Committee, and the community, to end loud music by 10 p.m., until the arbitration comes to its decision. The issue is being looked into in three areas, Well Café and the Sve Dame community, Well Café and the larger community, Well Café and their work order (with FAMC).

ONGOING TOPIC:
- Land Purchase internal investigation:
The Departmental Enquiry Committee is still inquiring into the facts regarding the recent contested land purchase R.S no 426/1C2 of 8.175 acres.
The AV Council.

Report of the Working Committee of the months of January and February 2019
The main topics of these months were:

1) COMPOSITION OF THE WORKING COMMITTEE
The term of office of Hemant and Inge expired on December 15th, 2018. Inge continued to serve as resource person till February 15, 2019. Till new members have been appointed by the community, the Working Committee will consist of 5 members only, e.g. Mandakini, Ranjith, Partha, Sauro and Carel.

2) EXPANSION OF THE WORKING COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT
Because of the heavy work increase of the secretariat of the Working Committee, it has been decided to add a full-time secretary starting in March.

3) GENERAL MEETING
The Working Committee held a general meeting on January 22nd in which it presented the work it was involved with and answered questions.

4) VISITS NEW DELHI
On January 23-25, Sauro and Carel visited New Delhi to discuss matters related to land protection with a Supreme Court lawyer and then subsequently with Town and Country Planning Organization and the National Institute for Urban Affairs. The result of these discussions is awaited. They also met with Dr. Karan Singh and Dr. Saravana Kumar of the HRD Ministry. An appointment to meet with officials of the Ministry of Home Affairs was not given.

On January 30, François Gautier, who has been authorised to represent the Working Committee in visa issues, met with the Secretary and other officials of the Ministry of Home Affairs. Further to this meeting, a clarifying letter about Auroville was sent by the Secretary, Auroville Foundation, and all those affected have written explanatory emails to the ministry.

5) VISIT OF NEW GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER DR. PARAMESWARAN:
The new member of the Governing Board, Dr. K. Parameswaran, paid a two-day visit to Auroville and met with many people in the community. A profile of Dr. Parameswaran was published in the February 2019 issue of Auroville Today.

6) GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
The Governing Board of the Auroville Foundation was in Auroville from February 25-28. Meetings with working groups took place on February 25 and 26; while on February 27 the Board had its own internal meeting.
The Board members who were present during the interactions with the Auroville working groups were Dr. Karan Singh, Chairman; Dr. Prema Nandakumar, Dr. Nirima Oza, and Dr. Parameswaran. Dr. Anirban Ganguly and Shri Shljo, who represented HRD Joint Secretary Dr. Saravana Kumar, only attended the meeting of the Board itself on February 27th.

The following topics were brought to the attention of the Board by the Working Committee:

- 6.1. IAC and GB:
We communicated the concern of the Residents’ Assembly that the International Advisory Council has still not been reconstituted and that the seventh member of the Governing Board has still not been appointed. The Board was requested to urge the Minister of Human Resource Development to speed up the appointment of the members of the International Advisory Council and the seventh GB member.

- 6.2. Discrimination matters:
We communicated that the community was grateful for the visit of Dr. Prema Nanandkumar and Dr. Nirima Oza to address the allegations of discrimination voiced by some of the residents of Auroville and that the community appreciates to be informed about the outcome of their investigation.

- 6.3. Visa issues:
The Board was informed about the various visa issues facing Auroville and concern was expressed that the expulsion of an Auroville resident without warning and with no reasons given, tears into the fabric of international diversity of Auroville, creates social unrest and uncertainty among the residents who have come here to serve and build Auroville. It also sends an unwelcoming message to the international community, to the extent that such actions endanger the growth and development of Auroville.
The Board was asked to urge the Home Ministry to allow the re-entry into India of the five persons who have been banned recently and the five who have been banned more than 10 years ago to renew the stay visa of the five people who are waiting for their extensions.

Acknowledging that the Government of India has the unfettered right to expel foreigners from India, the Board was also asked to propose to the Ministry that:
- a) all cases of perceived visa violations by residents of Auroville are addressed by the relevant authorities directly with the individuals concerned; if required with the help of the Secretary of the Auroville Foundation and that the individuals concerned are given opportunity to be heard to explain or defend themselves;
- b) minor visa violations are to be punished in different ways than by refusing re-entry or expelling a person, e.g. by imposing a fine. In deciding on the fine to be paid, the nature of the offense, the person’s age, the duration of a person’s stay in India, and his/her contribution to the development of Auroville may also be taken into account;
- c) those who have committed a major visa violation, which the Government wishes to punish by expulsion, are informed about the duration of such expulsion and are given time to make their affairs in Auroville in order before making to leave India.

- 6.4. National Highway NH 332 A:
The Board was informed about the developments with the proposed National Highway NH 332 A, of which the community has been inquired in earlier postings in the News and Notes by the Highway Task Force.

- 6.5. The disputed land purchase IR 426/1C2:
The Board was informed about the status of the legal action taken and of the offer of repayment of the purchase price by the sellers, which is under consideration by the Secretary.

An investigation into possible irregularities in the land purchase has been conducted by a Task Group constituted by the Secretary. The Working Committee is not involved in this matter and has not been informed about the findings of the Task Group.

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6.6. Legal representation of the Auroville Foundation:

The Working Committee has expressed its concern that members of the Land Board and/or the Working Committee, who file, on behalf of the Foundation, police complaints against individuals who have been acting against the interests of the Auroville Foundation, are often themselves harassed and sometimes have to face police action. This leads to unwillingness of individuals to represent the Foundation.

6.7. Land encroachment:

We have proposed that, now that the Secretary, Auroville Foundation, has been appointed Estate Officer of the Auroville Foundation under the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971, action is taken against all those who are encroaching on Auroville land.

6.8. Beach erosion Question:

The Board was informed about action taken after the Principal Bench of the National Green Tribunal New Delhi’s order of September 5, 2018 directing the Tamil Nadu Coastal Zone Management Authority to take appropriate steps, in accordance to law. Steps have been taken to obtain the required permissions for the construction of three small T-groynes as advised by the National Institute for Ocean Technology. At the same time, the local fishermen association is in process of petitioning the Government of Tamil Nadu to restart the initial 9 groyes protection project, which was stopped in 2013.

6.9 Tamil Heritage Centre:

a) Regarding the misuse of Tamil Heritage Centre funds, a police complaint has been filed by the Secretary of Auroville Foundation. The Working Committee is not involved in this matter.

b) Finalizing the construction of the Centre. The Secretary of Auroville Foundation has constituted a Monitoring Committee consisting of seven members: the Secretary and Under Secretary of the Auroville Foundation, one member from the Working Committee (Ranjith), one member from the Funds and Assets Management Committee (Prabhu), one trustee of the Bharat Nivas Trust (Shankar), and two members from the community at large (Dhruv and Ramesh Tulyani). The Committee is in the process of appointing an architect and a contractor.

6.10. Auroville Foundation (Entry and Removal of names of Persons in the Register of Residents) Regulations 2013:

We expressed concern that the HRD Ministry has still not approved the Governing Board approved ‘Entry and Removal of names of Persons in the Register of Residents Regulations 2013’. This approval is required as per section 32.3 of the Auroville Foundation Act which states that “no Regulation made by the Foundation shall have effect until it has been approved by the Central Government and published in the Official Gazette”. Mr. Siljo brought the news that the Regulations have recently been approved and will be communicated to the Auroville Foundation soon.

6.11 Rules of the Auroville Foundation:

More than 20 years ago the HRD Ministry was asked to change of the Rules of the Auroville Foundation. We are unaware of the status of review of the Rules of the Foundation.

6.12 By the Land Board:

The Board discussed land purchase issues with the members of the Land Board. The Land Board presented the Auroville Land Situation June 2018, the new due diligence procedure for land purchase & exchange and a report on Wood sales.

6.13 By the Land Protection Team:

The Land Protection team updated about the recent interaction with Tamil Nadu Government about the proposed constitution of a New Town Development Authority (NTDA for the Auroville area and informed the Board that a process of information and consultation with the Residents’ Assembly will take place before making further recommendations. The team also urged the Board to ask for a special grant from the Government of India to purchase all the lands in the city and greenbelt areas.

6.14 By the FAMC:

The FAMC presented its work studying options for Auroville’s economic growth (Growing Auroville’s Economy Sustainably initiative); Internal Audits; Compliance and Restructuring; and the GOI Grant in Aid Works Manual.

6.15 By the GOI Grant group:

The GOI Grant group presented the GOI grant budget projections 2019-2020 together with a note on the priorities for GOI funding. It also submitted a defence of the utilisation of Government of India grant for housing.

6.16 By the Town Development Council (TDC):

Members of the TDC discussed the present and future work of the TDC.

6.17 By the Matrimandir executives:

The Matrimandir executives discussed the need for land purchase required to allow for the future Matrimandir Lake and the progress of the Matrimandir gardens.

6.18 By the 50th anniversary team:

The team showed a film clip on the event ‘Journey of Auroville’ - Presenting Auroville in India’, pre-released copies of the coffee table book by Olivier Barot, presented a mock-up of the 50th Souvenir Booklet, and gave a financial update on and the status of the projects under the special GOI grant received for the 50th anniversary.

6.19 By SAIER:

Divya and Chali spoke about education and higher education/further learning and Sanjeev R gave a presentation about STEM Land as an example of an educational research and further learning activity that is happening successfully in Auroville.

6.20 By Bharat Nivas:

The trustees of Bharat Nivas Trust talked about ongoing work. The Ashram book “Dawn of Auroville” was presented during this interaction with the Governing Board.

7) GUESTHOUSES AND HOME STAYS:

7.1 a) FFRO intimation

Many guesthouses and home-stays in Auroville have received intimations from the FRRO to remind them of the need to properly register all foreigners through the online C-form registration. Some people received an email even though they no longer run a home stay.

The Guest Facilities Coordination Group (CFCG) has informed us that this has happened as the logins at the FRRO are dated from 2013 and have not been cancelled. To close an online C-form login, each individual log-in holder will have to present themselves PERSONALLY at the RRO in Pondicherry and bring a request letter (written by the individual) for closure of the online C-form login; an ID proof; and the registration agreement for their home stay.

The GFCG aims at developing a relationship with the FRRO where the GFCG will act as the intermediary administrative body for Auroville’s registered guest facilities, but that will take more time.

7.1 b) Electricity rates

Auroville Electrical Service has informed us that Homestays are subject to the commercial electricity tariff. Homestays that are attached to or are part of the house should convert from domestic tariff to commercial tariff. Homestays that are in a separate building should get a separate commercial connection.

The Working Committee is verifying the actions that have to be taken in this regard.

8) DECISION BY INTERNAL COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE:

The Internal Complaints Committee of Auroville, set up under the Sexual Harassment of Woman at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act 2013, has investigated a complaint about sexual harassment. The ICC found that there was sexual harassment and has made recommendations to be taken against the harasser. The Working Committee has followed up on these recommendations. Its decisions have not been accepted by the harasser. He has been informed that he can appeal the decision of the Working Committee as provided for in the Act.

In accordance with the Act, neither the ICC nor the Working Committee can make public the identity of the aggrieved woman or the harasser or the decisions taken against him.
9) MR. VIKRAM RAM
The office of the Secretary of the Auroville Foundation and the Working Committee have so far received 8 requests under the Right to Information Act by a former Friend of Auroville, Mr. Vikram Ram. Mr. Ram is aggrieved because he feels that either the Auroville Foundation or the Working Committee should have provided him with police protection as requested by him after he was beaten up on 7th August 2017 in the village of Kulpalayam by villagers, when he refused to pay the rent of a building he had rented, arguing that the land belonged to Auroville. On investigation it was seen that the land does not belong to Auroville. This conclusion is not accepted by Mr. Ram. Mr. Ram has taken it upon himself to question Auroville in all possible ways, using information he can only have received from residents of Auroville who sympathize with his views.

10) ROADS AND TREE CUTTING IN THE GREEN BELT
We are extremely concerned about the developments in the eastern sector of the Green Belt, in the area of Aurogreen and Fertile, and has contacted all the concerned authorities in relation to the tree cutting and clearing in the Kolam area by the authorities of Mailam Temple. A new private road has been open in land claimed by the Mailam Temple, according to our information without any permission. Also this matter has been brought to the attention of the concerned authorities. Recently, in the month of February a road from Pillaiachavady to Mathur has been tarred under a scheme of Tamil Nadu govt. We are extremely concerned that it may lead to private real estate development. We are trying to prevent further tarring in direction of Kulpalayam that will seriously infringe deep within the Green Belt. We have been told by the concerned dept that there is no plan to proceed further but we will keep paying attention.

11) NAME AND SYMBOL PROTECTION GROUP:
The mandate of the Name and Symbol Protection Group has been renewed. A meeting of members of the Name and Symbol Protection Group and the Working Committee took place with advocate Mohan in Chennai. As the name and symbol of Auroville have been protected under the Emblems and Names (Prevention of Improper Use) Act 1950, which specifically states that a protected name and symbol cannot be used as trademark, it was agreed to take corresponding action with the Registry of Trademarks.

12) HOUSE LATE DANIEL HUMBERT IN SHARNGA:
A police complaint has been filed against a person from the village who is illegally occupying the house stewarded by late Daniel Humbert in Sharnga and who has taken possession of his van.

13) OCI matters
Holders of OCI cards are advised to visit https://ociservices.gov.in to keep updated on the rules and regulations around OCI matters and passport changes.
The Working Committee
(Carel, Mandakini, Partha, Ranjith, Saura)

GREEN GROUP MONTHLY REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2019

- SUPPORT FOR LAND PURCHASE
The Green Group has written to the FAMC and Land Board to support the purchase of 15 acres of available land at the back of Siddhartha Lake farm. This is rice farming land with good water access necessary for Auroville’s future food security.

- ABRI PROJECT
this project continues to develop and anyone interested in stewarding a space there should contact the Green Group. ABRI is in the hands of the Forest Group and anyone wanting to have their activity there should have some connection with and cultivate the spirit of ‘green’ or forest activities.

- LAND DATA BASE
the Green Group supports the setting up of one centrally maintained and verified land data base for all the groups which need this information. The Group has written to the relevant groups requesting this be set up as soon as possible.

- LAND ENCROACHMENT
the Green Group was alerted to the issue of land encroachment at Red Earth Riding School which is not being addressed. A further letter has been sent and help from the group offered to deal with the problem.

- KK FARM
various issues about land use have been raised, some of which are long standing and relate to the farm having part of its land in the industrial Zone. It was agreed that the TDC should be asked for their short term and long term plans for this area. In the light of that there will be a meeting on the land of all interested parties.

- CHOLLAI FARM
a visit was made to the farm on February 5th by three members of the Green Group in response to a request from the Farm Group about unauthorized building. It was found 51 square metres of unauthorized building work has taken place. One suggestion for a right response was that those doing the building should be asked to pay compensation to the Housing Board. The amount to be set according to the area being built without permission and the money to go to the Housing Service fund to help people without money pay for their houses. It was thought this radical proposal needed more discussion in the Green, Farm and Forest groups.

- HOUSING BOARD
three members of the Green Group attended a meeting of the Housing Board on February 14th. It was mutually agreed that the allocation of housing grants will be decided by the Farm and Forest groups which will be passed via the Green Group to the Housing Board. The Housing Board requested that both Farm and Forest groups each set up a process for creating a housing repair fund from which they would be responsible for allotting the money. The Green Group representative Vivek took up his position on the Housing Board.

- HEALTHY CASHEW NETWORK
The Healthy Cashew Network is an informal group of people interested in all aspects of promoting healthy growing of cashew and eradicating pesticide spraying in Auroville and the surrounding area. They requested the Green Group be their ‘umbrella group’ under which they can open a FS account to receive grants and the money they raise to fund their activities. Green Group agreed on the basis that they do not become a commercial organization and find some way of enabling GST for any sales made.

- EQUALITY HOUSING
Marriapann wants site permission to build a house near Equality community. Two members of the Green Group agreed to visit the site since it appears to be close to a water shed.

If you have comments or would like more information please contact Priya (GG coordinator) greengroup@auroville.org.in.

Green Group members are Cristo, David (Aurodam), Fabian, Yuval, Enea, Jeff, Vivek, Iyendar, Gowri.

FOREST GROUP MEETING
Baraka 01st MARCH 2019
PRESENT: Manolo, Pujaseer (notes) (both Youth Centre/Bliss Forest), Rita, Philippe (both Centrefield), Marti, Kannyaponn, Fabian (both Pitchandikulam), D. Segar, T. Saga, Vinny (Hermitage), Alex, Sandeep (both Fertile), Natalie, Quentin (both Revelation), Lawrence, Alyona (Darkali), Island (Minati), Eric (Baraka), Thananajayan, P. Elumalai (Bliss), David (Aurodam), Ambre (Nilatangam), Christoph (Anusuya) (Bliss Forest), Diego (Samriddhi), Shivajal (Martuvan), Hans (Abri), Iyendar, Ramani, Edzard (Discipline), Boobalan (Siddhartha Forest)

Topics discussed:
- Pterocarpus Marsupium seeds
David from Aurodam announced that he will have seeds available in three weeks
- Road Service
Island is pursuing ways to collaborate with the Road Service when required in regards to tree establishment and management. No official collaboration is currently in place.
- New book on Eco villages
Marti informed that Findhorn Community has published a book “Eco Villages around the World” which is available now. If interested, please contact her.
- Revelation
Natalie proposed to build places for new comers wanting to stay in forest and helping with forest work during their new comer period.
Hans (Abri Forest) informed about his first meetings as representative of the Forest Group to the BCC. He mentioned that Income and Expenditure of Forest Group Maintenance are being reviewed.

- **Green Group**
  
  Fabian updated and informed about some recent work of the Green Group:
  - Green Group reps met with the Housing Board. In this meeting it was proposed that in future requests for Housing Grants for repair of assets in Green areas should be discussed first in either Farm or Forest Group and then be forwarded to the Housing Board.
  - Green Group was asked by the TDC to look at the site application for two houses on a plot of land between Mango Garden and Equality near Kottakarai. Four reps visited the land - a triangular shaped plot densely overgrown with native species and next to the canyon - and came to the opinion that this piece should remain in its present state to form a green lung in this area and to protect the water. For more info, please see the Green Group monthly report. The above has been communicated to the TDC. Forest Group supports this decision and recommends that Segar (Equality) will take over the stewardship of this small green patch as it is just opposite his house.

- **Protection of the Green Belt**
  
  Philippe informed that Tine from Aurogreen is concerned about the fast development around green belt and asks the forest group for help as well as to look into the matter.

- **Protection status**
  
  - Edzard mentioned the need for protection status for all the land to the West of the Pondicherry Tindivanam highway (Hermitage, Sadhana Forest, Aranya) and Fund for the same.
  - He is also looking for a big Tree Root for work purpose.
  - He has asked for waiver for forest group Guest Houses.

- **Presentation by Giulio (AV Water Group & CSR Geomatics Studio)**
  
  Rain patterns have changed in recent times: data show that rain events are less frequent, but more intense: this means that a bigger volume of rain falls in a certain amount of time, while before less volume was falling in the same amount of time.
  
  The rise in intensity might create runoff higher than expected. Knowing that groundwater level is depleting at an alarming rate, additional measures need to be taken up in order to abstract less water from the ground, and build a more resilient system.
  
  A proposed solution is to use the traditional way of harvesting rain water in ponds, with the aim of storing water in addition to less water from the ground, and build a more resilient system. After a number of years of poor monsoons, a water scarcity crisis extraction of groundwater by the surrounding wells.
  
  The shift for incorporating percolation and retention is needed due to the extremely high number of borewells tapping into the same aquifer we are tapping into: Auroville cannot have any control on the wells developed on non-Auroville lands, and all conservation efforts done in the past can be nullified due to.
  
  After a number of years of poor monsoons, a water scarcity crisis is looming upon us all: actions are to be taken immediately in order to evaluate the potential of capturing and storing the runoff which otherwise will be lost to the sea. The potential is obviously higher in urban areas, a study of which has already started. Nothing is known about non-urban areas, therefore a detailed topographic survey is proposed for the area of Baraka to have information and understand if it makes sense to develop retention ponds structures, or not.
  
  It is stressed that the importance of percolation comes into play over retention when the hundred year rains occur as no retention ponds, however big, will then be able to retain all the water falling and it is then that the aquifers can be significantly replenished.

- **Siddharta Forest**
  
  The Forest group has agreed for Saranraj and Neetha Jothi to have a 5 year housing agreement with the steward (currently Boobalan).

- **A general warning of the danger of Forest Fires was issued**
  
  The next Forest Group meeting will be on Friday, 5th April at Aurodom kitchen. The Forest Group.

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**IMPORTANT: from the RESIDENT SERVICE**

Dear Residents,

We would like to ask every resident who is going abroad to consider the passport and visa validity date before booking the ticket. The visa extension process from the beginning to end takes a minimum of one month. During the process you cannot leave the country.

We would like to bring to everyone’s attention that we are only 3 members working in the Residents Service office to deal with 3050 residents with all kinds of matters which include 1690 visa holders.

Please consider these facts and be on time for your visa renewal.

Thank you for your understanding.

The Auroville Residents Service Team

**Community Gathering: Saturday 23rd and Sunday 24th of March**

**What are you here for? What are we here for?**

Dear friends, we invite you to gather for one and a half days to reassess our present and aspire collectively towards our future.

**WHY?**

Currently, our collective organization is mainly working on a fire fighting modus. There is an increasing lack of interest to actively participate in our collective life. The gap between the working groups and the community as a whole is widening.

We feel a lack of togetherness; there are fewer realms and occasions where we experience the joy of being one. Meanwhile, outside threats are lurking on our halfway dreams more and more. For these reasons it would be useful to wake up collectively, express and listen to one another in a deeper manner.

Can we move out of this twilight?

**WHAT?**

A gathering joyfully and deeply inspired by the truest sense of what we are and what we came here for. A space where we can share our concrete concerns and explore practical ideas to build a stronger and more faithful organization with a renewed sense of unity.

**HOW?**

Let us spend some time together on the 23rd and 24th of March. We will organize and facilitate the session, but...

Can you bring the content?

- Prepare all that matters to you and that you would like to share with everyone and develop at this occasion. We urge you to send us your thoughts at the following email address: studygroup-email@auroville.org.in.
- As a format, we foresee various small subgroups exploring different angles through focused discussions. We will organize on the spot your inputs but we can better anticipate if you send us what you would like to bring in.
- 2 days are good but not enough to secure a change: could we repeat the experience with an ever stronger aspiration?

Obviously, the answer belongs to all of us.

- Here are some of the questions that we thought of, just as appetizers... What are yours?
- What would inspire you to participate in Auroville’s collective organization?
- How is attachment to power, and lack of trust influencing our relation to Working Groups? How does it articulate with the sense of service?
- What is the way of making our consciousness of unity grow in us?

**Saturday March 23rd,**
from 9 am to 5 pm (lunch included!)
and **Sunday March 24th,**
from 9 am to 12:30 pm
at Unity Pavilion

**IMPORTANT: from the Residents’ Assembly Service & the Study Group on Organization.**

With Sincerity,

The Residents’ Assembly Service & the Study Group on Organization.

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New Human Resource Initiative
Dear Community,
A few of us who are interested in improving our human resource management in Auroville have started a new human resource initiative. We started as a task group under the Auroville Council and would like to develop a service (free) which would help individual Aurovilians and Newcomers who are looking for suitable work to find it; and to help Auroville units and services who are looking to fill positions to find the right individuals to step in.
We would like to invite any Aurovillian or Newcomer looking for work, and any unit or service looking to fill a position to contact us for assistance and we will do our best to help.
We can be reached at hr_hub@auroville.org.in.

FROM THE ENTRY SERVICE
NBN # 790 Dated: 18-03-2019
Our team is happy to recommend the following individuals as Aurovilians, Newcomers and Friends of Auroville, joining Auroville. Prior to Newcomer, Aurovilian and Friend of Auroville status confirmation, for Newcomers two weeks and for Aurovilians, Returning Aurovilians and Friends of Auroville one month window for community feedback. Kindly forward your support or grievances to entryservice@auroville.org.in.

NEWCOMERS ANNOUNCED:
Frederic LE COENT (French) Staying in Harmony and Working at Matrimandir Nursery.
Kibum LEE (Korean) Staying in Future school care taker house and Working at Future school & Kenji.
Mira JOSHI (Belgian) Staying in New Creation and Working at Auro Orchard.

CHILD OF NEWCOMER:
Hamin LEE (Korean) Born on 07/06/2003 (child of Kibum LEE).
Noor Shahzadi JOSHI (Belgian) Born on 23/09/2007 (child of Mira JOSHI).
Jasmeen Shahzadi JOSHI (Belgian) Born on 08/03/2012 (child of Mira JOSHI).

NEWCOMERS CONFIRMED:
Juan Andres PAPAGNO GAZMURI (Chilean) Staying in Kalpa and Working at AV Consulting.
Sathish MACHAKETU (Indian) AUROVILIAN ANNOUNCED:
Balvinder BANGA (British) Staying in Kalpana and Working at AV Consulting.

AUROVILIANS CONFIRMED:
Celine PERRoud (Swiss) Staying in Kalpana and Working at AV Consulting.
Ranjini SUNDIRAJ (Indian) AUROVILIANS ANNOUNCED:
Thamizselvi SOMASUNDARAM (Indian) FRIEND OF AUROVILLE ANNOUNCED:
Jose REMACLE (Belgian) Associated with SAIER educational and innovative activities.

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
* Newcomer kits will be given and received only on Tuesdays & Thursdays between 2:30 pm and 4:00 pm
Yours, The Entry Service
Human Resource Initiative team

FROM THE HOUSING SERVICE
Houses available for transfer:
Doré & John’s House - Madhuca Community: Plinth Area of 109.995 sq.m. Single standing two-Storyed Residential building build with combination of RCC structure & burnt brick walls plastered from inside and outside. Includes Living hall, office room, Kitchen, Toilet and a Portico. (available after 6 months) For more information e-mail to housing-transfer@auroville.org.in

Youth Housing:
If you are Aurovilian, between 20 and 35 years old, working for Auroville full time for at least 9 months and have no/limited funds for housing, you are welcome to apply for Youth Housing. Places in Youth Housing (Kriya and Humanescapes) are suitable for singles, couples and families. (No guarantees for immediate placement.)
For more information e-mail to housing@auroville.org.in

Houses available in housing projects:
1. From Sunship: Immediately available
   One office of 20 M2(First Floor) is available for transfer (*Contact louis@auroville.org.in for visit and more information)

2. Kalpana Housing Project:
The Kalpana project is completed. The residents have moved in since 15th December 2018. 4 units are still available.
   Fully equipped apartments with cupboards, equipped kitchen, bath room, fridge, hob, light, fan, solar back up system. Covered terrace for each apartment.
   For information and site visit contact: satyakam@auroville.org.in

Information on grants allotted for Aurovilians by Housing Board: Housing Board informs that there is no more grant available for housing extension.
Financial assistance is available only for repairs.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

“Let’s Play with the Diversities”
The aim of that special and unique event was to create more empathy towards so called “Diversities”. We started at 9 am from Solar Kitchen. The children from Auroville schools were very excited. It was a new experience for everybody: walking up to Town Hall sitting on wheelchairs! When they were asked to go to La Terrace to have a coffee or to go to the toilette, they immediately became aware of the architectonic barriers which prevented them to do both of the tasks.
Then, “the Walk” started: some were sitting, others were pushing, others tried to move the wheelchairs on their own as they wanted to get a better feeling how to go around in that condition. They took turns in sitting and pushing.
Once they reached Matrimandir, the children went to the accessible toilette how to move from a wheelchair to the toilette without falling down. They found it not so easy at all. Their walk went on...finally they reached the Town Hall.
At 10:30, the Lieutenant Governor of Puducherry Dr. Kiran Bedi arrived to inaugurate the Photos exhibition about “Accessibility and Architectonic Barriers” at the Town Hall entrance. After cutting the ribbon, it was a very relevant moment to accompany her around the exhibition. She was impressed by the arrangement and by the sentences here and there reminding the aim of creating accessibility to all and the suggestions given in order to achieve it. While she was observing a photo taken in Puducherry showing architectonic barriers, she mentioned the importance to understand and to respect the environment around us. After a while, she left thanking everybody.
Around 11 am, a play started. It was directed by Yatra with the participation of some Aurovilians too. It was a unique and special performance indeed! It was the story of Krishna who was always complaining about his life. His counselor Rosy, very tired of listening his complaints, took him to a special place: a restaurant run by differently able staff: the owner was a wheelchair user and the waiters and waitresses were blind. The customers were invited to get a blindfold to eat in the dark. The play turned to be very funny as the customers were not used to eat without seeing anything. Krishna fell down as he did not find the chair, then he poured water on the table, the food fell on his pants.

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This starting peer education network is intended to be a very important first level of support inside the community, discarding the bias that help needs to be provided only by experts or exemplary individuals. The network is still connected with the growing and developing groups of therapists and professionals in Auroville. These resources will be reached when peer educators recognize their own limitations in educational and interventional aspects and they will personally refer to trusted specialists.

The next steps for the Auroville Peer Education Network (APEN), consisting already of 32 trained people, are first, supporting the initial manifestations of these first two batches of peer educators’ interventions; second, training a third batch of peer educators in September; and third, after some months of supervised activity, offer a supplementary training to form trainers of peer educators in February 2020, so the network can reach even more beneficiaries.

If you would like to support this initiative, please donate to FS # 251048 description “APEN”. For more information please WhatsApp +91 8778312841 or email: youthlink@auroville.org.in

Juan Andrés for the APEN team

**Dog/cat sterilization in and around Auroville**

The HelpAnimals Project offers now dog and cat sterilisation for Auroville employees, and in this way is reaching out into the nearby villages with the efforts to get hold of the overpopulation of dogs / cats and as consequence its continuous influx of strays into Auroville.

*Dear Aurovilians, dear Auroville Unit and Auroville Service employees of this opportunity to get their dog or cat (male/ female) sterilized and vaccinated.* Please encourage them to contact us so that we can reach out to more animals.

For dogs/cats of Auroville employees there is a minimal contribution of Rs 300.- asked for each animal.

We need following information:
- Name, Village (precise address if possible), Name of Workplace in Auroville, Phone number, E-mail (if available)

Please send us a mail and we will forward the registration:
helpanimals@auroville.org.in, Phone: 9008141605.

You may also contact anyone of the operational team: Mirani, Dr. Kumar, Kannan or Megha.

Or you may use the form below and bring it filled to the Townhall Reception where it can be dropped into a designed box for the purpose:

```
Registration for dog/ cat Sterilization

Name:.................................................................
Village (precise address if there is)..........................
.................................................................

Name of workplace in Auroville:.........................

Phone number:................................................

Email, if available:..............................................

Please tick appropriate:
- Male dog
- Female dog
- Male cat
- Female cat

Date of registration:----------------------------------

Signature:......................................................
```

Please bring filled in slip to Townhall and deposit it in the box at the Reception Desk. You may also scan or make a photo and send it via email to helpanimals@auroville.org.in.

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**Second Auroville Peer Education Training**

From February 25th till the 3rd of March, 13 youngsters between 18 and 25 years old took the challenge of spending a whole week learning and experiencing a diverse range of topics in order to become peer educators for Auroville and the bioregion.

Peer educators are trained individuals that voluntarily take a more active role in a community by generating among their peers’ spaces for dialogue in sensitive issues, sharing crucial information for decision making, stimulating motivation for new attitudes and assisting in behavior-change processes. Peer educators also have the abilities to perform in informal settings or to create and deliver more structured sessions for specific contexts. In this training, these committed group learned techniques for interactive information sharing, exploring values and attitudes, motivating tools, working with vulnerable groups and building life skills among others. On top of that they learned and practiced specific techniques for theater based peer education. This way, they can create a safer setting for engaging audiences with sensitive topics without exposing any particular individuals.

So, it happened to Rosy and to other customers too. Krishna was so impressed by the easy happily working way of the staff that he did not dare to complain about his life anymore. It was an eye-opening experience which he will never forget. The play was concluded by a dance performed by three “blind” dancers. The audience enjoyed the play very much.

The event on 1st March was a real particular moment for the participants. They will keep a memory of “Let’s Play with the Diversities” in their hearts and minds forever. We warmly thank Rena, Swar, Veronique J. Veronese, Azhagappam Mani and Debu to have acted in the play with Yatra team.

With gratitude and love, Susmita and Piero Cefaloni

**Auroville International Youth Center (YC)**

- The Youth Center is a community where people live and where people can create events, educational workshops to support Youth learn and freely progress towards a conscious future.
- The aim of YC is to provide a diverse space for vocational training as well as create a space for social activities for youth to interact in Auroville.
- The primary beneficiaries of YC are Aurovillian and Newcomer youth but it has always been open to all youth who wish to participate productively in its development.
- The YC accommodates a team of 8-10 people and a large majority of Auroville attends its special events such as the annual Christmas Fair and larger festivals. Smaller crowds are drawn to attending the weekly Saturday Night Pizza, vocational training workshops, Farmers Market and community initiatives.
- We want to build a community where young people can temporarily live by nurturing their sense of responsibility, encourage self-discipline, use adapted community managing processes such as collective decision making tools, conflict resolution tools and team building frameworks.
- We welcome volunteers from all over the world to manifest its vision, exchange skills and discover Auroville (in collaboration with SAVI, Global Ecovillage Network among others) by creating a space and welcoming place for youth to co-create through gathering, sharing, playing, cooking and team building.
- We provide space, tools and mentors for youth to experiment; art, carpentry, bicycle repair, metal smith, sustainable building techniques, forestry, farming, cooking, Upcycling and any personal project that needs support.
- The YC Team welcomes you to join in co-creating; garden space (cactus/flowers/vegetable), forestry work with the stewards of the Bliss Forest with landscaping/planting/watering, farming in “Infinity” (a Youth Centre farming project), cooking and building projects... just look at the YC Blackboard and see what is going on!

Join us to help Madda at Infinity Farm every Tuesday and Thursday from 08:00 am to 11:30 pm.

All Volunteers are welcome to help us prepare for Pizza Night every Saturday morning from 10:00 am until 01:00 pm. Pizza Night - 07:00 pm to 09:00 pm.

Come join the fun! For the Youth that never age... The YC team.

[Note from Eds: Look under the sections: schedules, talks and presentations for detailed program.]

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**News&Notes 18 March 2019 [790]**
**Green Matters**

**Cleanup Auroville Community-Wide**

28 March, Thursday, 9-10 am

Please mark your calendars and phones for a special Auroville event in which everyone in Auroville is invited to do a one-hour cleanup of the public space in your area. Units, shops and schools are invited to step out and make Auroville litter-free. There are gloves, sacks, and help to transport the trash to EcoService if you are unable to arrange it. This campaign is supported by the various Zero Waste and Cleanup groups in Auroville. All can be done in coordination with EcoService but self-organization is needed. You will be reminded again closer to the cleaning moment but get ready.

*Waste-Free Auroville*

**Sunday Walk Farms & Forests**

Sunday 24 March at 4pm

Waste Water Treatment in Invocation with Gilles B

**Directions:** From Solar Kitchen (5 min) go straight, take a right turn at Kalpana/Humanscapes onto the Vikas Radial. On your left you see the Elephant Water tower, take a sharp left here and we’ll meet on the Invocation Parking Place at 4 pm.

**Background:** Reversing the looming water scarcity risk, will require to implement interventions for securing a stable water supply. A multi sourcing approach within an urban setting needs to be initiated; such an approach will include accurate data gathering, surveying, mapping, modelling and testing of the main available water sources, such as rain and storm water, ground water, recycled water, combined with the discipline of water saving and its efficient usage in all areas.

There are approximate 90 small scale waste water treatment systems WWT or dewatts operating within Auroville.

Small maybe beautiful but not always easy to provide the required maintenance and upgrading for so many spread-out treatment plants.

In 2016 L’Avenir initiated the start for implementing a larger volume treatment plant, channeling the waste water along the Vikas radial to a common treatment plant of 60 cub m/day.

The implementation was done with the collaboration of Auroville Road Service for the laying of the sewage pipes and CSR for the construction and installation of the prefabricated Ferro cement modules.

The treated water is available for all the connected communities, 8 at present, the left over volume will be stored and made available for usage in the Matrimandir area.

**Assistance:** 944 3469 330

**Water Talks - Let’s talk about water!**

Each Monday in the month of March, a member of the Water Group will dive into one aspect of water in an interactive and engaging presentation.

March 18: “Water usage through examples from the ancient city of Dholavira, Kutch region and Auroville”

March 25: “The Blessed Human Factor”

Please see the detailed schedule every week of this month under the “Talks” section and join us!

All talks are free of cost, but if you would like to support the on-going work of the Water Group, our FS# is 252000. Thank you!

*Water Group • www.aurovillewater.in*

**Talkin’Trash**

**PET bottles should not be reused...**

Did you know each plastic item should have its resin code printed on it? Usually, they are placed on the bottom or on the label of a plastic item. They enable to identify the type of plastic used to make the item. However, they do not indicate whether the plastic is recyclable or not. You can, however, use them to learn which types of plastics are being recycled by the Eco Service in Auroville. #1 PET is one of those. There are 7 different codes. Here is how they are presented: Resin code 1 is represented by the acronym PET, PETE, Polyester. To be considered a resin code, they must have the chasing arrow triangle with either the number or the acronym included. What’s made of this type of plastic? Mineral water or soft drink bottles, plastic jars, polyester fiber made into clothing (football, jersey or fleece jacket) and sleeping bags.

**Information 1:** Plastic with resin code 1 should be used only once. They are not designed to be reused. If they are used more than once, chemicals which are not good for your health may leak into your drinks. So, USE SINGLE USE PLASTIC BOTTLES ONLY ONCE.

**Information 2:** If you leave your bottle in the sun or another hot place (e.g. in your car), the chemical additives, used to give PET plastic its specific properties, are more likely to migrate into your drinks. Be careful, as they can be harmful to you!

**SOLUTION:** How to avoid PET bottles? Use very safe materials like stainless steel bottles, glass bottles, copper bottles (very good for health according to Ayurveda!), terracotta bottles, ceramic bottles. No chemicals can leak into your water/drinks using these materials. Use them over and over. Save money. Save the planet. Save...your own health!

**Source:** know plastics booklet by WasteLess

**Updates from the Healthy Cashew Network**

Spraying of chemical pesticides on cashew trees is occurring throughout the Auroville area, on fields not owned by Auroville. The cashew spray season continues into April.

**Information for Auroville residents**

“Spray Alert” WhatsApp group:

Residents report when and where they notice pesticides are being applied in the Auroville area. This will help you and your family keep out of the way of these poisons as much as you can. If you want to take advantage of this please join the group via this link https://chat.whatsapp.com/ErpUeLtG1YgLX9La2aIBJC or contact Marc, WhatsApp +49 2873 1028 or email us to be added.

You can also view regular updates on spraying on the map: http://cashewnetwork.auroville.org/

An ‘odourless’ pesticide is known to be available in recent times, so you cannot always rely on smell for detection. Wearing a special mask for pollutants helps to reduce exposure.

In our experience Okoubaka is a homeopathic remedy which has proven helpful to many and is available at Integral Health Prayatna and through homoeopathy practitioners.
It is not always easy to know if symptoms and physical discomforts are definitely connected to a spraying. We suggest that when you suspect a reaction to exposure (taste, headache, dizziness, weakness, sweating, breathing difficulty, etc.) remain calm and do the needful. With detached observation, you will recognize when these chemicals have moved in and out of your area.

Healthy Cashew Network cannot at this time provide a chart of the duration of toxic levels for humans in the immediate area after spraying. We can provide a list of chemicals known to be used in Auroville and a chart of their effects on creatures and earth. Rough Guide on Pesticides https://auroville.org.in/article/69109, please contact us if you do not have access to Auronet and we can send you this guide.

Database/community cashew processing: We are also starting a database for cashew harvests in AV and looking to link up for organic processing. If you or if you know any individuals or communities who are growing and harvesting organic cashews (even if it is the smallest amount) in this Auroville area we can help with logistics for organizing a group run for a trusted organic cashew processor, please write to us!

The Healthy Cashew Network is an initiative by the community for the community (in the widest sense). Our efficiency depends on participation. Please contact us if you are motivated to help! With Love and gratitude,

Healthy Cashew Network - working towards a safe and pesticide-free Auroville. healthycashewnetwork@auroville.org.in

Anandi, Helena, Jasmin, Nikethana, Marc, Patricia, Priya and Verena.

Kids Talk Trash: Plastic Patrol

Weekly White Tigers

We, the White Tigers, 6th graders of Transition School, went on a field trip to the Ecoservice concerning a project on Plastic Trash. With the help of Palani and Kali we learned to sort our plastic waste and learned a lot. The 21 students of our class collected our plastic trash from home over a period of 1 week and brought 244 pieces of plastic items! Now prepare yourselves to hear (read) that only 42% was recyclable and will end up in a landfill! NO MORE EXCUSES! REDUCE YOUR PLASTICS! You will hear more from us soon.

Sincerely,

The White Tigers.

Roots - Cultivate a garden in Thy Heartland

On the first Saturday in March, we journeyed to Sarah’s home garden, picked veggies, herbs, flowers and wild “weeds” and prepared a feast which culminated in a no-bake pumpkin pie that we savored while sitting on the ground. (Recipes and pics here and video to come in a few weeks.) Sarah said each of us can grow such a garden and the nature provides us bountiful food all year round. So early morning on Friday 8 March, we met with Nina, author of Edible Weeds and Naturally Growing Plants in Auroville, and spent over 1.5 hours around Town Hall discovering some of these edible “weeds”. Well, we may not notice them, but they are adaptive and resilient, and Mother has given names, are highly adaptive and resilient, and Mother has given spiritual names to some of the flowers, like “Harmony” - its roots, leaves & flowers are edible (flowers & young leaves raw + cooked, roots cooked). They have good nutritional and medicinal values, some are part of local diet, while others remain largely unused.

When we turn our eyes and consciousness to what is growing here and what we can bring to our table, what actually grows is the feeling and faith in our hearts, that Mother Nature, and The Mother, provides more than enough for Her children, including but far more than food.

Next, we would like to self-organize a potluck with Auroville/locally-grown food in late March. If you have a venue or offer, please contact Anandi Zhang: anandizhang@auroville.org.in ; WhatsApp: +918940285201.

Roots team (Anandi Z, Bindu & Sheetal)

MOBILITY IN AUROVILLE: Essentials

- City Shuttle
  Quick “Pick up and Drop” Shuttle Service within the city area or nearby, free of charge, operating with 2 EV vehicles (quiet electric 7 seater vans) and 1 petrol 4 seater for special needs.
  Where: Visitors Center Main Gate or on call.
  When: daily 9.30am to 6pm.
  How: call landline (best) 0413-262-2611 or 9487650951 (driver).

- Cycle Kiosk at Solar Kitchen area
  We repair and maintain all types of bicycles, as a community service. Bike parts to full servicing at minimal costs. Free air!
  Where: Opposite PTDC/Foodlink/Solar Kitchen in Prosperity Area.
  When: Monday to Saturday: 9am to 4:30pm.
  How: drop in. Contact Phone Chris O.: 8940115240.

- Cycles and children car seats rentals
  Where: Vehicle Service, Town Hall.
  When: Monday - Saturday from 9am to 12.30 and 2.30 to 5pm.
  How: Contact avvehicle@auroville.org.in or Phone: 0413-2623302, Mobile: 9443074825.

- Electric bicycles for rent at Kinisi:
  Where: at CSR compound (see MAP).
  When: Monday-Saturday from 9am-5pm.
  How: book online at http://kinisi.in, or email kinsis@auroville.org.in or call +91 8300466079 / +91 8300466080 / +91 4132622277.

- Integrated Transport Services (ITS)
  Electric vehicle rental, shared taxi services, local pick up & drop services, delivery services and vehicle repairs. NEW! Evening Electric Shuttle Service & Shuttle Service to Chennai.
  Where: opposite Solar Kitchen.
  When: Monday-Saturday from 9am-5pm.
  How: Phone: 0998776644 | 9442566256 l 9840983080. its@auroville.org.in, http://its.auroville.org.in/.

- Visitors’ Center - Bicycle Rental
  Daily/Weekly/Monthly rates.
  Where: Available from the Kiosk, Near Dosi Corner/Dreamer’s.
  When: 9.30am - 5pm.
  How: Contact: 0413-262-3034.

Auroville Accessible Bus Schedule

The current Accessible Auroville Public BUS schedule (for Pondy and Srima beach trips) is always available at www.auroville.org/content/3988.

Contact: avbus@auroville.org.in.

POSTINGS

Tamil Corner

Riddles - Vidukathai (விடுகதை)
Continuing our tradition, we submit the riddle for this month. See below:

I have four legs
And two hands
I am always sitting
And I give place for Others to sit.
Who am I?

Crack you brains, pull your hair or simply subscribe to vaasal at tamil@auroville.org.in for the answers! Happy riddling!

Upcycling Studio on the Move

Upcycling Studio is moving to a new location.

Before this happens, there will be a good opportunity to have some items from the collection from 16 to 25 March (bags, hats, notebooks, fish, cushions, lampshades and more) at a very good price, especially for Aurovilians.

Please contact Ok: 9344002972 (only from 16 to 25 March)

News&Notes 18 March 2019 [790]
**Ongoing admissions for Isai Ambalam School**

Isai Ambalam School is an Auroville outreach school near Alankuppam following CBSE syllabus (with NESS). The school will cater to children from Creche (3 years) to 8th grade. The children will continue further education in NESS. We request all unit holders to encourage the staff they work with to send their children to this Auroville outreach school. The school also welcomes children in the age group be it Aurovilian, Newcomer or long-term Guests. We follow alternative schooling methodology including real-life EBDs grounded in values and provide children a rich opportunity to grow holistically. Our children have also done well in the mainstream. Please look up the school blog to know the latest happening at the school: tinyurl.com/iaschool/

Please write to the school (isaiambalamschool@auroville.org.in) or to Sanjeev (sanjeev.r@auroville.org.in) or call Ravi (8940434614) for admission.

**From Auroville Institute of Applied Technology**

Auroville Institute of Applied Technology is offering in collaboration with TNSDC the following free courses of 3 to 5 months duration for residents of Tamil Nadu to enhance employability of the unemployed youth with skills. Candidates who are either drop-outs or unemployed are eligible to take the benefit of these courses.

- **Accounting Assistant with Tally**: eligible are 10th pass and above candidates;
- **Domestic Electrician**: eligible are 10th failed candidates;
- **Arc Welding**: eligible are 10th failed candidates;
- **Mechanical**: eligible are 10th failed candidates;
- **Electrical**: eligible are 10th failed candidates;
- **AutoCAD**: eligible are 10th failed candidates;
- **Computerised Bookkeeping**: eligible are 10th failed candidates.

Admission is now open. The courses will begin from 2 May 2019.

For more information, contact Auroville Institute of Applied Technology. Phone: 04132671758 or 8903166923

**Auroville Film Festival**

Submissions are now open for the next Auroville Film Festival! Please fill out the submission form on the AVFF website: http://filmfestival.auroville.org/submissions/avff-2020/. The festival will take place from 7th January to 12th January of 2020. For any queries, please email at aurovillefilmfestival@auroville.org.in.

The 3 categories are:

- **Films made by Aurovilians, bioregion residents or guests of Auroville**: We welcome films on any theme by Aurovilians, neighbours of Auroville, and by guests of Auroville (if the guest made the film during their visit to Auroville).
- **Films made about Auroville/bioregion**: If you have made a film about Auroville or its neighborhood, we will screen it in the festival in this category.
- **Films made by students of Auroville/bioregion**: Any student of an Auroville School or an Auroville Outreach School may enter their film in this category. School students who are living around Auroville may also enter films into the festival even if they do not study in an Auroville School or in an Auroville Outreach School. These films can have any theme.

**Note from AV emergency services**

We wish to inform the community that a team of 8 members from AV Ambulance and AVSST (Auroville Safety and Security Team) have qualified recently as First Responders under the guidance of Team Leader Alok Mallick, Advanced Paramedic and Instructor of American Health Association (AHA).

As you have probably observed in the recent months, both these services work closely together. During an emergency the AVSST member who is also First Responder reaches site and is followed by the Ambulance if necessary. Please cooperate with First Responders on site to enhance efficiency of the work of the teams. Warmly, Auroville Ambulance and AVSST

**Tibetan Doctor**

This is to your kind information that the Tibetan doctor Tsering Youdon and the team of Chennai based Tibetan Medical Center Men-tse-khang are visiting us on the Friday 22nd for full day and Saturday the 23rd as half day. To get an appointment, you are requested to send an email to bodkhang97@gmail.com or call at 9413 2622401. The consultation is happening at Pavilion of Tibetan Culture International Zone Auroville. Thank you, Kalsang

**EATING OUT**

**Naturellement closed on Panguni Uthiram**

Dear community, Naturellement and Garden cafe will be closed on Wednesday 20th for Panguni Uthiram. From Naturellement team

**SPORTS**

**Women Kabaddi Tournament 2019**

Second women Kabaddi tournament hosted by Auroville Village Action Group

23rd March, Saturday
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Venue: Auroville Village Action Group,
Irumbai Main Road Opp. TNEB Sub-station, Irumbai

As a part of the Women’s Day Celebration, AVAG organizes womans’ kabaddi tournament. More than twenty teams from villages around Auroville are eligible to participate. The players are members of the Udhayam Federation supported by AVAG.

All Are Welcome!
Contact: 0413-2678871, +91 9443659885 - avag@auroville.org.in

**HEALTH**

**Santé Schedule Now Online on our Website**

You can find our Santé Therapists’ Monthly Schedule at this link.

**MATTRAM Online Website**

Centre for Psychological Development and Support, link.

**THANK YOU**

Cheers to Nadia and Frederick: Thanks to Nadia and Frederick for inviting all Auroville to a family celebration of their marriage in Certitude. I felt they wanted all of us to share their love. B William Sullivan

**WORK OPPORTUNITIES**

Facilitators: Do you enjoy working with children? Then, Transformation Daycare is the place for you! We are looking for two facilitators that would enjoy volunteering with us over the summer months and maybe even longer. **Timings are Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-12:30 pm. Accommodation could be provided in our guest house (with swimming pool!) for the summer months, eventually longer. If interested, please send us a mail at: transformationdaycare@auroville.org.in.**
Greetings Auroville...

Dear All,

AurovilleRadioTV is continuing its journey! While we are defining our new editorial structure, we keep covering the main events happening in Auroville. If you want to be part of the adventure, come and join us!

It’s very simple to collaborate with AurovilleRadioTV: call 0413-2623331 or email radio@auroville.org.in, or simply pop by at the studio at the Town Hall ground floor!

Please see below the latest programs published by AurovilleRadioTV team this week:

**Beema bamboo production explained by Dr. Barathi (audio)**

Confluences Presentation: re-imaging Univers-City (audio)

A Vision for a Sustainable Economy - Shit to Gold (audio)

Yoga Nidra radio programme - Session 6 (audio)

Youth C. Night School: Understanding the Working Groups and our Organisation (audio)

Jean Marie Baron interview (audio)

Feldenkrais Method radio programme Session 4 (audio)

Synthesis of Yoga Chapter 4, Third Part (audio)

Interview with Uma from Upasana (video)

Une série hebdomadaire de lectures par Gangalakshmi (en Français) - 293 (audio in French)

Confluences Presentation: five case studies of learning programs in Auroville (audio)

You can listen to all of the programs and more on aurovilleradio.org. Check out our Facebook and Tweeter pages.

COME AND JOIN THE COLIBRI PROJECT

Have you heard about the Colibri Project? It’s a new collaborative program to give voices to people we don’t usually hear about. Maybe you, or someone you know, made a small change which had an effect on someone or something. It could be any small steps for your environment, community, family or just yourself. We are convinced that Auroville is made of these stories and we would love to hear them. If you don’t want to be recorded, or want to remain anonymous, don’t worry, just tell us the story and we will find the best way to share it! Thank you in advance for sharing with us. Contact us by email at Claire.soustiel@gmail.com or just pop up at the radio in the Town Hall.

Your AurovilleRadioTV team

World Poetry Movement

We are happy to announce that Auroville joined the World Poetry Movement on the 24th February 2019 at SAWCHU-Bharat Nivas for: “A World Without Walls”. 410 Cities in the World and 1000 people participated. We had Mime, Poets in Different Languages, Handpan music and more... Submitted by Anandi.

The Aura Going Moneyless

The Aura, Auroville’s one and only legal alternative to money, is transforming its fiscal status as of March 31, 2019. The Aura first issued on 20/11/2011 has maintained its superior strength against the Euro and the Dollar for the last eight years. Its rate of exchange with the rupee has remained absolute at 100 rupees to one Aura while the Euro/Dollar has fluctuated from 60-80. The Aura also maintained its freedom to have its value in terms of cash, goods, or services determined by the users in any transaction. Now, it is no longer responsible to associate the Aura with any currency since the International Monetary Fund (IMF) will sooner rather than later collapse.

The Aura began as a risk-free medium of exchange that could be redeemed at the Financial Service at its rate of exchange if needed. That guarantee expires at the end of this financial year March 31, 2019. Any holders of Auras may exchange them for rupees until this date. As of April 1st, the Aura becomes gift-economy, free of any links to IMF currencies, subject only to conditions freely accepted or supported by its users. After April 11th, anyone may request the gift of auras from bgr@ful@auroville.org.in to be used for abundance and prosperity.

Thanks to Anandi (Satchitanda Raw Food Restaurant) and Krishna (Solitude) who used the first auras, and to Kristin and others who promoted it, and to Otto who tolerated it... Unending education. We now take another step... B For the Aura.

ACCOMMODATIONS

**Needed**: Hello, I am Simon and volunteering at Svaram till the end of July. I am now searching for an accommodation/ housesitting with A/C (because for me it’s getting very hot). At the moment I am living in Doucer. Can anyone help me out? I would move in from now before the end of April and would stay maximum till the end of July. Maybe we are also 2 people to live together, but not sure yet from the other side. So, a 2 person flat is also fine. Contact details: (WhatsApp, Message or Call) simon.zimmermann@auslandsdienst.at or 7094290587.

**Available**: Dear community, I am a Newcomer staying in Courage Community and I am looking for a house-sitter (single/couple or also small family) starting on March 25th till July 1st. We have a lovely small size dog to take care of. Please send email to: Alessandra.Silver.in@gmail.com or call: +918098362620. Thanks, Alessandra.

AVAILABLE

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

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

Enfield Bullet 350 for sale. In good shape and condition with TN registration. Year 09/2011. contact: Francisco 9159676139 or francisco@auroville.org.in

Kitchen Item: A Green Chef Mixer Grinder 600Watt, almost new bought on 3rd January this year and used twice. What’s App or SMS to 9443035469 if interested, Elizabeth

Queen-size mattress: In a few weeks’ time I have available a really good, pukka Peps Restonic mattress, 197cm x 145cm x 6cm. I only let go of it as I’ll be moving to a smaller place and will have a smaller bed. Some compensation is appreciated. Get in touch, Mauno 9443168323

Programmers: techies needed to help in implementing an application (web/database/wiki), either off the shelf or new, for various projects with SEA (Social Entrepreneur Association). Some compensation available. Please contact Ivan @ WhatsApp +507 6392 5423 or ivan@communityearth.org. Namaste

Various positions: TDC is looking for active participants for the following positions:

- Project Manager
- Financial Consultant
- Data Analyst
- Content Writer
- Secretary - must have command over English, have basic computer skills, be able to take minutes of meetings, prepare report etc.
- Receptionist

Those fulfilling the above requirements and have the appropriate qualifications may apply to avenir@auroville.org.in with complete CV and work experience.

TDC Interface Team

(Anita, Pino, Selvam, Srimoyi, Sreevatsa, Tejaswini)
LOOKING FOR...

Computer monitor: I need a computer monitor to continue my training in 3D computer-assisted design. My laptop screen alone is not optimal for this work. I need a second screen. If any kind person has a screen which does not use, and feel like giving it or sell it for a small price it could be great for me Thank you Francisco, contact: francisco@auroville.org.in or 9159676139

Laptop: Dear all, please check if you have a spare laptop for Roof studio. My last ThinkPad unfortunately recently died. Ivana, 7094344154, ivana@auroville.org.in

Men bicycle: I am urgently looking for a Men bicycle with gear, for a small contribution if it is possible, if you want give me by free am very happy, Parthippan working in New Pour Tous at Solar kitchen, Contact: 8098740882 - parthippanbalana.34@gmail.com.

Men bicycle: I am urgently looking for a Men bicycle with gear, for a small contribution if it is possible, if you want give me by free am very happy, Parthippan working in New Pour Tous at Solar kitchen, Contact: 8098740882 - parthippanbalana.34@gmail.com.

Sofa, table and 2 shelves. We are a family of four and just settled in a flat, where we would need a table for our son to do his homework, a sofa for the living room and two shelves for the kids' rooms. If anyone has these items and is not using them anymore, we would be happy to buy them from you. Greetings from Humility. Contact: Elke elkehjauroville.org.in

LOST & FOUND

Spectacles found: My name is Roshita. I am a volunteer working in Studio Naqshbandi, Auroville. Today, I found spectacles with black rectangular frame on the mud road leading from Town hall to Solar kitchen (near Grace community). The spectacles have been handed over to Tulasi in Solar Kitchen.

TRAVEL

Latest News from Inside India

We have shifted our Travel Services to Kalpana Jearaj and Ganesh will be available from 10am to 1pm and from 1:30 to 6 pm

Latest offers from International Airlines: Jet Airways has offers to Europe destinations they partner with Air France & KLM. Emirates has offers to selected destinations in Europe. Qatar Airways has special offers to Europe. Etihad Airways has special offers to Europe & USA. Oman Airways has special offers to Europe.

Please check with us in advance regarding flight schedules & baggage policies of airlines.

International Flight Tickets/International Hotel booking: 0413-2622078, travelshop@auroville.org.in.

Domestic Flight Tickets /Trains/Bus/Travel Insurance: 0413-2623030, domestic@insideindia.com.

Tours and Domestic Hotel booking: 0413-2622078, insideindia@auroville.org.in.

TV, screen: I’m looking for a TV screen in good condition, preferably around 32 inch. Arun 9585749501

TAXI SHARING

Auroville service of taxi sharing available with ITS at: http://sharedtransport.auroville.org/ (an initiative by earthBus).

18th March: leaving for Chennai airport in the evening. My flight is at 1:30 in the morning. Please contact me through WhatsApp at 9843930178. Ongkie

19th March: leaving AV at 08:30 in the morning. Sharing to/from the airport. Theresa: theresa.grantham@gmail.com, ph. no.: 9442270639

20th March: Leaving AV around 3 p.m. to go to Tiru. 22 March: Leaving Tiru late afternoon to go back to AV. Giovanni: Email giovanniparrillo@hotmail.com or WhatsApp +393288181300

22nd March: Looking for people to share taxi to Chennai airport on the 22/03 - starting around 4am, arriving around 7am at the airport. Contact: Karolina +91 8847837737, what’sapp: +91 6079228383. Thank you, Karolina.

27th March: Leaving AV at 9 p.m. to go to Chennai airport. Taxi sharing possible both ways. Giovanni: Email giovanniparrillo@hotmail.com or WhatsApp +393288181300

31st March: Leaving Auroville Center Field at 3 pm to Chennai airport. Contact Elisabetta 6385629106

13th April: Leaving for Chennai Airport at 1 am on April 13th and coming back on April 26th 2019 from Chennai to Auroville at 9 am. If someone wants to share a taxi, feel free to contact me by WhatsApp: +33669764109. Thanks. Hélène.

Week’s Happenings

There are 2 useful online calendars of events in Auroville: Online Auroville Events Calendar - (no need to log in for guests! - just scroll down the page) The schedule of events for the week can be accessed by all, including Guests and Visitors, on the Auronet login page: www.auroville.org.in.

Auroville Art Service: artservice.auroville.org/calendar/

AT THE MATRIMANDIR

***Please note the change of timings from 7 March***

AMPHITHEATRE - MATRIMANDIR

Meditation with Savitri

Every THURSDAY - 6 to 6.30 pm [weather permitting]

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

Reminder to all: The Park of Unity is a place for silence, meditation and inner work and is to be used only as such. We request everyone: please No Photos and do not to use your cell phones, cameras, i-pads, etc.

Dear Guests, please carry your Guest Card with you - No photos there.

Access only for the Amphitheatre from 5.45 pm

Please be seated by 5.55 pm, no late entry. Thank you. Amphitheatre Team.

Matrimandir Gardens invites you to an “Ideas Festival” for present and future gardens.

Two evenings, March 23-24 from 4.00 -7.00 pm

Program includes review of four built gardens and offerings & expressions for new gardens of Light, Life, Power and Wealth at Unity Garden, Matrimandir.

INVITATIONS

The Learning Community fundraising dinner

Dear Community, The Learning Community (TLC) is organizing a fundraising dinner on Friday 29th March at 6.45 p.m. in Base Camp.

The kids will be happy to treat you with different cuisines from around the world, created in our kitchen or donated by supporting Auroville units. Tickets will be sold at lunchtime in Solar Kitchen, PTDC and Visitors Center on the 16th and 23rd of March. You can also book via email: empowerTLCav@gmail.com Minimum contribution: 300 Rs per person (150 Rs for kids under ten and 1000 Rs for a family ticket). The proceeds of the event will go towards furthering our Integral Learning journey. Yummy food and quiet live music. Please come and support, With much love and gratitude, TLC Fundraising team
**EXHIBITIONS**

**Badrinath and Mana**
*Photos by Franz Fassbender*

12th March to 30th April
Aurelec Cafeteria & Art Galerie
Open from 8 am to 5 pm

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**VAST: programmed at Festival des Francophonies at Pondicherry**
After the great success of their new creation VAST at Sri Aurobindo auditorium, Bharat Nivas in February (more than 1500 people came, Aurovilians and guests), Surya performance lab, Thierry, Gopal, Philippe, Barbara are happy to invite you to Pondicherry. They will perform VAST on the 22nd of March at 7:30 pm as part of the Festival des Francophonies at Alliance Française de Pondichéry, 58 rue Suffren.

Surya performance lab is happy to work under Auroville art service and to share this contemporary dance theater performance inspired by Sri Aurobindo and the Mother. For this creation, they collaborated with Ritam and Svaram. VAST is the story of a young man from Nepal who is forced into exile into a big Indian city. Beyond oppression he tries to find in his body a path to his Himalaya. A story of reconnection with Nature and Vastness.

Performers: Thierry Moucazambo and Gopal Dalami  
Direction and choreography: Philippe Pelen  
Musical composition: Varun and Nadia (from Svaram)  
Light design: Ashwin Ezhumalai  
Sound technician: Suresh Ravi

For more information:  
suryaperformancelab@auroville.org.in  
www.surya-performance-lab.com  
www.facebook.com/VAST.DANCE.THEATRE.PERFORMANCE/  
https://in.ambafrance.org/Festival-des-francophonies-de-Pondichery-2019

Alliance Française de Pondichéry:  
communication.afpondy@auroville.org.in  
The Festival des francophonies is from 21st to 24th March 2019

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**ANNUAL REPORT**

A photo exhibition by Lisbeth

Saturday 2nd until 29th March 2019
Open daily 8 am-12 and 2 pm-6pm, closed on Sunday.

Pitanga Cultural Centre, Samasti.  
(0413) 2622403/2622994  
Pitanga@auroville.org.in

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***Extended until 23 March***

**Bharatnivas Invites you to experience:**

Art Works exhibited by Former Students of Sri Aurobindo International Center of Education (SAICE - Pondicherry).
Kalakendra Art Gallery Space, Bharat Nivas  
9am to 7:30 pm (open on Sundays).

For more info: bharatnivas@auroville.org.in
Mother’s Symbol Exhibition
with translations of Her Powers (or virtues, qualities…) in 22 languages
International Space, Bharat Nivas (Indian Space next to Sri Aurobindo Auditorium)
This exhibition started on 28 January on the occasion of the 2019 International Zone General Meeting. The exhibition is on-going. A heartfelt “Thank You” to all who supported and made it happen. “To help and translate Mother’s Powers and quotes into other languages, please email: anandizhang@auroville.org.in

Chinese & Dutch sessions @Mother’s symbol exhibition
Dear community and friends, welcome to the following sessions:
- Chinese with Anandi Z. & special guests
  Wednesday 20 March, 9:30-10:30 am
  Experience a Heart-to-Heart talk.
- Dutch with Lisbeth
  Monday 25 March 9-10 am
  Journey from the Netherlands to Auroville in 1971. Dutch culture, people and their stories

Bharat Nivas presents
At Kalakendra Art Gallery
“The Dawn of Auroville”
Ongoing Photo Exhibition on the early days of Auroville with rare historical images and texts by The Mother.
Opening hours: 9 to 4:30 pm. Sundays closed. Ongoing until further notice

Savitri Bhavan
Exhibitions – March 2019
Monday-Saturday 9am-5pm

Meditations on Savitri
The entire series of 472 paintings created by the Mother with Huta
In the picture gallery
Sri Aurobindo - A Life-Sketch in Photographs
In the upstairs corridor
Glimpses of the Mother: photographs and texts
In the square hall
Everyone is welcome.
(0413) 2622403/2622994 Pitanga@auroville.org.in

TALKS and PRESENTATIONS

Mohanam is organizing a lecture on
Folk Culture of Tamilnadu
Wednesday 20th of March 2019, from 4 to 5:30 pm
at Mohanam Village Heritage Centre (Opposite of Imagination, Near Isaiambalam)
About the resource person: The presentation will be given by Dr. A. Chellaperumal -Professor and Head Dept. of Anthropology Pondicherry University.
We, Mohanam, cordially invite you to join and sense the beauty of Folk Culture of Tamilnadu.
RSVP: Mohanam, mohanamprogram@auroville.org.in or 9159468946/9787678491.

Let’s talk about Water
“Water usage through examples from the ancient city of Dholavira, Kutch region and Auroville”
Monday 18 March, 4-5pm
at MMC (Multimedia Center/Cinema Paradiso), Town Hall
This talk will examine wastewater treatment in Dholavira, where wastewater treatment was practiced for 4618 years, and then examine current practices in Auroville. Talk given by Tency.
Tency works at CSR and has been involved for more than 25 years in the implementation of water and waste water related projects. He has been a member of the Water Group since 2015.
Each Monday in the month of March, a member of the Water Group will dive into one aspect of water in an interactive and engaging presentation:
March 25, 4pm: “The Blessed Human Factor”
Please join us! All talks are free of cost, but if you would like to support the on-going work of the Water Group, our FS# is 252000. Thank you! Water Group www.aurovillewater.in

Effects of Trees in Urban Spaces Planning Ahead
Presentation by Island Lescure
On Friday the 22nd of March at 5 PM
At Unity Pavilion
A brief glimpse into the effects that trees have on our lives and surroundings in an urban setting. Recently, in urban settings, trees are being used more as green infrastructure providing ecosystem services rather than merely street furniture. This presentation will illustrate some ways in which this applies. In that regard, this is relevant for architects, town planners, municipal corporations, engineers, landscapers and, obviously, anybody interested in trees. This will include the positive and negative effects and ways to improve matters with existing trees as well as potential trees, based on research from around the world. Please check treescapes.in/ about for background info All are welcome!

NIGHT SCHOOL at YC presents
Talk about Town Planning
Tuesday 19th March 6:30 to 08:00 p.m.
at Youth Center.
by Divya / L’Avenir d’Auroville/TDC (Town Development Council)
The History & The Future of Human Unity
Two Lectures About the Imperatives of Human Unity
by Prof. Sehdev Kumar

Lecture 1: Tuesday, March 19, 7-8 pm
Lecture 2: Wednesday, March 20, 7-8 pm
At Unity Pavilion

Lecture 1: Vasudev Kutumbkam - "The Whole World is our Family"
From Tribes to Global Village. Thousands of years of physical separation and isolation bred fear and hostility towards others of a different tribe, and of different races, colours and languages. How is our new Global Village making it imperative to define and explore global commons and human universals as an expression of human unity?

Lecture 2: From Selfish Gene to Universal One-ness
For millennia, a very large number of people in all societies have been marginalized and have been denied any individual autonomy and all human dignity. All that is now changing, as increasingly, everyone everywhere is seeking a place of dignity on the banquet table of history, and is thus creating a sense of human unity and of universal oneness, as a reflection of ‘Life Divine’ in its most exalted sense.

An Author & Professor Emeritus of Environmental Studies in Canada, Dr. Kumar is a Historian and Philosopher of Science, a Mediator and a Bioethicist. A Friend of Auroville, author of many books, including The Vision of Kabir; his most recent book is “7000 Million Degrees of Freedom”. He lectures Internationally on the History of Ideas & Culture arguing for a World Beyond Wars.

All are welcome!

The French Pavilion presents
“...at the heart of the logic of meetings: the case of Reunion Island”

Discussion
animated by Thierry Malbert
Doctor in Anthropology

Thursday 21st March 2019 at 5pm
Town Hall - Cinema Paradiso
in French with audio translation in English, duration: 90 min
Built from the contributions of various populations from Europe, Southern Africa of Madagascar, Comoros, India and China, on a variety of reports between assimilation, multiculturalism and interculturalism, the plural origin of Creole Reunionese society is interesting to analyze with regard to the acceleration of social evolutions marked for fifty years by the rise of individualism and the globalization of flows. This discussion is an in-depth reflection on the theme of living together, these concepts and paradigms, and especially at the beginning of the twenty-first century in the context lived and perceived in Reunion.

The Human Library
Saturday 23 March at 4.30pm, Humanscapes (change of venue)

The Human Library™ is designed to build a positive framework for conversations that can challenge stereotypes and prejudices through dialogue. The Human Library is a worldwide movement for inclusion and the understanding of our diversity. One can be a human book if one has a story to share which can challenge stereotype or prejudices in our society. Find out more details at humanlibrary.org and at Youthlink (Humanscapes) Mon-Fri from 9am-12pm or contact Sumit at +917875197074 or Michael at michael@sumtines@gmail.com.

CULTURAL EVENTS

The Auroville Theatre Group presents ‘Mer’
Mer: Place of Ascendance
Thursday 21 March,
Doors open 6.45 pm
at Mohanam Village Heritage Centre.

A one woman, one act play, about the building of the first Egyptian Pyramid. It tells the story of the wife of the architect, Imhotep. This original work is performed by Lata S Singh, in affiliation with the Mohanam Village Heritage Centre and Auroville Arts Service 2019.

For info/Directions:
73396933891,
mer.pyramid@gmail.com
Link google map:
https://goo.gl/maps/mZmVPUmtqXY
**A NEW WORLD IS POSSIBLE**

Auroville Art Camp March 2019 Festival March 16th to 23rd

Auroville Art Camp and Festival 2019 is starting on March 16th. Artists from all over India and Aurovilian Artists will work during one week at creating an individual artwork on the theme “A New World is possible” extracted from a quotation of the Mother. From March 16th till March 23rd. A final exhibition will take place at Centre d’Art on March 24th opening at 5 pm. The artworks done by the artists during the Auroville Art Camp will be displayed in the gallery till Sunday 31 included. Exceptionally the gallery will remain open on Sundays. During the art camp week, some public art sessions have been organised at the Visitors Centre and Cripa. A collective art installation and a wall fresco will be done by the artists. Monna Maier and Marco S. will photograph the art camp and their photos will be screened the day after at Cripa from 6:00 onwards. The whole week will be screened in the Centre d’art Video Room during the opening of the exhibition.

**PROGRAM FOR THE WEEK FROM 18 TO 23 MARCH**

**PERFORMANCES and TALKS**
At Cripa 7.00 to 8.00 pm:
-18 March: Film screening
-19 March: “Singing the world” by Auroville Harmonies. Choir conducted by Antoine
-20 March: Artists talk
-21 March: “Ko KoNa Lam” Kolam dance performed by Savitri Maya and Grace Gitadella.
-22 March: “Equal I’s” Vertical Dance performance by Kalou, Leila and Romain

**COLLECTIVE ART**
18 to 22 March, 5.00 to 7.00 PM at Cripa
-Collective mural fresco
-Screening of photos by Monna M and Marco S.

**CLOSURE**
23 March 2019, 5PM at Citadine, Centre d’art
-“A New World is possible” exhibition of the art works done during the art camp.
-Live music and songs by Francois and Shalini.
-Screening of the photos taken during the whole week by Monna M. And Marco S. in the video room

**ART INSTALLATIONS**
In Pavilion of Tibetan culture and Cripa

**MEDITATION WITH THE PEACE BELL**
at PAVILION OF TIBETAN CULTURE
FRIDAY 22nd March from 5.30-6.15 pm

If you want peace upon earth,
first establish peace in your heart.
The Mother

For when the Peace is established, this higher or Divine force from above can descend and work in us.
Sri Aurobindo

All are welcome to join the Peace Bell ringing!

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**THE AUROVILLE HARMONIES**
Tuesday 19 March - 7 P.M. CRIPA
WOMEN’S CHOIR
Invite you to their performance
Singing the NEW World
Direction: Antoine

**KAISHIKI NRITYABHASHA Mumbai**
**SAMIDHA**
An Odissi Dance offering by Guru Daksha Mashruwala and her students.

**HARK**
A contemporary movement theatre.
An exploration of the lives of 4 women in a family who suddenly turn widows.
Did they lose just their husbands?
conceptualized and directed by
Namaha Mazoomdar
(Student of Guru Daksha Mashruwala)
Sri Aurobindo Auditorium Bharat Nivas
Wednesday 20th March 2019 7:30p.m.
(approximate 1 hour)
Organised by ARPANAA Geeta (Kalpana)& Mona (Yanira)
Adishakti presents: "La dance ou le chaos" - Contemporary dance by Souleimane Sanogo (Mali)

Monday, 25th March 2019 at 7.00 p.m.
Adishakti Theatre
Contact: 0413 2622287 / 9578542882
adishaktiprogram@gmail.com
Entry Free! Donations are welcome

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**SCHEDULES**

**VERITE**
Please contact Vérité to register for the following intensives: 0413 2622045, 2622606, 7094104329 or programming@verite.in

INTENSIVES IN VERITÉ: (Registration required)

- **OVARIAN BREATHING FEMININE ALCHEMY & YOGA FOR WOMEN** with NADIA
  
  Thursday, 21 March - from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm
  Our female anatomy (breasts, ovaries, uterus) offers the most energetic potential of the whole mind-body organism. Ovarian breathing helps us connect with this energy, freeing the flow of the body’s fluid systems. This helps not only to prevent and treat disease, but also to live a richer, more ‘fertile’ (meaning ‘creative’) life. Because many of our ‘blockages’ stem from beliefs rooted in our family/cultural conditioning, the process is also oriented to emotional and mental cleansing. The aim is to align mind, emotions and body, allowing us to return to a state of integration and unity with ourselves and our environment. Please note: Ovarian breathing is not appropriate for women who are pregnant or have certain health issues. Prospective participants are required to complete a medical form which will be provided upon registration.

- **GIMME A BREAK! - A RESTORATIVE YOGA WEEKEND** (residential retreat)
  - Friday 22nd March (post Lunch) - Monday 25th March (post Breakfast).
  Come, unwind mindfully! This residential retreat is designed to help spend quality time with ‘you’; through guided yoga and meditation sessions, nature walk, tasty organic meals, and more. Contact us for program details and rates (rate includes accommodation, 3 meals and a different focus. Study, play and creativity go hand in hand with experience and theory, practice, history, sightseeing.

- **FATE OR CHOICE? (FAMILY) CONSTELLATIONS** - with YUVAL
  
  Saturday, 23rd March - from 9 a.m. to 4.45 p.m
  Fate or Choice?
  An episode in an unremembered tale
  Its beginning lost
  It’s motive and plot concealed.
  A once living story has prepared and made
  Our present fate, child of past energies
  - Sri Aurobindo - Savitri.
  In our lives Hidden Dynamics, can cause results we never intended. Unconsciously these Dynamics create our Fate. To become aware of them, can bring back Choice. Applying (family) constellation techniques we can, in an intuitive way, find the insights and energy to choose consciously for the changes we want. YUVAL is a life & business coach.

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**AUROMODE YOGA SPACE**

**Program March 2019**
Check the schedule on:
www.auromodeyogaspace.com

- **For appointments:** phone +91 413 2622244
- **contact@auromodeyogaspace.com**
- **Guests/volunteers:** contributions requested (reductions)
- **Aurovillians/newcomers:** donations welcome.

- **ACROYOGA with Shakti Shilpa**
  - Friday, 22nd March, 3:00 - 6.30 pm
  Acroyoga comes in as a yoga of trust. It is where you take control by letting go and begin your journey towards the art of giving and receiving. As by definition, Acro Yoga combines the wisdom of Yoga, the dynamics of Acrobatics, and the loving kindness of Thai Massage.

- **SACRED VIBRATION: The power of sound with Jean Luc**
  - Saturday 23rd March, 7:30 - 9 pm
  Come and discover the power of sound during a relaxing session with tibetan bowls. A session begins with yoga nidra (10 minutes), then ocean drum, rain baton, shamanic drum and overtones.

- **Yoga of Tamil Siddhas and visiting Powerful temples around Auroville**
  with Bala, Sunday, 24th March 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
  Ancient temples around Auroville and Tamil legends, Siddha Yoga, pujas and more! Join us for a one-day “talk & walk” blending experience and theory, practice, history, sightseeing.

- **Inner-Work-Workshop**
  Introduction to the Integral Yoga of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother
  19 March (Tuesday) - at Savitri Bhavan, 9 am to 12 noon
  (For those who are new to Yoga, from 8.45 to 9 am there will be a brief presentation on Yoga and Spirituality.)
  Focus this week on: ‘The Inner being’
  - Overview with multimedia presentation
  - Questions and Answers
  - Practice in Daily Life
  - Complimentary Concentration Exercises
  - Creative Arts, Interactive Games
  - Life of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother
  - Introduction to the Reference Books
  These Workshops are conducted every Tuesday, each week with a different focus. Study, play and creativity go hand in hand with various inner exercises. Led by Ashesh Joshi (Contact: 9489147202, 0413 2622922).
  No Registration required (except for groups). Fees: Voluntary Contribution. All are welcome
  For details on the Integral Yoga and the upcoming workshops:
  please visit www.integralyoga-auroville.com.

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**SAVITRI BHAVAN**

- **BHAVAN**
  B H A V A N

- **Inner-Work-Workshop**
  **HOLISTIC**

- **De-stress Your Mind & heal your Body**
  A Scientific Meditation with Sound healing for Mind & Soul - Body by Christine Pauchard.
  Sunday, 24th March at 10 a.m.
  Sri Ma Tanto Beach
  Advance registration required by WhatsApp: +919489805493 Mail: christine@auromode-holistic.com
  Modern science shows that by practicing various meditation and mindfulness techniques it is possible to enhance mental clarity and balance, free up attention, and increase focus and self-awareness. Workshop will offer a science-based learning of Relaxation and Mindfulness Techniques of Meditation. “Scientific Meditation” is a simple and effective approach to meditation, practicable by one and all. It is a 1 hour 30 min workshop will include Brain Exercise, Meditation to reach alpha-theta state of mind with exclusive scientific research-based alpha-theta sound frequencies.
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**Sankalpa Art Center**
behind Pavilion of Tibetan Culture, International Zone
sankalpa.journeys.com

- **Uncovering Self: Integral Art Therapy Workshop**
  Saturday, March 23 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. for adults 18+

Understanding the self is part of our universal human journey. Art allows us to meet our inner layers, to shape and share them with a common expressive language. Explore a range of creativity in a safe space, including scratchboard, mask-making and play with natural colors to celebrate Holli!

This particular workshop is part of a research-based series of integral art therapy journeys exploring the Mother’s 12 Qualities (focused on goodness). Facilitated by Krupa (see more: sankalpa.journeys.com). No experience necessary, Limited places, by registration only: sankalpa.art@gmail.com. With love, light and color, Krupa for Sankalpa

**JOY COMMUNITY GH**
Center Field, Auroville
Ph: +91 (0)9487272393
www.joyauroville.org
www.facebook.com/joycommunityguesthouse

- **Residential Yoga Retreat**
  From March 22nd to April 1st, 2019
  by Alma Cigana Yoga Acharya in Joy Community, Auroville
  The program includes: Cleansing Kriya, Asana, Pranayama, Meditation, Karma Yoga, Theory, Yoga Nidra. By registration only. For detailed information, please contact: 9487272393 joycommunity@auroville.org.in Center Field, Auroville.
  About Alma Cigana Yoga Acharya: After completing his initiation into yoga in 2012 with a foundation course in yoga, Alma went on to pursue a colorful and professional career in yogic practices and courses. Now, six years on, he has completed a diploma in yoga science, an Advanced Yoga Teacher Training and a course in Yoga therapy. He now travels internationally, collaborating, sharing and teaching. For additional information and a detailed program, please find it listed under the activities of the Joy Community website or Facebook.

**CANCELLATION:**
-the classes of Mantra Chanting on Thursday at 5:30pm will be cancelled from this week onwards. Warmly, Nikhil and Joy Team.
-due to a small accident of the facilitator, the Tea Meditation will be cancelled on Saturday 16th. Jazz and Joy Team.

**Auroville International Youth Center (YC)**

- **Talk about Town Planning**
  Tuesday 19th March by Divya /L’Avenir d’Auroville/TDC (Town Development Council) at Night School from 6:30 p.m. to 08:00 p.m. at Youth Center.
- **Collective Games**
  Wednesday 20th March: Veronique will present collective games at Youth Centre from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- **Natural Horsemanship**
  Thursday 21st March: Divya will give us a session on Natural Horsemanship from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Evergreen. In case of any change of location we would inform on Mass Bulletin or send a poster around.
- **Presentation on Green Papaya Collective**
  Tuesday 26th March: Ivan from Green Papaya Collective will give a presentation on Green Papaya Collective at Night School from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Youth Center.
  For more information, see under TALKS and PRESENTATIONS/Eds

**CREEVA**
Center for Research Education
Experience Visual Arts
Information 9786411419 or audrey@auroville.org.in

- **Explore Colour with Audrey**
  March 27 & 28 Wed. & Thurs.
  From 9:30am -12:30pm & 2-5pm each day
  CREEVA in collaboration with Kala Kendra at KK’s Studios.
  Your own and one of the theories of colour, We will use colours in different ways. NO Experience necessary.

- **Come explore your own desire to express yourself**
  on paper or canvas, all materials provided in our OPEN STUDIO
  Kala Kendra: Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 2 - 4:30pm or CREATIVITY STUDIO: Monday to Sunday (except Saturday).

**AUROVILLE LANGUAGE LAB**
International Zone, beyond the Unity Pavilion and Pump House.
Open from Monday - Friday 9am- 12 pm and 2pm- 6pm, Saturday 9am to 12pm.

**News about classes:**
**Fiona** from the U.K is very happy to start new English classes specially for Native French Speakers for Beginner and Intermediate levels. The classes will be on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings from 10:30am-12:00pm. Having lived in France, she has a particular ear for the specific issues and difficulties faced by native French speakers when confronted with the English language. The focus will be primarily English conversation but, of course, she’ll tailor the teaching to the needs and preferences of the students. Interested students, please contact us.

**Susana** continues her Spanish Intermediate group on Wednesdays from 4-5pm and Saturdays from 11:30am-12:30pm. Please contact Susana before joining since this is a long-standing group.

A new batch of Saravanan’s 10-Day Intensive Tamil Beginners class is going on. The classes are held on Monday from 11:30am to 12:30pm, and on Thursday from 2:15pm to 3:15 pm. If you would like to join the class, please let us know.

The last Tamil beginners’ batch have moved on to a 10-day Intensive Intermediate class which takes place on Mondays from 10:15am to 11:15am, and on Thursdays from 1:15pm to 2:15pm. Please contact us to join.

**Asha** continues with her English Beginners class on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:00pm to 6:00pm.
She also continues with her English Intermediate class on Mondays and Wednesdays from 5:00pm to 06:00pm.

**Other info:**
A big Thank You to Anabel for her classes in French and Spanish. She has stopped due to other projects coming up, so we are looking in particular for volunteers to teach French. We would like people who can make a commitment to volunteering consistently half-time or full-time, to enable more consistent follow-up with the students.

A big ‘Thank You’ to all the Tamil readers and learners who came and helped with the research towards the Tomatis parameters for Tamil. It was such an interesting experience for all involved. We do have a hypothesis but it needs further testing, so calling all Tamilians who can read Tamil (yes unfortunately in this day and age, some people don’t) to please come and participate in the research. We are specially looking for Tamil women because of the first group was a bit skewed towards men. Now, we need more women’s reading voices. It requires reading a Tamil text without the Tomatis headphones and then with. And for fun and an eye-opening experience, we’ll also have you read another language with the Tomatis headsets and you will be totally surprised! Lots of Aurovilian Tamil youth are around, so please come forward and participate with our team in this research.
Then, we also need more Tamil learners to participate. You can read the phonetic in case you can’t read the script. But if there are any non-Tamils out there who can read the Tamil script and
would like to be more fluent, please, you are also welcome to come and be part of it.

A very big ‘Thanks’ and a huge hug to our friend Charles Daehler, a Tomats practitioner colleague from Canada, who gave a huge fillip to re-starting this long-pending dream of research into the Tomats Settings for Tamil.

We are continuing to have Saturday mornings as our Open House for people to experience the Tomats listening training. A 45-minute film is also available for those who want to know more. And you can also try out the Active Tomats Reading to experience the power of Tomats. More info available on our website: www.aurowelanguagecentre.org

Finally, we are always looking for volunteer translators (who can be anywhere in the world) to translate some of our documents and materials into different languages. We are documenting all the various aspects of our special building in a series of papers, the first of which is out already and freely available on our website (Click on “Architecture Articles”). It is on Electrical Consumption and based on AVES (Auroville Electrical Service) data, shows that the Language Lab building consumes less electricity than a three-person household! Hard to believe, but there it is! The article is in our “Knowledge Share” page on our website. It will soon be available in French and Spanish. We need someone to correct the French. The second article - being laboriously finished - is about Electromagnetic Compliance.

Finally, the group Tomats language integration programme is almost ready. We’ll announce that next time! But Tamil women who want to really improve their English are welcome to contact us already.

Language Lab Team, International Zone, Auroville.
2623667/2000013/2000014. Info@aurowelanguagecentre.org

MONTHLY SCHEDULES OF AV CENTERS

REMINDER: The monthly schedules and activities of the Auroville Centers can be found on the following websites:

- Joy Activities: www.joyaurowill.org/
- Holistic: www.aurowill-holistic.com/
- Pitanga: www.aurowill.org/content/3185
- Savitri Bhavan: www.savitrighbavan.org
- Language Lab: www.aurowelanguagecentre.org/courses.php
- Auromode Yoga Space: www.auromodeyogaspace.com
- Vérite: www.vérite.in/
- Akasha Wellness Centre: www.aurowill.org/content/2886
- Quiet: http://quiethealingcenter.info/
- Lilaloka: www.lilaloka.org

REGULAR EVENTS

The Regular Events column is printed once a month, sent weekly via pdf through our mailing list, and published weekly online for anyone to access at: auroville.org/content/4187

- Creative writing class will stop until July
  Dear friends, the creative writing class will stop the activities until July. Then we will start again with new, funny, deep, creative games on writing.

  In the meantime, please check the videos I posted and will post on both the facebook page My Creative Writing and the youtube channel My creative Satsang.

  Enjoy the summer and see you soon! Francesca

AT SAVITRI BHAVAN

Monday, March 18, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.
INTRODUCING SRI AUROBINDO’S YOGA through SAVITRI, Part 2

Dr. Nadkarni asks what Sri Aurobindo was looking for in his work? What is the purpose of life? What is the meaning of life? And what is the importance of the deep rooted concept of ‘soul’ in Indian philosophy and religion?

He points out that King Aswapti’s yoga as described in Savitri is Sri Aurobindo’s yoga and that the essence of his quest is to bring into Life here on Earth the freedom of the spirit and a divine perfection for individuals and for human society.

This world has a purpose. The problem is that modern man is alienated from God, from the world and from himself. In the West the various transcendent notions of belief in soul or God have disappeared one after the other. The twentieth century had been the age of loss of faith, of spiritual desolation, of intellectual despair and metaphysical sickness. Western intellectuals are asking the question, “Does life have any meaning?” Compared with Western people most Indians are in different situation. Knowledge of the soul and the conviction that human life does not end with death is deeply ingrained in most Indians. In the Bhagavad Gita Krishna tells Arjuna that the Divine Presence, the Soul, the Atman in us and the entire universe, is the fundamental reality.

Spirituality begins when we realize that we are carrying within us, within our self, this form of the Supreme Divine. In Savitri we can read these lines about the human being:

His fragile ship conveys through the sea of years
An incognito of the Imperishable.
A spirit that is a flame of God abides.

The purpose of all spirituality is to experience the presence of this incognito of the Imperishable which dwells within each one of us and is what The Mother and Sri Aurobindo have called the Psychic Being. When the Psychic Being comes to the front in our consciousness, like a sun-flower it keeps its face always turned towards the Sun of Divine Truth and Light and Love. Duration: 75 min.

CINEMA PARADISO
Multimedia Center (MMC) Auditorium
Film program 18 to 24 March, 2019

In celebrating International Women’s Day (8th March) and Women’s History Month (observed in the USA in March) - we bring you a spread of films. Hope you enjoy these inspiring and interesting tales.

Women Series - Monday 18 March, 8:00 pm:
- COLETTE
  UK-USA, 2018, Dir. Wash Westmoreland, w/ Keira Knightley, Fiona Shaw, Dominic West, 111 mins, Biography-Drama, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: R
  After marrying successful, Parisian writer Henry Gauthier-Villars, alias Willy, Gabrielle Colette moves from rural home to the intellectual and artistic splendor of Paris. Willy convinces her to ghost write for him. She pens a semi-autobiographical novel about a witty and brazen country girl named Claudine, that became a bestseller and a cultural sensation. After its success, Colette and Willy become the talk of the town and their adventures inspire additional novels. Colette’s fight over creative ownership and gender roles drives her to overcome societal constraints, revolutionizing literature, fashion and sexual expression.

Women Series - Tuesday 19 March, 8:00 pm:
- CAN YOU EVER FORGIVE ME?
  USA, 2018, Dir. Marielle Heller, w/ Melissa McCarthy, Richard E. Grant, Dolly Wells, and others, Biography-Comedy, 106mins, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: R
  Lee Israel made her living in the 1970's and 80's profiling the likes of Katharine Hepburn, Tallulah Bankhead, Estee Lauder and so on. When Lee is no longer able to get published because she has fallen out of step with current tastes, she turns her art form to deception,abetted by her loyal friend Jack. An adaptation of the memoir “Can You Ever Forgive Me?” relays the true story of the best-selling celebrity biographer (and friend to cats).

Women Series - Wednesday 20 March, 8:00 pm:
- THE WILD MEAT TRAIL
- PERWEEN RAHMAN: THE REBEL OPTIMIST
  The Wild Meat Trail - India, 2010, Dir Rita Banerji & Shilpi Sharma, Documentary, English (subtitles in English when other languages used), 28mins, Rated:NR (PG): Perween Rahman: The Rebel Optimist -- Pakistan, 2016, Writer-Director Mahera Omar w/Anwar Rashid and others, Documentary, 66mins, English-Urdu w/English subtitles, Rated:NR (PG): Perween Rahman dedicated her life for the poor of Pakistan. She had worked with water and sanitation access, land rights of the poor and advocated for security against land grabbers. She was shot dead by armed assailants on her way home in March 2013. Perween’s story and spirit is universal - and needs to be seen and
shared. In sharing the film, the director informed that she is holding the intent to visit us one day. This much acclaimed film is a must see if you had missed it last April.

**Women Series - Thursday 21 March, 8:00 pm:**
- **THE HATE U GIVE**
  - USA, 2018, Dir. George Tillman Jr., w/ Amandla Stenberg, Regina Hall, Russel Hornsby, 133 mins, Crime-Drama, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: PG
  - Starr Carter is constantly switching between two worlds: the poor, mostly black, neighborhood where she lives and the rich, mostly white, prep school she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is shattered when Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Now, Starr must find her voice and stand up for what’s right.

**International - Saturday 23 March, 8:00 pm:**
- **THE FAVOURITE**
  - Ireland-UK-USA, 2018, Dir. Yorgos Lanthimos w/ Olivia Colman, Emma Stone, Rachel Weisz, and Alec Baldwin, Biography-Comedy, 119 mins, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: R
  - Early 18th century England is in war with France. A frail Queen Anne occupies the throne but her close associate Lady Sarah governs in her name while tending to Anne’s ill health and temper. A new servant Abigail charms her way and ends up as the Queen’s partner, giving her an opportunity to follow her ambitions and she will not let woman, man, politics or rabbit stand in her way. If you like period drama, you would not miss it.

**Children’s Film - Sunday 24 March, 4:30pm**
- **SHOW DOGS**
  - USA, 2018, Dir: Raja Gosnell, w/ Will Arnett, Ludacris, Natasha Lyonne and others, Comedy, 92 mins, English with English subtitles, Rated: PG
  - Max, a macho, solitary Rottweiler police dog is ordered to go undercover as a prize show dog at a prestigious Dog Show, along with his human partner, to avert a disaster from happening.

**MELVILLE FILM FESTIVAL@CINE CLUB**
**Ciné-Club Sunday 24 March, 8 pm**
**LE DEUXIEME SOUFFLE**
- France, 1966, Dir. Jean-Pierre Melville w/ Lino Ventura, Paul Maurice, Raymond Pellegrin and others, Drama-Crime, 150 mins, French w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR
  - Gustave Minda alias GU, a dangerous gangster, escapes from jail. He goes to Paris to join Manouche and other friends and get involved in a gangland killing. Before leaving the country with Manouche, GU needs a final job to get some money. But that’s not so simple when you have Inspector Blot tracking you!

**Ratings codes we often use are from Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA):**
- G: General Audiences,  suitable for all ages
- PG: Parental guidance suggested, suitable for all ages with parental guidance
- PG-13: Parents strongly cautioned, suitable for all ages with parental guidance
- R: Restricted, suitable for adults

**For submissions or cancellations:**
- Tuesday 5pm (for the issue of the following week)
- Go paperless and receive the News & Notes by email weekly!
- subscribe@auroville.org.in

**AUROFILM**
**AUROFILM at MULTI MEDIA CENTRE AUDITORIUM (MMC, Town Hall)**
**FRIDAY 22 MARCH - 8:00 PM**
- “Montparnasse 19”
- Les amants de Montparnasse (original title)
  - Director: Jacques Becker - France, 1958
  - With: Gérard Philipe, Anouk Aimée, Lino Ventura, Lilli Palmer
  - Synopsis: A transitional film (1958) between the French “tradition of quality” and the New Wave, this film is based on but not literally chronicling the last years of the life of the Italian artist Amedeo Modigliani. In 1919, after the Great War, the Italian painter, still unknown and suffering from tuberculosis, was living his last year in Paris in the artists’ quarter: Montparnasse. He falls in love with a girl from a good family, Jeanne Hebuterne, whose parents are opposed to their relationship. They cut him off and stop financial help. His remarkable art suffers from his difficult life, but it does not go unnoticed by art dealer Morel… One of the last performances of the great Gerard Philippe.

**Front Cover: “Last School” Photo by Philippe Vigoureux**

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**THE ECO FILM CLUB**
**Sadhana Forest, March 22, Friday**
**Schedule of Events:**
- 4:00 pm: Free bus from Solar Kitchen to Sadhana Forest for the Tour
- 4:30 pm: Tour of Sadhana Forest
- 6:00 pm: Free bus from Solar Kitchen to Sadhana Forest for the Eco Film Club
- 6:30 pm: Eco Film Club begins with “previews” of short Sadhana Forest films
- 8:00 pm: Dinner is served
- 9:30 pm: Free bus from Sadhana Forest back to Solar Kitchen

The movie talks about the lack of environmental or safety restrictions in these ship breaking yards to protect the ship-breakers from workplace dangers and toxic substances such as PCBs and asbestos in the world’s largest maritime graveyard.

Before the movie, at exactly 4:30pm you are welcome to join us for a full tour of Sadhana Forest and an update of our most recent work! After the film, you are welcome to join us for a free 100% vegan organic dinner. The entire evening including dinner is offered as a gift!

**Note:** Families and children are welcome! Dinner for children will be served at 7pm:

**Important information about News & Notes (Absolute deadline for submissions or cancellations: Tuesday 5pm (for the issue of the following week) - Publication Date is Monday)**

- Articles submitted will be a reflection of the growth process of this community towards its ideals of harmony, goodwill, discipline and truth. Editing of submissions, mainly for reasons of space and clarity, is done according to an established policy.

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

**Please try your best to send your announcements, reports, film schedules whenever they are ready:**
- The Tuesday deadline (5pm) is absolute
- Any modifications of the submitted News items have to be sent to the editors before Tuesday 5pm.

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

**Articles for the Notes section should ideally be no longer than 500 words.**

**Visiting hours:**
- On appointment only.

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

**News & Notes, Media Centre, Town Hall. Phone: 0413-2622133, email: newsandnotes@auroville.org.in**