"I need some place of refuge in which I can complete my Yoga unassailed and build up other souls around me. It seems to me that Pondicherry is the place appointed by those who are Beyond"...

~ Sri Aurobindo

"...The 4th April is the Ashram New Year, date of Sri Aurobindo's arrival in Pondicherry..."

~ The Mother (1938)
HOUSE OF MOTHER’S AGENDA

22 October 1958

(Message)

By the victory is meant the final emergence of the embodied consciousness on earth from the bondage of the Ignorance. That had to be prepared through the ages by a spiritual evolution. Naturally the work up till now has been a preparation of which the long spiritual effort and experience of the past has been the outcome. It has reached a point at which the decisive effort has become possible.

— Sri Aurobindo

25 October 1958

Mother: When X does his puja, I clearly see the particular form of the Mother he is invoking - I see her descending.

Each one is in touch with the universal expression of an aspect or a will or a mode of the Supreme, and if one aspires for this, it is this that comes, with an extraordinary plasticity. And when that happens, I even become the Witness (not the witness in the way of the Purusha (the Being or the Self that witnesses and supports the Becoming): a witness far more... infinite and eternal than the Purusha). I see what responds, why it responds, how it responds. This is how I know what people want (not here below, nor even in their highest aspiration). I see it even when the people themselves are no longer conscious - or rather, not yet conscious (for me, it's “no longer,” but anyway...), when they are not yet conscious of this identification somewhere. Even then I see it.

It's interesting.

They do pujas to all these forces or divinities, but it is not... it is not the highest Truth. What Sri Aurobindo called the true “surrender,” the surrender to the Supreme, is a truth higher than that of relying solely upon oneself.

And that is what always brings in complications, conflicts. I was surprised that the atmosphere [of the Ashram] is filled with conflict when he is here - but that is the reason (the occult atmosphere of tantric pujas invokes forces that do not coincide with the completely different atmosphere and the completely different attitude of the supramental yoga).

Satprem: Why aren't people conscious of this identification while having it in a part of their being?

Mother: Between the outer consciousness and the deepest consciousness there are truly holes - which are “missing links” between states of being and which have to be built, but they don't know how to do it. So their first reaction when they go within is panic! They feel they are falling into night, into nothingness, into non-being!

I had a Danish friend, an artist, to whom this happened. He wanted me to teach him how to go out of his body. He had interesting dreams so he thought it might be worthwhile to go there consciously. I helped him to “go out” - but it was frightful!... When he dreamed, a part of his mind indeed remained conscious, active, and a kind of link remained between this active part and his outer being, so he remembered some of his dreams, but it was only a very partial phenomenon. To go out of your body means that you must gradually pass through ALL the states of being, if you are to do it systematically. But already in the subtle physical it was almost non-individualized, and as soon as he went a bit further, there was no longer anything! It was unformed, nonexistent.

So they sit down (they are told to interiorize, to go within themselves), and they panic! - Naturally they feel that they... that they are disappearing: there is nothing! There is no consciousness!

Volume 1. 1958: Agenda of the Supramental Action Upon Earth

P.S. There's a new HOMA page on the Auroville website: https://www.auroville.org/contents/1085

The Ponder Corner

“This is a great time to address ourselves. If we put in enough effort, we can come out physically fitter, mentally more stable, energetically stronger, and spiritually with more potential.”

- Sadhguru
“All Things Covid-19 UPDATE
(Apologies for any redundancies or omissions. Do keep checking other sources, as the situation continues to evolve.)

Lockdown in effect until April 15th (or further notice). Not printing the full GOI order again, as by now you know well whether it applies to you or not.

From Dr. Karan Singh:
Dear Aurovilians,
I trust all of you are taking maximum precautions regarding the deadly Corona Virus. Please be very careful and do not take undue risks. The elderly require special care and attention.
May the Divine Force be with you.
~ Karan Singh

Per government order, food outlets can only be open between 6AM & 2:30PM. Please respect the precautionary measures, such as social distancing of 1 meter or 3 feet.

Food takeaways and shopping outlets timings - Read important instructions about restaurants and eateries [https://auroville.org.in/article/78548]

HERS - 9 AM to 1.00 PM [not sure if this is the latest. They’ve posted various timings in the last week - Ed.]

PTDC - 9 am to 2:30 pm, with 9 to 10 reserved for the higher risk 60+ age group participants (although they can go at other times if they wish, while taking all necessary precautions)

PTPS - 9 am to 2 pm

Foodlink - 10.30 to 12 for pre-prepared bags of mixed vegetables and fruits; milk as well as yoghurts will be delivered to those who have regular booking; dry goods will be delivered on request. Details have been posted separately by Foodlink: [https://auroville.org.in/article/78629]

Bakery - Bread will be available at HERS, PTDC and PTPS; the outlet at Nandini is closed. [https://auroville.org.in/article/78634]

Ganesh Bakery open for takeaway from 7.30am to 2pm. Please bring your own bags if possible to reduce packing material, and for orders contact us at 9443476387. [https://auroville.org.in/article/78636]

Foodlink home deliveries etc. [https://auroville.org.in/article/78629]

Naturellement takeaway (open on Mondays also), 9am-5pm. For food deliveries, please place the order before 4.30pm [https://auroville.org.in/article/78517]

Neem Tree eatery takeaway lunch time 11 am till 2 pm, dinner time 5:00 pm till 8:00 pm [https://auroville.org.in/article/78604] and [https://auroville.org.in/article/78649]

Solar Kitchen: tiffin on order only. NOTE tiffin must be brought before 9:30 or they will not be filled

Visitors Centre cafeteria Lunch pick up time 12.15 to 1.30 Evening pick up time. 6.30 to 8.30 [https://auroville.org.in/article/78600] (for full menu scroll down to comment)

Masks must be worn at all times inside the premises of these outlets, including while queuing. Please bring your own or be prepared to purchase one on site; you will not be allowed entry if you are not wearing a mask. All precautions such as sanitizing hands before entering and maintaining physical distance must be respected. Be patient with the staff and volunteers who are trying to help.

As a measure towards reducing the risk of spreading the virus, it is very important to reduce the footfall in these places (crowds gathering at the same time). In order to achieve this, we request you to limit your shopping trips as much as possible to only twice a week, and to do your shopping outside of the peak hours of 10-12, if possible. If you have special dietary needs due to allergies or other health concerns, and are concerned that supplies will be depleted by later in the day, please contact your preferred food supply outlet and ask if they can set aside the items that are needed to meet your special requirements. Also, please remember that only one family member at a time should do the shopping, and children are to be left at home.

A basket delivery service is being worked out, starting as a first phase with those under home quarantine and those in the higher risk age group of 60+ who feel they need this kind of support. The first phase has already started on a small scale. The larger aim is to be prepared, within a week to ten days, to be able to move to more home delivery and less (or even no, in an extreme scenario) individual shopping. This will be implemented if/when it becomes necessary due to a possible progression of the pandemic into our area or government orders for a stricter lockdown. More details of this will follow as the system is further developed. If you need basket service now, in this first phase, please write to covid19taskforce@auroville.org.in.

In this time of a global pandemic, habits and patterns need to change. Let’s all do our part in reducing the risk of possible spread of this virus in order to keep ourselves and each other safe and healthy.
On 1st of April, in a meeting with representatives of Foodlink, PTDC, the Covid19 Task Force and Working Committee, the following was decided in regards to distribution of Auroville's farm products:

- Foodlink will continue to function as the main collection point for all of Auroville's farm products (vegetables, fruit, eggs, milk, dry goods etc).
- A list of what's available will be shared by Foodlink with Solar Kitchen, PTDC, HERS and PTPS, and few others who give bulk orders regularly, so they can book orders for Auroville farm products in order to widen the distribution of our home grown foods.
- Individual transactions of any kind and Aurocard use at Foodlink will be discontinued temporarily. Aurocard users will have to go to HERS or PTPS.
- Delivery of milk, yoghurts and dry goods by booking will continue in the same way as it has been functioning. If you want to make a new order for milk or yoghurts please contact foodlink@auroville.org.in. Please see our earlier announcement for booking the dry goods (https://forms.gle/GRv12HPWtv9aYWw5A). If you are a member of PTDC you can book your milk requirement with them (they get fresh and pasteurized milk already), or make a request to PTPS and HERS and Foodlink will do its best to give your supply to your preferred outlets.
- The above will enable Foodlink to focus on managing and packing the dry goods stock, ensuring farm deliveries find their way to residents through outlets, and organizing the deliveries in a focused manner, as well as allowing us to put our energy into helping the farmers to be able to do the necessary planting for continued supply of our Auroville grown produce.

Matrimandir inner chamber is CLOSED!

Auroville Public Bus service to Pondy is suspended until at least the 15th April. We will update you for April when we can.

The printed editions of the News and Notes are suspended for the time being, as the printer is closed no one can pick them up in Pondy in any case. We’ll print again once things open.

The Indian Post Office is non-operational.

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STAY HOME! - As you are aware, we are closely cooperating with the authorities of the Government of Tamil Nadu and the Central Government in these difficult times. They have expressed concern that there is too much movement in Auroville.

We request all Auroville residents to only leave the house for:

1) Getting essential food items and household supply
2) Going to the health centre for medical care or to the pharmacy or medical shop
3) Going to the bank or to the atm or to the Financial Service
4) Going to the Working Committee office to get passes for workers for essential services
5) Going to the petrol bank

Please keep proper distance in the queue at PTDC, PTPS, HERS and the Financial Service.

The Security Service at Certitude may check if you are going out on to the tar road between Kuylapalayam and Edayanchavadi for any essential purpose. Please cooperate with them as they do this in the interest of the community.

Please be aware that police check-posts may be functioning. Please remember that you can only travel on your motorbike by yourself, and that you cannot have a passenger. Avoid cycling and walking in groups.

- The Working Committee

Any congregation of more than five persons in public places is prohibited.

Mr. Srinivasamurthy: Completely Avoid Movement to Pondicherry - The instructions from the Govt. of Tamil Nadu and Govt. of India are to be strictly followed as the number of cases reported positive, have been increasing gradually. You may be aware that two positive cases have been found in Pondicherry (Ariyankuppam village) and hence we may completely avoid movement to Pondicherry and restrict anyone coming from there. We are in a sensitive zone, the FRRO and RRO have been regularly keeping a watch and seeking reports. I would appeal to everyone to stay home and only in an emergency situation to move for health reasons or for food but no other, till 14th April, 2020.

Regards,
P.R.Srinivasamurthy
Under Secretary & Secretary-In-Charge,
Auroville Foundation

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A Public Auronet page with updated information on Covid 19 for anyone in Auroville - For those in Auroville without access to an Auronet account and who are outside our normal channels of communication, (like volunteers, pre-newcomers, guests stranded in guesthouses), there is now a public web page which will report announcements and communications of public utility in these difficult times. Please share this: https://www.auroville.org/contents/4953

WC/CTF: confirmed cases in Villupuram Town - This is to inform you that there are 3 individuals in Villupuram Town who have tested positive for COVID-19. They all had attended a conference in Delhi in mid-March and they were announced yesterday to have tested positive for the virus. With confirmed cases coming up closer to home, we urge everyone to be extra vigilant and conscious about respecting the 21-day national lockdown and taking all necessary precautions when venturing out for essential needs.

FYI - Tamil Nadu has gone in just a few days from barely being on the map to the state with the 3rd most cases in all of India, and Pondicherry is now “on the map” too! The risk is still INCREASING, not decreasing. This will inevitably be a “longer haul” situation than we might have hoped, so let’s all do whatever we need to to be as constructive as possible, day-by-day, hour-by-hour.

News and Notes # 812 – 4th April 2020 4
Reminder for those who are in 14 day quarantine (people who have arrived in Auroville): Those under home quarantine MUST ensure compliance with the definition of home quarantine that was posted in one of our previous massbulletin announcements.

**Home Quarantine means:**

1. Stay indoors and don't come out of the house if living in an apartment situation.
2. If living in an individual (isolated) house, can come out and walk around the house or on the terrace, but not venture into areas that are frequented by others/neighbors.
3. No meeting/socializing.
4. Can't go out shopping, even for essentials. Family and/or friends have to get that for him/her, or request delivery through the Covid-19 Task Force (covid19taskforce@auroville.org.in).
5. After 14 days if there are no symptoms, s/he can be screened at Santé and if cleared then quarantine can end. But if there are any Covid-19 symptoms present then s/he goes back to another 14 days of quarantine.
6. If symptoms persist and condition gets worse s/he may be sent for testing.

**Please demonstrate responsible and self-disciplined behavior in order to avoid the local authorities imposing this on us externally.**

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**EcoService - Limited Service** - The Eco service is picking up waste from the essential places and will not pick up from individual houses. (In case of emergency please contact them.) We request you to please reduce your waste to the bare minimum. The workers are not working and the pickup is done by volunteers, so please be grateful and as conscious as possible. Thank you. - Eco Service Team

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**Pour Tous Water - Emergency Service**- Pour Tous Water is working on these lockdown days. The service is dealing with emergency calls only (broken pipes, emergency water supply, pump etc...). In case of emergency, please contact Nagappan (9443617117), Shannugum (9442992371) or Tom (7598132950). Thank you, and stay safe! Pour Tous Water team

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**Gas Bottle Service:** We will stay open mornings 9:00 am - 12:00 pm. We kindly request that everyone wait till mid-April (21 days) for refills unless your contract is for only one bottle (not two). You can give us a call before coming by (see number below) so we are ready to help in a fast and efficient way. We regret we are unable to offer home delivery at the moment, but we will be looking at finding a solution to this. Thank you for your patience & stay safe! FMI call 9626481587

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**Hygiene at Financial Service** - We would appreciate it if people come wearing masks and bring your own pens for signatures. There is hand sanitizer at the door. For the benefit of everyone, please use the hand sanitizer whether you feel you need it or not. Note that we are only allowing 4 people at a time in the queue (sitting on the bench) inside of Financial Service. Others must wait outside. Please space yourselves leaving at least 1.5 meters between each other. Thank you for your cooperation, The Financial Service Team

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**Advice for Aurovilians regarding the Corona Virus Pandemic**

**Introduction:** This is a response to the possibility that the corona virus may infect some Aurovilians especially if they come from countries where the disease is established. While the risk is not great because the Indian Government has prevented re-entry from countries which are regarded as carriers, we are obliged to coordinate a plan within the Auroville community. The Health providers (the Health Centre, Santé and AVHS), the AV ambulance team and AV security services have agreed to the following plan:

**Action Points**

1. If you have cough, fever or breathing difficulty **DO NOT** visit the Health Centre, Santé, the pharmacy, or any alternative therapists.
2. If you come you will be requested to go home directly and phone your GP.
3. During office hours ring your usual health provider and ask the doctor to return the call as soon as possible. In the evenings, ring the AV Ambulance Service who will inform Dr. Amarnath to phone the patient to assess them. Alternatively ring the National Advice Helpline 011-23978046
4. Please stay indoors till you have been contacted by your GP.
5. The doctor or advisor will make an assessment over the phone and will advise one of 3 options:
   a. Self-quarantine for 14 days.
   b. Visit PIMS hospital and have the test carried out to see if you have coronavirus. The AV Ambulance can guide you in this regard. The test result takes 24-48 hours so be prepared to stay in the quarantine ward until then.
   c. Make an appointment with your usual doctor via the phone.
6. **Any deterioration in health**, especially breathing difficulties, will require an immediate admission to hospital in Pondicherry. The patient should ring the AV ambulance service on the number below.
7. You may visit [https://sante.auroville.org.in/additional-resources/](https://sante.auroville.org.in/additional-resources/) for more information including ways to boost immunity.

**Contact Numbers:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AV Health Centre:</th>
<th>(0413) 2622803</th>
<th>AV Health Services:</th>
<th>(0413)4036954</th>
<th>Santé:</th>
<th>(0413) 2622803</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AV Ambulance:</td>
<td>(+91) 94422 24680</td>
<td>National Helpline:</td>
<td>011-23978046</td>
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<tr>
<td>National advice email:</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ncv2019@gmail.com">ncv2019@gmail.com</a></td>
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**Government rules and guidelines keep changing and we are all doing our best to implement them. Please click this link for further information:** Santé Updates re: Coronavirus situation. This information is also accessible on Auronet and on the Santé website. At the moment, all medical services at Santé are restricted to acute cases or emergencies only.

From **SANTÉ**: For alternative treatments for flu-like symptoms: [https://auroville.org.in/article/78231](https://auroville.org.in/article/78231)

Midwifery services will be home-based until further notice. Contact Paula via email (paulamurphy@auroville.org.in) or Whatsapp her on (+91) 7598611950.

News and Notes # 812 – 4th April 2020
How to avoid catching or spreading coronavirus

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<tr>
<th>Do</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✔</td>
<td>wash your hands with soap and water often - do this for at least 20 seconds</td>
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<tr>
<td>✔</td>
<td>always wash your hands when you get home or into work</td>
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<tr>
<td>✔</td>
<td>use hand sanitizer gel if soap and water are not available</td>
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<tr>
<td>✔</td>
<td>cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze</td>
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<tr>
<td>✔</td>
<td>put used tissues in a closed bin straight away and wash your hands afterwards. Treat the disposed tissues as sanitary waste.</td>
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<tr>
<td>✔</td>
<td>try to avoid close contact with people who are unwell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Don’t</td>
<td>touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean</td>
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Additional Resources:  Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India [https://www.mohfw.gov.in/](https://www.mohfw.gov.in/)

Those who have been asked by the screening centre at Sante to self-quarantine and those who have come to Auroville after March 1st are expected to strictly adhere to the requirements of self-quarantine. These people are asked to contact the covid19 task force at covid19taskforce@auroville.org.in to register themselves. The Task Force will render assistance as required. Those who have come in contact with people who have come to Auroville after March 1 should get themselves screened at Sante in case they show symptoms. Please note that we have been informed by the government officials that those who do not follow these rules may suffer consequences.

Joint advice from AV Health Centre Pharmacy and Sante - How to use a mask safely to protect yourself and others

Before putting on a mask, clean hands with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water.

1. Cover mouth and nose with mask and make sure there are no gaps between your face and the mask.
2. Avoid touching the mask while using it; if you do, clean your hands with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water.
3. Replace the mask with a new one as soon as it is damp and do not re-use single-use masks.
4. To remove the mask: remove it from behind (do not touch the front of mask); discard immediately in a closed bin; clean hands with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water.

See these links to other websites for more information.

**FAQ WHO: Putting things in Perspective**

**From the AVHC Pharmacy: New opening hours are 9AM to 2:30 PM**

**Covid-19 Task Force** - The Working Committee has formed a task force to help and support the community in the coming weeks. We will keep the community informed about any further developments. We are living in difficult times and things are changing on a daily basis and therefore we request your full collaboration and support. You can reach us by sending an email to covid19taskforce@auroville.org.in or WhatsApp us at +91-9047778755 (Arul). Thank you for your cooperation in keeping Auroville safe. At Her service, Covid19 Task Force, (Angela R, Arul, Induja, Prashant & Sudipta)

**Call for volunteers!** As you all are well aware, we are responding to an unprecedented emergency arising from the Corona Virus outbreak, and as a community, we are doing our best to deal with it. This will require that we all work as a team and therefore we are making a call for volunteers. We are aware that social distancing is currently the most effective method to arrest the spread of the Corona Virus, but we are also aware that some basic tasks need to continue to ensure that the basic needs of people are met. If you would like to volunteer and help please contact us. Thanks in advance for your collaboration and willingness to help. You can reach us by sending an email to covid19taskforce@auroville.org.in or WhatsApp us at +91-9047778755 (Arul).

**IMPORTANT: SELF DECLARATION FORM FOR TRAVEL HISTORY**

We urgently need ALL RESIDENTS, including Newcomers and both Indians and foreigners (including OCI card holders), who have come from abroad or from out of state after February 1st to fill out the self declaration form at this link: [https://forms.gle/p3Nhvw21goBTRB2PE7](https://forms.gle/p3Nhvw21goBTRB2PE7). This is necessary because the information we have is incomplete due to many foreign residents forgetting to fill out departure and arrival forms at the Residents’ Service and Indian residents not being required to do so at all. This information is required by the health authorities and the police in order to help them do their jobs. It would be best if we provide it voluntarily rather than forcing them to get it from the immigration authorities or by discovering travel history within India through other means. We look forward to your cooperation and speedy responses to this request.

If you need help filling out the form or would like a doc version, please contact covid19@auroville.org.in.

With best wishes to all, The Working Committee and Covid-19 Task Force
ADVISORY: TRAVEL AND VISA RESTRICTIONS RELATED TO COVID-19

We will have to see what the restrictions are when and if entry into India is again allowed

- Visas of all foreign nationals already in India remain valid. They may contact the nearest FRRO/FRO through e-FRRO module for extension/ conversion etc. of their visa or grant of any consular service.
- The validity of OCI card of foreigners presently in India shall remain.
- Visa free travel facility granted to OCI card holders who are not in India presently, has been kept in abeyance till April 15, 2020. This has come into effect from 1200 GMT on March 13, 2020 at the port of departure of any foreigner for onward journey to India.
- Any foreign national (including OCI cardholder) who intends to travel to India for compelling reasons may contact the nearest Indian Mission for fresh visa.
- International traffic through land borders will be restricted to designated Immigration Check posts that have been notified by MHA vide O.M. No.25022/12/2017-Imm dated March 14, 2020.
- All international passengers entering into India are required to furnish duly filled self-declaration form in duplicate (including personal particulars i.e. phone no. and address in India) (as annexed) to Health Officials and Immigration officials and undergo Universal Health Screening at the designated health counters at all Points of Entry.
- For any queries related to health, people may contact Ministry of Health & Family Welfare 24*7 helpline number (+91-11-23978046) or email at ncov2019@gmail.com. FAQs on new visa restrictions COVID-19

Greetings from Koodam.
The past weeks have been strange. Change is entering our lives on all levels - whether we are ready for it or not. Normality as we have probably taken it for granted is disrupted. We are all going through some difficult feelings these days. The daily fluctuations are really quite incredible. Physical contact with many people who are normally close to us is now very limited. It is therefore all the more important to maintain and nurture our relationships in other ways. Heartfelt connection, compassion and human kindness is very important right now. This also strengthens the immune system and keeps us healthy. We believe that this new reality is a reminder of how we are connected and how much we need one another.

At Koodam, the purpose of our work has always been to enable conversation and connection. For the weeks to come, we want to continue offering you what we can do and think is relevant for the emerging situation of physical distancing, lock down and daily change and adaptation. For now here is what we would like to offer you:

- Listening or conversation. Do you feel like you need someone who can listen to you? No judgement, no advice - just an open ear and heart that accept your truth and reality completely. Or maybe you want a friendly chat, sharing experiences and perspectives.
- Connection. If you're in quarantine or self-isolation and just want to feel more connected we will be setting up a WhatsApp group for people to check in on how they are doing, share tips and feel the love and support from each other.
- Coaching. Do you feel like you need someone who can support you to find some answers within? Coaching is a process that enables us to uncover and use our inner strengths and knowledge that we might not have access to at a given moment. Julia and Elvira are experienced coaches and are happy to explore your questions with you.
- Mindfulness for anxiety and stress reduction. Helen is offering a 30 minute guided on-line mindfulness practice to help ease anxiety and stress at 2pm on Saturday. You can join via zoom here https://us04web.zoom.us/j/744703993. There's no pre-registration required, but if you haven't used Zoom before it may ask you to create a free account and if you're joining from a smartphone or ipad you may need to download the app before (If you haven't used Zoom it's super useful in these times where virtual connections are critical). Helen is also happy to provide one-to-one sessions via zoom.

If you would like to arrange a time for a phone call or on-line chat, or you would like to be added to our WhatsApp group then write to koodam@auroville.org.in. We are looking forward to hearing from you.

Much love from the Koodam Team- Helen, Julia, Elvira, Mukta and Niva

FYI - Green Notices on doors DO NOT MEAN that anyone inside has the Covid-19 virus! Don’t help rumors/fear to spread!
From the FAMC: The COVID 19 crisis will have a big impact on Auroville’s financial situation in general and the City Services budget in particular. Not only will it have a big impact on unit contributions, we also expect to have additional cost for health care and other emergencies. Currently City Services has a buffer to last 2.6 months, if we keep our budgeted expenditure as it is now. Our goal is to try and make it last much longer.

In this exceptionally difficult period, the FAMC and the BCC believe that urgent emergency resources need to be deployed to cope with the needs of fighting the COVID 19 crisis, which is one of the toughest challenges Auroville will face. The FAMC and the BCC together are reaching out to everybody in the community to protect and empower all affected Aurovilians and communities, and are committing to the following emergency decisions:

1. We will keep the maintenance paid by City Services at the current level for as long as possible.

2. The lunch scheme will only work for selected kitchens. You will need to find out if your kitchen is providing lunches or not, and also decide if you want to continue receiving it. If you wish to discontinue your lunch scheme, please inform Financial Service (financialservice@auroville.org.in), and the amount (Rs. 1,870) will be allocated to your In Kind Scheme or PTDC maintenance component.

3. Parents, please inform us if you still need a nutrition budget for your children.

4. We would like to ask all individuals and units who are giving individual contributions to generously contribute as much as you can in this emergency situation: please at least maintain your contribution. If possible, we would be grateful if you can raise your monthly contribution or consider paying for a few months in advance if you can afford it. It would help City Services to avoid cutting the maintenances.

5. If you are receiving maintenance from City Services please reflect on your personal financial situation and see if you can reduce or stop it for a few months.

6. The monthly recurring budget from April onwards will be reduced for most activities. The activities/services will be informed about the reductions in direct communication from the BCC.

7. Units are encouraged to give as much as possible, if individual contributions can be paid up front, this will be appreciated.

The FAMC and the BCC are grateful for everyone supporting Auroville in this crisis.

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The Future of PTPS’ 3 April presentation postponed

As you know the AV Services had prepared and announced a presentation about “the future of PTPS” for 3 April in the Unity Pavilion at 4:30 pm. For obvious reasons we are forced to postpone this presentation until further notice. Be sure that as soon as soon these extraordinary circumstances are over we will organize it again. We will inform you in due time.

All the best,

Auroville Service Trust
Calculating the 33% minimum net profit contribution to City Services.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commercial Unit</th>
<th>Total in 33%</th>
<th>Total Contribution</th>
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1“Total in 33%” are contributions that are counted toward calculating the 33% minimum net profit contribution to City Services.

2“Total Contributions” includes specified contributions that are not counted as part of the 33% minimum net profit contribution to City Services.

News and Notes # 812 – 4th April 2020
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### Service: Total in 20% | Total Contribution
---|---
Bird forest GH | 6,926 | 6,926
Yesoda Guest House | 6,910 | 6,910
Menasig GH | 6,520 | 6,520
Buddha Garden Coll. | 6,075 | 6,075
Abundance GH | 5,300 | 5,300
Vandavilla GH | 5,200 | 5,200
EUU - Divyan GH | 4,860 | 4,860
Yasu/Repos GH | 4,700 | 4,700
Rainbow in Auroville GH | 4,427 | 4,427
EUU - Evergreen GH | 4,146 | 4,146
EUU - Humility GH | 4,024 | 4,024
EUU - New Community GH | 3,970 | 3,970
Ganesh GH | 3,800 | 3,800
EUU - Kumar Samasti GH | 3,582 | 3,582
International House | 3,570 | 3,570
Victory GH | 3,564 | 3,564
EUU - Gratitude GH | 3,470 | 3,470
Adventure GH | 3,380 | 3,380
Amiti GH | 3,040 | 3,040
Angel GH | 3,000 | 3,000
Horizon GH | 3,000 | 3,000
Semanti GH | 3,000 | 3,000
Li Mei GH | 2,560 | 2,560
Utility GH | 2,400 | 2,400
Mahila GH | 2,280 | 2,280
Fraternity GH | 2,200 | 2,200
Laura GH | 2,200 | 2,200
EUU - Boomivalar GH Coll | 2,090 | 2,090
EUU Svet Lanka GH | 2,040 | 2,040
Ramachandran GH | 2,000 | 2,000
Sitara GH | 1,980 | 1,980
Savitri Bhavan Hostel | 1,735 | 1,735
Juergen Quiet GH | 1,440 | 1,440
EUU - Moongil GH | 1,440 | 1,440
Sita Nivas GH | 1,400 | 1,400
Nandhanam GH | 1,350 | 1,350
Avinash GH | 600 | 600
EUU - Forecomers GH | 560 | 560
Subtotal | 29,97,039 | 30,08,739
Additional Guest Contributions | 4,74,365 | 4,74,365
Total | 34,71,404 | 34,83,104

### Service: Total in 33% | Total Contribution
---|---
AVA-Sarvam Computer | 1,735 | 1,735
ASSA-Shankam | 1,735 | 1,735
AFA-Vegan Essence | 1,735 | 1,735
ASSA-Animal Health Care | 1,242 | 1,242
LEAD-Being | 932 | 932
Auroanam | 850 | 850
LEAD-Rainbow Swan Studio | 608 | 608
LEAD-Hall of Light | 288 | 288
Total | 91,90,567 | 1,03,93,223

Percent of Total | 88% | 100%
ANNOUNCEMENTS

SAIIER accepting project proposals - May 9th deadline

Every year SAIIER receives a small grant from the Government of India for supporting innovative programs in the fields of education and/or culture. SAIIER is accepting project proposals for 2020-21 in three categories:

• Research
• Activities
• Publications

Please email kristen@auroville.org.in if you need a proposal form, specifying which project category.

Project funds can support human resources and/or materials for the project. Please note that projects are intended to be of limited duration, instead of recurring yearly activities. There is a two-year limit for receiving maintenances through project funds.

We are setting a deadline of May 9 for the first round of project proposals. Due to present circumstances we may have to adjust normal procedures and timeframes. We will do our best to keep you informed. Please feel free to contact kristen@auroville.org.in with any questions. Thank you, The SAIIER team

Virtual Session on "Re-imagining Future Institutions in light of Corona" w/ Ram - Apr 9, THURSDAY 8PM

While we are busy with the immediate needs and care just now, the need to re-imagine institutions and collectives everywhere is an urgent necessity too. Recent reports suggest that the next variant of the virus has already surfaced in China a few days ago, even as the world is struggling to map the different strains of the previous virus. If this is the first of the several pandemics that we are seeing, then we are talking about a world completely altered from what we have today. What will be the role of institutions - economic, spiritual, cultural and educational in this context?

Ram Subramaniam from Sustainable Livelihood Institute Auroville explores this question on a session on "Re-imagining Future Institutions in Light of Corona" on Apr 9, THURSDAY 8PM

To join, click: https://forms.gle/V2ePzLourGp7hdKN9

Corona Online Session Series Every Thursday 8 PM

Corona Crisis to Transformation: Some Perspectives from Auroville

In the thick of the Corona Pandemic, what can we learn about ourselves, society and environment? Auroville Campus Initiative is happy to offer a series of complementary online sessions on "Corona Crisis: Perspectives from Auroville, to delve deeper into the Corona Crisis and look at it from the lens of Auroville’s principles and worldview.

To register, click: https://forms.gle/V2ePzLourGp7hdKN9

THANK YOU

The Youth Forward Pilot Program would like to thank very much all who helped us make this a successful first step into co-creating a program for the Youth of Auroville becoming adult Aurovilians:

Kaiya for her delicious cake, Naturelement for the lovely juices, Mason and co for the exquisite healthy chocolate, Marc’s coffee for the delicious biscuits, Anandi from Satchitananda raw food restaurant for this exceptional lunch, Tanto for the yummy pizzas, Aurora for hosting us on Friday, Youth Link for the space and coffee on Saturday, Angeli, Stav, Isa and Quentin for sharing their stories and taking up the program, Aloe, Atchuthan, Danish, Eden, Lucretia, Sarah, Siva and Usha for your active participation and for trusting us, Inge, Mael, Sushant and Juan Andres for their awesome interactive presentations; Ahliva, Ishita, Mael, Monique, Ramya, Sophie, Sudipta for organising and facilitating the program; the Entry Service for their support.

We are looking forward for the next step in this co-creation

With Gratitude, The Youth Forward team

OBITUARY

Roger Harris

In the early morning of Monday 30 March our dear and long-term friend and brother Roger Harris (USA) left his body at the age of 64 in his Prarthana apartment due to advanced lung cancer. Close friends that had been with him the day before, described him as absolutely lucid, lively, talking about “going on a journey, a short one...”, with deeply shining eyes, and ready to go.

Roger is one of Auroville’s pioneering poets who came to Auroville in the late seventies, starting out at Forecomers, from where he moved to Certitude and eventually Prarthana. Having travelled all over the world with his diplomatic parents from a young age onward, he was well versed in languages and at home with the phenomenon of language itself. Being a writer, he extensively studied Sri Aurobindo and Mother’s work, particularly Savitri, and this, along with his direct connection with the Dalai Lama and Satprem, added to his widening inner perspective which helped him tackle personal challenges he was confronted with. His articles and poems of the time are joyous, deep and telling. His “Auroville is...” will forever be an iconic ode on the City of Dawn (see below). Aurovilians knew him in those days as a raconteur par excellence, a dreamer visionary with a wide world of knowledge to tap and

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always with humour and wit. He was fun to be with, versatile, and strong in his stand for, and faith in, Auroville. For many years, Roger was a stalwart of the Auroville Today team, lightening its meetings with his impish humour, and writing beautifully on topics as varied as ‘Avish’ (the Auroville language), the local culture, Satprem, Tibet and, of course, his beloved Matrimandir.

In November 2012, Roger wrote in News & Notes: “Six years ago, I translated ‘The Mutation of Death’ by Satprem. I finished 2 /3 third of the book by myself. Then I had a motorcycle accident and spent six weeks in deep coma. The last two years since my exit from coma, I have experienced a mutation, a little perilous.” And perilous has been the time indeed during which he grappled with the lost use of the right arm, some control of movement, and increasing general unease. Complaining was not his thing, he would find an outlet in his humour, faith and inner stamina. In fact, in one of his last articles he wrote, “On 29 February, 2012, the ‘Golden Day’ anniversary marking the supramental manifestation on the physical plane on the planet Earth and many universes, my mutation has become miraculous, beautiful, and strange. Before, I used to suffer from depression, but now I wake up every morning just happy to be alive and I thank sweet Mother for that.”

In 2009 AV Press Publishers published a compilation of his work “Alchemy of the Night”, described as “a collection of poems permeated with music. They are songs of an elegant journeyman: sometimes romantic and elegiac, sometimes sensuous and joyful and sometimes powerfully mystical.” That was Roger full out. The book was launched at end of October that year during an evening of poetry, held in the Tibetan Pavilion, where Roger read some of the work, highlighting it from his everlasting perspective of humour.

Now he is free from an increasingly more stressful physical condition. We let him go home with deep gratitude and love; you will not be forgotten, Roger. Our condolences go out to his to sisters Alison and Julia who always stayed in touch and visited regularly, and his close friends Ann R, Marush and Olivier, as well as to his caretakers Ilango and Kumar.

Jay MA-
(We are requested to particularly confirm that his passing is due to a longstanding illness and NOT due to Covid-19).

Auroville is…
Auroville is a prayer and a curse
A suspicious sidelong glance
An explosion of silent love.
A temple in the sun
A fractured broken jar
A whisper in the wind
A laughter and a song
A strong fraternal clasp
A blasphemy of the gods.
A golden-bodied truth
A prayer beyond the stars
A battlefield of bliss.
A child against the sun
A golden thought unsung
A flame that is a cry,
Towards an unknown earth
That in our hearts does rest
And slowly comes to birth
Breaking slowly forth.

~ Roger Harris

Memories of Roger from Anandi-a
BEYOND THE ECH
The word creating filing us
overflowing the emptiness beyond desires and dreams
past the echo beyond birth
silent
Be.

Anandi-a

Transcrypted with you, we did not believe in translations, mainly for Poetry, we knew that etymological translate comes from the same root of trait, and somehow, it is… and at the MM Camp we started reading the poem in Spanish and trying to get the same meaning and rhythm in English … it was like a meditation… intense, challenging, marvelous. Also, after sometimes, I did change a word in the original, something was different then. And we did a full book… Thanks for sharing and for being who you are.

TRASCENDENDO EL ECO - Para Roger
La palabra que nos cree
y nos desborde
nos vacie de sueños y deseos
vaya más allá
trascendiendo el eco
naza al silencio
y sea.
Anandi-a

LOST & FOUND

Found - CYCLE NUMBER LOCK - On Thurs. 26th March in the afternoon, in front of Arati. If it is yours, send me a SMS 94436 98002 – biggie

WELCOME

FROM THE ENTRY SERVICE - ES # 035 Dated: 04-04-2020
Entry Service & Aspiration Team - Closed to the Public: Our offices are closed to the public until 15 of April (may be extended as required). All Letter of Recommendation, B-Form signing & meetings with the Secretary are on hold until further notice.

Our team is happy to recommend the following individuals as Aurovilians, Newcomers and Friends of Auroville, joining Auroville. Prior to Newcomer, Aurovillian and Friend of Auroville status confirmation, for Newcomers, Associates 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 entrieservice@auroville.org.in.

NEWCOMER CONFIRMED:
• Babu VEERASAKTHIVEL (Indian)

FRIEND OF AUROVILLE CONFIRMED:
• David Gary DECACUTUR (USA)

NOTE: The Newcomer probation year becomes effective only after the NC kit has been completed and returned. Be aware that the duration of the process cannot exceed 18 months from the date of confirmation.

An Aurovillian is a resident of Auroville, aged 18 and above, whose name has been entered in the Register of Resident (RoR) as maintained by the Auroville Foundation (AVF) Office.

The change of status from Newcomer to Aurovillian is official only once the individual has filled in and signed the B-Form. An Aurovillian’s name is entered into the RoR after he/she has met
with the Secretary of the AVF with an appointment arranged by the Entry Secretariat. These appointments are fixed by the Entry Secretariat according to the availability of the Secretary, but not at any personal request of an individual.

The Auroville Foundation processes issuing of ID cards only to the Aurovilians who are registered in the RoR.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

INTEGRAL HEALTH
Classical homeopathy  hypnotherapy  child care

We are providing alternative health care for Aurovillians, newcomers and volunteers since 2001. Information on the 200 years’ experience of homeopathy treating epidemic diseases available. Consultancies are online now, by phone or Whatsapp.

The Team
Sigrid Lindemann, highly experienced consulting homeopath, international faculty, and member of Dr. Sankarans WISH association. Sigrid also offers transformational sessions in integral regression therapy. 9626006961

Aditi Patel, fully qualified classical homeopath from Baroda, with 6 years of experience including working alongside an allopath onwards. Dr. Aditi works on appointment 1.30 - 4.30 pm every afternoon, and for acute prescriptions phone her at 9428429642.

Malar is trained in homeopathy and provides homoeopathic consultations in Tamil, homeopathic First Aid, providing follow up remedies etc. Malar can visit your women group, Service Unit etc. and present Homeopathic First Aid and PC remedies.

First Aid Kits with 32 remedies are available, description in English, French, German and Tamil are available. Please contact us if you like to learn how to use homeopathy for First Aid.

Available from our remedy box in the waiting area, for free: Okoubaka to alleviate complaints after exposure to pesticides sprayed on the Cashew trees, as well as PC Shock, PC Trauma, PC Allergy, PC Diabetes, PC High Bloodpressure etc. are available.

Harmony and Samata, remedies related to Sri Aurobindo. All remedies are available 24-7 at our remedy box, in the waiting area. Just come and take anytime. Benefits are well established - no side effects.

Consultations are free of cost to Aurovillians, Newcomers & long term volunteers. Consultations are generally held in English, French and German, and Tamil.

Malar is managing the office, the First Aid Kits and PC remedies, daily Mondays to Fridays 9 - 12.30 a.m, except Thursdays, now occasionally, til after the lockdown is over, probably 14th April.

You are welcome to contact us at integralhealth@auroville.org.in to enquire about the most suitable approach for your health or psychological issue.

Integral Health, Prayatna 2623669

Sigrid sigrid@auroville.org.in, www.sigridlindemann.com

Aditi, 9428429642; Malar malar@auroville.org.in 908054843

JIVA - We offer workshops, classes, therapy sessions and retreats www.auroville-jiva.com contact@auroville-jiva.com  Whatsapp 9626006961

We offer healing and transformation for all body - mind - soul connects, from the most physical, to psychiatric issues, to questions about the spiritual path. Our Therapists are Aurovillians sharing their journey in integral yoga in their healing modality. JIVA is growing to a team of 8 therapists, teachers and workshop facilitators.

Sigrid is available for Online consultations
We plan activities and workshops from mid-April onwards:
“Transforming Trauma”,
“Natural Horsemanship”,
Summer camp with children and horses”
Summer retreats for families - with therapy and horses

Sign up now to secure your spot in your summer activity! You see our videos and photos, as well as testimonials on our website: www.auroville-jiva.com

NEEDED

An AC - to survive the summer months this year. Since its impossible to go to Pondy for the foreseeable future: Does anybody has a second hand AC (or a new one) to sell? I would appreciate it immensely! Dennis, 9047087185

dennis.frischlad@gmail.com

Someone going to the UK from Auroville in the near future who would be able and willing to carry a laptop. Please contact giacomo@auroville.org.in. We would all be most grateful!

MATRIMANDIR

12 Gardens and 800 Flowers
#8 - The Utility Garden - Pavel Bogdanavich

The elaboration of Utility garden topic has taken several steps. 1. Since the beginning of the flowers’ distribution to the 12 Gardens, an outline of Utility garden seemed to be quite defined, as there are many flowers reflecting useful skills and states of consciousness in the list of the spiritual significances. Here are the most recognizable of them, grouped in “sub-gardens”.

- Health (3 flowers)
  Health (‘Not to be preoccupied with it, but to leave it to the Divine’). Conquest over the greed for food (‘A promise of good health’). Hygienic organisation (‘Cleanliness, order, utility’).
Right attitude (6 flowers)
Right attitude
("Simple and open, without complications")
Good temper
("No comment")
Optimism
("More helpful than its opposite")
Chastity
("A little proud and austere, it is very reserved")

Goodwill (8 flowers)
Goodwill
("Modest in appearance, does not make a show but is always ready to be useful")
Mental goodwill
("Likes to show off a little, but is very useful")
Effort towards the truth
("Should exist in all men of goodwill")
Enthusiastic vital consent
("Here all the resources of its enthusiasm are placed at the service of its consent")

Prudence (6 flowers)
Prudence
("Very useful for weakness since weakness needs prudence; strength does not need it")
Return
("The salvation of those who have gone astray")
A whipping
("A little brutal but sometimes useful")
Repentance
("The first step towards correcting mistakes")

Quiet mind
("The best way to learn")
Logic in thoughts
("Likes coherent discourse")
Obedience
("To learn to obey is good; to obey only the Divine is better")
Dreams
("One can learn much by observing one's dreams")

Although these significances do not represent the main goals, such as conversion or realization, they pave our way to Progress, represented in the next garden, and so they are useful.

In this regard, work ("the sure way of progressing") and service ("the surest way to attain realisation") are in the same way useful.

Learning (8 flowers)
Quiet mind
Logic in thoughts
Obedience
Dreams

Goodwill (8 flowers)
Goodwill
Mental goodwill

Effort towards the truth
Enthusiastic vital consent

Work (10 flowers)
Work
(LET US OFFER OUR WORK TO THE DIVINE, THIS IS THE SURE WAY OF PROGRESSING)
Service
(To be at the service of the Divine is the surest way to attain realisation)
Disinterested work done for the Divine
(Disinterested work done for the Divine is the surest way to progress)
Works of love
("The best condition for work")

Skill in work
("Must be used knowingly")
Care
("To be careful in what one does")
Radiating skill in work
("When the instruments of work (hands, eyes, etc.) become conscious and the attention is controlled, the capacity for work seems to be limitless")
Skill in vital work
("This is the seat of all capacities and all skills which needs only discipline to be realised")

Prudence
"Very useful for weakness since weakness needs prudence; strength does not need it"
Return
"The salvation of those who have gone astray"
A whipping
"A little brutal but sometimes useful"
Repentance
"The first step towards correcting mistakes"
Along with "work", the "organisation" group of flowers naturally joined the garden:

Organisation (15 flowers)
- Organisation ("Indispensable for all good work")
- Idea ("Essential for all organisers, on its quality depends the quality of the organisation")
- Organised teamwork ("Each in his place and all together")
- Collaboration ("Always ready to help and knows how to do it")

At this stage, Utility garden's image appeared to represent only useful ways, states of consciousness and skills. It had no central group, and its sense and expression seemed to be minor compare to other gardens.

2. The main flower of Utility garden:

Usefulness of the new creation (Usefulness of Auroville)
"A creation which aims at teaching men to surpass themselves"
This step of elaboration kept its attention on "surpassing", mentioned in the comment of the main flower. It caused proposals to move corresponding flower groups from Progress to Utility garden list, such as "boldness", "fearlessness", "thoroughness", etc. Some people shared their feelings, that these groups of flowers are still more related to Progress than to Utility.

There was no clear definition, until elaboration of the meaning of "surpassing" was done. Its meaning is closely related to Progress: without surpassing ourselves, our progress is just an expansion or repetition of the same, whereas surpassing is a significant step in our true progress. Therefore, "surpassing" is related to Progress; maybe it is the core of it.

3. At the next stage, the main flower and its comment:
"Usefulness of the New creation" / "Usefulness of Auroville"
"A creation which aims at teaching men to surpass themselves"
It is interesting that the "New creation" group of flowers couldn't find its place for a long time: it was placed in Progress garden, then to Youth garden... Now it has found its place in Utility garden, becoming the core of it, giving a higher sense to all of its useful details.

The same way as Existence garden is often regarded as a garden of the psychic, Utility garden finally appeared as a garden of New creation, i.e. a garden of Auroville's essence. Along with Unity park, it is also the most "collective" garden - as collective manifestation is indispensable in the creation of our common progressive environment.

Let Auroville manifest as a New creation, and develop first of all as an environment for psychic, spiritual and universal progress!

P.S. Hope you have learned something interesting about Utility.

GREEN MATTERS

Water Saving Tip of the Week!
Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth. Running the tap while brushing your teeth can waste 15 litres of water. With love from the Water Group, helping Auroville become a water-sensitive city. watergroup@auroville.org.in
**Sunday walks of April 5th to Evergreen with Natasha and April 12th to Udumbu with Gijs and Noe stand cancelled.**

We have to see how the pandemic unfolds whether the two last walks of the season will happen: April 19th w/ Juan in Terra soul / Windarra and the last walk on April 29th to Aranya w/Saravanam (with bus and breakfast.) We’ll keep you informed in this space and on Auronet.

The Green Column will appear in the next N & N issue and on Auronet. Meanwhile we invite you to participate and comment on green issues in Auroville, the bioregion and the world, especially regarding our changing ecological perspective, how we make sense of the new reality we find ourselves in and which insights does this slow down bring .. . Hang in there and enjoy the beauty of a quiet, undisturbed Auroville, surrounded by our beautiful self-sanitizing forests!

Apple, Gijs & Lisbeth for avgreencenter@auroville.org

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**TRAVEL**

Latest News from the Inside India - Our clients can contact us via our emergency cell phone number: Jearaj, 99944-74395 or by email: travelshop@auroville.org.in or on Whatsapp: Ganesh, insideindiaiphone, 8524-953783

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**CLASSES/WORKSHOPS**

**BUILD YOUR OWN STORY** - along with your friends, featuring the characters you choose! AV Art Service offers an online story-building session for children!!

For 8-12 year olds on Saturday, April 4th, 11am
Where: Zoom meeting room. Join by registering on https://forms.gle/FBdD2op1peadMExe8 by Friday the 3rd of April, and we will send you the zoom link and instructions.

This session will be lead by Rashmi, a professional theatre facilitator from Bangalore.

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**TRAVEL**

Latest News from the Inside India -
Our clients can contact us via our emergency cell phone number: Jearaj, 99944-74395 or by email: travelshop@auroville.org.in or on Whatsapp: Ganesh, insideindiaiphone, 8524-953783

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**CLASSES/WORKSHOPS**

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**Integral Studies Online Programme**

Foundations of Integral Yoga, Psychology & Education
4th May - 28th June 2020 (*Apply by April 6*)

Whether you are interested in working on yourself, carrying burning questions in your heart about fundamentals of life, intrigued by what integrality is or willing to explore your emotions, thoughts, energy & habits deeply, we invite you to follow the call.

https://svadhyaya.auroville.org

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**LATE ADDITIONS:**

**FAMC: Help to low wage earners in organised sectors**

The Government of India, the Press Information Bureau has detailed schemes to support the poor as a result of the Covid 19 virus. Of particular note to Aurovilians are the following statements:

- Wage-earners below Rs 15,000 per month in businesses having less than 100 workers are at risk of losing their employment.
- Under this package, government proposes to pay 24 percent of their monthly wages into their PF accounts for next three months.
- This would prevent disruption in their employment.

FYI - The full press release is shown on the last 2 pages, in the interest of Aurovilians being informed of what the government is doing to ensure the well-being of all its citizens. I know many of us are concerned beyond our own households and communities. - Ed.
The Lockdown due to COVID 19 stalled the life of many Indian families not far away, just there, in and around Pondicherry!

WHO CARES? - Deep Adaptation Auroville SOLIDARITY is about providing attention to people in need.

WE CARE!
TO WHOM?
CENTRE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT & RESEARCH (CRDR) is an organization working with rural and marginalized communities in and around Pondicherry.

More info or visit www.crdr.org.in

HOW?
Transfer your contributions:
- Via https://fs.auroville.org.in with description ‘CRDR to Deep Adaptation’ Account 252519
- OR
- Online credit card payment gateways - Bank transfer - from inside India / outside India

Click here: https://deepadaptation.auroville.org/call-for-donation/
Deep Adaptation Auroville will transmit 100% of all funds received to CRDR and will keep you inform you on the website.


CRDR is involved in supporting migrant workers and daily-wagers, especially the widowed, and the elderly living in remote areas, who have been seriously affected from the covid-19 lockdown. They are currently working with 820 families, providing them each with a kit that costs Rs. 750.

- Shanmugam Nagar - Labour community - 250 families.
- Puducherry construction workers - 100 families.
- Irula Tribals - 70 families
- Nari Kurava Families - 50
- Widows and the elderly - 100.
- Marginalised communities living in remote areas - 250

Yours Sincerely, Sangeetha and Damien for Deep Adaptation Coordination Team; Damien +919047722740

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www.auroville.org/contents/186
And also on Auroville Wiki
http://wiki.auroville.org.in/wiki/News_%26_Notes
The Finance Minister announces Rs 1.70 Lakh Crore relief package under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana for the poor to help them fight the battle against Corona Virus

- Insurance cover of Rs 50 Lakh per health worker fighting COVID-19 to be provided under Insurance Scheme
- 80 crore poor people will to get 5 kg wheat or rice and 1 kg of preferred pulses for free every month for the next three months
- 20 crore women Jan Dhan account holders to get Rs 500 per month for next three months
- Increase in MNREGA wage to Rs 202 a day from Rs 182 to benefit 13.62 crore families
- An ex-gratia of Rs 1,000 to 3 crore poor senior citizen, poor widows and poor disabled
- Government to front-load Rs 2,000 paid to farmers in first week of April under existing PM Kisan Yojana to benefit 8.7 crore farmers
- Central Government has given orders to State Governments to use Building and Construction Workers Welfare Fund to provide relief to Construction Workers

New Delhi, 26th March 2020
The Union Finance & Corporate Affairs Minister Smt. Niramla Sitharaman today announced Rs 1.70 Lakh Crore relief package under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana for the poor to help them fight the battle against Corona Virus. While addressing the press conference here today, Smt. Sitharaman said “Today’s measures are intended at reaching out to the poorest of the poor, with food and money in hands, so that they do not face difficulties in buying essential supplies and meeting essential needs.”

The Minister of State for Finance & Corporate Affairs Shri Anurag Singh Thakur was also present besides Shri Atanu Chakraborty, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs and Shri Debashish Panda, Secretary, Department of Financial Services. Following are the components of the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package:

PRADHAN MANTRI GARIB KALYAN PACKAGE

I. Insurance scheme for health workers fighting COVID-19 in Government Hospitals and Health Care Centres
   - Safai karamcharis, ward-boys, nurses, ASHA workers, paramedics, technicians, doctors and specialists and other health workers would be covered by a Special Insurance Scheme.
   - Any health professional, who while treating Covid-19 patients, meet with some accident, then he/she would be compensated with an amount of Rs 50 lakh under the scheme.
   - All government health centres, wellness centres and hospitals of Centre as well as States would be covered under this scheme approximately 22 lakh health workers would be provided insurance cover to fight this pandemic.

II. PM Garib Kalyan Ann (अन्न) Yojana
   - Government of India would not allow anybody, especially any poor family, to suffer on account of non-availability of foodgrains due to disruption in the next three months.
   - 80 crore individuals, i.e., roughly two-thirds of India’s population would be covered under this scheme.
   - Each one of them would be provided double of their current entitlement over next three months.
   - This additionality would be free of cost.

   Pulses:
   - To ensure adequate availability of protein to all the above mentioned individuals, 1 kg per family, would be provided pulses according to regional preferences for next three months.
   - These pulses would be provided free of cost by the Government of India.

III. Under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana, Benefit to farmers:
   - The first instalment of Rs 2,000 due in 2020-21 will be front-loaded and paid in April 2020 itself under the PM KISAN Yojana.
   - It would cover 8.7 crore farmers

IV. Cash transfers Under PM Garib Kalyan Yojana:
   - A total of 20.40 crores PMJDY women account-holders would be given an ex-gratia of Rs 500 per month for next three months.

   Gas cylinders:
   - Under PM Garib Kalyan Yojana, gas cylinders, free of cost, would be provided to 8 crore poor families for the next three months.
Help to low wage earners in organised sectors:
Wage-earners below Rs 15,000 per month in businesses having less than 100 workers are at risk of losing their employment.  
- Under this package, government proposes to pay 24 percent of their monthly wages into their PF accounts for next three months.  
- This would prevent disruption in their employment.

Support for senior citizens (above 60 years), widows and Divyang:
- There are around 3 crore aged widows and people in Divyang category who are vulnerable due to economic disruption caused by COVID-19.  
- Government will give them Rs 1,000 to tide over difficulties during next three months.

MNREGA
- Under PM Garib Kalyan Yojana, MNREGA wages would be increased by Rs 20 with effect from 1 April, 2020. Wage increase under MNREGA will provide an additional Rs 2,000 benefit annually to a worker.  
- This will benefit approximately 13.62 crore families.  
- Women organised through 63 lakhs Self Help Groups (SHGs) support 6.85 crore households.  

V. Self-Help groups:
- Limit of collateral free lending would be increased from Rs 10 to Rs 20 lakhs.

VI. Other components of PM Garib Kalyan package Organised sector:
- Employees’ Provident Fund Regulations will be amended to include Pandemic as the reason to allow non-refundable advance of 75 percent of the amount or three months of the wages, whichever is lower, from their accounts.  
- Families of four crore workers registered under EPF can take benefit of this window.

Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Fund:
- Welfare Fund for Building and Other Constructions Workers has been created under a Central Government Act.  
- There are around 3.5 Crore registered workers in the Fund.  
- State Governments will be given directions to utilise this fund to provide assistance and support to these workers to protect them against economic disruptions.

District Mineral Fund
- The State Government will be asked to utilise the funds available under District Mineral Fund (DMF) for supplementing and augmenting facilities of medical testing, screening and other requirements in connection with preventing the spread of COVID-19 pandemic as well as treating the patients affected with this pandemic.