Greetings from Bharat Nivas!

We are happy to bring to you the second issue of our newsletter.

Bharat Nivas, the Pavilion of India, the first project of the International Zone of Auroville, was initiated by the Mother in 1971. Developing the International Zone, which will give Auroville its true dimension, will be the major work that the Auroville collectivity must undertake in the next years. A refined, a more seeing idea of the elements that would constitute this zone, is the need of the hour.

A journal to present Sri Aurobindo’s vision of India was being worked upon. The Mother gave it the name, Bhavishyate. This was in 1972, the year of His centenary.

The journal comes out now... the first issue was launched by Dr. Karan Singh in August, 2017 during his interaction with the community of Auroville.

In this newsletter, we would like to share with you a photo-report of the various events and activities held over the past three months (July, August & September, 2017), and some updates about some of our Centres.

A living sense of human oneness and practice of human oneness in thought, feeling and life, the ideal which was expressed first some thousands of years ago in the ancient Vedic hymn must always remain the highest injunction of the Spirit within us to human life on earth.

- Sri Aurobindo
Bharat Nivas hosted ‘Alpona’, a panorama of events and activities to present the culture of Bengal through its music, films, arts, crafts and cuisine, organised between the 12th and the 22th of August.

Kala Kendra hosted an Exhibition of Paintings by ten Bengali women artists from Kolkata. Three of them - Barsha Bagchi, Madhabhi Sarkar, Nanda Das – were present at the exhibition for the whole week, and facilitated a painting workshop for a small interested group.

Exquisite traditional Bengali textiles brought by Manisha and Ananth from Pondicherry, were on display at India Space. Nandita-di taught how to drape a saree in the Bengali style!

Musicians from Kolkata - Sriparna Bhattacharya, Parama Dasgupta, Shiladitya Basu – supported on tabla by T. Chatterjee, offered a soulful recital of Rabindra Sangeet, songs composed by Rabindranath Tagore.

In addition to the screening of three Bengali films, the major highlight of the event was the unexpected visit of Sri Buddhadeb Dasgupta, the well-known Bengali Poet and Film Director, and Smt. Sohini Dasgupta, Film Director and his wife. They gave an interactive talk on spirituality and cinema. His latest film ‘Tope’ along with four other films were screened in their presence at the Cinema Paradiso.

Our sincere thanks to Penny and Nina for coordinating this event at Bhumika Hall.

A big ‘Thank you’ to the Auroville community for enthusiastically participating in the Bengal festival. This being the first of its kind that our cultural group has attempted, there has been a lot of learning for us from our experience. We hope to bring you more such festivals presenting and celebrating the cultures of the different Indian states.
**July**

*Kala Kendra*, in collaboration with Dustudio and LEAF, organised *Tracing Narratives*, an exhibition tracing the landscape narratives in India. The exhibition has toured 15 locations across India. 

**August**

Prof. *Sacchidanand Mohanty* (VC of Central University of Orissa, Koraput), and newly appointed to the Governing Board, was in conversation with Aurovilians.

Omar Rabie gave a talk titled *'The Environmental Experience'* exploring the connection between architecture and environment from the primordial to the modern times.

A short documentary film on Sri Aurobindo titled *'Some glimpses from his life'* was screened to celebrate his birthday.

Governing Board member Mrs. Nirima Ojha hoisted the flag on India's Independence Day, in the presence of members of Auroville.

Prof. *Makarand Paranjape*, an eminent professor from Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi spoke on the topic of *'Sri Aurobindo and the Challenge of Post-Humanism'*. He talked about two films (see below) that deal with the interface between artificial intelligence and human beings, which are to be screened at Bhumika Hall to enrich the dialogue further.

The Gujarati community in Auroville organised *'Garba'*, a traditional Gujarati dance having rhythmic circular movements performed around a centrally lit lamp or an idol of Goddess Durga.

**September**

Bharat Nivas hosted the *farewell gathering of the third batch of Swadharma students* with short performances and games.

Adam Kincel, a visiting doctoral student from the University of Brighton, (also a Gestalt therapist) shared his work on *‘Embodyed Research’*. 

EX MACHINA

*Friday*  
22nd Sept, 2017  
8 pm  
Bhumika Hall

LUCY  
*Thursday*  
21st Sept, 2017  
8 pm  
Bhumika Hall
Our Centres in focus...

Sri Aurobindo Centre for Studies... India and the World

Sri Aurobindo Centre for Studies... India and the World, which is located in a new building (see above) since 2016, had its seminal beginnings in 1984, with the setting up of a Centre for Research in Indian Culture and Centre for Indian Studies in an unfinished building in the Bharat Nivas campus.

Its purpose has been –
- to make living the ancient experience of India’s civilization of man and existence through arts, music, dance, theatre, seminars... and personal contacts,
- to experience this Energy in our contemporary times and explore new forms of its manifestation in the context of the Auroville setting,
- to undertake – nationally and internationally – research programmes in the work of Sri Aurobindo and The Mother – through wide inter-change in conferences, which were held almost every year,
- to bring together strands/streams of world movements – through personal inter-action or the participation of institutional bodies – that seek to create new possibilities for the future, and
- to give a forum to the youth of Auroville... now come of age... to study and express themselves in creative forms of research.

Tamil Heritage Centre

The Tamil Heritage Centre (THC), located in the Bharat Nivas compound, focuses on the specific need to preserve the rich heritage of Tamil culture and language. A building dedicated to this is currently under construction. THC’s activities are being temporarily held in various venues both within and outside Bharat Nivas.

Update on Sri Aurobindo Auditorium

We are obliged to keep the auditorium closed until at least the end of November for ongoing acoustic works. We had thought of opening end of September but it is further delayed due to several reasons such as unexpected termite treatment, repair of two subwoofers, etc. We request the community to bear with us for this delay.

Sri Aurobindo World Centre for Human Unity (SAWCHU)

SAWCHU is a space dedicated to fostering interaction among the members of the Auroville community, as well as to hold workshops and classes. In keeping with this spirit following our guidelines, we are happy to receive requests for conscious use of this space. Please write to us at bharatnivas@auroville.org.in if you wish to hold regular classes, workshops and events.

Contributions towards the use of the space / infrastructure based on the number of hours of usage and the nature of the event, are expected.
Regular activities

Reading of ‘The Synthesis of Yoga’ and ‘Savitri’ on alternate weeks
Facilitated by Aster Patel
Venue: Resource Library
Day: Friday
Time: 4:00 – 6:00 pm

Regular Hatha Yoga classes (in the Sivananda tradition) are being taught by Mimi Chakrabarti in the mornings of every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at India Space. These have been discontinued temporarily. We will announce when we are ready to resume them.

The first of the ‘Let’s enjoy ORIGAMI’ sessions, organised in collaboration with the Japanese Pavilion, was held on Sept. 8th at SAWCHU. There will be one session (on a Friday) every month.

Bharat Nivas Cultural Group will be screening feature & documentary films related to India.
Please follow us on facebook, News & Notes and Auronet for announcements.

Venue: Bhumika Hall
Day: Friday
Time: 7:45 pm

Regular classes held in Bharat Nivas

**Odissi Dance** by Kanchana
Sat (3-6 pm)

**Bharathanatyam Dance** by Caveri
Tue & Thu (4-6 pm), Sat (10 am -12pm)

**Hindustani Vocal** by Nandita-di
Tue, Wed, Thu (2-6 pm)

**Carnatic Vocal** by Grace
Sat, Sun (8 am – 12 pm)

**Tango** with Lisa & Monna
Wed (7.30 - 9.30 pm)

**Capoeira** by Sam
Mon (5-7 pm)

**Improvisation Theatre** by Jeff & Veronique
Fri (4-7 pm)

**Hip-hop & kick-boxing** by Vijay
Sun (6.30-9 am)

If you need more information about these classes, please write to bharatnivas@auroville.org.in

**Bhavishyate** is available for sale for Rs.350 at the main Reception of the Information Centre (at Visitors Centre). It can also be bought from our administrative office at Bharat Nivas on cash payment or transfer. Ph. No. 0413 2622914

Please follow our FACEBOOK PAGE at goo.gl/TpPGBm & Auronet to get regular updates about events happening on our campus.

Please email us if you would like to be on our mailing list.

For Hospitality, contact: atithigriha@auroville.org.in 0413 2622445 / swagathamguesthouse@auroville.org.in 0413-2622934, 75983-02450

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