Meditation on Sri Aurobindo's birthday
By Amphitheatre Support Group, 12 Aug 2019 / 07:08 am

- 15th August, 5 a.m. – 6 a.m at the Matrimandir Amphitheatre
- Entrance from Second Banyan Gate only, open from 4 a.m. Bonfire will be lit at 5 a.m.

Dear Aurovilians, Guests, Friends and Visitors,

As we wish the meditation to become once again precious moments of concentration and re-dedication, we are experimenting with one or two changes this year.

Please be aware that Cellphones, Cameras, Tablets and other photographic or recording devices will not be allowed in the Amphitheatre. Everyone is requested to leave them at home or in their vehicle. Those in possession of such items will be required to deposit them at the ‘Custody Facility’ near the designated parking area outside the Park of Unity. However, Matrimandir Management will not be responsible for loss of or damage to items deposited at the “Custody Facility”.

Those who come late, after the lighting of the bonfire at 5 a.m., will be conducted to a special area close to the Amphitheatre where they can experience the bonfire but not disturb those who are already seated. They will be able to proceed to the Amphitheatre once the meditation is finished.

Visitors are requested to either carry their Aurocard or collect personally free information tokens available at the Visitors Centre (upstairs) on 13th and 14th August between 4 pm and 6 pm.

All are requested to maintain complete silence.

Through your participation and cooperation, help us make the meditation a precious moment of collective re-dedication and inspiration.

We would particularly like to welcome back those Aurovilians who stopped attending.

Bonne Fete and see you there!

Matrimandir Team

(We welcome feedback regarding the changes that are being made for this 15th August. Feedback can be sent to the amphitheatresupportgroup@auroville.org.in or can be expressed in person at a meeting in the Amphitheatre on Sunday, 18th August, beginning at 5.15 p.m.)
New Aurovilians and Newcomers
FROM THE ENTRY SERVICE - ES # 002, Dated: 12-08-2019

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 and Friends of Auroville two weeks and for Aurovilians and Returning Aurovilians one month window for community feedback. Kindly forward your support or grievances to entryservice@auroville.org.in.

NEWCOMERS ANNOUNCED:
Ashwini Shreedevi TATPATI (Indian) Staying in Aspiration and Working at Vérité
Neeta JOTHI (Indian) Staying in Siddhartha Forest and Working at PTDC
Suma HOULDSWORTH (USA) Staying at Kalpana guest house and Working at TLC & PTDC

CHILD OF NEWCOMER:
Theivan HOULDSWORTH (USA) Born on 2/09/2010 (child of Suma HOULDSWORTH)
Veera HOULDSWORTH (USA) Born on 2/09/2010 (child of Suma HOULDSWORTH)

NEWCOMERS CONFIRMED:
Krista MUDD (USA)

AUROVILIANS ANNOUNCED:
Janmejay MOHANTY (Indian) Staying in Maitreye 2 and Working at Matrimandir Access & Mohanam Cultural Center

AUROVILIANS CONFIRMED:
Manikandan ARUMUGAN (Indian)
Selvam NADESAN (Indian)
Weidong LIAO (Chinese)

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 Aurovilian 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--

Attached files: Pics of NC & AV ES002 Dt: 12-08-2019.pdf (1.17 MB)

From TDC: Feedback on applications
By L’avenir d’Auroville / Town Development Council (TDC) , 09 Aug 2019

Dear Community, In the absence of News & Notes, TDC shall publish applications for feedback from the community on Auronet every Tuesday. As usual, a two week feedback period shall be open for the published applications, from the date of publishing. This is for your kind information. TDC
General Meeting called by the Working Committee to share its work

By Working Committee (WC), 09 Aug 2019

The Working Committee would like to invite all Residents to a General Meeting to share the work done since the last Working Committee general meeting in January 2019 and share the topics that will be presented to the Governing Board.

The General Meeting will take place on:

Date: Friday, August 23
Time: 4:30 PM to 6:00 PM
Venue: Unity Pavilion

The Working Committee

Act together. We've done it before. Let's do it again for the future of Auroville

By RAS (Residents Assembly Service), 06 Aug 2019

Dear Community Members, As you may know we just had a follow-up General Meeting #2: Next steps to decide the manner of choosing working group members; discuss changes in our organisation & the revival of the Residents' Assembly on Saturday 3rd August 2019.

It was decided by the Residents' Assembly (RA) to constitute Task Force groups to look into the below topics. Some people have already stepped up at the GM and gave their names to be part of these initiatives:

- **Review of our organisation** (UPDATED) (Christine P. (Fertile), Jayendra (Djaima), Naveen, Philippe (Kalpana), Amudha (Kottakarai Farm), Satyakam (Kalpana), Marlyse (Invocation), Narendra (Verite));

- **Review of the selection process** (Manoj Kumar (Unity Pavilion), Claude (Sanjana), Balu (Courage));

- **Revival of the Residents’ Assembly group** (Vikram Mani (Gaia), Mita R. (New Creation), Selvam (La Farm), Renu N. (Forecomers), Claudine (Inspiration), Veronique J. (Sve Dame), Gajendran (Prayatna), Jasmin (Auro Orchard - resource person)).

We would like to invite all community members who are interested in joining the Task Force groups to register online: [Sign up here](#)

OR just email to the Residents’ Assembly Service at raservice@auroville.org.in in which group you would like to participate.

OR visit the RAS at La Terrace on Tuesdays 10 am - 12 noon and Fridays 4.30 pm - 6 pm.
The next follow up GM on these Task Force groups, with also some first results, will be presented in the next GM on: TUESDAY 20TH AUGUST, 4PM TO 6PM, UNITY PAVILION

Together we rise!

~ With Love, The Residents’ Assembly Service

**Forest Group Meeting Report 2019-08-02**

**PRESENT:** Manolo, Pujasree (both Youth Centre/Bliss Forest), Rita, Philippe (both Centrefield), Kannyappan, Fabian (both Pitchandikulam), D. Segar (Nidal), T. Saga (Equality), Vinny (Hermitage), Alyona (Darkali), Sudhgar (Human Scape), Christoph (Anusuya/Bliss), Glenn (Gaia Forest), Piero (long term house sitting in Anusuya), Alessandra, Island (Espace), David (Aurodam), Shivaraj (Martuvam), Hans (Abri), V. Boobalan, B. Archana, Jean Marie (all three from Siddhartha Forest), T.G. Jyoti, T. Neetha, D. Ilango, Lisa (Kriya), Thananjayan.

**Topics discussed:**

- **Aurodam:** David from Aurodam announced that he is healthy; the Forest Group is happy to hear this.

- **Chainsaw for pruning:** Glenn informed that he has a chainsaw (only for pruning) available to lend on request. Only experienced Aurovilians are allowed to (should) use this tool. If needed please contact Glenn.

- **Hermitage:** Vinny informed that a neighbour has started to construct a cow shed on land under dispute and earlier cleared by Auroville. The Land Board will be informed.

- **Siddhartha Forest:** The community has since long financed their required watchman out of their own pockets but cannot afford that much longer. They request a watchman budget.

- **Project reports:** Island informed the group that if someone had a project in mind, they could try to put it on paper; we could then work on it and then try to find funding for it. The project proposal would need to be comprehensive and, should a project be funded, a project report would be required.

- **Anusuya:** Piero introduced himself as a long-term house sitter. He works in the field of photography.

- **Green Group and related matters:** The Forest Group was updated about recent work of the Green Group. Amongst the topics discussed were:
  - Update on the Forest / Green Groups recommendation on keeping a particular plot between Equality and Mango Garden as green lung without any development. It was decided earlier that the three neighbours Saga, Kadhir and Muthu will be shared caretaker. An agreement to this accord was drafted and is to be signed by the three.
  - Mango Garden: a so far empty and unplanted strip of land to the North of the entrance of Mango Garden was suggested by several people (partially not involved in green work) as plot for housing. The Green as well as the Forest Group discussed potential land use and the benefits or disadvantages of either planting or using the plot for non-green
activities. Both groups felt that the use of this plot as green space is marginal and therefore, they will not hold any claim on this particular piece of land albeit it falls in the Greenbelt limits. The Forest Group will write a letter to the TDC to inform them and to ask them to take the required planning steps.

- The need to write a joint statement of Farm, Forest and Green Group to the current TDC / L’Avenir d’Auroville in regards to the email exchange on planning mandates, decision-making processes and collaboration between the TDC / L’Avenir d’Auroville and the groups experienced in green work.

The next Forest Group meeting will be on Friday, 6th September at Centrefield. As usual a forest walk prior to the meeting could be an option. Please contact Rita.

New Budget announcement from BCC

Dear Community:

BCC is happy to announce that the budget for 2019-20 is currently ready and has been endorsed by the FAMC. A detailed summary of the budget approved will be published soon.

In 2018 the BCC had requested that all services/activities that are receiving (or wishes to receive) full or partial funding from the City Services to submit a budget by 31 October 2018 to be considered for funding.

For this budget year, the BCC members were engaged in a form of zero-based budgeting exercise, where the budget and the activities were looked afresh and compared with other similar activities.

Here we explain the budget:

Recurring Budget
It will be disbursed retroactively from April 2019, whereas the maintenances as per the new budget will be disbursed from August 2019 onward (payable in September 2019). Individual activities will be contacted by the BCC sub-groups that had interacted with them as part of the review process to inform about the recurring budget and/or maintenance they would receive.

Non Recurring Budget
For one time or exceptional expenses, there is a non-recurring expense budget, as in the previous years.

Auroville City Service Contribution
The Auroville City Service contribution to be paid individually has been increased by 5% to Rs.3,475 (see below for more details).

Maintenance structure:
Typically, the maximum number of new maintenances that could be created in a budget year ranged from 12-15.

This year, considering the requests from the activities for a total of 150 fulltime maintenances, BCC has created 35 new full-time equivalent maintenances, which have been allocated.
‘Auroville is at present unable to provide all Aurovilians with a sufficient maintenance, people who have their own resources are requested not to apply for a maintenance; or if their resources are insufficient, only to apply for what is necessary.’

As mentioned in the ‘Maintenance and Individual Contribution guidelines 2018
https://auroville.org.in/page/work-maintenance-and-individual-contribution-guidelines-2018

The first element of our maintenance structure is the Care Package:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Care Package:</th>
<th>Health Fund (HF)</th>
<th>450.00</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lunch Scheme (LS)</td>
<td>1,870.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Kind Scheme (IKS)</td>
<td>1,700.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,020.00</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This year, BCC focused on how to build on this basic Care Package in our maintenance structure and make adjustments only in the Cash and Kind amounts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Half</th>
<th>Full</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>minimum 18h/week</td>
<td>minimum 35h /week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>3,000.00</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kind</td>
<td>990.00</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,010.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>16,020.00</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BCC found that a half maintenance is often asked because the other half is covered from another income source of the AVlian.

- Another half City Service maintenance or
- An extra income from a project or unit so it will equal up with a Full maintenance or
- because of family support, pension or renting of outside assets etc

See below how it works in case of two half maintenances from two different activities under the City Services:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>First Half</th>
<th>Second Half</th>
<th>Same as Full</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>minimum 18h/week</td>
<td>minimum 35h /week</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Kind</td>
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<td>5,010.00</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
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<td>8,010.00</td>
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<td>16,020.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Auroville City Service Contribution
The Auroville City Service contribution to be paid individually has been increased by 5% to Rs.3,475.

This contribution is automatically waived:
- Full for Aurovilians receiving a Full Time City Service maintenance.
- Half for Aurovilians with a half City Service maintenance

In case that your financial situation is not allowing you to pay this contribution a waiver can be requested. A BCC subgroup will take care of waiver requests. You can contact them at: cscontribution@auroville.org.in

### Summary
Please see below the complete table to understand the different options of possible support from the City Services Budget. It is for each one to request according to one’s needs and resources.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>CS Contribution waiver only</th>
<th>Care Package</th>
<th>Half (minimum 18h/week)</th>
<th>Full (minimum 35h/week)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3,000.00</td>
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<td>1,700.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>4,020.00</td>
<td>8,010.00</td>
<td>16,020.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CS contribution waived</td>
<td>3,475.00</td>
<td>3,475.00</td>
<td>1,738.00</td>
<td>3,475.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thanking you,
Sincerely
BCC
(Anne, Claudine, Enrica, Hari, Jean-Yves, Inge, Rathinam, and Hans)
Closed on August 15th

- Santé
  Auroville Institute for Integral Health. We will re-open as usual on Friday, 16th August from 8:45am – 12:30pm and 2:00 – 4:30pm. In case of an emergency, please contact the Auroville Ambulance on +(91) 9442224680

- Auroville Language Lab
  All the classes missed on Thursday will happen on Saturday.

- Auroville Bakery & Cafe
  Please pick up your Thursday (15.8.19) order on Wednesday (14.8.19).

- Pitanga

Savitri Nursery: An Introduction.

Why Savitri Nursery?

In Auroville, we have a lot to celebrate for what has been achieved over the past 50 years, among which reforestation, farming, gardening and constant education are felt by all and benefit all. We also have many challenges and aspirations for the future, all of which can be met with a divinely guided growth in consciousness.

What will Auroville be like in another 10-50 years? We see it as a big garden/playground where children of the Mother grow and mature in how we interact with the environment and with each other.

We feel that one of the numerous ways in which we could contribute is to set up and maintain a nursery dedicated to the spiritual atmosphere that flowers create. This dream came true – In November 2018, a nursery was set up in Savitri Bhavan, behind the main building, next to the garden hut. Here we grow environmentally adapted plants with joyful loving care, whose flowers are given spiritual significance by the Mother. They will be offered to Auroville and the world as spiritually significant gifts.

The aim is to grow in individual and collective consciousness by growing, exchanging and offering plants with spiritual significance that we intimately relate to; to create a field of synergy with people who consciously support it in diverse ways; and to inspire people to perceive and co-create beauty and harmony.

How can I get involved?

We invite you to:

- Spread the message about the nursery and its spirit;
- Visit us and bring back a plant/plants to grow and take care of;
- Donate and/or exchange plants and seeds;
- Volunteer at the nursery and/or planting activities together with us;
• Offer a space where a planting activity can be co-organized/happen spontaneously;
• Offer and exchange ideas on how to grow plants/how to apply flower significance in life.

Our collective gardening time: Every Sunday 8:00-9:00am. Suresh Babu takes care of watering the plants every morning/evening.

Ready for planting in this season (pictures below)

1. Sri Aurobindo’s Compassion (gifted to us from the Ashram)
2. Supramental Action
3. Psychological Perfection (grown from seeds, flowers in multiple colours)
4. Protection (in multiple colours)
5. Imagination
6. Realisation
7. Fire in the mind
8. Desert Rose (flowers in multiple colours)
9. Soursop sapling (seeds gifted to us by an Aurovilian who loves the fruit 😊)

*We have been receiving donations of seeds and plants, and many more are taking their time to sprout, grow and be ready for transplanting.

*We offer plants to Auroville on a voluntary contribution basis, and/or plants & seeds exchange. Generally, guests (spiritual pilgrims) are invited to make a proposed contribution to ensure the financial sustainability of the Nursery.

Savitri Nursery Team

(Anandi Zhang, B, Helmut, Prasad, Suresh, Suresh Babu)

Presentation on Universal Basic Income

By Unity Pavilion, 10 Aug 2019 / 12:07 pm

Presentation on Universal Basic Income and the Sustainable Development Goals with Hilde Latour

13/08/2019 at 5pm - 6.30 pm, Unity Pavilion


This talk is part of collaborative series with researchers and activists of Universal Basic Income, launched at The Bridge, Auroville’s 50th anniversary conference.

It will be followed by an exploratory workshop on Basic Income in the Auroville context, at the Unity Pavilion in September. All welcome!
From Auroville Safety and Security Team: Predrag Radovancevic

Dear community,

Following past and recent events involving Ra (Predrag Radovancevic), Auroville Safety & Security Team recommends Auroville's residents, guest houses & units not to host or entertain him.

The Working Committee is following up on the case.

Scuba diving school in Auroville
By Jonah, 08 Aug 2019

There is a scuba diving school in Auroville. We are based in Eternity and you can email us at eternaldivers@auroville.org.in or Give us a call +91 9159325264, if you want to learn to scuba dive or have already learnt and want to practice or have a fun dive.

Kids from the age of 10 can learn to scuba dive in the sea and from 8 years old they can learn in a pool. You can also check out the movie we made about diving in this area. https://youtu.be/ej6ZiYcb9vY