

News & Notes

16th^d August 2014.....A weekly bulletin for residents of Auroville.....Number 560



To raise the world to God in deathless Light,
To bring God down to the world on earth we came,
To change the earthly life to life divine.

'Savitri'

HOUSE OF MOTHER'S AGENDA

The last canto reviewed by Sri Aurobindo before his departure in 1950

Queen, strive no more to change the secret will;
Time's accidents are steps in its vast scheme.
Bring not thy brief and helpless human tears
Across the fathomless moments of a heart
That knows its single will and God's as one:
It can embrace its hostile destiny;
It sits apart with grief and facing death,
Affronting adverse fate armed and alone.
In this enormous world standing apart
In the mightiness of her silent spirit's will,
In the passion of her soul of sacrifice
Her lonely strength facing the universe,
Affronting fate, asks not man's help nor god's:
Sometimes one life is charged with earth's destiny,
It cries not for succour from the time-bound powers.
Alone she is equal to her mighty task.
Intervene not in a strife too great for thee,
A struggle too deep for mortal thought to sound,
Its question to this Nature's rigid bounds
When the soul fronts nude of garbs the infinite,
Its too vast theme of a lonely mortal will
Pacing the silence of eternity.
As a star, uncompanioned, moves in heaven
Unastonished by the immensities of space,
Travelling infinity by its own light,
The great are strongest when they stand alone.
A God-given might of being is their force,

A ray from self's solitude of light the guide;
The soul that can live alone with itself meets God;
Its lonely universe is their rendezvous.
A day may come when she must stand unhelped
On a dangerous brink of the world's doom and hers,
Carrying the world's future on her lonely breast,
Carrying the human hope in a heart left sole
To conquer or fail on a last desperate verge.
Alone with death and close to extinction's edge.
Her single greatness in that last dire scene,
She must cross alone a perilous bridge in Time
And reach an apex of world-destiny
Where all is won or all is lost for man.
In that tremendous silence lone and lost
Of a deciding hour in the world's fate,
In her soul's climbing beyond mortal time
When she stands sole with Death or sole with God
Apart upon a silent desperate brink,
Alone with her self and death and destiny
As on some verge between Time and Timelessness
When being must end or life rebuild its base,
Alone she must conquer or alone must fall.
No human aid can reach her in that hour,
No armoured God stand shining at her side.
Cry not to heaven, for she alone can save.
For this the silent Force came missioned down;
In her the conscious Will took human shape:
She only can save herself and save the world.

Savitri, Book VI, Canto II: The Way of Fate and the Problem of Pain

SRI AUROBINDO

*The
Ponder
Corner*

*But again for divine works in the world
the individual Self converts itself into a centre of
consciousness through which the divine Will,
one with the divine Love and Light, pours itself out
in the multiplicity of the universe.*

Sri Aurobindo - ref. The Synthesis of Yoga, p.378

Interactive General Meeting to Refine Community Conflict Resolution Policy

The Auroville Council invites you to a 2nd Interactive General Meeting (the first was held on July 23, 2014) to update the community on the progress of discussions to describe the process whereby Koodam and the Auroville Council will work together in future to better manage internal community conflicts.

The meeting will also present the latest draft of the new Conflict Resolution Policy, which (1) defines the way in which community conflicts are managed and (2) describes the sharing of responsibility between the Auroville Council and Koodam regards the resolution of conflicts within the community.

All residents are encouraged to attend this important meeting to make suggestions and refinements to the draft Policy and to contribute to the development of the way in which the community resolves conflicts.

Please attend this important meeting so that together we may all share in the discovery and development of sensitive responses to this issue.

WHEN: 4.30pm, Wednesday, August 27th 2014

WHERE: Unity Pavilion

Agenda

- Follow-up report from the last Interactive General Meeting (held on July 23, 2014) - Auroville Council
- Introduction to Koodam (Koodam Team)
- Presentation of updated Auroville Conflict Resolution Policy - Koodam Team
- Open discussion and input invited
- Call for Resource Persons (anyone may volunteer) to contribute to and refine the final policy
- Deadline for suggestions
- The deadline for input and modifications to the Conflict Resolution Policy will be one week after the meeting (no later than 5pm, Wednesday Sept 3). After this time the AVC, Koodam and the resource people will finalise the policy, taking into consideration all comments received. The final policy will then be presented to the community in a General Meeting and then later to the RA for formal ratification.
- Draft Policy Attached to this News & Notes
- The Working Draft for the updated AV CR Policy is attached to this edition of the News and Notes. This draft has been written by Koodam in cooperation with the AVC and resource persons. Please send your comments to avcouncil@auroville.org.in and koodam@auroville.org.in.

For More Information: For more information, please don't hesitate to email the Residents' Assembly Service at raservice@auroville.org.in, or call us on 887 0288 502.

Kind regards,
Your RAS Team in collaboration with the Auroville Council and Koodam

Acres for Auroville - Kick-off

Our August 15th kick-off for the ACRES FOR AUROVILLE land fundraiser

Phase 1: the Matrimandir - City Centre area and the International Zone

In February 2018, Auroville will celebrate the 50th anniversary of its creation. To mark this historic event, we are inviting the entire Auroville family worldwide to unite together around the creation of a beautiful birthday gift -- the securing of remaining acres still missing for the City of Dawn.

We consider it auspicious to launch this vital campaign on Sri Aurobindo's birthday itself. **Acres for Auroville** is an urgent action for ensuring Auroville's territorial integrity and for enabling its harmonious future development. We hope that all of Auroville's friends will understand the importance of this campaign and contribute to its success in every way they can!

Acres for Auroville Phase 1 targets the Matrimandir - City Centre area & the International Zone. Our immediate goal is to acquire the 7 plots in these 2 areas that are currently available for purchase. Even before the campaign's kick-off, the response from the Auroville and Sri Aurobindo & the Mother family worldwide has already given us the means for acquiring one of the unsecured plots!

Acres for Auroville is an effort of Auroville International & Lands for Auroville Unified - LFAU.

Our committed team members are:

Organization and communication: Aryadeep and Sigrid (LFAU) & Mandakini (AVI)

AVI representative in Auroville: Martin

Donation oversight: Aryadeep, Mandakini, Martin, & Jothi (LFAU administration and accounts)

COLAAP (Collaboration for Auroville Area Protection) website: Aryadeep, Sigrid, & Sam

IT expertise: Sam & Sathish

Campaign advisory: Friederike, Martin, Francine, & Nadia

The COLAAP website, the campaign's communication support, provides supplementary campaign information and downloadable materials, including a campaign Powerpoint presentation. As of August 15th, the **Acres for Auroville** donor page of the COLAAP website will be officially up and running. Donors will receive their confidential donor history codes, as well as their **Contribution Certificates** and **Auroville-earth cards**. We sincerely thank Auroville artist Emanuele for designing our beautiful "Certificate of Contribution" with its upbeat theme of light and joy for Auroville land!

Please send your donations -- whether by check, direct bank transfer, via the Auroville Donation Gateway, or through an AVI or Sri Aurobindo center to the Auroville Unity Fund specifying: "**Acres for Auroville land campaign**"

Let us all remember Dr. Karan Singh's words: "If we do not secure the land, we will not be able to build the city!"

So, we are calling on everyone to join this action - Aurovilians, long-time friends, well-wishers, devotees of Sri Aurobindo & the Mother, all supporters of humanity's future, believers in the Mother's vision. We are asking you to unite together for "the City the Earth needs"!

Let's make this campaign a dynamic turning point for securing Auroville's territorial integrity!

Together let's build a fabulous 50th birthday gift for the City of Dawn!

With sincere thanks and confidence in the bright future of Auroville,

The Acres for Auroville team

Housing assets available for transfer / new stewardship

Please note, Housing Service receives the names of those interested in new stewardship for a period of 2 weeks from the date of this announcement. Thereafter, names will not be taken, unless a new announcement is made. Please be sure to inform us in the 2 week time period if you would like to be considered for new stewardship.

Prayathna community - 1 house - Ground Floor - 2 bedrooms, approximately 97 m2 - For family

Shukavati community - 1 single house - ground floor+1 floor - approximately 143 m2 - Couples and families.

Sri Ma community - 1 house - Ground Floor + 2 Floors + Store room - approximately 277 m2 - For family
Please note that all housing assets are listed as being suitable for singles, couples or families. As a guideline the Housing Service does not allocate outside of these parameters, e.g. a single individual will not be allocated a family sized housing

asset, or vice versa. For details please contact Auroville Housing Service, 2622658, housing@auroville.org.in, or come to the office in Town Hall during posted public hours. For more information please check out in Auronet the icon "Houses Available".

O B I T U A R Y

Kannan passed away



This is to inform the community that our long-term brother and friend, Aurovilian R. Kannan, passed away on Friday morning, August 8th, in his home at Meera Youth Camp at the age of 71.

As early as 1970, Kannan came from Abhjai Singh's workshop in the Ashram to Auroville, and has since then been living and working and fighting for Auroville, fasting under the Banyan Tree and going to prison for Auroville. Many people remember him as the driver in Auroville, especially in the early years of Berijam Nature Camp. These last years, Kannan was the caretaker of Meera Youth Camp.

His body remained overnight in his family house in Kuilyapalayam, after which it was cremated on Saturday 9th at the Kuilyapalayam mandappam.

Kannan will be missed by many of his friends. Our condolences go out to his wife Sathyavath, his two daughters Usha and Shanti and his son Muthu, as well as to his in-laws and grandchildren.

Thank you, Kannan!

F O R Y O U R I N F O R M A T I O N

IMPORTANT re Auroville Donation Gateway

Now that the Auroville Donation Gateway (auroville.com/donations) is getting to be used more frequently, we need to urgently communicate to the community that the Gateway is for DONATIONS for registered Auroville Projects only. Due to Foreign Exchange Restrictions associated with the accounts used for foreign donations it is not permissible to use the Donation Gateway for payment of goods or services, and neither for personal gifts.

SORRY for this, but such is life.

Mauna for AV Donations team

The ACRES FOR AUROVILLE land fundraiser



Securing and protecting the Matrimandir & International Zone areas

"The City envisaged by the Mother is under serious threat from speculative developers..."

If we do not get the land, we will not be able to build the city"

Dr. Karan Singh, Chairman of the Auroville Foundation

Everyone's support is urgently needed to acquire the missing lands for protecting the consecrated Matrimandir area, and for developing the International Zone as a center of human unity, as the Mother envisaged.

Each acre of unsecured land is in peril! Each year is another year of danger! How can we allow this risk to continue at the heart of Auroville, the risk that vital land in Auroville's center could be lost forever to outside developers?

Let's secure the land the Mother wanted for the City of Dawn!

Auroville's 50th birthday is coming in 2018, so let's start building our gift now.

When the campaign kicks off on August 15th, join us in this urgent action!

Organized by Auroville International & Lands for Auroville Unified - LFAU

HOW TO SEND YOUR DONATION

Through the Auroville Donation Gateway: www.auroville.org/donations/

- By check payable to the "Auroville Unity Fund" specifying "Donation for the Acres for Auroville campaign" at Auroville Unity Fund, Town Hall, 605101 Auroville, TN, India

- By direct bank transfer to: Auroville Unity Fund, State Bank of India - Auroville Township

For donations from outside India: Branch Code - SBIN0003160/Swift Code - SBININBB474 / Account # 10237876508

For donations from within India for ordinary receipts or for 50% tax-exempt receipts: IFS Code - SBIN0003160 / Account # 10237876031

For donations from within India for 100% tax-exempt receipts: IFS Code - SBIN0003160 / Account # 10237876042

For more information about the campaign and the possibility of tax deductibility for donations in your country, please consult the COLAAP website www.colaap.org or the Auroville International center in your country www.auroville-international.org

Auroville's New Web Site Goes Live on 15th

www.auroville.org

We are happy to share with you a brand new public website for Auroville - www.auroville.org

This new site will replace our existing 14 years old site on 15th August 2014.

This is a fresh start with around 350 pages covering basics taken out of 3,000 pages from the old site. More pages will be added over the coming months.

What you can do

To take this site forward to its full potential we need your support in the following areas.

1. Check whether your activity is represented. If not, let us know.
2. If your activity is represented, please check whether factual information is accurate; if not, let us know.

Photos and Videos

We are moving towards minimising text and increasing photos (slide shows) and videos. So please send us a good collection of

photos (800 to 1000 pixels wide, 72 dpi) and links to videos of your work if available on YouTube, Vimeo or such sites.

All pages in the site can be improved and if you have a suggestion, a photo or video to offer, even if it is not related to your work area, please feel free to share.

We request photographers in particular to have a look at the site and send us photos suitable for any of the pages that can enrich the site.

Please send your feedback to: webcontent@auroville.org.in

Looking forward for your active support, *Manoj for Web Team*



While gradually news bits are coming in after a universal summer season, and reports and newsletters are being prepared for next week, we here post a poem forwarded by AVI's chairperson Friederike. It was written by John O'Neill from Ireland, who participated in the Cork meeting, lives close to Dublin and meets regularly with another participant of the meeting, to read Savitri and other works of Sri Aurobindo together. Thank you, John!

"Peeling, peeling, peeling.
Gradual unfolding
No molding,
Just gentle unfolding.
Letting go, giving way,
Letting in...in.....in.
Nature's weaving,
No deceiving,
Just Believing in my being....And Yours"

These words of intimations deep
Arose in me while still asleep.
Before I knew with conscious mind
The life I lived was all so blind.
Before I could in all my days
Let go and dance in Nature's ways.

For then in stance of tight control
And battle fierce of mind and soul
I thought of her as foe to me
Myself in her I could not see.

But then in ways I cannot tell
She fiercely wrenched me from that spell
And taught me how to let things be
And healed my heart that I might see.....
That not in rushing here and there
And filling life with fearful care
Could I my earthly purpose know
And leave some space that I might grow.

Now in that space..... separation gone
She and I we move as one.

Acres for Auroville - The A4A campaign for securing land in Auroville's Matrimandir and International Zone areas started off with substantial support from Centres and private parties, setting a promising tone for further development. Updates are regularly given in N&N under the AVI banner, as well as on the Colaap & Auroville websites.

The complete report of the AVI Europe meeting in Cork can now be obtained from Vani.

For all AVI matters, please refer to Vani via vani@auroville.org.in. This column is maintained by mauna@auroville.org.in

Update on the Auroville Radio

After the closure of the radio earlier this year a meeting initiated by the former AVC with the various members of the Town hall and the Acur team was held, after this meeting the

Auroville Radio decided to re-start its service with the hope of coming to an acceptable solution regarding the space allotment as well as due to public request. A sound barrier wall still needs to be built, which will allow us to work in our respective services for the benefit of the community.

Meanwhile the radio was happy to welcome the Future School students during their community service week - Please do listen to the programs they contributed on our site. We are grateful to Yahalom and Sergio who work on programming and maintaining the back-end of the radio and building and debugging the new website, as well as to Sam and the Bluelight team for the help provided to our aging computers. We thank Kristen for her work and Miriam who continues recording all major events and doing the news. Andrea and Renu have sent the BCC a proposed budget that we hope will be considered, as the radio enters its 11th year of service!

The team members provide their services for free, however the lack of a regular budget prevents stability and solidity for long term projects and team member commitment. Meanwhile we will dedicate this month to working on writing new project proposals and to organize a fund-raising. After mid-September we will have the time to welcome volunteers again and provide the hands-on training in media arts and science that is one of the main functions of our task and provides an active door for newcomers and volunteers to be exposed to Auroville's values while serving and working in Auroville.

We hope to expand the aspect of communications arts and science in the wider goal of education and research. We trust that the radio will soon find its right place to expand in Auroville.

The Auroville Radio Team is grateful for any amount you can contribute to help us continue our services- Our account number is # 254369.

Thank you for your support and thank you for listening,
Auroville Radio Team

Security Advice

Dear friends,

This is to inform you that during the month of July, 2014, 4 thefts (VC parking, Reve, Felicity, Adventure), 1 attempt harassment case (near MM west gate) and 1 vandalism incident (Silence KK), occurred in different areas of Auroville.

We request all Aurovilians/Newcomers/Guests to be more conscious of their valuable belongings and use additional locks for their vehicles and houses to lower the risk of thefts. We recommend that women avoid travelling alone at night, and to store our security numbers in their phones to report any incidents as soon as possible.

Women of all ages and modest dress codes have reported harassment, so be on your guard at all times. Be wary of three boys on a bike and do not stop for local men asking for directions. For post-incident support and counselling you may call the Women's help line (open in the morning) at 262-2425 or email AV health services avhs@auroville.org.in

For escort (for people with bikes/cycles only), call Ramesh.V at 9443090107/9443362691. Please note that the guards cannot leave their posts without prior permission from Security management.

To those who are leaving town, please inform your neighbours to keep watch over your houses/apartments. Kindly inform your watchman /gurkhas or house sitters to contact us immediately when there are any people / incidents to be reported.

We recommend all residents and guests to travel in and around Auroville:

- With only Xerox copies of your documents. Leave the originals in your guest house safe.
- Not to carry large amounts of cash or valuables on your person unless absolutely necessary.
- To secure/ tie up your bags properly or to keep bags on your person instead of in cycle baskets.

We would like to remind the community residents and guests to remain alert to the dangers of forest fires. We request residents

and guest not to light any fires and to keep sand and water nearby in case of emergency.
Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!!

AV Security Service (Day & Night Security: 9443090107, 9443362691)

POSTINGS

A clarification:

In the News and Notes of the 9th Aug the Entry Service states: "People who have left Auroville on their own: NADIA LABIOD (French)
In case the above person wishes to come back to live and work in Auroville, (s)he will need to restart his / her newcomer process."

When Nadia returned to Auroville this year in May she first tried to resume her Newcomer process and she was told that this was not possible as she had not fulfilled the condition of staying uninterrupted for one year in Auroville. This is in stark contradiction to a statement the Entry Service assured, when questioned publicly, that in special cases this rule of uninterrupted stay would not apply. Nadia accepted that she would have to start again. She asked for a recommendation from the Entry Service for one year, so that she could fulfil the imposed condition. Then she was informed that the Entry Service would not recommend her one-year visa - A classical catch 22 situation.

The Auroville Foundation, on recommendation by the WC, requested the RRO to grant Nadia a one-year visa. Nadia has not left Auroville, but is temporarily out of station. Her service as a pharmacist and naturopath is appreciated by the Kailash Team and individual patients. She has to work outside nevertheless in order to pay for her stay in Auroville, as she also is not allowed to support herself by her service in Auroville. Unless you are rich, where is the money for the increasing dues to Auroville supposed to come from? - Another catch 22.

I, as her partner, request that this clarification be published, as the announcement of the Entry Service is factually incorrect and will hurt her and confuse many of her friends.

Frederick (Cytadine)

Information for clarity concerning Nadia LABIOD from the Entry Service:

Nadia tried twice to start her process in the last 2 years. Once she was announced as Newcomer, and left to France 15 days after the announcement. She came back 7 months later. We met her again at her return and started her process anew. She stayed 5 months into her process and left again for 5 months. When she came back, as she was not ready to engage at this point in her life to stay a full year in Auroville to go through the basic requirement of being in Auroville to go through the Newcomer process one year at a stretch, (with a maximum possibility of absence of 3 months that will be added to your newcomer year) we informed her that we would be ending her process.

The terminology "Have left AV on her own" is maybe not appropriate to give the nuances of people's life, as it would be more appropriate to say in this situation "is not in the Newcomer process any longer" to keep it neutral.

There is no judgment and no negative feeling, it is just a fact that Nadia is unable to be here a minimum of 9 months in a year, and so should reapply when she has circumstances that allow her to.

It is under this frame that she can get her visa recommended by the Entry Service, so until then, she can be the Partner of an Aurovilian and have an Entry Visa facilitated through the Working Committee, or come and go on a Tourist Visa.

Warmly, The Entry Service Team (Chitra, Ishita, Kavitha, Kripa, Muthu, Umberto)

Corrective note

On the report on the Forest Group Meeting of 01.08.14 as published in *News & Notes no. 559*: Quoting "Dr. Lukas" with a

statement that "sludge is sterile after 1 year" is wrong. Neither will sludge be sterile nor does it need to be, nor should sludge compost or forest soil ever be sterile. Further, Dr. Lukas will survive well without the "Dr." and would prefer to be spelled as baptized i.e. Lucas. *Thanks, Lucas*

Call for participation

Dear Artist Aurovilians,

If you haven't brought your two paintings photographs sculptures etc...to Open Space Gallery in the Visitors Center yet, please Do--Mon. Aug.18th from 9-12 - Remember; the whole piece framed cannot be over 70cm either way. Include on the back your name / the name of the piece / size / medium / date finished and price. You must sit the gallery one half day or send a reliable substitute - No exceptions. Our opening times will be Thurs. Fri. Sat and Sun. 9:30-4:30 / starting Aug. 14th.

Warm regards, *Your Colleagues at Neelanjani*

Community Support

Greetings from Bluelight,

We have updated our community support hours to Thursday afternoons 2 pm to 4 pm, starting from 14th of August. During this time we will be providing technical support to individual users who are running Ubuntu / Linux operating system.

Please note: Blue Light only supports open source software (LINUX) not Microsoft Windows nor Apple OS.

Thank you, *The Blue Light Team*

No hair cutting from Mimi

Dear all,

I would like to let everyone know that I will not be doing hair cutting for the time being, as I am in Europe till March. Sorry for any inconvenience, hope to see you when I am back. *Mimi*

Ecoservice has changed a Phone Number

Ecoservice has changed one of its phone numbers - 2622660 - Is no longer in use .It is a private number now, so please do not call here. Please call: Jayamoorthi: 9047015812, Gillian: 9442067481, Auralice: 7639655954

Thanks for remembering this, *Ecoservice Team*

Cafeteria open for breakfast at 7 am on August 15th

The Cafeteria at Visitors' Centre will exceptionally be open for breakfast at 7 am on Friday the 15th after the bonfire.

Welcome to all!

Cafeteria team

About tomato sauce

We received several requests about tomato sauces of DIF. We had to stop to produce tomato sauces, because of the price. Never have we seen in the last 3 years prices to be so high and then. We prefer not to feed this system. In April we have produced a lot of tomato sauces but the sauces were finished faster than what we thought. Generally from May to August, the quality of the tomatoes goes very low and the price goes through the roof. There is no reason (in my view) to buy them so, I'm asking you to be patient and probably in September prices will come. But...in the meantime we are waiting; there are some other sauces like chickpeas, red beans, green peas or organic chickpeas sauces, ready cooked to toss them in a beautiful salad! *Samadarshana*,

AVAILABLE

Jaggery

The annual sugarcane harvest took place and we processed as usual our organic Jaggery on the farm itself. You will find this pure organic Auroville product in the common food distribution places. By purchasing food organically grown in AV you will support AV-Farms. We at Siddhartha Farm as well as other AV farms are still struggling for even building up primer infrastructure - **Where is the mistake?**
Love, *Herbert*

MacBook rechargeable battery

MacBook rechargeable battery A1185 against contribution to give away, not for trading but for somebody who needs it. Contact: *Juergen* b4tasttd@auroville.org.in

Steam Iron and kitchens items

Philips Steam Iron, 1900 series, self-cleaning, 1/2 year old + good quality iron board. Different kind of kitchen necessities glasses, cutlery, plastics etc. Cushions, 2 persons bed cover - Contact *Vera*: 759 838 5045.

Cleaning lady

Lakshmi, who has been working for us for 5 years, is looking for work on Saturdays full day, in the central area of Auroville preferably (she is from Edayanchavadi). She's reliable, honest and we are satisfied with her work. If you are interested, please contact *Yvelise and Emanuele* at this number: 2623407.

Little kitten

An abandoned cute little kitten needs a good, caring home. She's about 5 weeks old and has white fur with red/brown/black patches. Contact *Elke*: 94865 20868

Two Royal Enfield Bullet

500cc (the rare, powerful version) from 2001 - We bought two completely overhauled Bullets in Delhi and traveled to Auroville. Now we're selling our reliable bikes in a very good condition, including many spare parts and tools. Note: gear-shifter on the right. Text *Darius* on 8377071729 or email dariusseiller@gmail.com!
Thank you in advance, *Darius*

Evergreen organic cashew

Our organic cashews are available in bulk directly from Evergreen this year. 800rs/kg for broken and 1,100rs/kg for whole - Minimum half kilo. Please call *Tamar* @ 9751257796 or *Natasha* @ 9486928874. When you come and collect, please bring your own box/bag.

Honda Shine 2009

Electric start, blue color, 25,800 km, Tamil Nadu registration, call *Galit* 7639321362

Hero Honda Super splendor 2008

Electric start, 125 cc, super good condition. call *Aran* 9655654882

LOOKING FOR ...

Call for waste CDs

Ok still needs lots of CDs for the art installation. If you have any waste in your home, please contact me. *Ok* 9344002972, okjeonglee@gmail.com

Electric wood burning pen

Do you have or know where to get an electric wood burning pen (pyro engraving tool), also just a regular wood engraving tool. Please call 8098740219. Thanks *Zeevic*

Bamboo poles / panels

We have started growing food in Deepanam under the localicious movement. Slowly we are increasing the area of cultivation. We are in need of some Bamboo poles to make pandals for the plantation of beans and bamboo panels for the fencing of our gardens. So please let us know if you have any to give away - *Thank you, Deepanam school (PH 2622450 mob 7598566800)*

Firewood

Dear Friends,
Aikiyam School is looking for firewood for the school kitchen to cook the food for the children. If you have some wood lying

around that you could donate, please call the office at: 0413 2622 358 or *Shankar* at 89031 52339.
Thanks for your help! *Aikiyam School*

An amma

We are a family household and in need of a full time or part time (daily at least 4 hrs.) Amma. Preferably with AV working experience. English not required. Call *Surya Ormeloh* 8098837997

HummVee

You have a HummVee which is just sitting around - We are looking for one. Short range or even dead battery is not a problem. Call *Nils* 8098837997

My OV chip card

Mijn OV chipkaart kan ik niet meer vinden. Heb ik die aan iemand uitgeleend? Zoja, dan zou ik hem graag weer terughebben. Dank je. *Tineke* [Cannot find it. Have I lent it to someone? If so, I would like to have it back. Thank you. *Tineke*]

A Mac helper

Looking for a Mac person who can help transfer files, find lost files and then sync our Mac devices. 8098796955 or email fif@auroville.org.in - With sheer gratitude, *Fif*

LOST & FOUND

Keys (lost): I lost my keys Tuesday night travelling from Acceptance to Verite past Centre Field between 9:30 pm and 10:15 pm. Leather key ring with two keys and on the leather the word Harmony. Please contact Verite office during office hours or *Coco* at Savi on 2622121 Mornings. *Coco*

THANK YOU

Regarding the book presentation of Creative Expression

Dear Auroville Community,

At the book presentation of *Creative Expression / in Auroville, concept and photography* by Vimal Bhojraj

On Friday the 8th at Kala Kendra there were few of us there. I went because I had worked with him, we are friends. Much to my pleasure and admiration I was shown a most amazing book. Yes, coffee table size but not like any such book I have seen before.

The content lives fully up to its title, because the photographs by Vimal are sensitive, intelligent, original and poetic.

Beautiful primarily because they express the truth of the creative process. Hands attached to bodies but not to reveal personalities but to reveal the expression of the body. In a time when creative expression is becoming much more mechanized it is something to be aware of. He shows the order of the environment; tools, materials and light, always the light illuminating sometimes subtly, sometimes with drama.

In showing the book to friends the spontaneous response was the hands needing to caress the page murmuring beautiful, beautiful. There is enough simple explanation about Auroville in the first few pages combined with the images and quotes from Savitri to introduce us in a true and elegant way.

I hope you will treat yourself to see it.

Audrey

APPEAL

A new oven for Kailash teenagers

Dear Aurovillians,

As you may know, *Kailash* is hosting 14 teenagers. Part of the community duties is to cook 6 times a week a full dinner, per group of 2 to 3. Our gas stove cum oven is ageing and performing a full meal is becoming difficult.

Kailash is calling for your generosity and help to purchase a new oven. PT acc: 0669 (*Kailash Improvement*).

Each *Kailashian* will contribute to this purchase, as decided in the community meeting. But it won't be enough. If your son or daughter regularly visit the place, we hope that you will also feel concern and support actively.

Thanks to all supporters,

Kailash

ACCOMMODATIONS AVAILABLE AND NEEDED

House-sitting.1

I'm Charles (Aurovillian), looking for a house-sitting. I'm quiet, responsible and reliable; a good housekeeper; an engineer with practical knowledge of electrics, plumbing etc...References available. Funds available for expenses and small repairs. Anything considered. Available now. Contact: c.bluelight@auroville.org.in, 262 2500 (office hours), 99434 66057 - Thanks in anticipation. Best, *Charles*

House-sitting.2

Ancolie is looking for a house to sit from September 2014, onwards. It can be for a few months or up to a year. Preferably with lots of nature around and preferably in a functioning community (if it's not, it will become it :-). It will be kept very clean and the surroundings too. Thank You. Please contact me via email address. eilocna@gmail.com

House-sitting.3

Do you know of or have a home that needs us? *We, Hamish and Fif* are fun, quiet, respectful, and clean. We are looking to transfer, build, long term house-sit, or co transfer within the city. Please SMS or phone us at 8098796955 or email: fif@auroville.org.in

House-sitting.4

We are Harishini and Ilana (friends working with Eco Femme for the past 1 year) from Tamil Nadu and USA respectively. We are looking for a house-sitting from early September for short or long term. We are comfortable to take care of cats, house plants and anything else you might require. We are both 24 and between the two speak Tamil and English. Contact details 763-998-3917 / andromache18@gmail.com - many thanks, *Ilana and Harishini*

TAXI SHARING

August 19th: I am on a flight from Chennai on Tuesday, 19 August at 23:15. Tentatively leaving from AV at 16:45. Is anyone arriving or leaving around the same time and wanting to share? Contact: *Theresa*, theresa.grantham@gmail.com, 94422-70639

August 19th: I'm heading from Auroville to Chennai airport at 5:30 am and will return after I picked up my friend at 9 am. Let me know if you want to join! Mobile: 9943275746 e-mail StephanieJueteronke@gmail.com

August 22nd: Going to Chennai Airport (domestic) at noon, one seat is available. And/or taxi from Chennai Airport to Auroville

at about 3 pm. Please contact *Peter*, mobile: 9943482149 / email: peter.loegstrup@gmail.com

August 25th: A taxi will be leaving Auroville to be at Chennai airport for 8.30-9.00 am. It can be shared both ways: Pls contact *Silvana* ph: 2622943 / 9047654157.

August 28th: somebody interested to share a taxi on August 28th Chennai airport - Auroville? I am arriving with Emirates at 8.20 in the morning. biggie@auroville.org.in. *Biggie*

WORK OPPORTUNITIES

Two more members for the housing service

The Housing service is looking for 2 more members to join the team.

Skills required are computer and languages skills. Reception of people and checking in on different housing assets.

Please write to the housing@auroville.org.in to make an appointment.

Do you want to see more change? Join our team!

UnLtd Tamil Nadu is a social entrepreneurship incubator working from Auroville for the past 2 years. We invite newcomers, long term volunteers / interns (for a period of 6 months or more) with a passion for social development to join us as a Buddy for the social start-ups we support -both inside Auroville and in the rest of the state.

Buddies are the point of contact between UnLtd Tamil Nadu and the social entrepreneurs participating in our 1 year incubation program. Your role will be to assist in networking,

business model design, strategy, finance and leadership coaching. Buddies will be mentored and provided with training to carry out these roles. Minimum time commitment is 4 hours a week.

Are you interested to learn about social entrepreneurship by being closely associated with a young change making venture? Please let us know: hr@unltdtamilnadu.org. Gjs

Avitra

If you can converse, read and write in (any one of :) French, Italian, Dutch, Portuguese, Spanish, Polish, Russian, Turkish or German and would be interested in full-time (8 hours/day) work in an office environment, there is a current opportunity that might suit you. Please send us an email for more information.

Thanks, *Michael / Rik* [Avitra - Auroville international translators: avitra@auroville.org.in. 9786714857]

HEALTH

Multiple blood tests at Auroville Health Centre

This is to inform the community that for the next two months, a special package for multiple blood tests is being provided at Auroville Health Centre by Thyrocare.

For a value of Rs 2000/- the tests include, CBC, Thyroid profile, Lipid profile, Liver function, Kidney function, Iron profile, B12, Vit D, HbA1C.

The tests are available on every Saturday, but also on any day if 3 or more patients come for the test.

SPORTS

From la piscine

Dear swimmers,

For safety reasons, we have decided to remove the starting blocks at La Piscine. The risk of a diving accident is very small, but the potential consequences in terms of loss of life and injury are so tragic, that those concerned with diving must strive to eliminate this risk.

It is our responsibility that swimming and diving take place in a safe manner at La Piscine.

According to FINA regulations, the minimum required depth for diving is 1.5m; at La Piscine it is 1.38m.

If you have any queries or questions, please feel free to contact Clare, Lila or Savitri... Better safe than sorry.

Thank you for your understanding - *La Piscine team*...

Auroville Sprite Internal Badminton (Shuttle) Tournament 2014 for junior boys and women doubles

Dear friends,

The Auroville Badminton club is organizing an internal Badminton tournament on 15th August, 2014 for junior boys bellow 16 years and women. Those who are interested to participate in this event kindly contact Anand 94433 49444, Lakshmanan 97865 21948 and Balaji 98436 00701.

Note:

1. Registration last date 15.8.2014 (till 7.00am)
2. Kindly come with your partner
3. Bring your shuttle racquet
4. Place New Creation community (inside Aikiyam School)
5. One day event - starts at 8.30AM

Thank you, *Auroville Badminton*

EATING OUT

News from Naturellement & Garden Cafe

Since we are no longer able to offer the usual big discount on our products in Pour Tous Aspiration, you are now welcome to have the same discount at our outlet in the reception of the Naturellement building in Udyogam.

So why not combine your purchase with a visit to the Garden Cafe. We have recently added a new vegan dish; Hummus with pita bread and salad.

Welcome!

The Naturellement team

GREEN MATTERS

Locally grown vegetables - Session 2

A series of "learning to cook, prepare and taste sessions"

The second session will be on 16th August 2014 (Saturday) at 10.30 am, at Life Education Centre, opposite Isaiambalam School.

It will focus on the preparation of cooked Banana stem.

These sessions are being conducted by Buvanasundari.

Life Education Centre team

Notes

On architects' fees

The note below was written in direct reaction to the architects' note submitted earlier. My views have evolved, in the sense that it seems obvious that an architectural service must be organized so it can provide the services required for developing Auroville in the same vein that so many other crucial services are provided. Furthermore that an open discussion, on finance and how we organize income and the value we assign to services provided for Auroville's needs, is required for a fresh approach. Today's costs of living cannot be met by many people within Auroville, the system we are perpetuating is neither fair nor realistic. The possibility for a more just economic system can emerge today and the responsibilities and clarity of its direction should be shared widely so we move forward together with energy to help usher in a new age.

Dear Architects"

You ask why Architects in Auroville should earn less than architects outside Auroville- You have quoted the Council of Indian Architects fee schedule as the superior authority and request the FAMC to justify why they are overruling it. In so doing, you set a precedence of professional rates for services inside Auroville - This makes one wonder what direction and economy we wish to attempt and establish in Auroville.

I would rather ask you to please justify why you think that architects should earn more than other professionals in Auroville like teachers, doctors or nurses? What particularity makes architects a privileged cast compared to these other professionals serving in Auroville?

Should these other professionals also check the various Indian associations for fee references "with an acute interest" and "categorically reject" their current maintenance due to the lack of consultation ?

And then logically, if an "outside" standard fee should apply for this particular profession, (such persons become hired professionals and not Aurovillians) then should they not be treated as such people? Paying guest fees, school fees, rental fees and other service fees - much as one would expect of any outsiders whose contributions help subsidize the use of "free" services for those that "actually" serve in the Auroville experiment.

Can the architects not take this opportunity to shift to another paradigm, in which building Auroville is considered a service offered to the Mother and not a market to conquer and where Aurovillians are not considered clients to capture and charge but fellow sadhaks?

Submitted by Renu

Regarding Architects Fees, a reply to the statement of a group of AV architects

One week ago a group of AV architects published the below note...

Response to Famc regarding Architect Fees

Dear Members of FAMC,

We, the undersigned, practicing the profession of architecture in Auroville, read your posting in the News & Notes of 19 July 2014, regarding the recommended maximum architects fees for Auroville public and housing projects over one crore with interest.

We categorically reject this proposal as it has been decided without any consultation with us.

Moreover,

1- *Your note does not outline what would be the role and responsibilities of the architect.*

2 -*If the FAMC decides to overrule the scope of works and scale charges and professional practice as recommended by the Council of Architects (COA) India, then it is obliged to justify this overruling.*

If you have any objections to this please do communicate to us in writing and with reason thereof.

Regards,

Ajit, Andre, Anita, Sindhuja, David, Dharmesh, Dhruv, Dorle, Dorothee, Fabian, Eugen, Ganesh, Gundolf, Helmut, Jana, Lalit, Lata, Lara, Meera, Mona, Neha, Oleg, Peter, Piero, Pino, Poppo, Poonam, Rolf Redis, Rolfartist, Satprem, Prashant, Raman, Sheril, Sonali, Sreevatsa, Shailaja, Shama, Sigi, Suhasini, Tony, Tejaswini

The "trigger" of this new discussion in FAMC has been one housing project under construction, where the proposed fee by the architect is a 5.5 % of the cost of the construction, and the fee for the project manager is another 2%; both percentages to be paid to Aurovillians

This type of practice is not new, and it is not the first time that it comes up for discussion. In fact, two years ago the FAMC invited all AV architects to come with a proposal to regulate the architects' fees, this proposal should have considered also the specific aspects of AV as an experiment. Unfortunately, the architects never came with one unified proposal, and instead they expressed a whole variety of answers that made it impossible to conclude with a unified approach and today you can find different fees from different architects when dealing with Auroville projects.

The code of The Council of Architects of India most probably is a valid document to follow for all the technical aspects of a project, but when it comes to the fees we have to remember that this document has been prepared from a "market-oriented" perspective, which is the conventional perspective that operates and it is fine outside AV.

Auroville has been for years trying to develop "non conventional" economic models, incorporating new sets of values and practices to apply in our daily life and professional work. You can find different expressions of this will in different economic areas of AV, even in some housing projects as "Sacred Groves" in which the fee of the architect follows the maintenance model and others. Unfortunately after 46 years of experience we have been unable to develop a unified model for architectural/project management activities and we believe that the architects as a collective have a big responsibility with this fault.

Some of these architects have been "enjoying" the "best of the two worlds possible" for many years. For instance when architects bring their children to the AV schools they don't pay the "conventional fees" of any teacher in an international school in India, education is free for them. The Auroville teachers have a maintenance considerably low in comparison with the "conventional fees

proposed by The Council of Architects of India". The same happens when the architects need to see a doctor in AV, they are not being charged with the "conventional fees" of the doctors in Pondy...and like that in many other areas of AV. But when it comes to the architecture profession they are recommending to follow what architects in India are getting?...

Moreover we consider that these overheads in projects costing crores are excessive and are going to increase the total price of the flats to be paid by the future residents, who are Aurovilians. We should not forget that houses are an essential need for life and for some Aurovilians to get a profit over the basic need of another Aurovilian is really not acceptable.

We believe that the present situation is untenable; it only increases the existing gap between Aurovilians working in different areas, with regards to their income and living conditions. Besides, it puts in danger essential Auroville values as equality, solidarity and fraternity that should prevail in all AV economic activities. This is a big contradiction in our economy model of today and it is calling for an urgent revision and aligning with the values that have been developed already in a good number of other areas of AV.

We want to appeal to all of you architects signatories of that note, an appeal to you as Aurovilians to reconsider your present approach and to come with your best set of ideas to create a model more in line with the ideal that Auroville aspires to manifest.

We would like to request to FAMC and AV Council to initiate as soon as possible a community review of this situation to come up with new proposals as well. This first area should be the beginning of others that have to come to align the functioning of our economy areas with the Auroville ideals.

Auroville 4-6-2014 - *Anandi & Joseba*

Centre for building biology

During the last century the world of construction has changed substantially. The industrial revolution has introduced many new building methods and materials. Many synthetic chemicals found their way into our living environment. Electricity became available for almost everyone. Today we experience a boundless growth of wireless devices.

The primary motivation of these developments is economic growth. This unrestrained economic growth has led to the depletion of resources, global warming, and pollution of land, water, air and ether, but also to social and cultural impoverishment. The gap between poor and rich has never been this poignant. Today the care for our earth is becoming of great importance. Many adverse effects on human health and well-being find their origin in these developments.

From this background the building biology is born. Originated from Germany, the building biology, or "Baubiologie", is entering the world of construction as well as health care in many parts of the world. The Centre for Building Biology in Auroville, wants to promote and expand this knowledge in Auroville, and India. Building biology places the individual in the centre of its living environment. It is about creating an environment where people can live healthy and happy, now and for the generations to come, and as such creating a base to grow towards a higher consciousness.

Sustainability is of a vital importance, after all a healthy earth is directly or indirectly a necessity for humanity. However building biology tends to go further, building biology is going beyond "green".

In Auroville we have good architects who are capable of building creatively while considering the inspirational and social aspects in their design; also sustainability has a high importance. However there are still many biological and sustainability aspects of construction that are being introduced in the world and also in Auroville, of which its consequences are often not taken into consideration. Therefore knowledge of building biology, as an addition to our present knowledge, can make a big difference.

In Auroville there are many people involved in various kinds of health care. The concern of our health and well-being has a high priority. The living environment, especially the indoor climate, is a major source of environmental illnesses. It is known by many health practitioners that environmental influences can have a great impact on our health, but their means of evaluating these influences and acting accordingly are limited. Building biology can be a beneficial addition in this field of work. A good health care tries to eliminate the source of the problems, not only treating the symptoms.

The role of a building biologist is to inform building designers to create a healthy indoor climate in their new designs, but also to investigate existing houses for chemical and biological pollutants and man-made radiation.

Everybody who is interested in this subject is invited to share their thoughts and ideas. For more information www.buildingbiology.in, send an email to rene@auroville.org.in or call 0413-2622738

René Janssen

We are what we eat or are we??

A couple of times a week, I go to the Satchitananda Raw Vegan Restaurant in Kotakkarai for lunch. Last week, I invited a friend to join me and she declined, by proclaiming - "I am not Raw Vegan!" I explained to her that the signboard outside the restaurant referred to the type of food that was served, not the type of people allowed inside. We both had a laugh, and went our separate ways. I then asked myself - why do I go there? I don't only eat Raw Vegan, I realized that I find the food to be light, refreshing, and cleansing. I crave that kind of food on certain days - either when it is warm outside, or when I ate badly the night before! I also find it to be prepared with love :)

What does it mean to "be" Non-Vegetarian / Vegetarian / Vegan / Raw Vegan. Where does this habit of labeling ourselves come from?

We will find these labels more popular in the West, specifically in the English speaking countries, where Individualism has been strong. Here, you will often find people who identify with - what they do for a living, what music they listen to or how they dress, their sexual preferences, or even how they eat. For example, you may meet a "Lawyer, who is also a Goth, Bisexual, and Vegan.

The roots of food identities can also be found in the English language. For example, the phrase - "I AM hungry". In most other languages we would either say "I have hunger" or "I am feeling hungry". How do we satisfy hunger? With food! So if you "ARE" hungry, you are more likely to "BE" Non-Vegetarian, etc...to satisfy that hunger :)

We have all heard the phrase - "We are what we eat". This tries to convey that how we eat profoundly affects our state of consciousness, but some people have taken it literally! How does this food-identity affect us?

When we identify with what we eat, we are more likely to judge others for their eating habits. Judgment tries to place oneself above the other, but it has its roots in an insecurity about one's own identity. If we have recently converted to a new faith, it is a way of reinforcing the idea that we have made a good decision. However, by sending negative energy to others we cannot accumulate positive energy for ourselves :)

A food-identity also causes us to behave in ways that are unnatural and unhealthy. For example, if you happen to be in a cold country in winter without heating, your body will crave a warm cooked soup. If you identify as a Raw Vegan, it will be very difficult for you to eat that because it will challenge your identity. Likewise, if you identify as a Non-vegetarian, it may be difficult for you to imagine a day or even a meal without meat (regardless of the climate, your body condition, and ethical considerations). This would be unfair not only to your body, but to the planet!

In Auroville, we have made progress in dissolving our national and religious identities for a shared one. How about other identities - based on sexual preferences, eating habits, etc...Have we let go of them? And are we replacing old labels for new ones, like 'Aurovilian'? How are these labels helping us grow, or limiting / isolating us.

Back to the question of eating - let us eat in a way that nourishes our whole being. This will be slightly different for each person, based on their unique mind-body constitution. And let us offer ourselves to help others evolve, in a non-judgmental manner. So the next time somebody asks if you ARE "Vegetarian", you can say: "Actually, I'm a piece of the divine bliss in a multi-dimensional mental, energetic, and physical body, and in this life I have chosen to incarnate as a (fe)male in the _____ country and culture, and I prefer to eat food that is Vegetarian" ...or you could simply say - "I eat Vegetarian food" ;)

Truth is grounded in Silence and Unity, but language and labels make life more interesting. Let us enjoy duality, but from a perspective of Oneness...

G Vig

For your calendar



AMPHITHEATRE - MATRIMANDIR

Welcome to the Thursday weekly meditation
Listening to Mother's reading of Savitri on Sunil's music

Timing still from 6 pm to 6.30 pm

Let's enjoy the beautiful open space under the vast sky, the special light of the setting sun
and heavenly music in the very center of Auroville!

(Dear Guests, please carry your Guest Card - please no photos there.)
Access only for the Amphitheatre from 5.45 pm to 6.30 p.m. Thank you!)

Amphitheatre Team

INVITATIONS

New Era Secondary School 15th August Invitation

Dear Friends of all ages,

The New Era Secondary School would like to invite you to come and celebrate Sri Aurobindo's birthday and India's Independence Day with a short program including flag hosting and a series of songs, drama and dance that the students are looking forward to present to you.

We look forward to coming together for this joyous moment on the 15th of August from 8:00 am to 9:00 am followed by some time to mingle with sweets and refreshments at the New Era Secondary School Campus.

Warmly,

The New Era Secondary School Team

ART BREAK DAY!

When: Friday, September 5th, from 9 am to 5 pm

Where: Next to Dreamer's Café at the Visitor's Centre

Who: Everyone is welcome! For school groups of 8+ participants, please book a slot by emailing krupa@auroville.org.in, to help make sure everyone can enjoy!

What: Make art for FREE! Auroville will be among 20 international sites hosting an event called Art Break Day for the second year in a row. Last year more than 200 individuals participated! The US-based arts organization, Art is Moving, has provided \$500 USD of beautiful art supplies for this community art event. More info: www.artbreakday.com.

Volunteers are needed for maintaining the art supplies in shifts: 8 am to 1 pm OR 1 pm to 6 pm. Please contact Krupa at krupa@auroville.org.in or 9486287495 to join us!

AV SINGING FESTIVAL 2014

Call for participation in the Children Choir

Dear parents and children!

We will practice for the Children Choir every Sunday from the 17th of August till the 28th of September from 10 to 12 am at CRIPA. We need children aged over 10 years old who want to participate as a voice in the Children Choir during the Auroville Singing Festival 2014.

The Children Choir will sing on the 11th of October in Bharat Nivas.

The children will sing 3 beautiful songs and have a great experience to feel harmony.

Please bring your children and joy to make a special stage together!

For further information and for application forms, contact us at 80989 00364 / avsingingfestival@auroville.org.in / [facebook.com/communityculturalcolors](https://www.facebook.com/communityculturalcolors)

The Children Choir team (Shakti, Minseon, Jode, Anna)

To all participants of the 2014 AV Singing Festival,

1) We confirm that the first rehearsal will take place on Sunday the 17th of August from 3 pm to 5:30 pm at SAWCHU. Please bring your own musical instruments. Those wishing to be accompanied by one of our instrumentalists should bring their music sheet so that we can try to find someone to accompany them.

2) The second rehearsal will take place in the SAIER conference room on Sunday the 31st of August from 3 pm to 5:30 pm (and not in the place and timing announced to some of you by e-mail recently).

For the AV Singing Festival,

Ananda (Co-coordinator) avsingingfestival@auroville.org.in

EXHIBITIONS

FROM THE LABORATORY OF EVOLUTION (LOE) AUGUST 15TH 2014: THE CENTENARY OF THE 'ARYA' - A MINI-EXHIBITION

As announced in the previous *News & Notes* (#559, 9 August 2014), a small Exhibition will be presented at the LOE upstairs, to commemorate the First Issue of 'ARYA', the monthly magazine started on Sri Aurobindo's 42nd birthday a hundred years ago, with consequences throughout the two World Wars, until February 29th 1956 and beyond.

This mini-exhibition, with a selection of relevant books and other documents to read on the spot, will include also an outline of the work done during the same period by Teilhard de Chardin (*Le Phenomene Humain*) and Tolkien (*The Hobbit*, *The Lord of the Rings*), who both also perceived and beautifully expressed, each one in his own remarkable way, something of the New Step in terrestrial evolution.

(LOE: Bharat Nivas Compound, right side entrance, small building next to the Post-Office; 9-12 and 2-4 except Sunday)

CULTURAL EVENTS

MUSIC CONCERT AT ARKA

Friday August 15, 2014

5 - 6.00 pm (sharp)

Sri Aurobindo Birthday Concert

With Australia's leading sacred music duo Kim Cunio and Heather Lee

Also come to celebrate Indian Independence Day

Kim and Heather bring the combination of scholastic excellence and transformative spiritual practice together. They have played at the Whitehouse and United Nations, played around the world, been commissioned for the Olympic Games, and taught for years in the Conservatoires of Australia. The concert will include their commissioned setting of the Dead Sea Scrolls, music of the first woman composer Hildegard of Bingen, part of Chapter 9 of the Gita in Sanskrit and the music of Tagore on the Centenary of his Nobel Prize. They will be joined by Babu on tabla.

Venue: Arka multihall

Kalaimamani A. Kanyakumari and party

Will perform for us

At the Ashram Theater, 61 Rue Suffren

On Monday 18th August at 8pm

Duration 2 hours

An Indian commedia Dell' Arte Performance

Cartel and Adishakti Presents "It's Not What You Think!"

An Indian Commedia Dell' Arte Performance with Deepal Doshi, Kathryn Doshi and Yuki Ellias,

Directed by Deepal Doshi, Produced by Niloufer Sager

On Sunday 17th of August at 7 pm in Adishakti (Sir Ratan Tata Koothu Kovil, Edyanchavady Road, Auroville).

For more information please contact -04132622287, Email: adishaktiprogram@gmail.com

Concert Jan V. Vanek and Estelle Koluda

On Saturday 16th August at 7 pm,
Restaurant Satsanga, Pondicherry

CLASSES, WORKSHOPS

TAI CHI HALL in SHARNGA

Presents THE ART OF CHI - Stevanovitch's method

TAI CHI CHUAN WORKSHOP: August 25th to September 13th
(Sundays excluded)

Monday to Saturday, 7.30 - 10.30 am

Beginners: Chi and Tai Chi basics

Three weeks, three steps through the full 24-posture form.

Taught by Marco, the workshop is essentially directed towards:
Mastery of the body through breathing and muscular relaxation; Improvement of movement through balance and coordination; Learning to mobilize Chi. First perceiving it, then guiding it in one's body with the use of three factors - Will, imagination and muscular activity.

For information and booking, contact Krishna at 2623187 / E-mail: taichi@auroville.org.in / Website: www.taichiinnerwayschool.org, www.artduchi.com

ALICE DANCE CLASS

Hi! I just wanted to remind you that from the 15th of August I will start again the dance classes!

For the kids this will be on Friday from 3.45 till 4.45 in Cripa and can be counted as school sport.

Please if your kids are interested send a mail at alicemorianipoli@gmail.com so that I can enter the name of the child in the list. I can have a maximum of 10/12 kids...

For adults the class will be on Saturday from 9.00 to 10.00 am, still in Cripa!

See you there!!!

Thanks. Alice

WELL BEING (PRANAYAMA) WORKSHOP OF 3 SESSIONS

7:00 AM to 8:00 AM at Savitri Bhavan

22nd August (Friday), 23rd August (Saturday) & 24th August (Sunday)

"It is in good health that the way to transformation is found"
The Mother

This workshop introduces you to:

- Easy-to-do exercises based on yoga for flexibility and toning
- Eight simple, but very powerful Pranayama practices
- Yoga Nidra (Deep Relaxation) to let go of stress and recharge yourself
- Dietary principles for Well Being

Intended outcome

You will gain confidence to practice. By practicing for thirty minutes per day, you enjoy a new level of wellbeing.

This workshop is open to all. No registration is required. To make the workshop beneficial to all, you are requested to

1. Please be at the venue by 6:45 am on the first day and at 6:50 on the other days.
2. Please note that the session on the last day would be ending at 8:20 AM
3. Please note that the sessions would be held as scheduled even if it rains.
4. Please have your breakfast only after the Pranayama sessions.

There is no fee for the workshop. However, donations to Savitri Bhavan are welcome.

About the Facilitator: J.V. Avadhanulu (JV for short) has been facilitating various workshops and retreats in Auroville

since January, 2008. For details, please see <http://www.joyofpersonalgrowth.com>

INTEGRAL BEING RETREAT

22nd (Friday), 23rd (Saturday) & 24th (Sunday) August 2014 at Savitri Bhavan

"As yet, happiness and good health are not normal conditions in this world. We must protect them very carefully against the intrusion of their opposites." - The Mother

The retreat is a fusion of Yoga and the results of recent scientific research with the teachings of the Mother and Sri Aurobindo, to systematically improve your health, inner-harmony and happiness.

Intended outcome: By adopting the practices into your life, you can progressively enjoy better health and happiness.

Outline

Health

22nd, 23rd and 24th August (all 3 days): 7 AM - 8 AM - Integrated exercise practice Sessions on Inner Harmony and Being happier
23rd, Saturday

10 AM - 12:30 PM - Introduction to "Integral Being"

2 PM - 5:30 PM - Freedom from stress

9 PM - 10 PM - Practice of silence in the place of your residence

24th, Sunday

10 AM - 12:30 PM - Emotional Freedom

2 PM - 5:30 PM - Being Happier

Please be at the venue 10 minutes prior to the commencement of the sessions. Each session starts with a meditation and door will be closed.

Registration

The retreat is focused on Yoga, meditations, guided imagery and inner-healing. Sincere aspiration with interest, self-discipline and a mutual respect in the group are pre-requisites for the intended outcome of the retreat-individually and collectively.

To register, please call 0413-2622-922 between 10AM and 5 PM on any weekday, **only if you are truly interested and committed to be present for all the sessions.** The registration closes at 5 PM on 21st of August.

The retreat will be limited to a maximum of fifteen participants on a 'first-come-first-served' basis. The retreat is free and open to all. However, donations towards the upkeep of Savitri Bhavan are welcome.

Note: If you participated in an earlier retreat and wish to refresh a specific topic, you are welcome to join any session with no registration/prior intimation.

About the Facilitator - JV. Avadhanulu (JV for short): I was diagnosed with four incurable diseases at the age of 41. I was miraculously healed of all the 'incurable' conditions and systematically improved my wellbeing. I am passionate about sharing the practices that are beneficial to me. I am facilitating retreats and workshops since January, 2008. I am a Visiting Faculty at the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Indore, and IIM, Bangalore, in the area of Personal Growth.

For more info please see: <http://www.joyofpersonalgrowth.com>

INNER-WORK-WORKSHOP

Introduction to the Integral Yoga of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother

20th August (Wednesday)

•Overview with multimedia presentation• Questions and Answers• Practice in Daily Life• Complimentary Concentration Exercises

•Creative Arts, Interactive Games• Life of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother• Introduction to the Reference Books
Focus this week on: 'Collective Yoga'

These Workshops are conducted every Wednesday, each week with a different focus. Study, play and creativity go hand in hand with various inner exercises.

Place: Savitri Bhavan. Time: 9 am to 12.00 Noon. (pl be present by 8.55 am)

Led by Ashesh Joshi. Contact: 9489147202, 2622922

No Registration required (except for groups). Fees: Voluntary Contribution

All are welcome

For details on the Integral Yoga and the upcoming workshops: please visit www.integralyoga-auroville.com

BELLY DANCING

Belly dancing is for all sizes, shapes and ages of women. You are welcome to learn and explore one of the most ancient, feminine and beautiful forms of dance in the world. Belly Dance is based on movements that come naturally and healthy to the female form.

For more details contact *Pricila*: shuhipuk@gmail.com

SHARAN'S 21 DAY HEALTH RETREAT

Every year I conduct a 21-day Health Retreat aimed at reversing lifestyle diseases like diabetes, hypertension, obesity as well as certain auto immune diseases at a resort in Gokarna. We have excellent results. This year I will be conducting a second one from 28th Sept - 19th Oct. The cost of this retreat may be out of reach for most Aurovilians and since it's an outside resort that has been booked for it, we are unable to offer discounts. However the price is very reasonable for most people living outside Auroville considering what they will get. If this is of interest to any of you or your friends and relatives please find more information at <http://sharan-india.org/events/21-day-disease-reversal-retreat-2/> Or just go to our website www.sharan-india.org and look at the events. The reason that the program is 21 days long is because it takes that much time to reverse most diseases and also it takes 21 days to change a habit which is essential if you want the results to stay.

Dr Nandita Shah

HATHA YOGA & THERAPEUTIC YOGA IN ARKA

Hatha yoga makes your body healthier, increasing flexibility and strength, and your mind calmer, reducing physical and mental stress.

Alexia has been trained by Bharath Shetty at Yoga India in Mysore, recognized as one of the top 20 international yoga institutes. She did the 500 hours advance program, with Hatha and Ashtanga Vinyasa styles. She will offer yoga classes at Arka this week only:

Therapeutic yoga for Seniors - Mon, Wed, 3:30pm-5 (Aug 18, 20)

This program includes gentle and meditative asana practice, pranayama, and short discussions about how yoga can help with different health conditions.

Mysore Hatha Yoga (Mixed levels) - Tues 5pm-6:30, Fri 3:30pm-5 (Aug 19, 22)

Alexia will make sure you build strong bases for your practice and she will transmit the meditative aspect of yoga. Classes will end with pranayama, and will leave you energized and relaxed

Mysore Hatha Yoga (Intermediate) - Thurs 7:30am-9, Sat 6:45am-8 (Aug 21, 23)

perineaualexia@gmail.com or 09739040765.

SPOKEN TAMIL LESSONS

Twice a week - Monday and Wednesday

Time 4:15 pm. Duration 1:15 per class for 4 months at 'former Last School Campus' (Behind the Health Centre)

Contact - shankar@auroville.org.in - 8903152339

THAI MASSAGE

TerraSoul Community Project introduces: Thai Massage Research Auroville. (TMRA) Introduction to Basics and Dynamics of Thai Massage. Every Sunday workshop from 9.30 am to 12 am in Sunspace. (Windarra farm).

Welcome everybody interested in an inner exploration. The first 30 min. will be a Qi Gong practice to reconnect mind and body.

Contact # 944.3434182 - *Juan*

CLASSICAL MUSIC AND CONTEMPORARY DANCE CLASS

Organize Classical Music Class for the beginners & advancers, Contemporary Dance class for the beginners & Bharat Natiyam Class and Veena Class.

The classes are being held at SAWCHU building (Bharat Nivas), in the weekends, Saturday and Sunday.

The funds for organizing the classes is being supported partly by SAIER, the balance amount is shared by the students.

Interested children, women & men contact: Grace@auroville.org.in.

NEW CREATION DANCE STUDIO SCHEDULE

MONDAY:

5-6pm: Pilates basic (Savitri)

TUESDAY:

7.30-8.30am: Pilates basic (Savitri)

4-5pm: Aerobics school students (Elodie)

5-6pm: Aerobics beginners/intermediate (Elodie)

6-7pm: Hip Hop for kids (Sathish)

WEDNESDAY:

6-7.30am: Ballet (Marianna)

3-6: Ballet school students (Marianna)

6-7: Nia Dance (Ursula)

7-8.30: Hip Hop for kids (Sathish)

THURSDAY:

5-6pm: Fitness on Swiss ball (Savitri)

7 -8.30pm: Salsa (Raja)

FRIDAY:

7-8.30am: Ballet (Marianna)

5-6pm: Aerobics (Elodie)

SATURDAY:

7.30-8.30am: Pilates basic (Savitri)

8.30-10am: Gymnastics for school students (Terra)

3-5pm: Hip Hop for kids (Sathish)

F I L M S



C I N E M A - Bharat Nivas - AUDITORIUM

FRIDAY 22 AUGUST - 7:30 PM (Film show starting at 7.45 sharp)

"APUR PANCHALI" (The Song of Apu)

Written and Directed by Kaushik GANGULI - India (West Bengal), 2013

With: Cast: Ardhendu Banerjee (as young Subir Banerjee), Parambrata Chattopadhyay (as older Subir Banerjee), Gaurav Chakraborty (as Arka), Parno Mitra (as Ashima)

Synopsis: This fiction film recounts the real life story inspired by Subir Banerjee, the child actor who played the iconic role of Apu in Satyajit Ray's masterpiece "Pather Panchali" (The Song of the Road), which even today remains one of the 100 greatest films of all time. It was in August 1955, when the film was released theatrically, and it has been 58 long years hence. But ironically Subir 'Apu' Banerjee never became a part of any film again in his entire life... This Kaushik Ganguly film is a tribute to the world's most celebrated child actor and the film won the Special [Indian Cinema] Centenary Award at the 44th IFFI, Goa, 2013. Projection in collaboration with the film producer in Kolkata.

Original Bengali version with English subtitles - Black & White and Colour - 1h.37'



"The Eco Film Club"

SADHANA FOREST, AUGUST 22,
FRIDAY AT 7PM

THE PRICE OF SUGAR

Documentary (Consumer Awareness)- 90 minutes, 2007.
Directed by Bill Haney. English.

Every year, the United States buys 200,000 tons of sugar from the Dominican Republic. The vast majority of workers in the Dominican sugar industry are from neighboring Haiti, the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. The movie tells us about the conditions of these workers, their vulnerability as undocumented immigrants and the rampant racism against Haitians. The workers are often reluctant to file complaints regarding labor abuses due to fear of retaliation. The people who are involved in the struggle to improve their working conditions face enormous challenges. Despite prolonged international scrutiny, the situation still remains dire.

Before the movie at exactly 16:30 you are welcome to join us for a full tour of Sadhana Forest and an update of our most recent work!

After the film you are welcome to join us for a free 100% vegan organic dinner!!

Free bus service to the TOUR OF SADHANA FOREST and the ECO FILM CLUB

DEPARTURE SOLAR KITCHEN: 16:00 and RETURN FROM SADHANA FOREST: 21:30

Free bus service to the ECO FILM CLUB

DEPARTURE SOLAR KITCHEN: 18:00 and RETURN FROM SADHANA FOREST: 21:30

The bus service is operated by Sadhana Forest. For more information about the bus service please contact Sadhana Forest at 2677682 or 2677683 or sadhanaforest@auroville.org.in



Cinema Paradiso

Multimedia Center (MMC) Auditorium

Film programme 18 August 2014 to 24 August 2014

Kindly do not bringing food, drinks, snacks, munchies or your pets into the auditorium.

Indian - Monday 18 August, 8.00 pm:

- SCHATTEN DER ZEIT (Shadows of Time)

Germany, 2004, Writer-Dir. Florian Gallenberger w/ Tannishtha Chatterjee, Prashant Narayanan, Tillotama Shome, and others, Drama-Romance, 122 min, Bengali-English w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR

Ravi is an indented boy-laborer outside Calcutta. He is saving money to buy his own release. Yet when young Masha, a girl of his own age, is sold into service, Ravi gives her his saving, hoping she could escape. They promise to meet when he can free himself. Years later, the adult Ravi is finally free; he begins working for an old carpet seller and his granddaughter, Deepa. Masha in the meantime has become a courtesan and is romanced by Yani Mishra. Masha and Ravi look for each other but they do not meet. Masha marries Yani, and Ravi, thinking Masha has forgotten him, finally marries Deepa. But their love story does not end there...

German - Tuesday 19 August, 8:00 pm:

- ADOPTED

Germany 2013, Dir. Gudrun F. Widlok, Rouven Rech, Documentary, 89 min, German w/English subtitles, Rated:NR
In collaboration with Goethe Institute/Max Mueller Bhavan
A documental utopia about an extraordinary intercultural exchange: African extended families adopt European grown-ups, who are disowned by their families. The film follows three Europeans, who have been adopted by families in Ghana.

Interesting - Wednesday 20 August, 8.00 pm:

- THE UNKNOWN KNOWN

USA, 2013, Dir. Errol Morris, Documentary, English, 103 mins, Rated: G
Former United States Secretary of Defense, Donald Rumsfeld, discusses his career in Washington D.C. from his days as a congressman in the early 1960s to planning the invasion of Iraq in 2003.

French - Thursday 21 August, 8.00 pm:

- LA VÉNUM À LA FOURRURE (Venus in Fur)

France, 2013, Dir. Roman Polanski w/ Emmanuelle Seigner, Mathieu Almaric, Comedy, 93 min, French WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES, Rated: PG.

Alone in a Parisian theater auditioning comedians for the play he is about to stage, Thomas is lamenting on the poor performance of the candidates. He is getting ready to leave when Vanda pops up!...

Cesar best director 2014

International - Saturday 23 August, 8:00 pm:

- INSIDE LLEWYN DAVIS

USA, 2013, Dir. Ethan & Joel Coen w/ Oscar Isaac, Carey Mulligan, John Goodman and others, Drama, 104 min, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: R

A week in the life of a young singer as he navigates the Greenwich Village folk scene of 1961.

Children's Film - Sunday 24 August, 4:30 pm:

- THE GREAT MOUSE DETECTIVE

USA, 1986, Dir. Ron Clements, Burny Mattinson, w/ Vincent Price, Barrie Ingham, Val Bettin, 74 min, Adventure-Animation-Family, English, Rated: G

In Victorian London, England, a little mouse girl's toymaker father is abducted by a peg legged bat. She enlists the aid of Basil of Baker Street, the rodent world's answer to Sherlock Holmes. The case expands as Basil uncovers the crime's link to a plot against the Crown itself.

John Cassavetes Film Festival @ CINECLUB

Ciné-Club - Sunday 24 August, 8:00 pm:

- SHADOWS

USA, 1959, Dir. John Cassavetes w/Ben Carruthers, Lelia Goldoni, and others, 87 min, Drama, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: PG

This directorial debut revolves around a romance in New York City between Lelia, a light-skinned black woman, and Tony, a white man. The relationship is put in jeopardy when Tony meets Lelia's darker-skinned jazz singer brother, Hugh, and discovers that her racial heritage is not what he thought it was. Shot on location in Manhattan with a mostly nonprofessional cast and crew, this is a penetrating work that is widely considered the forerunner of the American independent film movement.

Rating codes we often use are from Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA): G=General Audiences, PG=Parental guidance suggested, PG-13=Parents strongly cautioned, R=Restricted (equivalent to Indian rating: A i.e. for Adults), NR=Film Not rated, Rating awaited, or Rating not available.

As a courtesy to the other viewers please be sweet and stop chatting after the film starts.

For scheduling programs at MMC/CP venue: please email us at mmcauditorium@auroville.org.in. We appreciate your continued support. - Thanking You, MMC/CP Group - Account# 105106, mmcauditorium@auroville.org.in

SOME ESSENTIAL SERVICES

Some Auroville Acronyms: ABC Auroville Board of Commerce; ABS Auroville Board of Services; AVC Auroville Council; BCC Budget Coordination Committee; FAMC Funds and Assets Management Committee; FS Financial Service; HRT Human Resource Team; LCC Land Consolidation Committee; LMTF Land Management Task Force; LRM Land and Resources Management; PTDC Pour Tous Distribution Centre; WC Working Committee

[Kindly let us know of any changes in opening/closing hours for the service. Eds]

Auroville Ambulance: 9442224680

Auroville Library, Crown Road: May and June opening hours:

Monday - 9:00 to 12:30 and 14:00 to 16:30

Tuesday; Wednesday; Thursday; Friday and Saturday - 9:00 to 12:30.

AvHC: This is to inform you that due to popular demand, from 3rd June onwards, we are extending our Doctors' consultation hours from 8.30 to 1pm and 2 to 5.30 pm daily except Saturday which remains a half day. The Pharmacy will maintain its present timings (8 am to 5 pm). *Av HC*

City Transport: Pick up and Drop Shuttle Service, per passenger fares. Phone Visitors Centre 262-2611 or 9487650951 daily 9.30am-6.00pm and Fri-Sat-Sun evenings up to 9.30pm (10.00pm for return trips).

Day/Night Guard: Auroville Security: Please call Ramesh.V at 9443090107/9443362691 in case of emergency or if you need an escort (for people with bikes/cycles only) or assistance. You can also contact us at avsecurity@auroville.org.in

Eco Service, Kottakarai: Jayamurthy - 904 701 5812 / Gillian - 9442067481, email: ecoservice@auroville.org.in / Auralice - 763-965-5954

Entry Service, Multimedia Center: 1st floor, Town hall Complex: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays: 10.00am to 12.00pm for enquiries/applications. Thursdays: 2:00 to 3:30pm. B Form filling for newly resident Aurovilians and youth turning 18.

Financial Service, Town Hall and Aspiration: Mon to Sat, 9 to 12.30 and 3 to 4.30pm

Free allopathic medical treatment by Dr. Amarnath in Arati One. Tel.: 262 24 92; email: amarnath@auroville.org.in

Free Store: We will be open every morning except for Thursdays. We will not be open in the afternoons. Mon-Sat 9am - 12.30pm (closed Thurs)

Free Store Tailoring Service: Repair work will be received only from 1st to 15th of every month. Timings will be same as Free Store.

Auroville Gas Service, Service Area: Near Tele Service" and BSNL Telephone Exchange. Monday to Saturday: 9 to 1 and 2 to 4 pm

Guest Service Solar Kitchen: 1st floor. Open every morning (including Sunday) from 9.30 to 12.30. Afternoon from 1pm to 4pm (except Sunday)

Housing Service, Town Hall: Public hours are Monday & Friday 2:30 to 4:30pm, and Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday 9:00 to 11:30am. No public hours on Wednesday.

Integral Health: Classical homeopathy, hypnotherapy, midwifery, counselling, Shiatsu, energy work / integralhealth@auroville.org.in - 2623669 / Mon-Sat 9 am - 5 pm, preferably on appointment.

Kailash Clinic, Kailash: Call 2622803 for an appointment during morning hours from 8.30am to 12.30pm

LOE, Lab. Of Evolution, Bharat Nivas: Mon to Sat 9am-12 noon. and Monday to Friday 2.30pm to 4.30pm.

Matrimandir: The Inner Chamber is open for Aurovilians daily

06.00am to 08.45am. 11.30 am to 12.30pm (02.00 pm on Sunday)

04.30 pm to 08.00pm

Please keep the Chamber neat and tidy. Straighten your mat and put back all extra cushions neatly by the door. Please refrain from rearranging the cushions which are laid out for you.

To bring family members and personal friends please book by calling 2622579 from 9.30 to 11.30 am any day except Tuesday. Be at the office gate of Matrimandir by 8.45am on the day of the visit.

Please remain with your guests throughout the visit.

Matrimandir is closed to visitors on Tuesday.

Aurovilians wanting to bring their children to the Matrimandir are recommended to do so on Tuesdays between 9 am and 11.15am.

Midwifery care in Auroville: 24/7 for emergencies and birth. pregnancy consultations and preparing for natural gentle birth, consultations for breastfeeding and post-natal care. by appointment phone 8098900471. Manuela

Music library, Town Hall: Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat from 9 to 12.30 and Tues, Thurs, Sat from 2 to 5:30pm.

Nandini Tailor section: (Auroshilpam): Open to public on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday full day. No new order taken last week of the month.

OutreachMedia Services: The services provided by OutreachMedia include: dealing with all media that come to Auroville for filming, writing, photographing - reporters, journalist and writers. 2622-098 or 9443602194 or 9952463904 Or Robert at 8940 568 305. Multi-Media Centre. Office hours: Monday-Friday: 9.30am to 12.30pm. Afternoons and Saturdays by appointment.

Puncture service, service area: next to gas bottle service, opposite road service; Monday to Saturday 9am to 4 30pm; phone 2622741, cell 9442891235.

Auroville Residents Service timings: Please note that the Auroville Residents Service office will be open from Monday to Friday morning's from 9:00 am to 12.00 pm and afternoon Tuesday and Thursday from 2:30 to 4:30.

Thank you, Residents Service Team

Savi: facilitates voluntary services and internships in Units & activities of Auroville; clarifying your needs of long term volunteers, helping with visa, and following-up these external resources to make their stay mutually beneficial. Opening hours in Unity Pavilion for visits, waiver forms signing and welcome Monday to Friday 10 12am. Phone 262 2121 - email study@auroville.org.in

Skyworks: Tree pruning, removal of hazardous trees and branches over fragile structures, power line cleaning. SatYaaji 958 516 58 82

Vehicle Service, Town Hall: Monday - Friday : 09.00am - 12.30 pm, 02.00pm - 4.30pm. Saturday: 09.00am - 12.30pm

Video library, Town Hall: Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat from 10 am to 1 pm and Tues, Thurs, Sat from 3 to 6pm.

Women's Helpline - For women needing assistance after an incident of violence on Auroville roads. Please call 262 2425 (mornings) or email avhs@auroville.org.in

ACT OVERVIEW OF SERVICES

EARLY TRIP (daily except Tuesday) - This service is conditional to MM being open to visitors. Usually not running on rainy days (enquiries: 2622235)

7:45 AM from Transport Service near Certitude Corner, opposite the Gas Service

12:00 Noon from Pondy rue St Louis (beach end of J.N. Street) opposite the Ashram playground

MORNING TRIP

Tuesday - Thursday - Saturday

9:00 AM from Matrimandir Office Gate Parking

12:00 Noon from Pondy Manakula Vinayagar Street (Ganesh Temple Street)

AFTERNOON TRIP

Monday - Wednesday

3:00 PM from Matrimandir Office Gate Parking

6:00 PM from Pondy Manakula Vinayagar Street (Ganesh Temple Street)

Friday

4:00 PM from Matrimandir Office Gate Parking

8:30 PM from Pondy Manakula Vinayagar Street (Ganesh Temple Street)

Please note: In case the ACT bus is not available as per the timetable please be on the lookout for a replacement by an Auroville Jeep or Van, we will ensure that a small white and orange sign is visible on the replacement vehicle.

All trips are paying trips and ACT welcomes your contribution everyday on every trip. ACT maintains its voluntary contribution policy aligned with Auroville's utopia, ideals and aims. At present it is YOUR contribution ALONE which keeps the service afloat. Travel passes are available from Financial Service (Town Hall & Aspiration) and Guest Service (above the Solar Kitchen). For more information contact ACT (0413) 2622962 or act@auroville.org.in

Important information about News & Notes

(Absolute deadline for submissions or cancellations: Wednesday 11 am)

The contents of *News & Notes* are a reflection of the growth process of this community towards its ideals of harmony, goodwill, discipline and truth. Editing of submissions, mainly for reasons of space and clarity, is done according to an established policy.

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

NB: Messages with large attachments (more than 1 MB) will not reach our inbox.

Please try your best to send your announcements, reports, film schedules whenever they are ready.

The Wednesday deadline (11am) is absolute as the News is given to the printers by Wednesday 2 pm.

Any modifications of the submitted *News* items have to be sent to the editors before Wednesday.

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

Articles for the Notes section should ideally be no longer than 500 words. All articles need to reach us by Tuesday noon.

Work groups please note: Long reports (more than one page) or reports that contain graphs or have specific requirements, need to reach **the N&N desk latest by Tuesday noon.** If such a report comes on Wednesday morning without prior notice, the editors cannot guarantee placement the same week.

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

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

LAST MINUTE ANNOUNCEMENT

TDC - L'avenir d'Auroville

TDC - L'avenir d'Auroville has decided to bring the following Building Application to the News & Notes for feedback.

INDIVIDUAL PROJECT:

1. ACUR, TownHall, Bridge between MMC & AV foundation

TDC asks for feedback from the residents of Auroville within two weeks from the date of publication. If anyone wishes to have detailed information, feel free to contact TDC - L'avenir d'Auroville office: 262-3568 or come personally to the Building Application section.

Verite Radial:

TDC Announcement: Verite Radial

The TDC has marked the future alignment of the Verite Radial from Celebration crossing till Crown Road. The possible alignment is clearly visible with markers on the ground. We invite everyone to give feedback on the possible position of the future road in the next two weeks. We are planning to walk along the radial next week Wednesday (20-08) 9.00AM start at Verite to give information about the different particularities.

TDC/Township Development

WORKING DRAFT Auroville Conflict Resolution Policy

This policy applies to:

1. AV residents,
2. AV units,
3. AV projects,
4. AV services or working groups including AV trusts,
5. Employees or volunteers of any of the above with their respective employer.

Introduction

As a community, we are often divided by deep and long-standing conflicts. Conflicts are a fact of life, an inevitable part of our existence. They happen when people who depend on each other, in some way or the other, have feelings, goals or values that are (or seem) not compatible.

What we tend to ignore is the fact that conflicts often have a great creative potential that can lead to positive change - if dealt with constructively.

How we deal with conflict is important, so we can create honest and compassionate communications that lead to lasting resolutions. If our approach to conflict is superficial, we may resolve the wrong issues, communicate at an ineffective level, or address concerns that distract us from resolving core problems.

In the past, conflicts were often brought to the working groups, mainly the Auroville Council (AVC), with the approach of "demanding justice", expecting the Council to become a judiciary body that listens to all concerned and then arrives at a verdict. This approach to conflict usually leads to creating a winner and a loser. This blocks the opportunity to enable people to create a positive transformation for their own conflict.

Moreover, the time and energy spent on the great amount of conflict cases prevented the AVC and many other working groups from concentrating on their actual mandates.

In Auroville, we aim to enable a shift in our attitude towards conflict: away from the idea of truth vs. lies and a judiciary system, towards the idea multiple truths, conflict transformation and taking responsibility to engage with our own challenges.

This policy outlines a step-by-step process to be followed when asking for support the resolution of a conflict situation in Auroville.

• Conflict Resolution

1.1 Those involved in a conflict are encouraged, whenever possible, to resolve the conflict themselves or with the facilitation of members of the community or group within which the conflict occurs.

1.2 If this attempt fails, the parties should ask to be supported in their process by trained facilitators. Ideally, the parties choose their own preferred method of conflict resolution and the person(s) to facilitate this method. Auroville Koodam, in cooperation with the AVC, is a platform that can support this step by helping to analyse the situation, choose an appropriate process and refer to the relevant people.

1.3 In the event that the parties cannot agree on a method of conflict resolution, the AVC may decide, in cooperation with Auroville Koodam, on the conflict resolution method to be followed (see 1.6). The AVC and Auroville Koodam will ensure that the process happens without delay, as to avoid unnecessary escalation of the conflict.

1.4 The AVC may recommend a specific status quo to be maintained, e.g. against any of the conflict parties taking a particular action pending the result of the chosen process. These recommendations will be formulated in consultation with the person(s) who have been chosen to facilitate, mediate or arbitrate.

1.5 The AVC, in cooperation with Auroville Koodam, will also ensure that people who have difficulty expressing themselves are assisted by a 'spokesperson'.

1.6 Summary process steps:

1.6.1 **Step one: *Direct conversation*:** People are encouraged to sort out their conflict with the support of the community or group within which the conflict occurs. This could be a neighbourhood, a circle of friends, family or workplace.

1.6.2 **Step two: *Facilitated process*:** If step one fails, the parties in conflict (or the AVC) choose one of the alternative dispute resolution methods available in Auroville. There are a number of Aurovilians trained in processes that aim at supporting people in a conflict situation to find a solution acceptable to both parties. Some of the processes are:

- Mediation: Mediation is a structured process for solving disputes, conducted by one or more mediators who don't have any coercive powers. The mediators help the disputing parties to have a conversation and reach a settlement that is acceptable by the parties in conflict. Mediation is a confidential and voluntary process where at any moment each side can decide to stop the process. For detailed information see **annex 1**.
- NVC Mediation

- Restorative Circles
- Arbitration: One or more arbiters are given the power to make a binding decision. The pool of Auroville arbiters is trained to maintain neutrality, find the best solution for all parties, including Auroville's interest. The formation of an arbitration body is coordinated by the AVC.

1.6.3 **Step three: Mandatory Arbitration**: If Step 2 doesn't lead to an agreement within a reasonable time frame, the next step is arbitration. Also if one or more parties refuse to participate in Step 2, the case automatically goes to arbitration. In these cases, arbitration becomes mandatory in order to get a final decision and bring the conflict to an end. One or more arbiters are given the power to make a binding decision. The pool of Auroville arbiters is trained to maintain neutrality, find the best solution for all parties, including Auroville's interest. The formation of an arbitration body is coordinated by the AVC.

For detailed information about the arbitration process see **Annex 2**.

- Exceptions

2.1. If any of the following applies, a formal complaint can be submitted to the AVC directly:

- 2.1.1 Violence or threat of violence
- 2.1.2 Physical and/or emotional abuse
- 2.1.3. Substance abuse (alcohol or drugs)
- 2.1.4 Psychological health issues
- 2.1.5 Offence under the Indian Criminal Law

2.2. The formal complaint cannot be anonymous and needs to be signed by the complainant. The complaint needs to be submitted using the official format.

2.3. If a formal complaint is found to be false, the AVC will decide on an appropriate consequence.

2.4. The AVC, if necessary together with the WC, will decide on the necessary course of action, which, amongst others, can include any of the above steps (see 1.6).

- Appeals

2.1. Individuals, units and projects that are affected by the fact that a Service or Working Group does not arrive at a decision, can ask the AVC to intervene. The AVC will give the Service or Working Group opportunity to justify the delay. If the AVC feels that the delay is justified, it may give a deadline for arriving at a decision and decide whether the WG needs process support (e.g. professional meeting facilitation). If the AVC feels the delay is not justified, or the above deadline is not respected, it can take the decision on behalf of the Working Group.

2.2. Individuals, units and projects that are affected by the decision of a Service or Working Group can appeal against that decision by bringing it to the AVC. On a case by case basis, the AVC can either:

- a. confirm or revoke the contested decision, or
- b. decide on a specific conflict resolution method to be followed (see points 1.3 and 1.6)

- Implementation of Agreements and Decisions

3.1 Agreements and decisions reached through any of the above processes are binding to the parties. It is the responsibility of the AVC to make sure that the decisions are respected by the parties. In case they are not, the AVC will decide on an appropriate course of action which may include the initiation of a Review Process (refer to Auroville Foundation (Admission or Termination of Persons in the Register of Residents) Regulations, 2012.)

Annex 1 - Mediation

1. What is mediation - Mediation is a structured process for solving disputes, conducted by one or more third parties who don't have any coercive powers. The mediators help the disputing parties to have a conversation and reach a settlement that is acceptable by the parties in conflict. Mediation is a confidential and voluntary process where at any moment each side can decide to stop the process.
2. Who can be a mediator - A mediator is not every "goes between" person who has the good will to help the parties to reach an agreement. A mediator is someone who has undergone mediation training and has practiced a minimum of 20 hours on real cases with an experienced mediator.
3. Pool of mediators - AV Koodam will maintain a pool of mediators that parties in conflict can choose from. AV Koodam will continue to train mediators in order to have an effective pool of mediators to serve the community's needs.
4. Mediator nomination for a specific case - The disputing parties should agree upon the mediators. AV Koodam will provide help to choose the mediators.
5. Impartiality and neutrality - All mediators must be impartial and neutral and should not represent any of the parties involved in the conflict. If, at any moment, a mediator feels that he is not able to stay impartial, he must resign from his role as a mediator and announce this to the AV Koodam.
6. Confidentiality - Everything that is being discussed in a mediation process is confidential unless all sides agree that it is not. The disputing parties and the mediators are bound to the confidentiality except for any case of threat to harm, or an agreement to harm a third party or the public interest.

Annex 2 - Arbitration

7. What is arbitration - One or more impartial persons are given the power to make a binding decision to end the conflict. When entering arbitration, the parties of the conflict lose their right to decide how it will be resolved. An arbitration process in Auroville can be mandatory, i.e. without getting the consent of the parties involved in the conflict (see AV CR Policy 1.6.3.)
8. Who can be an arbiter - An arbiter can be a person who has the confidence of the community and has been entrusted to carry out this function. The arbiters will be appointed by full consensus decision of the AVC members.
9. Pool of arbiters - The AVC will update the pool of arbiters from time to time. In this process they will ensure that the list represents diversity of gender and nationalities, and none of the people is controversial in the community. The pool of arbiters will contain at least 30 arbiters. If there is any controversy about the conduct of an arbiter, he or she can be taken off the pool of arbiters by decision of 50 % or more of the AVC members. All the arbiters will sign a code of conduct.
10. Arbiter nomination for a specific case -

All sides of the conflicts agree upon one or three arbiters from the pool of arbiters.

If the parties don't agree upon the arbiters, then one arbiter will be appointed by each party and the 3rd arbiter will be appointed by these two arbiters.

When the decision of the arbiters may have a vast influence on the community or the issue discussed is very critical, the AVC may decide that 5, 7 or 9 arbiters will take the decision.

In case that one or more parties/arbiters refuse to appoint arbiters, the AVC will do so and will announce all parties and arbiters.

11. Impartiality and neutrality - All arbiters must be impartial and neutral and should not represent any of the parties involved in the conflict. All arbiters should look for the best solution for all individuals, units, groups or services who are affected by the conflict or may be affected by the arbiter decision and they should consider Auroville's interest as a whole. Before nominating an arbiter, the AVC will verify that the arbiter is not connected to any of the parties or the issues that will be discussed in the arbitration process in a way that may cause a conflict of interest. If, at any moment, one or more arbiters feel that he is not able to stay impartial, he must resign from his role and immediately inform the AVC. In this case the AVC will replace the arbiter by a new arbiter.
12. Argument right - All sides of the conflict, including a third party who may be affected by the arbiter decision, will have the right to represent their interests and point of view of the conflict, in front of the arbiters within the time frame that will be fixed by the arbiters. The parties can do so in person or by writing. If one chooses not to submit his arguments to the arbiters on time, the process will continue and all sides will be bound to the arbiter decision.
13. Consensus and majority vote between the arbiters - The arbiters shall make an effort to reach a decision with full consensus. In case that full consensus cannot be reached, the decision will be taken by a simple majority of arbiters.
14. The 12 qualities of the Mother - Before giving any formal decision, the arbiters will verify that the suggested decision reflects Auroville's ideals and the 12 qualities of the Mother.
15. The decision will be made within 30 days - The arbiters shall give their decision to all the involved individuals and groups who are affected by the decision, including the AVC, within 30 days after completing the hearing the interests of all the involved sides. In special cases, if justified, the arbiters can ask the AVC for an extension of another 30 days.
16. The decision format - The arbiters should write a detailed decision, explain the rationale behind the decision and how it reflects Auroville's ideals.
17. Binding decision and implementation - The decision of the arbiters shall be binding to all parties and groups involved in the conflict. The AVC will make sure all relevant individuals and groups will implement the decision, even if they are not part of the conflict, unless they didn't have the chance to be heard by the arbiters.
18. Right to appeal - An appeal against an arbitration decision may be filed to the Special Committee as defined in the Auroville Foundation (Admission or Termination of Persons in the Register of Residents) Regulations, 2012 by any individual or group aggrieved by the arbitration decision.
 - 12.1. An appeal against an arbitration decision will be filed through the working committee within 15 days from the day the arbiter decision was announced.
 - 12.2. Pending the proceedings of the Special Committee, the arbiter decision will be suspended.
 - 12.3. The Special Committee shall decide an appeal within 30 days from the day the appeal was filed to the Special Committee.
 - 12.4. The decision of the Special Committee, to confirm or revoke the arbiter decision, will be final and binding.