

HOUSE OF MOTHER'S AGENDA

They've asked me for a "message to the stars." Then, "Do you have a message for the Christmas [issue](#) on the new man?" They asked me, "What message can we send? It will take two hundred years to reach its destination": the message sent from here reaches the star two hundred years later. But, of course, there's nothing to say that they'll understand French or English on the star! It's actually clear that they won't understand it.... They want to send signals such as "= 1," and they say they will understand - they'll understand that we are intelligent beings! (*Mother laughs ironically*) I don't remember the message I gave them. But a message for the new man... What am I going to tell them?... Whatever is the new man? Do YOU know what the new man is?... Man is always new! *It won't be an intelligent man.* Well, so much the better! So much the better. We could say: the return to instinct and impulses, but they will be divine impulses. Then another progress (which would be a true progress) would be the silent communication of consciousnesses, wordless. That would be lovely: a little silence. (*silence*)

Last time I realized that I hadn't had such a silent contemplation for months, maybe, I am so overwhelmed with work - work which consists in writing birthday cards, signing, seeing people.... On Monday, in the afternoon, I saw thirteen "birthdays"; yesterday there were twelve of them; tomorrow, there will be another twelve.... You understand, the number of people is increasing, and they come from everywhere; some even come from Africa for their birthdays.... That makes about two thousand a year, which is how many a day?

A Polytechnician came here with R. [the architect of the future Auroville]. There were nine who came with R.; among them is a Polytechnician who sent me a note asking, "Are you God?" I had seen the man two days earlier: he is very fine. If I hadn't seen him I wouldn't have answered, but as I saw him and he happens to be fine, I suspected from the way he asked the question that he must be a-gentleman-born-in-a-Catholic-family. So I answered, "This question may be asked of EVERY human being, and the answer is, yes, potentially." And out of consideration for his goodwill, I added (I don't remember the exact words): "This is the task everyone must accomplish." Since then, he has been quite silent.

Another one is Communist. He is a Russian who lives in Paris. He asked me if all the Auroville workers shouldn't meet and "talk over" (*Mother laughs*) the necessity of a "moral conduct"! (I have heard he keeps them all talking away till 3 in the morning.) So I answered him (*laughing*) that morality has only a very relative value from the standpoint of the Truth; that it changes with countries, climates and ages! I also told him that discussions were generally sterile and non productive. And so as not to be only critical, I answered him that if everyone made an effort to be perfectly sincere, straightforward and good willed, that would be enough to create quite a sufficient base to work on.... The poor fellow!...

How about you, how are you?... What do we do?... Like last time [*meditation*]? But that's dangerous! I no longer knew what the time was or anything at all. What did you feel, last time? *I always feel a great, quiet immensity - it's the country of origin.*

Yes, it was...Nothing existed anymore, except a luminous, limitless immensity; but peculiarly it was glittering: there was a diamond like twinkling, like millions of bright, very bright little diamonds, oh, sparkling! They were in an immensity of dazzling light, and yet they were sparkling. And then a peace, a rest... a sort of peaceful bliss, and the feeling that that way, you can live. No time: the notion of time had disappeared. I hadn't had that in a long time. (*Mother goes into contemplation*)

It's very amusing: you have here (*gesture to chest level*), like this, a big lotus bud bowing down (*gesture turned downward*), and surrounded by a sparkle of golden light, then by another row of light; there are three, four, five rows of light of different colors. It's here (*same gesture*), like this, bowing down. (*Mother resumes her contemplation*)

Plenty of people (I think it's those who are usually called intellectuals) cannot distinguish thought from consciousness: if they don't think, they are unconscious! (That's the sequel to what I told you just before about the new man.) To them, consciousness always means words. That's odd....It's still a long, long way to the new man.

After Satprem had left, Mother remained silent for a long time, then turned to Sujata and told her, "Strange, very strange, I've never seen a lotus bud bowing down." Then, as Sujata looked at her without understanding, Mother added, "The heart lotus is always turned upward; it's the aspiration. Here, it bows down towards the earth."

MOTHER'S AGENDA, December 10, 1966

MOTHER

*The
Ponder
Corner*

*The only true escape
is a change of consciousness,
a change into a greater,
wider and purer way of being,
and a life and action
based upon that change.*

*Sri Aurobindo
ref. Letters on Yoga, p.533*

Cover drawing "SPICY YC" by Satya - [Spicy YC Christmas Fair]

Funds and Assets Management Committee (FAMC)

November 2014 Report

Regular members: Anandi (Auroville Board of Services), Ashoke (Sri Aurobindo International Institute of Educational Research), Daniel (Working Committee), David (Forest group), Iyanar (Farm group), Juergen (Land Resources Management), Michael (Auroville Unity Fund), Rathinam (Budget Coordination Committee), Rita (Auroville Council), Satyakam (Housing Service), Sauro (L'avenir d'Auroville), Ulli (Auroville Board of Commerce), and Mr. Srinivasamurty (Finance & Administrative Officer, Auroville Foundation)

New membership: Anandi (Auroville Board of Services) has replaced Toby as their representative as of the beginning of November.

TRUST & UNIT TOPICS

The Auroville Board of Services (ABS) was invited to meet with the FAMC to have a sharing about the designation of Auroville guest houses. Isha & Nicole attended on behalf of the ABS. Some members consider a guest house as a service, and others as a commercial activity. It may be that a guest house embodies both aspects. Under which purview and what guidelines should they be functioning? They can be considered as a very special group and the administration set-up that already exists can take care of its management. No change in the present arrangement of contribution would be required. *The discussion will continue...*

A guest of Auroville who was in the process of becoming a Newcomer and staying in the Sharnga guest house made a complaint against the guest house executive. They had entered into a private occupancy agreement which included some financial components that are outside the usual Auroville practice. The complaint is being reviewed by the Guest Facilities Coordination Group (GFCG) and the FAMC. Details of the financial component are being obtained and verified. FAMC have asked the GFCG for some recommendations. *At the end of this reporting period the FAMC awaited their reply.*

FINANCE TOPICS

The Budget Coordination Committee (BCC) requested balance sheets be made available to them in digital format, urgently. At the beginning of the month Mr. Srinivasamurty confirmed that they are available. The BCC was advised to follow-up directly with him.

In the loan guidelines it is stated that members of the Loan group will be reviewed: *"There should be a renomination every 2 years by FAMC of all members except the executive of Auroville Maintenance who is the finance member."* The present members: Ananda, Bunty, Rathinam, Joseba & Satyakam (only for housing related loan requests), and Otto have been there for quite some time.

The FAMC endorsed the present members to continue for 2 years, from 1 November 2014. *They were informed.*

Mr. Srinivasamurty notified the FAMC that during the 2013-14 annual audit the balance sheets of the farms and forests were not included. The Forest group responded that balance sheets were submitted to the BCC however, there is a disconnect in the format requirements. It was asked: "How can this gap be bridged?" In an earlier letter, Srinivasamurty suggested revival of an [Accounting and] Audit Coordination Group (AACG) to review outstanding audit paras. The Forest group was advised to meet with Srinivasamurty directly to learn the accounting format required. The Farm group was similarly advised. It was agreed to revive the AACG. Members proposed were: Ananda,

Divya, Lyle, Michael, Prabakaran, Rathinam and Srinivasamurty. A first meeting has been coordinated by the FAMC. The members will move the work forward from now on.

The Auroville Council (AVC) advised the FAMC that Aurovilian Igor Barinov requested a Leaving Auroville Allowance. The AVC did not recommend an allowance, however as a 'gesture' they would support 1 plane ticket to Australia. Shortly after receiving this communication the Housing Service confirmed via email that Igor is eligible for a refund of an 'advance' towards stewardship of a flat in Vikas. He need not be considered for the Leaving Auroville Allowance.

The AVC advised the FAMC, three days before his scheduled departure, that Aurovilian Chaitanya requested a Leaving Auroville Allowance. Because Chaitanya had already left when the FAMC had an opportunity to discuss it, the FAMC replied to the AVC with the following observations and concerns about the process in this particular case: a. the FAMC is used to receiving the AVC "pool" recommendation directly; the AVC were requested to provide this information. For the FAMC members' deliberations, the details of Chaitanya's situation are required; b. A minority of AVC members recommended to provide something to Chaitanya, however a majority did not. FAMC stated it would like to understand why they were presented with conflicting recommendations; also, FAMC asked what was the recommendation of the "pool" and; c. The Council statement that the Leaving Auroville Allowance is for "emergency situations" is incorrect. The AVC members were advised to review the former AVC-published November 2012 Leaving Auroville Allowance paper. FAMC were advised that there is some confusion among the AVC members about the process. It was noted that it may be necessary for the FAMC and AVC to meet together to gain clarity on it. The FAMC asked for the AVC reply before proceeding further. *The FAMC await a response from the AVC.*

Dustudio, formerly Buildaur, requested to change their Swayam housing project loan repayment schedule. A lot of questions arose so it was agreed an FAMC subgroup that had met with the unit executives previously would talk to them again. After receiving the report of the subgroup it was agreed to ask Dustudio for the following information: 1. Exact specifications of 5 apartments; 2. Cost details of 5 apartments; 3. Who are the persons who have signed for those apartments; 4. How much has paid each of them; 5. How much remains to be paid by each of them. It was stated by the FAMC that they are ready to accept the request to extend the loan repayment schedule after receiving the above information. Dustudio were also asked to provide the financial details of their new office, and it was reminded that the 6% customary contribution (non-residential buildings) is yet to be paid. *FAMC await their reply.*

Satprem, from Auroville Earth Institute concerning the proposed Auroville Institute of Earthen Architecture, requested a clarification on a contribution to be given from donated funds. FAMC decided and communicated to Satprem that the school project will be asked to contribute only 1% to Unity Fund. They were informed in writing. The pending question concerning a location for the school needs to be seen to and approved by L'avenir d'Auroville/Town Development Council (TDC) as is the usual practice.

HOUSING TOPICS

The Housing Board had re-written some proposed text for the Housing Policy. The particular challenge is the Aurovilian steward who has left Auroville for more than 5 years and how to get the housing asset under the stewardship and care of the Housing Service. Is there an alternative system that could be proposed? Several comments were made that a related matter is the Friends of Auroville (FOA) stewarded housing assets. The Housing Board was asked to broaden their considerations to include the FOA. *FAMC await their updated proposal.*

There were a few discussions about the Sacred Groves housing project. L'avenir had met with the project holders and made some agreements on how the project would move forward. The focus now will be on the 3 prototype houses. The Housing Service reiterated that it will be one of the project holders until completion of these houses. The Housing Service has become more actively involved recently: being onsite regularly; looking for more experienced Aurovillians to advise and help; focus on the 3 houses; funds received being closely analyzed for 'viability of costs'; analysis of general expenses and spending to be done on a bi-weekly basis; and the accounts put in order under supervision. The project holders requested to 'pause' the monthly loan repayments (up to 6 months). This was agreed, 'until more funds come in'. Finally it was agreed that the project holders can continue fund-raising, as this activity had been on hold for a few weeks. FAMC advised the project holders to collaborate more closely in all of these efforts, for example reports and distributed information should be from the project holders together.

In regards to the Sanjana housing project, FAMC asked the L'avenir Work Allocation Team (WAT) to meet with Gundolf and the Sanjana project holders to go over the fees, and other related topics. A report with recommendations was submitted by WAT and the FAMC accepted it. FAMC informed the Sanjana architect and project holders it agreed with the L'avenir WAT recommendations. It was clearly stated that this agreement should not be considered a precedent for other housing projects, as the discussion about the architect's proposal is pending.

LAND TOPICS

Iyanar, Freedom steward, requested a fencing budget estimated at Rs. 1,99,350. The Forest group supported this request. After some discussion it was confirmed the Land Resources Management (LRM) is aware of this need and is considering it among the other requests.

FAMC approved the purchase of land in the City Area, next to the Unity Pavilion, Irumbai village, R.S. No. 302/1 - 45 cents, under the condition that the Auroville Foundation office verifies that all the legal documents are correct and in order. The Foundation office was informed in writing directly by the FAMC.

FAMC approved an exchange of land in Auroannam, 0.38 acre, for a 1-acre plot in the City Area, near Reve, however some research is needed before proceeding. The FAMC wrote directly to the Auroville Foundation office to meet with a subgroup of the FAMC to clarify the questions. FAMC hopes to secure several plots in this transaction, not only one. *At the end of this reporting period the questions had not been answered.*

OTHER TOPICS

On 3rd November Auroprem requested help to clear a garbage dump site near Auroville Bakery. FAMC offered to ask the Road Service to assist Auroprem, when he clarified his proposal for the future of this spot: a. where to move the garbage and; b. how to stop future dumping there. It was also suggested that he contact Cristo, TDC, who was looking into this situation as well.

Auroville Sports Resource Centre requested to allocate Auroville land for a stadium. This would be a project of the Tamil Nadu government. FAMC initially gave its support to the TDC to ask for more time to consider the possibilities, and to get more details of the program. *The conversation will continue when more information is available.*

The recently formed Auroville Board of Architects (ABA) responded to the earlier announced FAMC fee recommendations, and a follow-up request for a counter-proposal; they included guidelines for professional work practices in architecture and allied fields. The FAMC decided to get input from the Auroville Board of Commerce, Auroville Board of Services, and the BCC. Each group was asked to review the material and be prepared to send some representatives to a meeting along with ABA representatives at an upcoming FAMC

meeting to share about the wider topic of how architects work in Auroville.

At the end of November Joss presented the Sustainable Livelihood Institute (SLI) project. Before the meeting, via email, Joss provided a lot of information. During the meeting a paper on the impacts and opportunities for Auroville was distributed. The team of Auralice, Fabian, Jasmine, Joss, and Ram verbally reported on the present situation. The Tamil Nadu government recently passed an order for this project. As per standard procedure, it will be published soon. The critical point now pending is the location. Many questions and concerns were expressed by the FAMC members. Joss shared that it would be helpful to form a subgroup of FAMC, L'avenir, and the SLI team to go over all the many details. *FAMC is organizing a subgroup and this is an ongoing exploration.*

Hand-over meeting between LCC/LRM and LB, facilitated by AVC & WC

Thursday 11th December 2014- Chair: Kali, Notes: Sathiya and Rita

Present:

LB: Kanniappan, Suhasini, Divya, Prasad, Gerard and Sandeep (Alain.G excused)

AVC: Veronique, Jayamoorthy, Rita, Auroananda and Davaselvam

WC: Vijaya, Arun, Kali, Eric

LRM: Ranjith, Arun and Sathyaseelan:

LCC: Jaques, Dhanapal, Kali and Eric

LFAU: Aryadeep

The hand-over meeting took place in goodwill and harmony.

The new Land Board endorsement letters from AV Council, Working Committee and FAMC were produced on the table.

The Office order from the Auroville Foundation is expected shortly.

Aryadeep briefly explained the current financial situation.

Dhanapal briefly explained the various angles for the situations of purchasing lands.

Kali pointed out that there are delicate intricacies involved in the negotiations for land purchase. She also advised the new Land Board to become aware of the procedure followed so far, even though the new LB might want to change to a new procedure.

Arun said that Jurgen and himself are the executives for LRM.

There are 6 Aurovillians (Ranith, Stephan Raj, Venkatesh, Athi, Sathyaseelan, Krishnamoorthy) and two Employees (Manipillai surveyor and Murugan assistant surveyor).

In addition there are 15 field staffs.

The maps and wood stock will be handed over today or soon.

Arun also said that he will be available to the new LB rather on the phone and will come to the office only on request. He asked that any comments regarding him, and others in LRM should please be cross-checked for veracity.

Ranjith and Sathyaseelan explained that the most difficult stage with the Land work is when people make a police complaint against Auroville. There have been mistakes done in the past, such as purchasing land from wrong parties. Some cases are coming up after 40 years. There are court cases pending in Tindivanam, Villupuram and Chennai.

Aryadeep suggested the idea of the Master Mind - many minds applying to a common task. He proposed that LB consider the current workers as a valued asset and form some sort of a support and advisory team from them.

Jacques said "Let us go to work" :)

The new LB appreciated the cooperation with the handing-over and requested that it continues.

Divya said that all Aurovillians working in LCC / LRM will continue to get a maintenance for three months.

New LB has internally worked out an internal process on how to work

Alain / Prasad and Kanniappan - Purchase

Sandeep and Kanniappan on LRM

Gerard and Divya Coordinator

Sahasini will coordinate the technical side of survey and mappings as well as the work towards a comprehensive database of Auroville Lands.

Everyone on LB will overlap on other functions too.

At the end of the meeting, the LCC and LRM showed the new LB, the office files and furniture. And for a detailed hand-over of the files, the LB will get in touch with LCC / LRM

Conclusion on the petition and the GM that followed on "Sludge disposal at Mango Field"

TDC remains the planning and development body for Auroville. This includes water and waste water management, as well as disposal of sludge.

Tom has proposed to TDC to make the same experiment as in Mango Field in plot number IR402/2. It was agreed by all that when the new site is ready, they will unload the sludge at the new location. Bindu has informed us that herself and Clementine have no objection to Lucas' treatment method continued at another site that is found for the purpose of this experiment.

Tom from TDC and Danny (Water Consolidation Task Force) are both willing and open to Margarita's proposal for de-sludging when the site is ready. They hold, however, that the method of treatment as prescribed by Lucas (as tried at Mango Field) is no less valid than the one of Margarita, as they are both experiments with no conclusive evidence of pollution or otherwise.

If there are further questions/ issues raised on this topic, the AVC will ask the TDC to form a technical sub-group that will work to come to a conclusion on the validity and efficacy of both Lucas' and Margarita's proposals.

Tom from TDC reported their plan for a decentralized Waste Water Treatment to be constructed in Residential Sectors 1 and

2 in the next 2-3 years, which is the current long term objective for sludge disposal in Auroville.

The personal conflicts, if any, and if they still persist should be addressed separately with AVC and Koodam.

Other clarifications to previous misunderstandings:

The Water Consolidation Task Force was formed by the AVC on the initiative of Danny (from Wellpaper) to consolidate the forces related to water from harvesting to treatments, as well as general education regarding the topic. This Task Force is still active and continues to work on these topics.

Following this initiative, the issue related to Mango Field began, and the previous sub-group of the Council nominated Bindu and Margarita as "Sludge co-ordinators". This was an overlap with the already delegated task to Danny and was overseen.

This is also evidently in contradiction to TDC's mandate which is already in part "Sludge co-ordinators", and any new effort to co-ordinate sludge disposal/treatment should have been done in conjunction with them. All interested to work on this topic will be requested to coordinate their future efforts with TDC.

The AVC would like to clarify that the request for no de-sludging until the end of the monsoon was not agreed upon by all at the end of the GM held on this topic. A clarification from Bindu confirmed that the monsoon ban on de-sludging is a recommendation made in the 2001 survey on the issue by l'Avenir. The issue of course then remains, what do we do with sludge during monsoon?

The Auroville Council will do a study of this process in the near future, to understand the deeper underlying issues that have brought about this disagreement, so that we can use this opportunity to transform conflicting situations into stepping stones for progress of the collective.

Sincerely yours, *Matriprasad, Sindhuja* [Sub-group of AVC]

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcement from the land board

We, the members of the new Land Board, would like to give the update on our formation and status. We have had meetings with the AV Council and FAMC who has supported and welcomed us to start taking up the work.

AV Council and WC helped the transition and now we are in the process of taking the records. We realize that this is an enormous task and will need help and support from all Aurovilians for protection, purchase and exchange of lands.

We have got some new office space on the second floor of Foundation Bhavan, which should get operational by end of December.

You can write to us on our email: landboard@auroville.org.in for any information or sharing.

Sincerely Land Board Members,

Alain Grandcola, Divya, Gerard, Kanyappan, Prasad, Sandeep, Suhasini

Invocation Phase 4 - Booking of Apartments

Stage 1 of Invocation Phase 4, Residential Zone opposite Creativity, will be completed in March of 2015. 1 apartment remains available. Those interested please contact Sumark@auroville.org.in or call 0413 2622 472.

Construction of Stage 2, which is expected to reach completion in May 2016, is also underway. Apartments are available at this stage as well.

Looking forward to hearing from you,

Kevin and Peter

Houses available for transfer

Auromodele community (Varada's house), 95.21 Sqm. Single storied house in brick and cement.

Visiting time: Wednesday and Saturday afternoon 2.00-3.00 pm.

TDC - L'avenir d'Auroville

The following Site and Building applications are announced for feedback from the community for a period of two weeks. The announcement is made for feedback only and does not mean that the project has final approval.

The final approval is given when L'Avenir / TDC issues an NOC (No Objection Certificate). This happens only once the feedback period is over, the feedback has been evaluated, final decision by TDC has been reached and the necessary financial formalities have been completed. It is only after issuing a final building permission that fencing, building or any other activity on the site can start. It has to be noted that site permission is given to reserve the site for a maximum period of two years in order to prepare a project proposal. It does not give any right to fence and clear the site unless, for practical reasons, there is a special permission of TDC.

1. Auroville Archives, Admin. Area, Auroville Archives

The project is announced, pending (BOQ and financial clearance of FAMC)

Project Description given by the project holder.

Project title: Auroville Archives

Site already allocated: In the Administrative Belt, next to the SAIER building (east of it)

Project holders: General K. Tewari, Thambidurai, Gilles G.

Architect: Sonali

Contact persons: Project holders and architects.

Description of the activities of the Archives: Collecting, labelling and storing all sorts of documents and data pertaining to Auroville's past and making them available to those who are interested in them.

Target Group: Past, present and future Aurovilians, AV Working Groups, Researchers (Avians & others)

Background:

Triggers:

The Archives have been located for 25 years in the basement of Bharat Nivas Auditorium in a place which has been several times flooded in the past decades and should thus not be used to store such precious things. General Tewari has been waiting for this new building for 14 years.

Goals:

Archives anywhere need to be a place's active memory where people can easily find documents and data and understand why things are how they are and hence how they can be improved.

Printed documents, photos and recordings (audio & video) need to be conserved properly in their original format and as much as possible also on hard drives.

The history of Auroville - particularly that during Mother's lifetime needs to be known, via Auronet, publications and exhibitions.

All sorts of information and data need to be stored (entered in the system) properly so that they can be easily retrieved, their evolution can be studied (statistics made) and conclusions arrived at.

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.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Talkin' Trash

R is for reminder, and R is for remembering the 5 "R"s: REFUSE what you do not need. REUSE what you consume. RECYCLE what you cannot refuse. REDUCE or REUSE, or ROT (compost) the rest. Then, only two more "R"s: Relax and Rejoice.

Nice to have some feedback-- a reader has written about our note on composting paper: "all paper is not equal and some are chemically laced. A little paper will not usually be a problem but a lot of glossy magazine pages or something like that is not advisable for compost that would be used for food growing. Of course any food stained, dirty or rotting paper should go into the compost and not be mixed with clean, dry paper that can be recycled or it will contaminate the whole lot and go to landfill

We encourage you to contact us with any feedback including your own tips: somawaste@auroville.org.in or 763-976-5954. Call for any waste resources like signs for your bins, info, etc. Please visit the Eco Service website: <http://www.eco-service.in/>

The Solid Waste Management Task Force

Sunice @ Sunlit Future

A fun filled research project has come to completion at Sunlit Future which we would like to share with the larger Auroville community. A Solar Powered Ice Cream cart - Sunice.

This solar run ice cream cart was built from scratch in Auroville and has inputs from many persons. Our thanks go to Debo, Rolland, Tejaswini and Prasun Shah amongst other designers who participated in the making of this cart, which started as a need to have cool ice cream on warm summer nights with TNEB power cuts!

Renting of mobile solar powered ice cart is possible

We invite schools, youth and Auroville activities to use this cart (mobile ice cream cart - the temp can be maintained between - 10 and 20 deg) which is available against a small contribution. Please book by writing to sunlit@auroville.org.in or joerg@auroville.org.in / You can call Sunlit and ask for Joerg on the phone at: 2622064

Auroville Herbarium VII

An arbiter of correct names (continued)

Seeing the enormous amount of specimens that got accumulated in the early times of botanical collections, the sifting to come to the universally accepted species name (the first and only one), may not be finished in a fortnight.

For instance, consider the family 'Begoniaceae'. Taxonomists managed to place 12 genera in that family, 10 of which are listed under 'low confidence'. The genus Begonia, one of the 2 accepted ones with high confidence level, contains 2911 species of which 170 are listed as 'unplaced' and 1101 as having 'low confidence' (As per March 23, 2012).

Or the genus 'Vernonia', containing 3043 species, of which 377 are mentioned as unresolved and 558 are listed under low confidence. (As per Feb. 11, 2012)

There is work to do for them taxonomists.

Father Matthew used to say that a Flora is outdated the moment it gets published.

The best, and only way, to get at the latest accepted botanical names seems to be to consult recent monographs and renowned botanical journals, or to log on to reliable and constantly updated plant lists on the Internet.

Together with the ongoing work on "the correct names of plants" an effort has recently started to unravel "the meaning of plant names": etymology.

In a binomial the first word is the name of the genus, and the second part is the specific epithet.

The rules of the game to propose a genus name are very lax: any source will do, your combination doesn't have to make any sense, and you are even permitted to create a crazy new word. You may be sarcastic or humorous or too lazy to try and find a new name and ask the locals to provide one. The meaning of a genus name therefore is not always clear:

Sibara an anagram of Arabis; a genus in the family Brassicaceae

Hebe the daughter of Jupiter and Hera; a genus in the family Plantaginaceae

Aa a genus of Orchids; the author probably wanted a name that always would show first in an alphabetic listing

A specific epithet should be descriptive, tell something specific about the plant, such as:

littoralis coastal

grandifolia with big leaves

nicobaricus found in the Nicobar Islands

This makes sense, but much is sinned here. Botanists who want to remain friends with the funding agency or are hoping their employer will give them a promotion often opt for the following kind of epithet:

Oberonia swaminathanii, a recently discovered Orchid in Wayanad district. This, of course doesn't tell anything about the plant

For the work on etymology the idea is to cover the following headings: Authors; etymology; synonyms; Mother's name; common names; distribution; description; uses; history ; notes; coll. nr. in AURO (*To be continued*) Walter

Luye 2015 Art Garden

LUYE 2015 (February 15th) at Solitude Farm is creating a special, sacred creative space...an ART GARDEN: a place to make art, create art and exhibit art... for ALL ages. Any form of 1, 2 or 3 dimensional art, drawing, painting, clay, photography, face and body painting, beading, recycle art, sculpture, doll/puppet making, all are welcome...to make, create and/or exhibit.... This is both a place to create and to exhibit your ART....for more information and your interest in either assisting in organization, participant or artist, please contact Tia @ tialovesart@gmail.com or 9787468553.

POSTINGS

Entry service is closed for public the last week of December

The Entry Service wishes to remind the community that, as usual, the office is closed to the public (as we will be doing internal work and conducting interviews) during the last week of the month, meaning the last week of December 2014. The office will reopen on the 3rd of January 2015. We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

The Entry Service Team (*Chitra, Ishita, Kripa, Muthu, Umberto, Vika*)

Gather to play!!

We are going to soon start traditional Indian games at Bharat Nivas every Sunday, for all. We need Aurovilian instructors for all games, preferably not more than 16 years of age. You can choose from the following, a game of your choice and be its instructor:

Kite Flying / Marbles / Daayam / Lagori, Pitthu / Hop Scotch / Elastic / Broken Bangles / 7 Stones / Kho / Kabadi / Gilli Danda / Palanguri / Carrom Board / Chess / Playing Cards - So once you've decided and gotten all the rules of the game, write to Riju at kalai@auroville.org.in to register as an instructor. Kind Regards, *Riju* [Cultural Coordinator - Kalai, Bharat Nivas]

Lively Up your Earth Eco- Music Festival

Dear Community,

The Annual Lively Up your Earth Eco- Music Festival is coming up soon. If anyone wants to put up an Eco-stall for this event please contact Ancolie (eilocna@gmail.com) or Auralice (auralice@gmail.com). Be quick! We also need participants to help us organize this event! Your help will be cherished. Hope to hear from you soon! The Lively Up Your Earth Team

Tsunamika: make me smile

Tsunamika, the little doll from the ocean, is turning 10! For the past 10 years she gave livelihood to fisherwomen who were affected by the devastating Tsunami in 2004. Made from leftover fabrics she brought happiness, hope and love to people in India and all over the world ever since. For her birthday she would like to see, how she makes YOU smile. Send us a picture of you with your Tsunamika(s) to office@upasana.in. We are looking forward to see all your great pictures. You can find all

details for the contest over here: www.upasana.in/tsunamika-photo-contest

Chess evening

Chess evening: Play Chess with *Vikrant* every Wednesday at 6:00 pm at Visitor Center. Ph. 9940072682, e-mail: viekie012@gmail.com

Festival de lecture / French Reading Festival

Auteurs Auroviliens, le Pavillon de France organise son premier festival de lecture qui aura lieu à Auroville du 10 au 23 février 2015 avec au programme une soirée consacrée à la lecture d'extraits de vos œuvres (par vous-même ou d'autres lecteurs) - Si vous êtes intéressé(e), merci de contacter Florence au 9626648976 ou par mail: lesbaladantes@gmail.com

A gift from Auroville

Creative Expression from Auroville (a Coffee table book on Auroville arts and crafts):

This book is a visual presentation of Auroville's diversity of arts and crafts with more than 85 images; touching on the beauty and quality of the products with 152 pages & a hard-bound cover, highlighting the fineness of thought and spirit behind them; juxtaposing them against familiar sights and spaces around the township.

It's a beautiful gift to share with your friends, family and art lovers. Available at Auroville bookstore (visitors Centre), Freeland book shop and @ auroville.com. For door delivery in Auroville, contact vimal@auroville.org.in

Taxi-Sharing for 'The Hobbit 3' - This Week-End

I am organizing a taxi to go this Friday 19 or Saturday 20 or Sunday 21 to Chennai see the third and last film, "The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies". It has very good reviews, and all the theatres in Chennai showing it are already fully booked starting tomorrow Wednesday, for the first two days. We have a chance to get some seats after that (the taxi driver can buy the tickets in advance). It would be for the midday show, so departure 9 am, return 3 pm just after the show. If you want to come, please contact me as soon as possible: 2622328/9443362328/ bhaga@auroville.org.in

AVAILABLE

One night at Formule1 Hotel Airport Roissy Paris

One room for three people (one double bed and one single bed) at the Formule 1 Hotel, Roissy Airport Paris, for the night of the 29th of December 2014. If interested please contact: sylas@auroville.org.in or 2622987.

Christmas trees at Botanical Gardens



This week for sale: Christmas trees Clerodendron - during this year we raised a good number of the one that gives those beautiful red and white

flowers hanging in clusters - Plumeria or "Psychologic Perfection", several colors, big size (around 1,50 m height)

Translation work and piano teacher

German-English or English-German, any text (as long as it's not boring) by Merry bilingual BA in German.

Qualified musician (B organ exam, Germany) would love to help you discover the subtleties of traditional harmony on good piano like keyboard. Guests also welcome. *Merry*, Prayatna 2623581.

Sport courses

Abdominals, bodybuilding, fitness, on appointment at your home free cost contact *Jean Luc*: 7639761930 / jlmalor@yahoo.fr

A computer

Desktop CPU- Intel Pentium IV-3.0 Ghz Dual core, Mother board-intel 965 RY, RAM DDR II- 512 M.B. 533 (2), DVD Writer 20 X (LIETON) and ATX cabinet. Keyboard and Optical mouse Microsoft, no screen. Contact: Please send a mail to: heleneq7@hotmail.com - or call 965-585-7735. *Helene G.*

Tabla set

A student Tabla set available. Nice quality for those who like to start to learn Hindustani percussion. In good condition with recently changed skins, and good tension. Bhajan (bass drum) is brass made. Rings, hammer, cover and bag, included. Cheap price! Contact *Alberto* at: 8098679032, or mail at: adealegre@gmail.com

Silk cotton for making cushion.

Contact *Ambre* Nilatangham. 262 3019

Samsung TV

I have a 32 inches led Samsung TV 1 year old good condition. N tatasky set up and wall stand. *Luckylava* - 9585332363

LOOKING FOR ...

German teacher

Dear Friends, for my higher studies I need to learn German grammar. Is there anyone who could help me with this? I am doing home study and I think I need a few hours per week to be able to manage it. Thanks a lot, *Usha*, *Mobile*: 9943211165

Footing / stand for a Pedestal fan

I am looking for a footing for a Pedestal fan. My fan is working but the footing is broken. Contact: Vani@auroville.org.in. 9488818072. *Vani*

Work

Hi, I am *Amala* from Kottakarai, I did (M, C, A,) master degree course in the last few month so I am looking for work now in

Auroville. If anybody is interested please call me at: 9786807071 and 9751103148 (or) e-mail *sbalu.av@gmail.com* - Submitted by *S.balu*

A flatmate

Hi, I am *Abhishek*, volunteering at Svaram. Looking for a flatmate, urgently (Minimum Stay 1 month). Very well furnished studio type apartment in Allankupam. First come first serve. Contact me at: 09988990100

Solar Battery, inverter, and solar light

Hi, I am *Balu* from Azhagu-Bhoomi forest and I am looking for a second-hand solar Battery, inverter and solar light. Please call: 9786807071 (or) e-mail: sbalu.av@gmail.com

LOST & FOUND

My birckenstock-chappals (Lost): At the AV bakery Friday 12Dec around 10 am, someone exchanged her chappals with mine - Please exchange them back, they are still waiting for you at the bakery and too big for me. Thanks, *Appie*. 9488818065

Flat keys (found): Arati1 entrance way to invocation. Found last Sunday afternoon 5 pm. Pass by the *News&Notes* office

THANK YOU

Born under a rainbow sign

The newly selected Working Committee wishes to warmly thank all Residents who participated in the presentation at Unity Pavilion. Particular thanks to the kids who introduced us, to the young singers, to the organisers (RAS, Study Group, facilitators, helpers..) and great appreciation to the sponsors who offered such delicious and abundant food that everybody enjoyed. The sudden rainbow at the very moment of the presentation added a special charm and was welcomed by all as a good omen for our future work.

We shall try to do our best at the service of the community.
Angela, Elisa, Mandakini, Carel, Ranjit, Eric, Manohar

Thank you, *Manohar* on behalf of WC

ACCOMMODATIONS AVAILABLE AND NEEDED

House sitting1

I am an ashtanga enthusiast and vegan from the US, and will be a long term volunteer in Auroville from 1st of February. I am looking for a house-sitting opportunity or a good guesthouse where I can stay long term on a monthly rate. I would like to have my own kitchen. The place should be available for a minimum of one month but longer is better. Please write to: *Alicia Basteri* <aliciabasteri@msn.com> if you have something suitable for me. Or SMS me on 8105015672

House sitting2

Hi! I'm looking for a house or apartment for house-sitting for small or long term I'm a Newcomer, working at the Matrimandir work. I am single. Please contact: roberto@auroville.org.in / *Roberto Longo*

House sitting3

Kim, Heather and Babu, classical musicians from Australia are looking for accommodation from 27th of December to 23rd of February. Please call 81108113628 or contact Arka guest house - Blessings

TAXI SHARING

December 24th: My son, *Sytheon* will arrive at Chennai airport around 11 am. An empty taxi will leave Auroville around 8 am.
Possible sharing both ways. Please contact: Sylas@auroville.org.in or 2622987. Thank you

December 25th: Going to Chennai Airport, I'll stop midway at Chengalpattu for a few hours (from 11 am to 1 pm). So if you need to go to the airport on the 25th, either we can leave AV together in the morning (around 8 or 9 am) and I'll drop mid-way, or else if you leave AV later you could pick me up at

Chengalpattu so that I can reach the airport around 2 or 3 pm. You can also share the taxi on both timing, return way. Kindly call *Nawang*: 88948 01624, nawang.jinpa@gmail.com

December 26th: Hi, I'm Gabriele and will arrive at Chennai airport at 11.50 pm with Lufthansa from Frankfurt. If you are interested in sharing a taxi (which has already been arranged) pls email me asap: gabkawilde@web.de . Thank you!

December 31st: I'm arriving Chennai airport December 31 at 2:15am via Emirates, maggie.aspland@gmail.com

January 2nd: To Chennai airport. The taxi will leave from Auroville before 10.30 am and I will go back after 15.30 on the

January, 5th. Please write an SMS: +919943360811 or write an e-mail: ivana.frousova@yahoo.co.uk. Thank you, *Ivana*

January 3rd: Arriving at Chennai airport at 7 pm from Delhi. *Nawang*: 88948 01624, nawang.jinpa@gmail.com

January 9th: Leaving Auroville around 1.30 pm. One way sharing Auroville Chennai. Arriving Airport around 4.30 pm. Please contact *Nelly Vivier-Dumas* <lalie58@hotmail.com>

January 14th: Leaving Auroville around 1.30 pm, 3 seats available and 1 seat for the return. Arriving Chennai around 4.30 pm, contact: schmirismagqhe@voilà.fr

HEALTH

Tibetan doctor

Dear Friends, Greetings,

This is to inform you that the Tibetan Doctor and his team are visiting us on Saturday the 27th of December 2014. For your appointment call Namgyal and Kalsang - 0413 2622401.

The Doctor and his team come every fourth Saturday of the month to Auroville. The Chennai center is based in the Tibetan Medicine center: C.P Ramaswami Aiyar Foundation/1, Eldams Road. Alwarpet /phone 044 24362338 / Chennai

We still request everyone not to take the road through Bharat Nivas to enter the Pavilion of Tibetan Culture. Please take the road through Visitor Center and take the first cutting right, then the yellow gate is the Pavilion gate. You are welcome.

Thank you, Regards, *Pavilion of Tibetan Culture team*.

Integral Health

Classical homeopathy, hypnotherapy, midwifery, child care, coaching

Peter will be out of station till Jan 8th.

Nora and Lisa will be available from January onwards; both participated in an intense teacher training at Sankarans "Academy for advanced homeopathy." www.theothersong.com, Mumbai.

Peter and Sigrid have trained yearly with Dr. Sankaran and team since 1999. Sigrid is teaching this deeper approach of classical homeopathy in Germany since 2004. www.sigridlindemann.de

Gabriele, a very experienced homeopath from Mexico is available for consultations in English and Spanish till January.

PC remedies for Diabetes, High Blood pressure and Trauma have shown very effective, good results keep coming in. We have 84 PC remedies for Trauma, infectious diseases and chronic diseases. The developer of PC remedies, Dr. Harry van der Zee, internationally renowned homeopath, will visit us here in Auroville again end January 2015.

"*Harmony and Samata*" are homeopathic remedies carrying the energies of Mother and SriAurobindo. The remedies and information can be obtained free of cost.

Welcome to enquire, pick up background information and start treatment. The remedies are available any time in the remedy box of Integral Health, information in the mornings.

The First Aid Kits, with 32 remedies and a manual (English, German or French) are available again, come mornings.

Sigrid and Ingo, certified German healing practitioners - Peter, Ingo and Sigrid are offering treatment in classical homeopathy, www.sigridlindemann.de

Sigrid offers transpersonal regression therapy, certified from www.tassointernational.com .

Manuela offers professional *midwifery*, consultation for Women's health and hypnotherapy.

Vani offers Counselling: *Using Life Coaching*, Mediation, visualization, imagination techniques. *Journey to the memory of the body*: Unblocking trauma memories in the body, emotional blockages and belief systems.

Consultations are generally held in English, French and German, with Sigrid in Tamil as well, and Manuela speaks Dutch and Italian, Vani French and English, Gabriele Spanish and English

Malar is managing the office, mailing of remedies, the FirstAidKits and PC remedies on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 9 - 12 am.

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

Please make an appointment beforehand via Integral Health, Prayatna 2623669

Sigrid sigrid@auroville.org.in , Peter peterh@auroville.org.in - mobile 9787698464 , Ingo ingo@auroville.org.in 9489325085 , Malar malar@auroville.org.in 9585012007,

Manuela manuela.auroville@gmail.com 8098900471,

Vani vani@auroville.org.in 94 888 18 072.

More information is available on our website: http://www.auroville.org/health/integral_health.htm

TRAVEL

Latest News from the Travel Shop - Inside India

Please be informed that the Travel Shop is now located at Inside India, Auroshilpam.

We now accept Aurocard payments, issued to Guests of Auroville.

Spice Jet - We advise not to book flights as many of their flights are cancelled due to oil companies unwilling to offer them credit.

Oman airways announce Europe 2015 special offers.

Etiihad is offering fares to Europe with Air berlin and KLM.

Emirates, Qatar Airways, Air India, Sri Lankan Airlines and Kuwait Airways have special offers to all their destinations.

We recommend the following minimum check-in time:

Domestic - 2 hours prior to departure.

International - 3 hours prior to departure.

Please ensure that you have all the required travel documents for your entire journey i.e. valid passport & necessary visas and have taken the recommended inoculations for your destination(s).

Please check with us in advance for any changes in flight schedules, if any.

Insurance: We strongly recommend that you avail of a Travel Insurance.

Tel: 2622078, 2622604, 2623030, travelshop@auroville.org.in, domestic@inside-india.com, doulat@inside-india.com

Dosa Corner - the place to hang out in the evenings

Low cost and tasty food in a friendly Auroville setting with:
 - Free Wi Fi
 - Great Music
 Check us out at the Visitors' Centre from 6 pm to 10 pm /
 Closed on Wednesdays
 All are welcome

Madhuram

We are happy to announce the opening of our restaurant Madhuram, registered under Auroville. It is situated on the Auroville main road, between Acceptance and the Pitchandikulam Bridge, on the right (when driving towards the ECR). Items on the menu include our special Pizzas, delicious Pastas, fresh Salads, Tandoori Chicken, Naans, Rotis and many more.
 Please feel free to pass by for lunch or dinner (12pm -3pm / 7pm-10pm). If you prefer to have your meal at home or elsewhere, we also offer our free delivery service. Hope to see you all soon. Love and light - The Madhuram Team, Telephone Number : 2623322 or 9976944501

Christmas dinner at Well Cafe

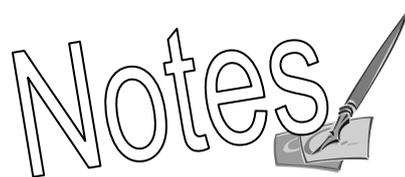
On Wednesday 24/12 Christmas dinner at Well Cafe starting at 18.30.
 A special Mediterranean vegetarian buffet [Price for guest 450 Rs .AV and NC 350 Rs]
 Reservation in advance is recommended.
 On the 25/12 we will be open all day for breakfast, lunch and dinner.
 With love,
 Well cafe team 2622219 or 9443385617

Christmas dinner at Cafeteria Visitors Centre

There will be a special Christmas dinner at Cafeteria on Wednesday the 24th and Thursday the 25th from 7 pm to 9 pm. As always, a choice of traditional, sea food, vegetarian or vegan options will be available.
 Come and enjoy!
 A peaceful Christmas to all,
 The Cafeteria team

Morgan Café closed for Christmas

The Morgan Café will be closed for Christmas Thursday 25th of December. *Happy Christmas from the Morgan café team*



Tsunamika - Well Paper

After 2004 Tsunami in the Bay of Bengal which also hit Puducherry and AV beach areas, 3 initiatives took place in Auroville. One was immediate relief, restoration and rehabilitation. Many Aurovillians, guests and volunteers sprang into action to assist the affected people. This eventually grew into Auroville Coastal Development (ACD) but it seems currently it may be functioning at low ebb. The other two initiatives, namely, Tsunamika and Well Paper, took roots and are thriving, helping in the process a large number of people.
 On the other day, I read on the Auroville Intranet about the 10th Anniversary of Tsunamika. Reading the splendid life of Tsunamika, led me to write the following poem. The poem is dedicated to all productive units in Auroville at the Mother's lotus feet. (Aryadeep)

Tsunamika - Well Paper

A disaster turns into development
 A blow turns into blessings
 A vicissitude turns into vision
 A sorrow turns into smile.

Tsunamika - Well Paper
 Well Paper - Tsunamika

Two boats in the vast ocean
 Navigating through stormy waters
 Joining the money-force with the moral force
 For building a brighter Day.

Tsunamika - Well Paper
 Well Paper - Tsunamika

You took fury and turned it into fairness
 You took waste and turned it into wealth
 You became the centres of social enterprise
 And show the sparkling path to human unity.

Tsunamika - Well Paper
 Well Paper - Tsunamika

The human force is but part of Nature's force
 The human beauty a part of Nature's beauty
 You ride on the waves of that beauty and force
 And spread happiness by sharing the gains.

Tsunamika - Well Paper
 Well Paper - Tsunamika

This the mission, this the vision
 This the work of the City of Dawn
 This Mother's Dream
 And this the future

Love, concern, creativity, joy, oneness

Tsunamika - Well Paper
 Well Paper - Tsunamika

On the conditions for being a volunteer (Part 2)

.....Now if you were joining a project working as a full-time volunteer for six months, and you were going to be taxed for it, how would you feel?!

In the statement made by the group who made this decision (and frankly I can't understand how, or with what mandate they make such decisions without having talked to places like Sadhana Forest or Solitude Farm, who regularly host volunteers - after all are we not running Auroville together?!) - they say:

"Many of you are hosting organizations offering learning/working opportunities to volunteers and interns, enabling them to have a meaningful experience of Auroville while learning the beauty of serving a community ('seva', selfless service), with their participation in your team."

In this statement there is no recognition of what the volunteer brings, no consideration of the goodwill, skills, knowledge, energy that they contribute to help create a more vibrant Auroville. I see Aurovilians, villagers and volunteers running Auroville together; try to think where we would be without the volunteers! If you are not working with volunteers, find out from those who do before responding. We tend to see things only through one perspective. Why haven't people like me been consulted? Are we not all part of Auroville, making up this amazing opportunity for the world?

Of course this is a direct concern for me, but it is also the centralisation of authority, and the acceptance of this system, that is worrying.

For example, I had a young man who has dedicated the last three years to the farm and is now co-managing the place with me. He is helping in many of the initiatives and keeping alive this project which I feel is of immense value to Auroville, offering a different perspective on our relationship to our food to the community. When he tried to join Auroville, he was told regarding the newcomer waivers, as he has very little money, that in spite of working 8 hours a day, 6 days a week at Solitude Farm, in an important role for the last 3 years, he should look for another job if he wanted to join Auroville! Someone who helps to manage Solitude Farm is asked to find another job in order to pay the newcomer contribution - does it get more short-sighted? There are a number of old-timers in the groups that make these decisions; I ask them to think about how they arrived in Auroville? With little or no funds but a dream in their hearts...

Fortunately in this case, another group who is also involved in the same decision and did not agree at all, helped to obtain a half-waiver. I mean no harm to the people who wrote that particular mail, but I do feel that there is a tendency in various groups I have encountered, to define peoples' participation by their budget. I am aware that many people don't agree with the ideas that some of the working groups have and yet sweeping decisions that have a profound impact and define what Auroville is, and therefore its future, are still being made.

In the 80s there was the fight with the Society to protect the integrity of the Dream: Are we not doing exactly the same thing, by creating groups that control and whose decisions are not inclusive of the community's opinions and moreover place the main emphasis on money?

I always feel that I am creating one aspect of Auroville, a part of this city that I believe in, a part that I perceive as absolutely essential for sustainable growth, both socially and physically. But where are we going in Auroville if a young man or woman who may have nothing, can't stumble into Mother's adventure and find themselves in Her arms, discovering themselves outwardly and inwardly?

With all my heart,
Krishna (Solitude)

Opposition from AVI Canada to the Proposal of Relocating the Inukshuk

At their meeting held on November 15 2014, the AVI Canada Board (Andrée, Francine, Christian, Marc, Samuel and Stéphane) have discussed about this idea recently suggested by some people to move the Inukshuk from its present location and relocate it at Darkali. This would be meant to allow the Europeans to install a creation symbol that would be a focal point for the European nations.

Here are the conclusions following the discussion (conclusions fully approved also by Catherine from Toronto, Ontario, AVI-Canada antenna, and Satyā from British Columbia AVI-Canada antenna):

- The Auroville Inukshuk is a piece of art that could have been installed at different places in Auroville. Though it represents Canada, it is not a Canadian pavilion. The Inukshuk is a symbol of more than one country, more than the Arctic aboriginal populations that we can find also in Siberia or Scandinavia; in fact, it is the symbol of all aboriginal nations in the world - that are often oppressed and dislodged - populations with a rich spirituality and philosophy that are now being rediscovered and revived. The Inukshuk monument carries the universal values of the First Nations: opening, unity and solidarity of all world populations.

- The Inukshuk was inaugurated at its present place, on February 28, 2009, with special prayers. This gives it a special force felt by many. It is highly respected by Aurovilians and visitors. Gatherings and ceremonies are held naturally where the Inukshuk stands, for example, the one held on February 15, 2014, to dedicate once more the International Zone, an event attended by hundreds of people vibrating to the sound of the Russian Bells, as well as the words of the Mother, read in several languages.

- Except for the International House (ex-American pavilion) and the Inukshuk, nothing of significant importance has happened during more than 40 years in the vast area allocated for national pavilions surrounding the Indian pavilions area. Why then, this proposal to dismantle one of the only existing achievement? The proposed zone for Europe is huge, extending from Bharatipuram to the Visitors' Centre. Is it a lack of consideration, or simply a lack of imagination, to propose a central point for Europe, precisely at the location of the Inukshuk, since there are so many untouched lands in this no man's land? Some people say that the European focal point would be located on the International House land. Should we dismantle also this beautiful realization?

- The present proposed plan is a copy of Roger Anger's plan, dated many decades ago. The world has changed and Europe is not at the centre stage anymore. Also many people do not favour that the International Zone would be a kind of a mini Universal Exhibition. Shouldn't we have the courage to rethink this approach and to express deeper, more lively and dynamic interactions amongst populations of the world?

Considering all these facts, AVI Canada board members express their strong opposition to the proposal of relocating the Inukshuk in those circumstances.

Submitted by Christian Feuillette on behalf of AVI Canada

The Apprentice

Who needs an apprentice?

Now that the second edition of the selection process has passed into the Auroville oblivion, we have two working groups who are on their way to search, learn and explore what it means to be an effective participatory working group. There are long term strategic goals. There are short term tasks that are always overflowing the in-basket and then there is the incessant fire-fighting.

What gets waylaid is the open and frequent channel of communication and inputs from the residents. A new group goes through the storming stage of formation, and before norming happens within the team, some flare ups may happen, some frictions ensue, and it takes a long time to move to "performing". A weak group dynamics will drop the team into the storming stage. An incoherent team will barely be able to move out of the storming stage. Actually, each of us is an apprentice of the "collaboratory" called Auroville. The more we can work together on what Auroville "needs", the more our own "needs" will be fulfilled by Auroville.

What we now need after this participatory working group process is an apprenticeship program in each group that has moved into the new process ambit, seriously. Any young resident person who is interested in our working group dynamics must be allowed 3 months apprenticeship program. This is done in all companies, political and state level offices. There are many tasks that may be handled by young astute apprentices. Prepare meeting notes, draft bi-monthly communiques, help draft the priority of work lists, keep track of various topics that are happening, file the necessary papers, sort and archive group emails. Of course one of the working group coordinator will mentor the apprentice. A group can have two to three apprentices every four months on rotation.

This allows our next generation to get a first-hand experience on what it takes to engage in a working group. It builds responsible citizens. It builds capable leaders. It fosters a society.

Who needs an apprentice? Who wants to be an apprentice!!

Chandresh



For your calendar



AMPHITHEATRE - MATRIMANDIR

Meditation with Savitri - read by Mother - to Sunil's music

Every THURSDAY at sunset - from 5.30 to 6.00 pm (*weather permitting*)

Enjoy the beautiful open space, an immense sunset and heavenly music in the very Center!

Reminder to all: The Park of Unity is a place for silence, meditation and inner work and is to be used only as such. We request everyone not to use cameras, i-pads, cell phones, etc. Dear Guests, please carry your guest cards with you and note that access is only for the Amphitheater, from 5.15 pm. Please be seated by 5.25 pm, no late entry. Thank you.

Amphitheatre Team

SILENT MEDITATION FOR AUROVILLE

Let's meet as usual under the Banyan tree Matrimandir,

Every Thursday 5 to 5.30 pm. We will concentrate on this phrase:

"Please Mother, help us to open ourselves to the Divine Consciousness, thank you"

Then you can listen to Mother recite Savitri at the amphitheater, at 5.30 pm.

Thank you for being together

INVITATIONS

ART CART LAUNCH!

Sankalpa: Art Journeys is a sub-unit of Thamarai, offering a variety of art-related programs including art therapy, creative empowerment, community art and more; all to bridge Auroville, the surrounding villages and beyond through the universality of art.

Please join us to launch our Art Cart! It is a mobile structure stocked with art supplies, which will be an interactive installation at Visitor's Center. We are grateful to the PCG for funding this micro-project and supporting our artistic endeavors in Auroville.

Come and make art, enjoy light refreshments and celebrate the many benefits of creativity with us!

Friday, December 19th from 6 to 10 pm at the Visitor's Center

Over 300 individuals have enjoyed our Art Corner at Le Zephyr Café since mid-July, and we are now shifting this activity to the cart with the same timings: Tuesdays & Fridays from 6 to 10 pm. Each evening includes a different theme for inspiration. We are also looking for volunteers to help with various aspects of the Art Cart, including additional weekend shifts open to the public, and documentation and research-based studies on the art created there.

Email: krupa@auroville.org.in.

With gratitude, *Krupa & Iyyappan J. for Sankalpa*

Website: sankalpajourneys.com. FB page: facebook.com/sankalpajourneys. Contributions welcome: Auroville Acct #251273

SPICY YC CHRISTMAS FAIR

Spicy YC Christmas Fair on Saturday the 20th of December from 12 pm to 9 pm at the Youth Center!
Everybody is invited to the spiciest fair of the year to enjoy all kinds of spectacles, performances, games and extravagant foods!
Don't miss it!

ACCESSIBLE AUROVILLE BOOK LAUNCH

We warmly invite everybody to the presentation of the booklet "Just...Follow me"
A journey to accessibility via cartoons and comics on Sunday 21st December 2014 at 5 pm at Unity Pavilion.
To make the event more joyful Carla, Marlenka and Swaha will sing Italian, English and French songs.
Susmita for Accessible Auroville Team
accessibleauroville@auroville.org.in

COME AND CELEBRATE SADHANA FOREST'S 11TH BIRTHDAY

With an afternoon presentation, tour, Eco-film and dinner!

Sadhana Forest, Friday December 26th

Come join us, starting at 14:00 for an afternoon of learning about sustainability and Sadhana Forest, sharing knowledge, passion and skills, eating great food and having fun! All are welcome to come take part in this completely free event!!!

Birthday Schedule

14:00 Presentation of the work of Sadhana Forest in India, Haiti, and Kenya with Aviram
16:30 Tour of the community and forest with Kate
18:30 Short films about the work of Sadhana Forest and snacks
19:00 Samsara
20:30 Vegan, organic dinner

We hope to see you for our birthday celebration!!!

Bus service for the Sadhana Forest Birthday - DEPARTURE SOLAR KITCHEN: 13:30

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

VOLUNTEER OPENDAY IS BACK!



"Are you creative? Do you like new ideas and making stuff? Then do come along!"

At SacredGroves, we've been making something just for you, with you- a full day of creative explorations. Hands-on earth work, presentations, food, music and more..

Everyone can make things that matter to themselves, things which will make them feel good, feel warm inside. Do come, and let us build together a house for Auroville among other wonderful projects;

When and where ?

December 27th, Saturday, 2014
10 am to 5 pm
SacredGroves, Auroville.
Asha- 9443069335
Madana - 9943367443



TREE HOUSE BRAZIL PHOTO PRESENTATION

On the 27th of December Tree House Community is going to share some photos and give a presentation of our trip to Brazil
At 7 30 pm in the Unity Pavilion

Best regards, *Tree House Community team*

NEW YEAR CELEBRATION AT NEW COLORS.

(New Colors is an educational and creative learning center, situated in a *peaceful, friendly environment* in Edayanchavady village. Our main service is to provide a free after school-support program for the village children)

We welcome everyone for the "New Year Celebration" at New Colors.

Together we will be lighting candles with the children, and making a bonfire.
During the whole event there will be music.

Date: 1/1/2015 - Time: 6:00 pm

Contact: newcolors2002@gmail.com / Cell No: 95855 13279 and 9865 44472

Way to New Colors: Visitors Centre - Edayanchavady Village temple - turn right-500 Meters (before Agni) - New Colors sign board (on your left) - turn right

Reminder: Pongal festival in New Colors is on 17/01/2015 at 2:00 pm

EXHIBITIONS

GALLERY SQUARE CIRCLE, KALA KENDRA - BHARAT NIVAS presents

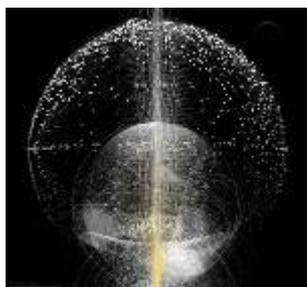
An Exhibition of Paintings by CARLA SELLO

MANDALA

Dec 20th - Dec 31st, 2014

Inauguration: 5:00 pm Saturday the 20th of December 2014
Open Daily 9 am to 5 pm (Closed on Sundays & National Holidays)

TALKS, SEMINARS



THE FRENCH PAVILION, THE CIRHU AND THE UNITY PAVILION

Present some talks & workshops given by Jean-François Noubel.

«Pioneering Humanity: from the I to the We»

Saturday 20th December at 5 pm, Cinema Paradiso, Town Hall, talk in French.
Saturday 27th December at 5 pm, Cinema Paradiso, Town Hall, talk in English.

Workshops: « Body Plays »

Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 7.30 to 9 am at Unity Pavilion.

INSIDE INDIA PRESENTS 'INTERACTIVE SESSIONS ON AUROVILLE'

Introduction to the Vision and Concept of Auroville
22nd December 2014 Monday presented by Manoj

Education in Auroville
23rd December 2014 Tuesday presented by Deepti

Auroville Economy and Organization
24th December 2014 Wednesday presented by Bunty

Time: 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. including question and answer session.

Venue: Insight Seminar room, Ground Floor, in the Inside India building in Auroshilpam (behind Auromode).

*The presentations are free of charge. Anyone may walk in.

Organized by: INSIGHT SEMINARS

insight@auroville.org.in / www.aurovilleseminars.com

<https://www.facebook.com/avinsideindia>

INSIGHT SEMINARS PRESENT

Integral Yoga and Auroville
Full-Day Seminar for Guests of Auroville
On 26th December 2014, Friday

Highlights:

Vision and Aims of Auroville

Evolution of Consciousness

Yoga of Matter

Auroville's role in the world and in the evolutionary process

Aspects of individual and collective practice

Venue: Insight Seminar room, Ground Floor, Inside India building, Auroshilpam (opposite CSR, behind Auromode)

Registration: Call Inside India at 0413-2622555 (office timings: 9:30 am to 12:30pm - 1:30pm to 5:00pm)

Contribution: required

Presented by: Ela

Timings: 09:00 am to 12:00 pm - Break: 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm

CULTURAL EVENTS



BHRIGU SAHNI IN CONCERT

Friday 19th December 8pm at Pitanga

An acoustic guitar concert of Bhriгу Sahni's own compositions inspired by the minimalist music of Michael Hedges, drawing on the sufi, flamenco and Indian raga traditions to create a sound that is spiritually charged.

DRAMA «SEVEN SLAVES' ODISSI DANCE

Dear Friends,

Udavi School invites you all to come and enjoy the cultural programme prepared by the students. The programme consist of the Drama "Seven Slaves", Odissi Dance and many other music and dance performances.

Date: 23.12.14 Timings: 4.00 to 5.30 pm

Venue: Udavi School

From Udavi Students and Staff

Christmas Celebration at Unity Pavilion

on 24th December from 3pm to 6.30pm

We invite everyone to come and celebrate Christmas with us

Between 3-5pm we will cut Christmas stars to decorate the room with and you can also make stars to bring home. We have beautiful paper for all, but please bring your own scissors.

Between 5 pm - 6.30pm we will sing Christmas songs from different countries, dance around the Christmas tree, and enjoy cookies and Christmas punch together.

Please join us with your joy, bring your songs, music - live or on CD, and if you can, bring some cookies and sweets to share.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

CHRISTMAS ANGELS

On Friday 26th of December 7H30 pm at CRIPA

Angeline (vocal and guitar) and Jurriangelo (piano)

Invite you to a special musical evening.

We will bring you a special selection of soulful originals, jazz standards and some other songs we both just love.

Come and join us for a musical hour of intimacy.

Doors open at 7h15pm

'SAMARPAN' AND 'KANDAM'

2 pieces of dances (duration, 1hr)

Sunday, 28th of Dec. at 6 pm
Sri Aurobindo Auditorium, Bharat Nivas

Choreographer and dancer, Kalpana Raghuraman, was born and raised in the Netherlands and is also deeply rooted in Indian culture, sees herself as a bridge builder between cultures, traditions, and people. She distinguishes herself in the rich field of dance because of her approach to researching and creating dance. This has led to a very personal dance style which is contemporary in nature and has references to Bharatanatyam

Kind Regards,

Riju [Cultural Coordinator - Kalai, Bharat Nivas]

CLASSES, WORKSHOPS

AT THE BHARAT NIVAS CAMPUS

Throughout the week we have several classes on the Bharat Nivas campus:

Tango, Capoeira, Bharatnatyam, Odissi, Carnatic Vocal, Hindustani Vocal, Improvised Theatre, Spoken Tamil, Kolam, Saree tying and making of Flower garlands and Contemporary dance.

Classes are led by: Monna, Sam, Caveri, Anushiya, Kanchana, Grace, Lakshmi Santra, Jeff and Auroanand.

For further information or to join any of these classes you may contact the teachers directly or write to Riju at: kalai@auroville.org.in

INNER-WORK-WORKSHOP

Introduction to the Integral Yoga of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother

24th December (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: 'Self-mastery'

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

AN EXPLORATION OF SPIRAL DYNAMICS & INTEGRAL THEORY

Spiral Dynamics offers an integral perspective on life and development, and brings clarity to aspects of our development that may not be easily accessible through simple introspection. The theory supports us to understand how we function as human beings, and how our life circumstances drive our development as individuals. It also offers an understanding for how and why conflicts emerge in communities, and clues for how to overcome them, allowing us to integrate the personal and social.

1-Day Workshop:

Introduction to Theory
Self Reflection
Community Reflection

Date: Sat, January 3 / Time: 9:00am - 5:00pm (includes lunch & tea) / Location: Joy Guest House, Auroville

Kay Rung (Sweden) is a professional empathy and mediation trainer, and he specializes in Nonviolent Communication. Integral Theory has deepened Kay's understanding and application of Nonviolent Communication, and he enjoys sharing this approach with others.

For more information about Kay and his work, visit: www.friareliv.se
Contribution requested. To Register contact Ninni - ninnisol1@gmail.com Hosted by Joy Living Learning, a registered Auroville Unit

WELLPAPER WORKSHOP 24/12 WEDNESDAY

Skills Handicraft Arts Recycle Education
You are invited for a 3 hour introductory workshop to create art and products from waste (mainly recycled newspaper).

Baskets Weaving Introductory workshop

Our experienced Wellpaper ladies will teach you how to create the newspaper sticks that are made from rolled up newspaper that serve as reeds for the baskets. You will be instructed and supported during the process. By the end of the workshop you will have made your own basket. You will make the coloring of the final product on your own since its needs time to dry.

The workshops are instructed by WELL women from the villages around Auroville. These women are very well practiced. These women have teaching experience in and out of AV.

Contribution: Rs.500 for guests. All the workshops has a minimum of 6 participant registered

The workshop will take place every Wednesday between 9:30 to 12:30.

Wellpaper is conducting also art workshops which are still not scheduled. Please email us for further information / If you would like to join us please email us to: wellpaper@auroville.org.in or call 0413-2622219.

With Love, Wellpaper team

LOCALLY GROWN VEGETABLES - SESSION 9

LEMON RASAM WITH Okra/ ladies finger / bhindi side-dish
The ninth session will be held on 20th of December 2014 (Saturday) at 10.30 am, at Life Education Centre, opposite Isaiambalam School.

This will focus on the preparation of both: Lemon Rasam - using lentils (without tamarind), as well as an Okra/Ladies finger side-dish prepared with a dash of pepper.

This particular combination is being taught so that people can easily prepare these dishes even outside India, in their home countries.

For those of you interested in having recipe notes, we will make them available to you.

These bi-monthly sessions are offered by Buvanasundari. The aim of these classes is to make you confident enough to prepare by yourself for your consumption at home. Allowing us to become aware of and using locally grown vegetables, the optimal use of mild spices and oil with good cooking techniques, will enhance the taste and savour, besides helping in getting familiar with using vegetables available where we live.

Looking forward to see you there on 20th of December, where we will see, learn, do, eat and ask questions!

Life Education Centre team

NONVIOLENT COMMUNICATION WORKSHOPS - COMING UP IN JANUARY

1. Nonviolent Communication Mediation Intensive, Jan 4-7

With 2 trainers from Sweden

Learn to hear and track meaning in what people say...

Grow in your ability to sit with discomfort...

Support connection, your own and between people...

All levels welcome!

For info and to register: see joylivinglearning.org/calendar?event_id=286 or contact L'aura (joylivinglearning@gmail.com)

2. Nonviolent Communication and Internal Family Systems, Jan 16-18

With 2 trainers from France

Deepen self-connection and understand your internal parts...

Learn to stay in your power and come from internal clarity and stability...

Intermediate training - NVC prerequisites required.

For info and to register: For info and to register: see joylivinglearning.org/calendar?event_id=294 or contact L'aura (joylivinglearning@gmail.com)

CHAKRA TONING

December 26th and January 2nd, from 6:00 - 7:30 pm, at Svaram (on the rooftop of the showroom)

Experience the alchemy of your voice through the ancient practice of chakra toning. Introductory presentation followed by immersive group toning session will be facilitated by Jon Jaggi. No previous experience or vocal training is necessary. All are welcome! Please contact [+91-7838093990](tel:+917838093990) or e-mail kymanada@icloud.com to register.

SCHEDULES

SENSE OF AUROVILLE TOUR, LED BY ROSS

Every Thursdays 8:45 am-5 pm

During the tour we will talk about the Auroville Charter and Dream, living in a community, architecture and city planning, forestation and farming, experiments on financial models and any other Auroville related topic.

Just show up at 8:45 am Thursday morning at Dreamers Cafe in the Visitors Center. The tour includes a session on Awareness Through the Body (with Amir), lunch and a walking tour of Auroville's International Zone. Tour price is Rs 950. inclusive of lunch, tea and snacks.

VERITE PROGRAM

Please contact Vérité to register for the following workshop: 0413 2622045 or programming@verite.in
Contributions requested from guests/volunteers (volunteer reduction by advance application only)

INTEGRAL HEALTH & HEALING with Dr. Geeta Auropremi
Wednesday 24 December - from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm (24 hour advanced registration required)

A holistic approach to understanding the self and maintaining health, including yoga, ayurveda, diet, pranayama, meditation and naturopathy. Lifestyle guidance is also available for managing specific health issues such as diabetes, hypertension, arthritis, obesity and any type of pain.

DR. GEETA AUROPREMI has 30 years of experience in Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy. She has an MD in Gynecology and Pediatrics, a YTTC certificate and diploma in Yoga, and Post-Graduate degrees in Yoga & Naturopathy. She specialized in prenatal and couple education in the government of Gujarat, has offered seminars all over India and in Brazil including the teachings of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother, massages, meditations, purification methods and more.

FATE OR CHOICE (FAMILY) CONSTELLATION WORKSHOP with YUVAL

Fri 26 Dec - from 9 am to 1 pm (half day) & Sat 27 Dec - from 9 am to 4.45 pm (full day)

Fate or Choice?

*An episode in an unremembered tale
it's beginning lost, it's motive and plot concealed
a once living story has prepared and made
our present fate, child of past energies
-Sri Aurobindo, Savitri*

In our lives Hidden Dynamics can cause results we never intended. Unconsciously these Dynamics create our Fate. To become aware of them, can bring back Choice. Applying (family) constellation techniques we can, in an intuitive way, find the insights and energy to choose consciously for the changes we want.

YUVAL is life & business coach.

YOGA AND MEDITATION with Christine

Friday & Saturday 26 & 27 December from 9 am to 4.30 pm

Programme:

Friday:

Anapana meditation, also called mindfulness meditation, yoga, Initiation and instructions about the postures of the first serie. In-depth work with the feeling of the body, Talks about the concept of Yoga in India, Yoga's benefits on the body, and the obstacles we encounter, Meditation on the chakras, Pranayama, exercises to strengthen the bandhas and concentration, Yoga Nidra: deep relaxation

Saturday:

Exercises on breathing and bandhas, Yoga. We will do the postures fluidly keeping the focus on breathing and felt the body, Meditation anapana/Pranayama, Stretching positions and therapeutic asanas, Meditation on the chakras
CHRISTINE is a nurse (Diploma in 1985) and had study by the past Iyengar Yoga, Hatha yoga and from 2004 Ashtanga yoga with Monica and with Sharath, grandson of Pattabhi Jois at Mysore at the Pattabhi Jois Yoga Institute by many training

from 2007 to 2010 . From 2010 she was teaching Hatha Yoga and in New Caledonia for children (6to 12) and adults.



PITANGA NEWS

NEW CLASSES

1. **RIO ABIERTO DANCE with Carla,**
Mondays from Dec 22nd 11.30-12.30
and Wednesdays from Dec 24th at
9.30am-10.30am.

The Rio Abierto System was founded in Argentina in the 50's. The lessons are accompanied by music and people move together in a circle, going toward the center and outside of it, creating a bodily mandala in motion. Its practice is suitable for all. It produces muscle firmness and looseness of joints, increases awareness of own bodily sensations favoring self correction in cases of incorrect posture, facilitates stress reduction and the joyful awakening of vitality and creativity. Offered by Carla Sello, professor of painting at the Academy of Fine Arts in Lecce, Italy, instructor and counselor in the Rio Abierto System.

CHANGES TO REGULAR CLASSES

HATHA YOGA with Nausheen is cancelled after class on December 20th until Jan 10th

WORKSHOPS

ANATOMY THROUGH SOMATIC MOVEMENT with Francesco,

Sunday, Dec 28th, 9am - 4.30pm (especially for yoga practitioners), see last week's news or auronet for details.

MANDALA - Past present and future with Carla. Friday and Saturday, Dec 26 and 27th, 9.30 am - 6.00 pm

How to express the potential and the entirety of our personality. The Mandala is a remarkable fusion of creativity and meditation that facilitates the exploration of our inner selves with different techniques: colored pencils, markers, watercolor, ecoline. A group experience which, through the movement of the body (expressive circular movement accompanied by music, as inspired by the Rio Abierto System, Argentina), coloring mandalas and playing games together allowing us to enter in deep contact with ourselves in a joyful and fun way, discovering the connection between the past and the future. Carla Sello, Professor of Painting at the Academy of Fine Arts in Lecce and Instructor System lives between Rome and Lecce, organizes and participates in solo and group exhibitions in Italy and abroad. Since 1998 she conducts seminars on Mandalas constantly trying to pursue the integration of art, body, mind and soul.

RETURNING THERAPIES TO PITANGA

RECONNECTIVE HEALING - with Paola by appointments at reception

Helps one feel and share the new frequencies now at our disposal to heal ourselves and the planet. This is not a therapy and Paola is not a channel entering in a special state or doing special things, but a catalyst in a 'triangular' equation with the patient and Universe's Wisdom which accelerates any spontaneous healing process that is the needed - and allowed - at the moment.

ENERGETIC HEALING with Evelyne by appointment at reception.

Evelyne has trained and practiced various energy healing methods for over 20 years that allow her to help with physical diseases as well as emotional disorders (like childhood wounds) or problems with relationships through techniques such as: transformation of cellular memories, emotional deprogramming by eye movements, tapping,, release of energetic links, Jin Shin Jyutsu (a Japanese art of releasing blockages and biodecoding (discovering the origin of a problem). Evelyne speaks French, English and Italian.

CULTURAL EVENTS AT PITANGA

FILM- THE PERCEPTIBLE BREATH offered by the German pavilion. *Sunday Dec 21st at 4 pm*

A film portrait of Ilse Middendorf, the forerunner of the rediscovery of the secrets of breathing. Veronika Langguth, long practicing breath pedagogue and therapist will be with us for the film and to answer questions. In German with English subtitles.

VIOLIN SOLO RICITAL by LADISLAV - Sunday, December 28th at 5.30pm

EXHIBITIONS AT PITANGA

VOLKHERS COLLECTION- pieces offered to the community against a voluntary donation to Pitanga. Runs until December 20th.

Registration for workshop is required at Pitanga Reception, Samasti Community (0413) - 2622403, email pitanga@auroville.org.in

NEW CREATION DANCE STUDIO SCHEDULE

MONDAY:

5-6pm: Pilates basic (Savitri)
6-7pm: Zumba (Sathish)

TUESDAY:

7.30-8.30am: Pilates intermediate (Savitri)
5-6pm: Aerobics beginners/intermediate (Bobby)
6-8pm: Hip Hop for kids (Sathish)

WEDNESDAY:

7-8.30am: Ballet (Marianna)
3-6pm: Ballet school students (Marianna)
6-7pm: Nia Dance (Philippe/Sabine from 22nd December)
7-8.30pm: Hip Hop for kids (Sathish)

THURSDAY:

5-6pm: Fitness with weights (Bobby)
6-7pm: Zumba (Sathish)
7 -8.30pm: Salsa (Raja)

FRIDAY:

7-8.30am: Ballet (Marianna)
5-6pm: Aerobics (Bobby)
6-7.30pm: Cappoeira (Jeremy)

SATURDAY:

7.30-8.30am: Pilates basic (Savitri)
8.30-10am: Gymnastics for school students (Terra)
3-5pm: Hip Hop for kids (Sathish)
7-8pm: West Coast swing (Kaya)



NEWS FROM AUROVILLE LANGUAGE LAB/ NEW SCHEDULE OF CLASSES -15th of December 2014

LANGUAGE	CLASS/LEVEL	TIMING	DAY	TEACHER
ENGLISH	Beginners	5.00 - 6.00 pm	Tuesday and Thursday	Karishma
	Beginners	3.00pm to 4.30pm	Wednesday & Friday	Jerry
	Intermediate	4.30 - 6.00 pm	Wednesday & Friday	Jerry
HINDI SANSKRIT	Beginners, Intermediate	By Appointment	Tuesday Friday	Chandrima
ITALIAN	Beginners	05.00 - 06.00pm	Monday Tuesday Friday	Piero
	All Levels	By Appointment (Open)	Monday to Friday	Piero
TAMIL	Beginners Conversation Class	02.00 - 03.00pm	Tuesday and Thursday	Saravanan
SPANISH	Intermediate and Advanced	4.00 - 5.00pm	Tuesday and Thursday	Eduwardo

We welcome **Karishma Khakhlari** who will offer **English** Beginners classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5.00 to 6.00 pm. Thanks to **Tristan**, volunteer at Sadhana Forest, as well as to volunteer guest **Dermot** for the classes they gave, which were much appreciated.

Jerry continues **English** Beginners and Intermediate classes on Wednesdays and Fridays from 3.30 to 4.30pm and 4.30 to 6.00pm.

We are happy to welcome **Eduardo** from Venezuela who will teach **Spanish** for Intermediate and Advanced levels on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4.00 to 5.00pm.

The **German** Beginners and Intermediate classes offered by **Klara** are discontinued at the moment since the students are out.

Chandrima continues **Hindi and Sanskrit** classes for all levels on Tuesdays and Fridays. Specific timings are fixed to accommodate student needs.

Piero is back and continues **Italian** beginners' classes on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays from 5 to 6pm. For all other levels, please contact the Lab.

Saravanan continues **Tamil** Conversation classes for Beginners on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2 to 3pm.

We are looking for a **French** Teacher.

For self and guided study, we have excellent audio-visual and software resources in our mediathèque. Please visit the Lab to check them out.

The Language Lab is open to all adults - Aurovilians and

Newcomers, Guests, locals, visitors, employees, volunteers etc.

We don't do literacy however. People need to know how to read and write to take advantage of what we offer.

As for the other aspect of our work: **Tomatis** - Places have now opened up on the Tomatis schedule. Tomatis has been somewhat typified in the last two years as helping for children on the Autism spectrum, because of the kids coming to us from different parts of India. Or else, people seem to think it is only for "hearing problems". But these are just two applications amongst many, which include: unleashing creative potential, helping learn languages faster, improved singing and vocal ability through refined voice control, helping musicians connect more deeply with their instrument, improving attention concentration focus and memory, treating learning disabilities dyslexia etc, treating vertigo balance and motor coordination issues, and improving communication skills, among others. The Tomatis method exercises the muscles of the middle ear to stimulate the brain. At base is Dr. Alfred Tomatis' understanding that listening is a higher, more integrative faculty than hearing and that the human being is an antenna listening to the Universe, and that better listening benefits everyone. In fact Tomatis is a wonderful tool to help one concentrate and go within. It brings deep relaxation and an increased awareness. The best way is to experience it for yourself.

During Dec and Jan, we are offering free Tomatis listening sessions to Aurovilians, Newcomers and Pre-Newcomers. Please send an email to "alltomatis@gmail.com" or "all@auroville.org.in" or call [2623088](tel:2623088) to book a one hour time slot.



CINEMA - Bharat Nivas - AUDITORIUM

FRIDAY 26 DECEMBER - 7:30 PM (Film show starting at 7.45 sharp)

A SPECIAL FILM PROGRAM "A THROW OF DICE" ("PRAPANCHA PASH")

A silent Indian film made in 1929, with live musical accompaniment by Kim Cunio and Heather Lee

Director: Franz Osten

Synopsis: The film is based on an episode from the Indian epic The Mahabharata. The story is about two kings vying for the love of a hermit's daughter, the beautiful Sunita. The two kings, Ranjit and Sohan share a passion for gambling and decide to play a game of craps to determine who will marry Sunita.

The second Indian film by Franz Osten is considered by many his greatest achievement. His previous film was Prem Sanyas, also known as The Light of Asia. These silent films were shot in black and white on 35mm film. A Throw of Dice contains thousands of cast members and animals including 10,000 extras, 1,000 horses and scores of elephants and tigers. The film was shot on location in Rajasthan. Duration: 1h.14'

Dr. Kim Cunio and Heather Lee have just written this musical score they will play in Avant-première live on stage to accompany this ancient film. General Audience welcome!



"The Eco Film Club

Sadhana Forest, Friday December 26th at 7 pm

SAMSARA

Genre: Documentary Film, Director: Ron Fricke, 2011, 102 Minutes, Nonverbal

Winner of 1 International Award, nominated for 5 more

Filmed over nearly five years in twenty-five countries on five continents, and shot on seventy-millimetre film, Samsara transports us to the varied worlds of sacred grounds, disaster zones, industrial complexes, and natural wonders.

Expanding on the themes they developed in [Baraka](#) (1992) and [Chronos](#) (1985), *Samsara* explores the wonders of our world from the mundane to the miraculous, looking into the unfathomable reaches of humanity's spirituality and the human experience. Neither a traditional documentary nor a travelogue, Samsara takes the form of a nonverbal, guided meditation.

On this special day we are celebrating Sadhana Forest's 11th Birthday! We welcome you join us for a special presentation about our work in India, Haiti, and Kenya at 14:00, followed by a tour of the community and forest at 16:30, an Eco-film at 19:00 and a free 100% vegan organic dinner at 20:30!!

Free bus service to SADHANA FOREST and the ECO FILM CLUB- DEPARTURES FROM SOLAR KITCHEN: 13:30 for presentation, 16:00 for tour and 18:00 for film and dinner, and RETURN FROM SADHANA FOREST: 21:30 and 22:00

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

VISITOR CENTER MOVIE SHOW

18th December Thursday 8 pm

JOHN CARTER (2012)

Genre: Sci-Fi/Action/Rated: PG13/Dur:2hrs 12min/ Language: English/ Subtitle: English

Dir: [Andrew Stanton](#) / Cast: [Taylor Kitsch](#), [Lynn Collins](#), [Willem Dafoe](#)

Storyline: Transported to Barsoom, a Civil War vet discovers a barren planet seemingly inhabited by 12-foot tall barbarians.

Finding himself prisoner of these creatures, he escapes, only to encounter Woola and a princess in desperate need of a savior.

19th December Friday 8 pm

MAN ON A LEDGE (2012)

Genre: Drama/Action/ Rated: Above 18/Dur:1hr 42min/

Language: English/ Subtitle: English

Dir: [Asger Leth](#) / Cast: [Sam Worthington](#), [Elizabeth Banks](#), [Jamie Bell](#)

Storyline: As a police psychologist works to talk down an ex-con who is threatening to jump from a Manhattan hotel rooftop, the biggest diamond heist ever committed is in motion.

AT SAVITRI BHAVAN

Monday, 22nd of December 2014, at 6.30 pm

"JOURNEY OF LOVE"

A video-talk by Dr. ALOK PANDEY reflecting upon Sri Aurobindo's life and work and what he brought and is bringing Truth with love. The Divine is plunging into the Darkness with only one objective: to transform Matter and to manifest on Earth a Life Divine.

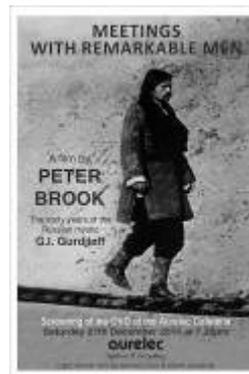
"All our earth starts from mud and ends in sky, / And Love that was once an animal's desire, / Then a sweet madness in the rapturous heart, / An ardent comradeship in the happy mind, / Becomes a wide spiritual yearning's space. / A lonely soul passions for the Alone, / The heart that loved man thrills to the love of God, / A body is his chamber and his shrine." (Savitri, p.632);

Duration: 77min.



Screening of the DVD at the Aurelec Cafeteria on Saturday 27th December 2014 at 7.30 pm

Light dinner will be served from 6.45 pm onwards



MEETINGS WITH REMARKABLE MEN

A film by PETER BROOK

The early years of the Russian mystic G.I. Gurdjieff

Meetings with Remarkable Men is a 1979 British film directed by [Peter Brook](#) and based on the book of the same name by Greek-Armenian mystic, [G. I. Gurdjieff](#), first published in English in 1963. Shot on location in [Afghanistan](#) (except for

dance sequences, which were filmed in [England](#)), it stars [Terence Stamp](#), and [Dragan Maksimovic](#) as

the adult Gurdjieff. The film was entered into the [29th Berlin International Film Festival](#) and nominated for the [Golden Bear](#).

The plot involves Gurdjieff and his companions' search for truth in a series of dialogues and vignettes, much as in the book.

Unlike the book, these result in a definite climax—Gurdjieff's initiation into the mysterious [Sarmoung Brotherhood](#). The film is noteworthy for making public some glimpses of the [Gurdjieff movements](#).

In "Meetings with Remarkable Men," Peter Brook's slow and very deliberate film about the early years of the Russian mystic G.I. Gurdjieff, Mr. Brook has chosen neither to represent Gurdjieff as a fully developed character nor to delve very deeply into the nature of his thought. Instead, he concentrates on the visible details of Gurdjieff's search for enlightenment. So the film depicts a great many places the young Gurdjieff visited, events he witnessed, wise men who advised him, and rare parchments he happened upon.

In the event of rain please call 2622416 to know if the film will still be shown



Cinema Paradiso

Multimedia Center (MMC) Auditorium

Film programme 22 December 2014 to 28 December 2014

Errata: on Sunday, 21 December 2014 the Jim Jarmusch Film Festival @ CINECLUB will not screen STRANGER THAN PARADISE but will screen the film DEAD MAN - USA, 1995, Dir. Jim Jarmusch w/Johnny Depp, Gary Farmer, and others, Western Drama, 121mins, English w/English subtitles, Rated: PG: A bizarre, funny, almost mystical take on the Western, the film charts the sentimental education of a clerk, William Blake, when he travels out West and finds himself, after an unexpected violent incident, pursued by vicious bounty hunters and taken up by a decidedly eccentric Native American who believes his new friend is the English visionary poet. It is one of the few notable films that though directed by a non-Native American, yet manage to offer a nuanced and considerate details of the individual differences between Native American tribes free of common stereotypes.

Foodie Film Series: We continue this week in this last series of the year to bring the foodie in you a delicious gastronomic treat!

Foodie Film Series - Monday 22 December, 8.00 pm:

- **THE LUNCHBOX**

India-France-Germany-USA, 2013, Writer-Dir. Ritesh Batra w/ Irrfan Khan, Nimrat Kaur, Nawazuddin Siddiqui, and others, Drama-Romance, 104mins, Hindi-English w/ English subtitles, Rated: PG

In this much acclaimed and award winning film, a mistake in Mumbai's famously efficient lunchbox delivery system by Dabbawalas (lunch box services) delivers a lunch box mistakenly to Saajan, a widower, working in a government office; in the dusk of his life about to retire. The box is coming from Illa, a young but unhappy housewife. The mistake connects the two souls as they start exchanging notes through the daily lunchbox, building a fantasy world together. *It is one of the most restrained, realistic, touching and humane love stories....Don't miss/watch it again!*

Foodie Film Series - Tuesday 23 December, 8:00 pm:

- **FIRE IN THE BLOOD**

India, 2013, Writer-Dir. Dylan Mohan Gray, Documentary-History, English-Hindi-Manipuri-Xhosa, 87mins, Rated: NR *Food and nourishment is integrally related with well-being and thus also medicine.* Here is an intricate tale of "medicine, monopoly and malice". It tells the story of how Western pharmaceutical companies and governments blocked access to low-cost AIDS drugs for the countries of the global south in the years after 1996 - causing ten million or more unnecessary deaths - and the improbable group of people who decided to fight back. Shot on four continents and including contributions from global figures such as Bill Clinton, Desmond Tutu, the film brings the never-before-told true story of the remarkable coalition which came together to stop 'the crime of the century' and save millions of lives.

Foodie Film Series - Wednesday 24 December, 8.00 pm:

- **CHEF**

USA, 2014, Writer-Dir. Jon Favreau w/ Jon Favreau, Robert Downey Jr., Scarlett Johansson, and others, Comedy, 114mins, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: R

Carl Casper is an acclaimed chef with a family life that seems as decaying as his artistic freedom. Those frustrations boil over into a raucous viral-videoed public confrontation against a restaurant critic who panned his cooking that he had made as per his boss's order against his own instincts. Now with his career ruined, Carl's ex-wife offers an unorthodox solution in Miami: refit an old food truck to offer quality cooking on his own terms. Now with his young son, Percy, and old colleague, Martin, helping, Carl takes a working trip across America with that truck to rediscover his gastronomic passion. With Percy's tech savvy and Martin's enthusiasm, Carl finds that he is creating a traveling sensation on the way home. In doing so, Carl discovers he is serving up more than simply food, but also a deeper connection with his life and his family that is truly delicious in its own way. *A wonderful film!*

Season's Greetings! - Thursday 25 December, 8.00 pm:

- **HOLIDAY (NO FILM SCHEDULED)**

Foodie Film Series - Saturday 27 December, 8:00 pm:

- **ESTÓMAGO (Estomago: A Gastronomic Story)**

Brazil-Italy, 2007, Dir. Marcos Jorge w/ João Miguel, Fabiula Nascimento, Babu Santana, and others, Drama, 113mins, Portuguese w/ English subtitles, Rated: R

Literally estomago means stomach. It is a multi-award winning film set in São Paulo about the power of food and the connections it forges. The film charts the rise of a vagrant Raimundo Nonato, a new immigrant to the city armed with an innate culinary talent. When due to the circumstances Nonato end up in prison - for the prisoners and their boss, he becomes the savior. Soon their meager meals turn to a feast of exotic dishes orchestrated by Nonato's magic. His culinary skills make him the toast of the town in this witty drama about the 'eat or be eaten' nature of the Southern Hemisphere's biggest city. *Don't Miss!*

Children's Film - Sunday 28 December, 4:30 pm:

- **THE ADVENTURES OF ROBIN HOOD**

UK, 1938 Dir. Michael Curtiz w/ Errol Flynn, Olivia de Havilland, 102mins, Adventure-Action-Romance, English, Rated: G (≥5yrs)

When Prince John and the Norman Lords begin oppressing the Saxon masses in King Richard's absence, a Saxon lord fights back as the outlaw leader of a rebel guerrilla army.

Jim Jarmusch Film Festival @ CINECLUB

Ciné-Club - Sunday 28 December, 8:00 pm:

- **NIGHT ON EARTH**

USA, 1991, Dir. J Jarmusch w/ Winona Ryde, Gena Rowlands, and others, Drama, 121mins, English w/English subtitles, Rated: PG

This is a collection of five stories involving cab drivers in five different cities. Los Angeles - A talent agent for the movies discovers her cab driver would be perfect to cast, but the cabbie is reluctant. New York - An immigrant cab driver is continually lost in a city and culture he doesn't understand. Paris - A blind girl takes a ride with a cab driver who is from the Ivory Coast and reflect about life and blindness. Rome - A gregarious cabbie picks up an ailing Priest and virtually talks him to death. Helsinki - an industrial worker gets laid off and he and his compatriots discuss the bleakness and unfairness of love, life and death.

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.

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

As a courtesy to fellow 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

Auroville Ambulance: 9442224680

Auroville Library, Crown Road: opening hours - 9:00 to 12:30 and 14:00 to 16:30 from Monday to Saturday

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: Quick "Pick up and Drop" Shuttle Service in Maruti Omni 4-seater van, with per passenger fares, from Rs.60/- for 1 person single trip inside the city area, destinations up to Aspiration/Auromodele and Repos/Quiet. Phone Visitors Centre main gate 262-2611 or to the driver directly 94876-50951 daily 9.30am-6.00pm and Fri-Sat-Sun evenings up to 9.30pm (10.00pm for return trips). Please note that it is not a taxi that will wait for you for onward or return trips, but if needed will come back to pick you up again when called.

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: Monday to Friday: 9:00 to 12:30 pm. Tuesday and Thursday: 2:30 to 4:30 pm

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): tel: 2622527

Open to public on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday full day: from 9am to 12.30pm and 3pm to 5pm

No new order taken last week of the month. Don't forget to bring your bag

Nandini Distribution : (ptdc , solar kitchen) tel : 2622033

Open to public from Tuesday to Saturday morning from 9am to 12.30pm and Tuesday, Thursday afternoon 2.30pm to 4.30pm

Don't forget to bring your bag

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. Sat/Yaaji 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

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).

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

Visiting hours: Mondays, Tuesdays 9 am to 12; ***No visitors on Wednesday.*** Please, no dictations over the phone unless it is an emergency or you have a medical problem.

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