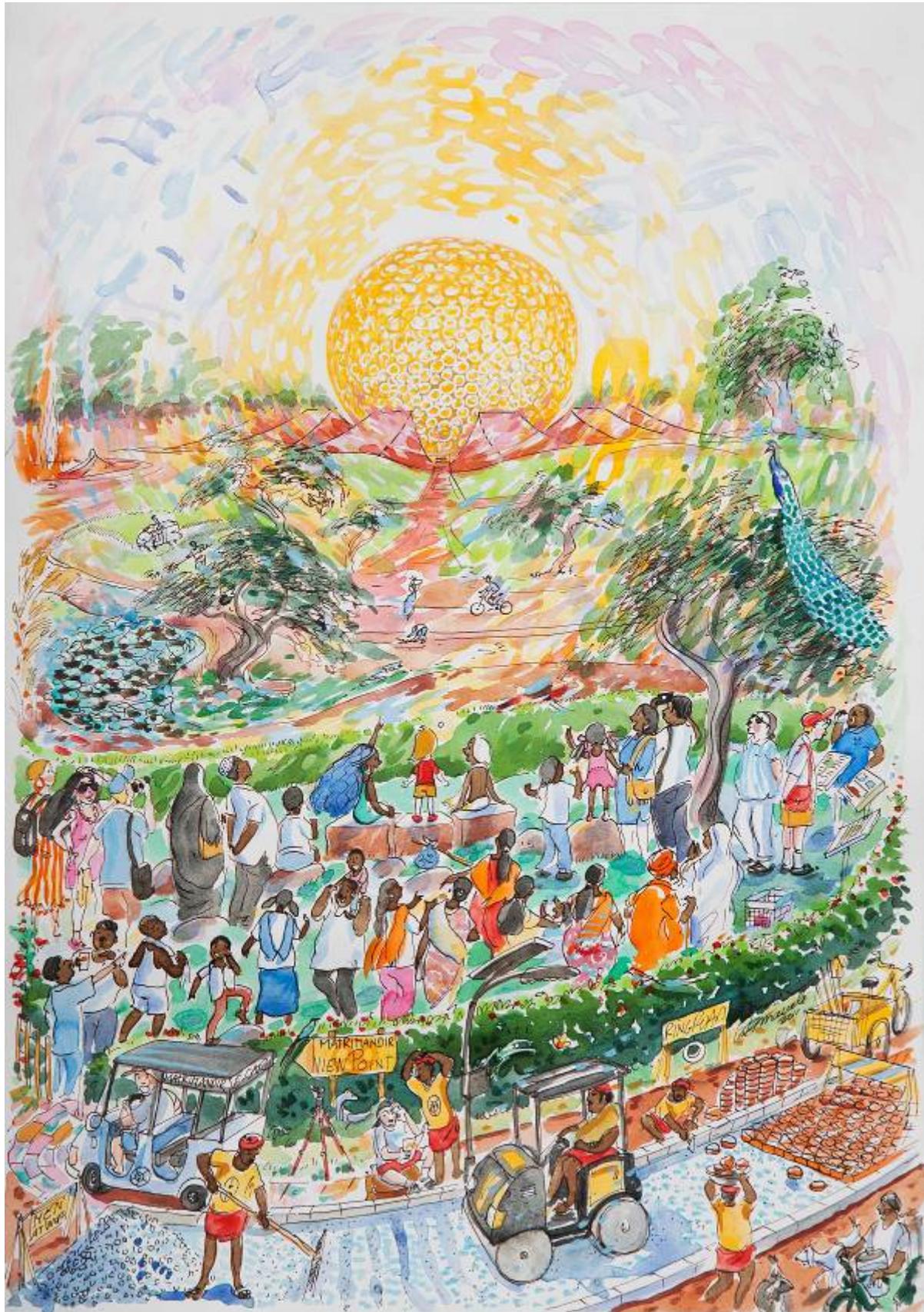


News & Notes

12th December 2015.....A weekly bulletin for residents of Auroville.....Number 627



HOUSE OF MOTHER'S AGENDA

The Conditions of Attainment to the Gnosis

Now we come to realise with a very living force of reality, normal and continuous, what the sages meant when they spoke of the soul carrying the body or when they said that the soul is not in the body, but the body in the soul. It is from above the body and not from the brain that we shall ideate and will; the brain-action will become only a response and movement of the physical machinery to the shock of the thought-force and will-force from above. All will be originated from above; from above, all that corresponds in gnosis to our present mental activity takes place.

But this centre and this action are free, not bound, not dependent on the physical machine, not clamped to a narrow ego-sense. It is not involved in body; it is not shut up in a separated individuality feeling out for clumsy contacts with the world outside or groping inward for its own deeper spirit. For in this great transformation we begin to have a consciousness not shut up in a generating box, but diffused freely and extending self-existently everywhere; there is or may be a centre, but it is a convenience for individual action, not rigid, not constitutive or separative. The very nature of our conscious activities is henceforth universal; one with those of the universal being, it proceeds from universality to a supple and variable individualisation. It has become the awareness of an infinite being who acts always universally though with emphasis on an individual formation of its energies. But this emphasis is differential rather than separative, and this formation is no longer what we now understand by individuality; there is no longer a petty limited constructed person shut up in the formula of his own mechanism. This state of consciousness is so abnormal to our present mode of being that to the rational man who does not possess it it may seem impossible or even a state of alienation; but once* possessed it vindicates itself even to the mental intelligence by its greater calm, freedom, light, power, effectivity of will, verifiable truth of ideation and feeling. For this condition begins already on the higher levels of liberated mind, and can therefore be partly sensed and understood by mind-intelligence, but it rises to perfect self-possession only when it leaves behind the mental levels, only in the supramental gnosis.

In this state of consciousness the infinite becomes to us the primal, the actual reality, the one thing immediately and sensibly true. It becomes impossible for us to think of or realise the finite apart from our fundamental sense of the infinite, in which alone the finite can live, can form itself, can have any reality or duration. So long as this finite mind and body are to our consciousness the first fact of our existence and the foundation of all our thinking, feeling and willing and so long as things finite are the normal reality from which we can rise occasionally, or even frequently, to an idea and sense of the infinite, we are still very far away from the gnosis. In the plane of the gnosis the infinite is at once our normal consciousness of being, its first fact, our sensible substance. It is very concretely to us there the foundation from which everything finite forms itself and its boundless incalculable forces are the origination of all our thought, will and delight. But this infinite is not only an infinite of pervasion or of extension in which everything forms and happens. Behind that immeasurable extension the Gnostic consciousness is always aware of a spaceless inner infinite. It is through this double infinite that we shall arrive at the essential being of Sachchidananda, the highest self of our own being and the totality of our cosmic existence. There is opened to us an illimitable existence which we feel as if it were an infinity above us to which we attempt to rise and an infinity around us into which we strive to dissolve our separate existence. Afterwards we widen into it and rise into it; we break out of the ego into its largeness and are that for ever. If this liberation is achieved, its power can take, if so we will, increasing possession of our lower being also until even our lowest and perversest activities are refashioned into the truth of the Vijnana.

*Many, if not all, of these conditions of the gnostic change can and indeed have to be attained long before we reach the gnosis, — but imperfectly at first as if by a reflection, in higher mind itself, and more completely in what we may call an overmind consciousness between mentality and gnosis

The Synthesis of Yoga, p. II, c. XXIII

SRI AUROBINDO

The Ponder Corner

*To the soul that has hold of the highest beatitude,
life cannot be an evil or a sorrowful illusion;
rather all life becomes the rippling love and laughter
of a divine Lover and Playfellow.*

Sri Aurobindo
ref. CWSA, vol 12, Essays Divine and Human, p.492

Update on the Active Residents Assembly (ARA) experiment

The main purpose of the ARA is to build agreements and solutions in a spirit of harmony and solidarity for the community's various problems and challenges. The ARA has no formal power or status: it is an experiment in personal and civic consciousness. It is also an experiment in finding different ways of meeting/being together and of trying to access a more intuitive mode of understanding in addition to that of the mind.

Those who sign up (by contacting the RAS) agree to attend regular ARA meetings and receive information that will prepare them for conscious participation.

The second introductory meeting of the Active Residents Assembly took place on Saturday, 28th November. During the first introductory meeting, two weeks earlier, attendees had drawn up a preliminary list of the most fundamental issues that Auroville needs to resolve if it is to make progress towards fulfilling its ideals. As only about half of the people who had signed up for the ARA (over 100 Aurovilians and Newcomers) attended this meeting, it was decided to contact everybody online who had shown interest in the ARA and invite them to add to the list of important issues.

Once this was done, the full list was circulated. Each person was then asked to identify the two challenges from the list that they felt were the most 'doable' in terms of leading to a practical outcome in a short time span.

After totalling up the choices, the top four were:

1. the need for a clear and inclusive decision-making process ratified by the RA which fosters the spirit of unity
2. the need to attract and engage the youth in all our activities
3. solving the housing problem
4. finding how to select the right people to occupy administrative positions

The purpose of the second introductory meeting was to decide which of these four issues the ARA would take up first. Initially, to set the tone of the meeting, a quote of The Mother was read out in the four languages of Auroville: *"We only have to go deep enough into ourselves to find the inner Sun and let ourselves be bathed in that delight..."*

Participants then broke up into a number of small groups to allow everybody's voice to be heard, and each group was asked to identify the one issue from the four that they felt we should begin with. The small groups then reported back. It emerged that there was no unanimity: different groups identified different issues as the preferred starting point, or, seeing the linkages, combined many of the issues. The smaller groups were then asked to form two larger groups and, taking into account the discussions so far, try once again to come to agreement on the first issue to be tackled. When the two larger groups reported back, there was still no overall agreement in the room. At this point, one of the facilitators asked everybody to make the attempt to drop their preferences, to go into silence and see what emerged. After the silence, one of the participants noted that a profound shift had taken place in him. He realized that the real point was not for one view to prevail over the others but for people to experience unity, harmony, with all the other participants. This he now felt. Building upon the sense of trust and solidarity in the room, the facilitator suggested that we no longer try to identify which issue to begin with, but that a small team form to prepare the next meeting and we trust them to decide which issue or issues should be taken up and how we would work upon them. This was agreed upon, and about ten participants volunteered to be part of the preparation team for the first full meeting of the ARA. It was also agreed that this would happen within one month, and that it would be a half-day meeting.

While the ARA initiative is very much an experiment, and nobody knows how it will work out, the feeling at the end of this preliminary meeting was very positive. It was particularly pleasing that not only a number of youth attended but also that they were enthusiastic participants in the discussions and were listened to attentively.

Some of the comments were: "That was fun"; "When is the next meeting? I want to come again."; "I felt safe and not intimidated to speak up - and people listened to me!"

Subsequently, the Governance Action Group plus other Aurovilians who helped organize the event made an evaluation of the meeting. Some of their conclusions were:

- 1) The most important thing was the way we came together from the heart and built trust with each other. We need to develop more processes to encourage people to speak from the heart.
- 2) From the beginning, there was a sense of care and love in the way the room was prepared and in the choice of music. The reading of the text in four languages also made a strong statement about inclusivity.
- 3) The request for people to drop their preferences and go into silence helped to make a critical shift. After that, people were more willing to trust whatever emerged and not hang on to a particular point of view.
- 4) It was great to see so many youth there, and to see them gaining confidence as people gave them the space to express themselves.
- 5) The small group work gave an opportunity for people to speak who would normally have remained silent.
- 6) People with young children find it difficult to attend such sessions. We should consider providing some kind of care facilities for young children at the meeting venue so that parents can attend.
- 7) We should continue experimenting with the way we meet.

Active Residents Assembly meetings are open to all Aurovilians and Newcomers over the age of 16 years. We need your voices, your aspirations, your goodwill, and your hearts. We cannot do it alone!

The Governance Action Group

Entry Service Monsoon Report

The Entry Service has not been flooded during this most generous of Monsoons, and we are happy to report plenty of progress with Newcomers and applicants. The new Entry Policy still has not gone into official effect as all the bugs are being worked out thanks to the feedback from the Community and Working Groups. The Welcome Talks that began in September are continuing; another potluck dinner for all newcomers and interested Aurovilians was a delicious event.

We would like everyone to be aware of the Aspiration Program and its success. This is a week-long series of group experiences in and with the Community of Auroville that have been very appreciated by the participants. Sometimes people are very reluctant to take the time for the program and anticipate that they don't really need it of that it would not be at all interesting for them. We never had anyone say that they regretted doing it. This program is not just for Newcomers but for youth, returning Aurovilians, or any Aurovillian. We do not want to force any Newcomer to do the program so some people say that: "since it is not compulsory, I don't do it". Obviously we do not want any unwilling participants but it is a once in a lifetime chance to get an inside view of Auroville with a group of committed people who want to learn and share what Auroville really is and what is actually happening. For information and to sign up please contact: Aspiration@auroville.org.in

There will be a Selection Process like was done for the Working Committee and Auroville Council for the Entry Service. Aurore has left and others will soon rotate out, and all the members

will participate in this process. Very much needed in the Entry Service is a person or persons who are truly computer literate and can handle the email and database with some skill and ease. We need to move to more efficient and paperless filing as well as data sharing with the other Working Groups. The Auroville Council will organize and announce the Selection Process hopefully next month. Please consider if you might be interested in this essential service for the Community.

Housing continues to be a recurring issue because we have more people joining than there is housing available. New housing projects are planned and being built but most often these are unaffordable for Newcomers. We have more Newcomer Housing available, but this is temporary so where does the Newcomer go when becoming an Aurovilian? This is a serious issue that needs the consciousness of the whole Community to work with it. Housing Service alone is overwhelmed by it. All Aurovilians can work toward solutions by sharing existing houses, supporting projects for affordable housing, and taking the initiative to build more accommodations.

We would like to clarify that the process of joining Auroville includes signing the B-form (request to be put on the Register of Residents) and an interview with the Secretary of the Auroville Foundation. Some have thought that the announcement in News & Notes was enough, but these last two steps are needed for the official status of Aurovilian.

In our next report, next year, we will give all the statistics on the numbers of people applying, becoming newcomers, and new Aurovilians.

Thanks for your continuing support and if you have any questions or feedback you are welcome to send an email anytime: entryservice@auroville.org

Entry Service Team (Jitta,B,Chitra,Eva,Ishita,Matilde,Neeti)

Update on the new Entry Policy process - following the meeting on 30th November 2015

As part of the feedback processing process of the new Entry Policy, the RAS invited the 29 people who had "strongly disagreed" with different parts of the proposal, to a meeting

where their concerns could be voiced and discussed. This meeting took place on the 30th of November among 19 people.

The revisions in the Entry Policy will now include:

- Removal of description of "Substantial negative feedback"
- Along with meeting the Entry Service before the Letter of Recommendation is issued, an additional meeting while the Application Form is submitted has been included. These are not "interviews" but merely opportunities for the applicants to interact with the Entry Service.
- Matrimandir access for "Relatives/ Partners of Aurovilians" and "Associates of Auroville" will be removed
- The idea to incorporate an equivalent of the "Aurocard" system for the Associate will be put on hold until feasibility of such an undertaking is studied more in depth with the relevant groups.
- Access to PTPS for Associates of Auroville will be put on hold until further discussion on the topic.

The following feedback was given in the meeting that needs further reflection by the Auroville Council:

- It was voiced that the approval process has to include a review by a wider group. An RA vote is required or the RA needs to agree to another process without vote. However, the past example of FAMC announcing the Housing Policy in 2010 without a vote was raised as well.

- Employees of Auroville are not appropriate criteria for Associates of Auroville. This does not mean that an employee cannot become an associate. But being an employee, a purely commercial relationship, is not an appropriate criterion for offering a formal designation or relationship with Auroville.

It was agreed that before this policy is finalized, the Mentor Pool will be put together as it is a pre-requisite for the working of this policy. It was also agreed that a Selection Process for replacing/ adding members in the Entry Service to strengthen the team is very much needed.

Please see next posting for invitation to a meeting on the Mentor Pool.

Sincerely yours, Matriprasad, Sindhuja for the Auroville Council

ANNOUNCEMENTS

News from the 3 days selection process

Consensus and Agreement - In Action

We are happy to inform you of the results of the "3 Days Selection Process" for 2 additional members for the Working Committee and 3 for the Auroville Council.

The following Aurovilians were selected:

With full consensus for the Working Committee: •Hemant (Grace) and Inge Van Alphen (Courage)

With great agreement for the Auroville Council:

• Marc (Madhuca), • Sandyra (Windarra) and • Sundar (Douceur)

They will join the existing teams on 15th December, 2015

We thank everyone (35 Aurovilians) who has participated and supported this process!

Special thanks to Niva and Dave for their support in the process and to Patricia and Pala for their help in holding the space in a caring and beautiful way. The detailed report will come in the next few days.

At Her Service, *Inge* from Residents Assembly Service & *Dominique, Eugen, Helena, Isha, Jaya and Uma* from the Study Group

How to use our communication tool AURONET next steps in the collective experiment.

When: Saturday 19th December 2015, 3-6 pm

Where: Unity Pavilion

What happened till now?

- 6 months experiment of no moderation - initiated by the Auronet team
- 220 Aurovilians responded to the Auronet survey (link to the outcome)
- RAS received an urgent request from the Working Committee/AVCouncil to look and eventual modify the "Proposal for removing postings from Auronet" (find below).

Please come forward with your creative ideas!

Let us explore:

- How to include your ideas into the given proposal and eventually modify it or
- Initiate an alternative proposal.

Most welcome to join us in exploring different models of developing Auronet as a tool for conscious, constructive and progressive communication.

You are invited to be part of the next experimental phase of 6 months.

The Proposal for WCommitte/ AVCouncil

A person(s) who feels offended by a posting(s) on the Auronet can request the Auronet managers to remove the posting, and the Auronet managers will do so immediately upon receipt of such a request and will then inform the individual who submitted the original posting that it has been removed.

The individual who submitted the original posting can request the Auroville Council to review the quality of the posting. Depending on their finding, the Auroville Council can either confirm the removal of the posting, or instruct the Auronet managers to reinstall the posting.

The decision of the Auroville Council will be binding.

In case the postings of an individual have been removed thrice, then the Auroville Council also has the authority to instruct the Auronet managers to block the individual from making any more postings on the Auronet for a period of time which will be decided by the Council.

Results of the recent survey on Auronet can be found here: <https://goo.gl/rgGs43>

Love,

Slava and Inge (Residents Assembly Service), Manoj and Annemarie (Auronet), Manohar (WCom), Venonique (AVCouncil)

Invitation to the community & mentors - ES

Dear community,

We have so far more than 30 people who have already signed up to be a Mentor. The new policy will work only with participation; we therefore invite you to engage yourself in doing the groundwork, building a strong team to support the Entry Process!

We are coming together for the first workshop next week 18th of December, from 2:00 pm till 4:30 pm at Unity Pavilion to explore what mentorship means in the new policy context, and to sign people up for being pioneers for this task!

All are invited to this workshop, even if it's only to see and investigate whether or not you feel attracted to becoming a mentor.

All are welcome.

Sincerely yours, *the Auroville Council*

Contribution towards House Tax bill for 2014-15

Direct debit from your AVMF Account

Dear Friends,

Auroville Unity Fund has paid in advance the house tax bill for 2014-2015 to the various local Panchayats. As you are surely aware house tax is one of their main forms of revenue and it is a statutory requirement that it is paid.

We ask all residents to pay their contributions - based on the size and type of accommodation each one of us is occupying, to help to cover the collective house tax bill. Since it's a lot of work to send a separate bill to each household, we are proposing to debit directly your AVMF account from 14th of December 2015.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact: Rathinam, Kumar.K or Guna - Town Hall: 2622455, 2622879. Email: aurovillefund@auroville.org.in

Thank you, *Auroville Fund*

Christmas Fair organization meeting

Dear Unit Holders, Musicians, Performers, Farmers and all, If you would like to put a stall, or set up an activity, perform, etc. at Auroville's famous Christmas Fair at the Youth Center, please let us know before Sunday the 13th. Please also come on Monday the 14th for a meeting from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm regarding the organization of the Fair.

The Fair will take place on the 19th December, full day.

All are welcome and invited!

Thank you, [Babu] 8098736485, [Manolo] 9488483316, [Roshan] 9787702497.

Youth Centre Team

Final Presentation of 'Research on Community Participation Framework in Planning & Development'

Saturday, 12 December, 4 to 6 pm, MMC

Need and the Link - A systematic framework is critical for guiding any collective decision making activity. A well laid framework provides an inspiration for active engagement and makes the decision making process efficient and productive. Auroville has for long experimented with a variety of 'community participation' models. However, perhaps due to lack of suitable framework has been detrimental to our envisioned goal and practice of '*consensus based decision making*' within the wider domain of 'self-governance'. Community Participation in Planning has kept, literally from very early on, most of the community members engaged in various upcoming development needs and directions. It would continue to be so as '*Planning, by nature, strives to find a fine balance & is highly synthesizing activity.*' It is thus very important that we pay particular attention to refine our community participation processes so that they become more productive. This project is an attempt in this direction and is being carried in a collaborative spirit with enthusiastic participation from L'avenir d'Auroville and Resident Assembly Service.

Background - Visiting scholars from the Queen's University School of Urban and Regional Planning studied examples all around the world and came up with a well thought out proposal on how public participation can be organized in Auroville. To support the next step on this - **from theory into reality** - they got the support from L'avenir d'Auroville by identifying a topic on which the new framework of community participation can be taken as an example & that was identifying the need of '*community features/supporting facilities*' in the Residential Zone sector 1 and 2 (between Grace and Prarthana) as these two sectors are under development presently, and it is an appropriate time to envision amenities needed for both short & long term perspectives.

So far, this is what has happened. While in Canada -

- 6 skype interviews with involved & knowledgeable resource persons,
- RAS enabled online survey about 'perceptions about Community Participation.'
- Background research of relevant study material including previous reports from various Auroville working groups.

After arrival in Auroville -

- In-depth interviews with community members,
- Conducted 'information kiosks & sound boards' at 3 different locations (PTDC, Solar Kitchen & Hall of Light - Creativity Community) to get inputs & ideas from residents,
- An on-line survey about 'community features/supporting facilities,' and
- A 'Visioning Workshop' at Unity Pavilion.

Sharing - The next step is to share the findings with all community members on 12th December, Saturday, 4 to 6 pm at MMC. You are most welcome to join & interact on this. Light refreshments will be served between 3:30 & 4 pm, so please do arrive a bit early for an informal gathering before the formal presentation.

Auroville aspires to be a learning society - a place for spiritual and material research. How we can try out various possibilities of 'working on creating inspiring & appropriate

inputs & platforms to meet Auroville's all-round growth requirements, keeping 'learning perspective' in mind, this work carries a glimpse of the same. Knowledge and experience seekers from all around the world are keen to do their bit via such 'engaging learning exchanges'. This is the 3rd time students from Queens University Canada have offered their time and energy to do project in Auroville & make contribution for our collective reflection & action.

Auronet version has link to previous works done by Queens University in Auroville & some photos.

Thanks & Regards,
Inge and Slava from Residents Assembly Service
<raservice@auroville.org.in>
Sauro from L'avenir d'Auroville <avenir@auroville.org.in>
Lalit from 'Auroville Integral Sustainability Institute'
<sustain@auroville.org.in> (hosting entity in Auroville)

Security Alert

Dear Friends,
Two of my homestay guests were attacked and robbed on the road by VC on Sat Dec 5th night. Three men approached their motorbike, hit the young man and snatched the young woman's bag with money and bank cards. They informed Security immediately. I really hope we can find a way to improve our security, especially as guest season approaches.
L'aura, Centre Field

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Notice to Aurovilians bringing Guests to the Matrimandir

Dear Aurovilians,
Now that the busy season is upon us, from **December 18th until 31st March**:

1. Aurovilians running courses, workshops and tours should not include a visit to Matrimandir, other than the Viewing Point, in your itinerary. The current practice of bringing all the members of your groups to make individual bookings for the Inner Chamber cannot be accommodated during this period due to the very high demand from other individuals. Apologies for the inconvenience and thanks for your kind understanding and cooperation.

2. Aurovilians who wish to bring their personal guests to the Inner Chamber should book by e mail or by calling 2622579 any day except Tuesdays between 9.30 am and 11.30 am. On the day of the appointment, please go with them to the Visitors Centre to collect your passes by 8.30 am. **No passes will be issued at the Access Office at Matrimandir.** In the public interest of minimizing traffic on the roads inside Auroville, all personal transport should be parked in the main parking at Visitors Centre and you and your guests are asked to use the shuttle provided to come to Matrimandir.

From Matrimandir Access Core Group

FAMC concerning housing projects and project holder financial assistance

We ask residents to take note that when a housing project holder is able to provide financial assistance in a housing project the project holder is expected to make this information public in both the News and Notes and on the Auronet. Further, they are expected to collaborate closely with the Housing Service on allocation decisions. With respect for transparency and fairness: eligibility and allocation criteria should be clear and made public before commencement of the housing project.

Thank you, FAMC

L'avenir d'Auroville: 12th Dec 2015

The following Site and Building Applications (SA and BA) 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 d'Auroville / TDC issues an NOC (No Objection Certificate). This happens only once the feedback period is over, the feedback has been evaluated, a 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 the TDC.

Individual Project

Building Applications Feedback:

1. Prabhu, Auromodele, House

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: 2622-170 or come personally to the Building Application section.

Clarification concerning building individual houses

The TDC frequently receives applications to build individual houses in the City and Greenbelt area. Usually, the application also requests a piece of land around it. To regulate the process of these requests, especially for individual housing, we would like to communicate the following:

The Greenbelt is mainly managed by the Farm and the Forest Group (with the Green Group). These official groups are in charge of the development in these areas and are the stewards of these lands. Housing possibilities arise only when the activity of the "steward-to-be" corresponds to the directives and guidelines of the Farm and Forest Group. The application of any building or house should be related to the activities undertaken in perspective of forest and/or farm in the Greenbelt.

In the City (including some communities bordering the city), lands are reserved for projects according to land use. Projects proposed by project developers and the Housing Service find their way to the TDC and are processed according to community-approved guidelines. In this respect, some areas are reserved for low-density housing (aka clusters), but only on a project basis.

The TDC has made an agreement with the Housing Service and the Land Board to protect lands which are vulnerable to encroachment. The Housing Service will propose temporary housing on those locations for the specific purpose of protecting the area.

The developments mentioned above imply that space for individual houses is limited and only possible with consent of the Forest & Farm Group, the Housing Service or as a project initiated by a project developer/architect. In any case, final approval is granted by the TDC.

L'avenir d'Auroville / TDC



U S A = The twelve-page autumn issue of the [AVI USA Connect newsletter](#) reached us with an abundance of information about the recent AVI/AUM meeting in Woodstock through Friederike's detailed report and Vikas's personal reflection, as well as updates on various Auroville projects. This 5th AVI USA Connect newsletter, rich with photographic material, can be downloaded from aviusa.org/news

F R A N C E = Significantly, the first weeks of December have been quite Auroville-oriented in Paris.

On the evening of Friday 4th, '[La Cite de l'Architecture et du Patrimoine](#)', a prominent museum of architecture in Paris, invited its audience to come and see three documentaries depicting "Auroville, an urban experiment in India", followed by an interactive talk with Auroville-associated architect **Anupama Kundoo**. Shown were 'Auroville, histoire d'une utopie' by Hélène Risser; 'Auroville, l'esquisse d'un monde, by a Belgian team; and 'Auroville, la ville dont la terre a besoin' by Guillaume Estivie. Details can be found at: goo.gl/5QKEmV

Furthermore, in collaboration with AVI France, [l'Atelier Fil Rouge](#) hosted in the evening of Wednesday 9th an informative programme on GEN, the [Global Ecovillage Network](#), with various participants who had come to Paris to attend the Climate Conference, and who graciously gave time on the side to present their projects such as Auroville, Findhorn, Damanhur, Arcosanti, Sri Lanka's Sarvodia, Konahana in Japan and more. **Marti Mueller**, who is a UN ECO-SOC representative to Geneva and has lived in Auroville, explained Auroville's involvement in the GEN and also presented her '[Greenland Spirit](#)' project about safeguarding the Inuit Culture in the face of climate change.

Last but not least, on Saturday 12 December, an Interactive Café Auroville will meet via Skype with **Sandrine Denier**, one of the co-founders of Auroville's '[LilaLoka](#)', who will discuss the project with several Paris-based educationists, parents and children who were invited to Atelier Fil Rouge for the occasion.

I T A L Y = As a note on the side and not directly related to the AVI Italy centre, we're happy to inform readers that, gradually, the Auroville website is being translated into the Italian language. Take a look: www.auroville.org/language/it

For all AVI matters, contact: vani@auroville.org.in / This column is maintained by mauna@auroville.org.in

POSTINGS

Farewell to Anand from the Courage community

Dear Anand,
The Courage Community wishes you a fond farewell on your onward journey to light, love and peace in The Divine's Embrace. We were lucky to have you amongst us and we hope to see you again soon! The trees and flowers that you planted in Courage will always remind us of your sunny smile and generous heart. Our prayers and love are with you and reach out to your family.
Love - All in Courage,
Swadha for Courage community.

Open request to the Working Committee.

Dear Working Committee members,
This is an open request to the Working Committee to publish an update on the TDC, at the earliest...
Changes were briefly mentioned in the last report of the Governing Board. We heard that a group of Auroville Architects is working on a brief which would be given to Mr. Doshi, and that it is planned that the actual Town-planning will be done in Mr. Doshi's office in Northern India. It would be great to have clarity about this very important topic in the community.
Thanks for being the link...
Love, Inge on behalf of the Residents Assembly Service

Security Alert

Dear Friends,
Two of my homestay guests were attacked and robbed on the road by VC on Sat Dec 5th night. Three men approached their motorbike, hit the young man and snatched the young woman's bag with money and bank cards. They informed Security immediately. I really hope we can find a way to improve our security, especially as guest season approaches.
L'aura, Centre Field

Customized swimwear

Hello everyone!
As some of you may know, we have started an Auroville Activity specializing in making customized swimwear, along with other summer accessories such as beach bags (available in AV Boutique). We thank everyone who has helped and supported us, it is greatly appreciated! We go by the name "Esendi Beachwear", and we are located in Auzolan compound. As our workshop is rather empty, if you have any old furniture or wood pieces with the potential of creating some kind of structure, please let us know. That would be lovely.
You can check out our Facebook and Instagram page: Esendi Beachwear - Contact info: esendibeachwear@gmail.com. Dasha : +91 9751798316 / Suhasini: +91 9487437164 - *Esendi Beachwear Team*

Opportunities at Aura Auro Design

Learn, grow, work, and teach.

- Aura Auro Design is a technology center that follows unending education and trains graduates to be effective in electronic design, layout, automation and hands on work
- A business activity capable of providing livelihood of local youth and financially support community (Auroville Unity Fund, Schools - Udavi and Isai Ambalam, Auroville Maintenance and Reach for the Stars programs.)
- A group where every group member works with children and schools (3 hrs a day) to fill an essential gap of constructivist learning that can help children be to be patient, creative, problem solvers. The constructivist paradigm allows children learn by discovery, building and creating in both physical and virtual medium.

Apply by: 20 December 2015, Instructions at: <http://www.aurauro.com/application/download/>
Regards, *Aura Auro Design Team*

AVAILABLE

Volunteer house

A fully furnished, independent house available from January for registered volunteers (singles or couples). Please contact *Abha* at: 2622003 or via email: abhaprakash@auroville.org.in

Greetings from Aurosoya!

Dear friends, we are happy to remind you that all our Christmas and New Year Cakes, Truffles, Double Chocolate Fondant, Party Cake, Christmas Roll, Vegan cakes and more are waiting for you at Aurosoya, next to Garden Café (Naturellement) - Please place your order at the following number: (0413) 2622273 - Greetings from the *Aurosoya team*.

Honda unicorn

Available Honda unicorn with TN plate in perfect condition. Year 2010. 63000km. Interested call 8098507673. *Joan Pascual*

4 PG Wodehouse books

Brand new PG Wodehouse books for sale at a very good discount. For details, contact +91 97398 69468. Don't forget to add the +91 as it is an outstation number". *Maitri*

LED monitor

Selling open package Dell 21.5 inch LED monitor, purchased two months ago, and used only a few days. Great wide screen

for most every day computing applications, movie watching, gaming and multimedia. I am selling it because not suitable for photo editing tasks I mainly need it for. Check its value on Flipkart and feel free to contact me to make your best offer. I expect amount around 80% of its brand new value. Model name: Dell S 2240 L. Contact Edo at: eddie.grassi@gmail.com, 9843893652

Hello lovely gardeners!

Our vegetable seedlings are ready to be planted in your garden. We have healthy tomato plants, lettuce, brinjal, ladyfingers, capsicum and basil. The road to Botanical Gardens is ok - and soon the sun will be there again and you can enjoy a quiet walk; the arboretum is particularly beautiful with the monsoon.



In case it is easier for you, and you cannot make it to AVBG, we will have a tray with plants for sale at PTDC, on Friday and Saturday. There is a blue sheet with the tray; please write down your name and PT account, and the number of plants taken.

We wish you all a happy planting season!

LOOKING FOR ...

Collar mike' with amplifier

Does anyone know where I can rent a 'collar mike' with amplifier? Thanks for letting me know. Contact: tineke@auroville.org.in. Looking for someone to come from the Netherlands to carry one envelop for me. *Tineke*

Phone needed by Isai Ambalam School

Greetings, our school phone is not in a working condition due to the rain. We are looking for an alternative telephone.

Please come forward if you have a spare one to Isai Ambalam School. Contact No: *Subash-9486222047 or Kavitha-8940434614*

A second-hand computer or laptop

Ammu and Ravi - caretaker of the Kindergarten at Center Field - are looking for a second-hand computer or laptop for their daughter Lishantini. If you can donate one, please contact *Ravi*, at home phone 2623408 or mobile 7639958558. Thank you!

LOST & FOUND

Jacket (lost): Hey there, on Sunday the 6th I lost my jacket somewhere on the way between Sacred Groves and discipline farm (via town hall and Isai Ambalam). It is a good black Gore-Tex outdoor jacket of the brand "the northface". I would highly appreciate the return of it and give a very good reward. Please message me at: max.broeker809@gmail.com - Thank you, *Max*

Glasses (lost): My brand-new spectacles/ glasses, greyish soft light frame, progressive lenses ...anywhere between/at town hall compound and VC. Compensation: full cake or pizza of your choice pl contact *Peter*: 948 848 3348

THANK YOU

To AV Services

In days such as these, with the deluge and such, to have telephone landlines working, Internet running, electricity brimming and roads in good shape, one must say our AV services are doing a great job.

Thank you,
Adil

Thank You Auroville!

We, Dominic Dube and Inge Rieck, would like to give a "big thank you" to the Citadine community and the Pavilion de

France group to host in Citadine Centre d'Art "Indian Trajectory" - an exhibition by *Dominic Dube*.

It was an installation of our work for the last 20 years in India, started in Auroville - to build the City - and opened up to India and all over the world. It has reconnected us to our dream to build this City, in harmony and embracing our diversity.

Thanks to all visitors who enjoyed the beauty and peace for their encouraging feedback!

Love,
Dominic and Inge

A P P E A L

For the Youth Center annual Fair!

Dear Community,

We need your support for the famous Youth Center annual Fair! This year's Christmas Fair, as every year, will take place in December, on Saturday the 19th, full day. The Christmas Fair is an Auroville tradition, where youth of all ages come together to create fun, games and food for the entire community. On this day, the entire Auroville community is invited to participate in various activities such as live music, stage performance, thrilling games for children, rides, stalls, foods and much more. This is a day of celebration and fun which is organised for the community by the Auroville Youth.

This year our theme is "What to Where?" which means we encourage fun costumes but also ask a deeper question of *'where are we moving as a community?'*

The Christmas fair is a fundraising event where 30% of the income from stalls is contributed towards the youth-community's functioning for the year that follows. Without this Fair, it would be very difficult to maintain the youth space. The fair has always focused on creating an atmosphere of joyful, and sometimes rather hilarious, reflection on our community... with many experiments with the gift economy, creative big and small art installations, sustainable devices and youth-built crazy-stuff.

Normally Youth Center has some savings, but due to the need to repair our keet-roofs this year, a lot of it has been spent on ensuring that we do not get flooded with the monsoon rains. We need your help. We would also like to fix the roofing of the Auroville Farmer's Market area. We host the Auroville Farmers Market every Saturday (free for stall holders). We hope that this Auroville Market will grow in the future, and that it will encourage the sale of small-scale products. This is also an effort to encourage Aurovilians & visitors to eat local organic food. It is our only weekly community market. Fixing this Market Stall Space is not part of our Christmas Fair Budget. If support is received we will build in the most durable, green methods possible.

To make this year's fair as fantastic as possible we need some help either in kind or in cash. We will sell donated products at the fair, or offer them as game prizes. The cash donated that we receive will be spent on:

Budget Plan Christmas Fair

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT IN RS
FOOD: [ingredients, equipment and cutlery]	55,000
DECORATION: [Lamps, wire, paints, cloths etc...]	20,000
SOUND SYSTEM: [Speakers, cables, chairs, Tarp etc...]	15,000
SHADING AND ROOFING: [Stage roof, bus roof, green net etc...]	20,000
OTHER EXPENSES	10,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1,20,000

Budget for Auroville's Farmer's Market Stalls Roofing:

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT IN RS
Roofing [Metal Sheets, Wood Framing].	80,000

Youth Center's Christmas Fair account number: 0099. To set up a stall/game, or for any in-kind donation please call: [Babu] 8098736485, [Manolo] 9488483316 or Youth Center 2622857. We will gladly come pick them up.

Thank you! We hope to see you there!

Babu & Manolo & Roshan for the The Youth Centre Team & Vinay & Kavitha for YouthLink

AV Flood Relief 2015

About 25 Aurovilians and concerned neighbors came together on the 7th of December at Kalakendra, Bharat Nivas, including representatives from WC, AV Security, AVAG, Youth Link, EcoPro, Mohanam, Thamarai, SLI, Pitchandikulam, and various groups who have already been working on the ground in Chennai, Cuddalore, and our neighboring Bioregional villages.

A Disaster Management Action Group has been formed, and 11 villages from the Auroville Bioregion that have been most severely affected have been adopted as priority. We encourage all other groups working in other areas to continue their work and share information. Following are the villages of Vanur & Marakkanam Blocks:

- Anumandai
- Vandipalyam
- Nadukkupam
- Devikulam
- Urani
- Arathikuppam
- Poothurai
- Eachengadu
- Thailapuram
- Kodur
- Pulichapalam

We call out to all other groups and individuals who have already been working on the ground to join efforts. **Most urgent needs can be dropped at YouthLink, BharatNivas between 4:00-5:00 pm any day:**

Most urgent needed items: Blankets, Mats, Cooking Vessels, Mosquito Coils, Rice.

The contribution can be made in the name of Flood Relief 2015, Financial service account No. 251220

For transfers from Indian banks

Auroville maintenance Account number - 163101000118

ICICI bank Auroville, IFS code - icic0001631

Description - FLOOD RELIEF

For transfers from abroad

State bank of India Auroville Township

Branch Code - 03160

Swift Code - SBININBB474

Account - AUROVILLE UNITY FUND

Account Number: 10237876508

If you are willing to help, please join this effort!!!

AV Flood Relief 2015 Team [avfloodrelief2015@gmail.com,

Facebook Page: AV Flood Relief 2015]

A C C O M M O D A T I O N S A V A I L A B L E A N D N E E D E D

House sitting 1: We are a young couple of two volunteers (Italian and French), living since September in Guest houses, and searching for a house-sitting in a quiet place where we can enjoy the beauty of Auroville (and appreciate preparing meals by ourselves). We are energetic, tidy and very helpful and would be glad to take care of someone's house. We are available from now on till February, but of course with

flexibility. You can join us at: +91 7639313297 or mail: nicolas.denis06@gmail.com - *Nicolas & Alice*

House sitting 2: Beautiful House, Beach Front in the Quiet Healing Centre available for House Sitting from April 20th to September 20th 2016. For a small family or a single woman with a child, or a single woman. No single man. Only Aurovilians or Newcomers, no Volunteers (sorry!) .Full

commitment to the Quiet Healing Centre Rules is mandatory: No loud parties, no drugs, no alcohol, appropriate behavior. Please come on Sunday the 13th if interested from 12 onwards. Give me a call before. Mobile 9486366413 - Laura if interested! Commitment to me: Pet sitting (2 lovely dogs) and Garden. Expenses for helper, cleaning every day 2 hours, and a gardener on Sunday half day must be paid. In the house all must be well maintained and respected. Deposit required for eventual broken items to be repaid at the end.

Laura. Quiet Healing centre - mobile 9486366413 [At the same time the clearance of the house continues, many items still available, just come and check it out! :-)]

House sitting 3: I am Proshanto, coordinating an awareness project for children about the environment, hygiene and social issues in villages around Auroville. I am looking for a house-sitting from the 4th of January. I am very clean, quiet and love to take care of pets.

I would love to hear from you! 76 39 46 93 15 / p.mukherjee@cheminsdenfances.org - Thanks in advance, *Proshanto*

House sitting 4: Dear Friends, Manas, who is at present working with Auroville Campus Initiative, is looking forward to join Auroville along with his wife Mimi, who is teaching yoga at Thamarai. They are looking for a family house for 3 people and 2 dogs in a dog friendly community. If anyone knows of any possible housing option inside Auroville please contact: Manoj: manoj@auroville.org.in or Manas: learningbydesign@yahoo.com / Thank you - *Manoj* (Mobile: 9443295937)

House sitting 5: We are Catherine and Harald and are volunteers in Auroville. We are looking for a place to stay from end of December until end of February, eventually a little longer. We are experienced house-sitters and will take good care of your home, pets and garden and will naturally contribute to house expenses. Thank You, *Cathy and Harald* - Please contact us by phone: 9771463514 / harald.grundler@gmail.com

House sitting 6: Hi! My name is *Ferdi*, I would like to house-sit for you for 1-2 months. Your house will be clean and filled with meditative vibrations. Drop me an email: ferdihus@gmail.com. Be happy :)

TAXI SHARING

December 14th: Dear all, I want to pick up a friend from Chennai airport at 8.40 am and then go back to Auroville. If necessary, we can leave earlier, I don't mind waiting. Who would like to share a taxi? Please call or message me 7639318742. Best wishes, *Jelly*

December 17th: Taxi sharing from Auroville to Chennai Airport at 10.30 pm on Thursday December 17. Two seats available. If interested, please mail: manohar@auroville.org.in or phone Manohar mobile 9486416179 and landline 262 2272

December 22nd: Two people travelling to Auroville from Chennai. Airport or city. Late morning/early afternoon. Please email macfarlaneq@gmail.com - *Quentin*

December 22nd: A taxi going from Chennai airport at 3.00 am to Auroville. For sharing it either way, please call on Skype: marynaki69, or email: margor777@gmail.com - *Marina*

December 22nd: My flight leaves at 12h30 from Chennai on 22/12. I'll need to be there at least 2h before.

Thank you in advance. Contact: lebarnaud@gmail.com. *Arnaud*

December 23rd: I will pick up a friend at 2:30 am from Chennai airport and go back to Auroville afterwards. We can leave any time in the evening (22nd). I don't mind waiting for some time. 3 seats are available on the way to Chennai, 2 on the way back. Just contact me if you would like to share. Carla: 9585550273 or carotenthoff@gmail.com - Thank you, *Carla*

December 23rd: Dear all, a taxi will go to Chennai Airport to pick up one person at 9 am. Please contact me if you wish to share the taxi either to Chennai Airport or on the way back to Auroville. I would really appreciate it! Contact: 7639318179 or hilal_durmaz@hotmail.de - Thank you! *Hilal*

December 31st: Thursday early morning, a taxi will pick up a friend from Chennai airport - arrival time is 3.40 am. For sharing (even with waiting time) contact 948 799 1063 or email to: tatiana@auroville.org.in. *Tatiana*

WORK OPPORTUNITIES

Looking for Office Administrator

For New Era Secondary School (CBSE) - [Aurovilians / volunteers only](mailto:aurovilians@newera.org)

Ness, Aspiration, would like to invite applications from Aurovilian graduates for the post of full-time Office Administrator with the following capabilities:

1. Enthusiastic, hard-working person with undergraduate degree in any discipline.
2. Spoken and written language fluency in English (and preferably Tamil).
3. Experience in word processing and other Windows applications such as Excel, photoshop, etc.
4. Some knowledge of basic accounting and secretarial skills would be a plus.
5. Willingness to commit for preferably 2 years.

Maintenance will be provided. If you are an Aurovilian or a long-term volunteer, please apply to: nesstrust15@auroville.org.in

HEALTH

DENGUE FEVER

Dear Community,
It's Dengue fever season and the staff of Sante has helpful information.

General information: Dengue is a viral infection transmitted by Aedes Mosquitoes (tiger mosquito).

Symptoms: If you have these signs, call Santé or another clinic.

- Sudden high fever
- Severe headache

- Pain behind the eyes
- Severe joint and muscle pain
- Nausea and vomiting
- Enlarged Lymph glands
- Skin rash

General prevention:

- * The Aedes mosquito bites in the daytime, especially morning and afternoon
- * Wear light-colored clothing that covers your arms and legs
- * Use insect repellent
- * Use mosquito nets
- * Empty any standing water containers (*once rains are over* ;-)), buckets, old tires or pots near your house or work place
- * Strengthen your immune system
- * Homeoprophylaxis is available
- * Drink Papaya leaf juice: it is preventative and strengthens immune system.

Papaya Leaf Juice recipe: Use cleaned, tender papaya leaves. Blend or grind well. Do not heat or boil the leaves - Squeeze out the juice using a cheesecloth or a thin, cotton cloth.

Dosage: 1 Tablespoon every morning on an empty stomach. Mix with fruit juice if you don't like the taste.

Treatment: Different treatments are available through Sante, like Allopathy, Homeopathy, Ayurveda, Chinese medicine and other disciplines. Remember to drink a lot!

You may need some blood tests: The results will decide if you need to go to hospital or if you can recover at home.

What NOT to do:

- * Do NOT take Aspirin
- * Do NOT take Ibuprofen (Brufen, Combiflam, etc.), Aceclofenac or other anti-inflammatory drugs.

Those who take 'blood thinners' should be particularly careful. Consult a doctor for clarifications.

If you think you may have Dengue fever, give Sante a call. We are here to help you understand what is going on.

Be strong, be well,
Santé

AUROVILLE RADIO



Dear Friends and Listeners,

The Auroville Radio celebrated its 11th year of operation on Dec 5th we chose this occasion to launch our 2nd fund drive!

This month long Fun(d)-Drive campaign is the moment where you can participate with the Auroville Radio to help us achieve our goals and improve our services.

In this year alone, the Auroville Radio has produced more than 500 programs, (averaging 50 programs a month), we have welcomed over 35 volunteers, students and professionals who have contributed to our website that has

compiled some 3,500 articles.

With your help last year (2014) we progressed in our objectives of; staff support, studio operations and the "dream" Media School lab. We are happy to report that today:

The present office location is stable, and a division wall built. Two Radio staff now receive support. Achieved recognition as an Auroville City service activity with a small monthly budget. Received approval for joining the "Auroville Archive's" new building project to establish a permanent location - discussions are on-going.

Our target in this 2015 campaign is to raise Rs 850,000 or (US\$ 13,000).

This will enable us to:

Support additional team members	Rs 316,000 (US\$ 4,860)
Purchase Equipment	Rs 438,000 (US\$ 6,760)
Acoustic treatment	Rs 96,000 (US\$ 1,390)

Donate Now! <http://www.aurovillerradio.org/donate/>

Any amount big or small is vital towards achieving our goal.

Now Donations of Rs 50 or more will receive 10% off on purchases from: www.auroville.com! Contributions of Rs 50 or more to the Auroville Radio Fund Raiser will receive an email with a promotional coupon for 10% discount on their next purchase on: www.auroville.com. To use your coupon, register with Auroville.com and apply your 10% discount on any purchase. The coupon is limited to one-time use only and is valid for one month from date of issue.

We truly appreciate your involvement with AurovilleRadio and look forward to your support.

The Auroville Radio Team

Mother's Agenda - June 1958

"We are preparing upon earth the connecting-point, that point of communication and junction between the mental and terrestrial human consciousness and the supramental and superhuman Consciousness. It is a whole intermediate world that is being worked out, a new creation manifesting and materializing.

In order to be realized here upon earth, this creation must utilize the already existing material means and powers, but in a new way, adapted to the new needs. One of the most essential powers is the financial power."

These are the latest programs published by AurovilleRadio this week. All the recordings are available in CD or ready to be copied on your memory stick at the AurovilleRadio premises in Town Hall, opposite the Financial Service.

Mother's Q&A - October 12 1955 (The Mother 07/12/2015)

Mother speaks of the coming change of consciousness, how close it is, when it will come, who will be ready. -[English, 24 Minutes]

Our Water, and Rainfall (Water 07/12/2015)

In community we have a group of people who collect rainfall data. Tom is one of them, and he talks about it. -[English, 35 Minutes]

Community Participate, Future (News from Auroville 07/12/2015)

Featuring Caroline from Queens University inviting us to workshop 8th at 3pm at Unity Pavilion. -[English, 11 Minutes]

Auroville Radio is 11 years old! (Free Economy 05/12/2015)

Auroville Radio is 11 years old! Let's hear from our listener, Armando in the US on what this service means to him. -[English, 3 Minutes]

Off the Cuff - 54 (Performing Arts 04/12/2015)

During times like these we respect the effective work done in water conservation here, remembering Anand and more... -[English, 16 Minutes]

Capoeira, Capoeira - Festival (International Programs 04/12/2015)

Sam - Samuka da Inda of Ginga Saroba capoeira group talks about capoeira, life, unity.. -[English, 36 Minutes]

Savitri, B. I, C, III, Part Four (Sri Aurobindo 03/12/2015)

The King achieves his personal self-fulfillment, his psycho-spiritual transformation; his first spiritual change. -[English, 22 Minutes]

Selections par Gangalakshmi-65 (The Path 03/12/2015)

Cette semaine; Le Yoga de la connaissance intégrale, le Yoga de l'amour divin. -[French, 16 Minutes]

Over 100 Dams in Auroville (News from Auroville 03/12/2015)

You can listen to all of the programs and more on www.aurovillerradio.org. For more info call 0413-2623331 or email radio@auroville.org.in

Kireet shares with us insights on his work in water conservation in Auroville and bioregion. -[English, 19 Minutes]

Deepam festival of light (Non-class. 02/12/2015)

Deepam means light or flame. This symbolic name was chosen to bring light into the lives. -[English, 10 Minutes]

Korean Traveling School show (Music 02/12/2015)

South Korea Creative Travelling School performance at Sri Aurobindo auditorium - Auroville -[English, 7 Minutes]

Vinu Karthick - Actor (Culture 02/12/2015)

Actor Vinu Karthick discusses the impact Andrea and Jill Navarre have had on his life and his career. -[English, 10 Minutes]

TRAVEL

Latest News from the Travel Shop - located at Inside India in Auroshilpam.

We are open from 09:00 to 13:00 and from 13:30 to 17:00

Please let us know your travel plans and we will get back to you once a promotional offer is available, as you are only valid for purchase within a few days and for a specific time period.

We are also having special deals with many airlines which are often better priced when compared to prices on the internet.

Latest / new Airline Offers:

Emirates and Etihad Airways have announced special fares to Europe and USA

Srilankan Airline has special fares to Europe

Hotels: International and Domestic Hotel bookings can be done at discounted rates through us.

We recommend the following minimum check-in time at Chennai Airport: Domestic - 2 hour 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 that you have had the recommended inoculations for your destination(s). Please check with us in advance to see if flight schedules have changed. Insurance: We strongly recommend that you avail of a Travel Insurance.

International Flight Tickets / International Hotel booking - 04132622078, travelshop@auroville.org.in

Domestic Flight Tickets / Trains / Bus / Travel Insurance - 04132622604 / 2623030, domestic@inside-india.com, doulat@inside-india.com

Tours and Domestic Hotel booking - 04132622047, insideindia@auroville.org.in

EATING OUT

From Well Cafe

Well cafe is happy to have our early Christmas dinner on the 24/12/15 from 7 pm onwards...

We will have vegetarian and vegan word food buffet including Asiatic, Moroccan, Mediterranean and more.

Price for guest 550 / Av and Nc 420.

For more information and booking please call well cafe at: 2622219

With love, *Well cafe team*

GREEN MATTERS



Monsoon Floods! & Update on Paris

An unprecedented, relentless North East Monsoon has pounded Tamil Nadu over the last weeks. The torrential rains seemed intent on over-compensating for the deficit previous years with a record precipitation. Especially Chennai and Cuddalore, Kanchipuram and Thiruvallur, and in some areas Villupuram

and Pondicherry were badly affected, with vast areas flooded and residents marooned on rooftops without water, food, electricity and means of communication. In Chennai the airport was closed for days, bridges collapsed, some hospitals were inundated and affected by shortage of electricity and supplies; traffic jams, power cuts, inaccessible mobile networks, internet and ATMs, scarcity of food, and rising prices were ubiquitous.

Inadequate civic infrastructure, poor urban planning, illegal construction and poor water management are mostly responsible for years of real estate growth that was given priority over planned development; the result was the filling in of lakes and ponds, and concreting over swamp land and watersheds.

Water had to be released from overflowing lakes, tanks and reservoirs, and rivers in spate added to the rising floodwaters. A shortage of manpower and an ill-equipped mechanical engineering department made for an initial slow disaster response by the State government. Local administration authorities and Chennai Corporation were unable to mobilise resources, but this was changed into action with the help of the National Disaster Response Force, many NGOs and countless individuals who were taking up relief work. Malls, schools and public buildings opened their doors to the flood victims, a taxi service unable to operate by road began a free boat service, civic solidarity was in evidence everywhere. In Pondicherry low-lying suburban areas have been badly affected; 173 relief shelters have been kept ready.

In Auroville, the extensive afforestation, and water conservation measures such as percolation ponds, bunding and dams have kept us mostly free from flooding, and we have to thank our foresters, greenbelt workers and water experts for all the wonderful work they

have done over the years! Electricity and Wi-Fi worked in most places, AVES was quick to repair overhead lines damaged by falling trees, and most schools stayed open. Getting stuck in some muddy patches, some places impassable, dealing with leaks and wet laundry was nothing compared with what the so many communities in Tamil Nadu went through... Therefore Auroville is reaching out to affected villages - starting with those in the bioregion - through relief actions coordinated at the initiative of the YouthLink. For more details, please see the dedicated announcement elsewhere in this N&N!

Rainfall is measured daily in ten different stations in Auroville.

Charlie in Aurogreen measured the following rainfall for the current year (till 6th December):

Dry period: Jan to May 138 mm (average: 112 mm)

South West monsoon: June to Sept 309 mm (average: 417 mm)

North East monsoon: Oct to Dec 1637 mm (average: 856 mm)

Total rainfall for 2015 so far: 2084 mm in 74 rainy days! (Average: 1385 mm)

Meanwhile in Paris...

As the COP21 Climate Conference enters its crucial final week, environment ministers in arrival are greeted by young volunteers, electrified transport and recycled art. Over the last week, negotiators and observers have been working to find the 'right compromises', and produced (on Friday 4.12.) a 20-page Draft Agreement. Littered with over 900 square brackets, which signify areas of disagreement that need yet to be ironed out, this document paves the way for a global climate agreement, and raises hopes that a full week of minister-led talks will be able to clinch a deal.

The draft text for phasing out fossil fuels has some promising and some very worrying parts:

1. The date for phasing out fossil fuels keeps being pushed back.
2. Indigenous rights have been removed from the text.
3. The path to motivating adherence and monitoring progress after the Paris Talks is unclear, while fossil fuel lobbyist, oil companies and some powerful governments are pushing for a weak deal.
4. Localisation is given the backseat in favour of 'global' deals promoted by much the same interests that have dominated the scene so far.

No part of the deal has been finalised yet, because in the end it will be a trade-off between developing countries' demands - particularly for finance to help them cope with the impacts of climate change - and wealthier nations' insistence that over time all countries properly account for the progress they have made towards emission reduction goals.

The solutions are obvious; we need to keep at least 80 % of the fossil fuels in the ground and finance a just transition to 100 % renewable energy, while making sure that communities most affected by climate change have the resources they need to respond to the crisis.

More on the outcomes of the Climate Agreement in the next Green Column!

A note to 'Monsoon Mould and Remedies' (published in the last Green Column):

We had mentioned as a useful, handy and inexpensive remedy against mould the liquid AEM, sold in bottles at Pour Tous in Aspiration. It has come to our attention that another highly effective product, also based on natural micro-organisms, is available at PTDC as a community service. *Probiotics* is offered in bulk (thus plastic-free), in liquid, solid or powder form. An article on its fascinating nature-based technology is published in the last AV Today issue, and its Auroville-based researchers/manufacturers at MGEcoduties welcome any feedback or questions.

Auroville Green Center invites you to share anything Green for a healthy Auroville, Bioregion and Planet Earth:
avgreencenter@auroville.org.in

For AV Green Center: Lisbeth, Jasmin & Bridget



Poem - Poema

1-
Auroville-Silence
Before the bird
The Eco of God.

*Tu silencio Auroville
antes del p'ajaro
el Eco de Dios.*

2-
Monsoon
Pouring birth
Mother Earth melting
Into conceiving
Joy
Exalted Joy
Rain
Earth
Green
Joy
Exalted Joy.

Anandi Realisation - December 2015

From the laboratory of evolution research:

"No Exclusive Truth of Any Medical or Dietary System"

Having been quite dangerously ill some months ago, and having had to approach various Auroville doctors to find out first what the problem was, and then the way to cure it, how I wish most of them would stop believing in one specific medical approach or diet as the Exclusive Truth everyone must submit to for treatment, or not be even accepted as their patient!

Western contemporary Science cannot be invoked any more as the only valid criterion for making such claims - of course for its own present Medical System - of being the panacea that will cure all ailments in everyone: at a time when it becomes more and more obvious that each person is different and unique, and that so is their body as well, any blanket statement like that about any specific System or Diet sounds more and more ludicrous and 'passé'. Humanity is moving on towards the real Truth, the Supramental Truth, which is a Totality, a whole where all the possible points of view, at last combined, complete each other harmoniously instead of fighting each other for absolute supremacy as the Mental perception of Truth makes us believe is the way Truth is to be arrived at. It is distressing to see how, in spite of all that Sri Aurobindo and the Mother have explained about that, generally regarding all fields of Knowledge but also especially about Medical Knowledge, still even in a place like Auroville most of our doctors seem unable to get out of the limited and limiting information they have received during their studies about the Human Body and what can keep it in good health. One basic Dogma in the new Religion that Science has become, being its rigid Materialism, any so-called 'Knowledge' based on such premises cannot be but hopelessly truncated, as this materialistic approach automatically voids its investigations and results of anything that could reveal and prove the equal or even higher importance of the Spirit as present in this very Matter that is supposedly being studied by Science.

I wish we had our own Medical Education in Auroville, so that at least our own people here could grow up with a different, truer, more complete understanding of what our bodies are, and a clear vision of what those same bodies can become as the New Step in Evolution goes on: how their present way of functioning can be gradually modified by the central consciousness of each individual, together with the cellular consciousness now awakening in more and more bodies everywhere, activating slowly the secret divine potentialities latent in those cells.

In the meantime, perhaps our doctors, wherever in Auroville they have chosen to work (at least together usually with practitioners of other methods), could start their own inner revolution by considering themselves simply as the benevolent medical helpers assisting those ailing bodies in their self-healing processes, whatever way this self-recovery may take to achieve its goal? I'm sure the goodwill towards that is there in all our doctors, only the mental or emotional blinkers have to disappear... If anyone, doctor or not, is interested in looking further into the experimental knowledge of Cellular Consciousness emerging now not only among us in Auroville, but also in other parts of the world, I will be glad to introduce them to the Research work I'm myself doing since 1976 in that new field of experimentation opened to us by Sri Aurobindo and the Mother.

Bhaga (bhaga@auroville.org.in, 2622328, 943362328)

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, heavenly music in the very center of Auroville!

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: please do not to use cameras, i-pads, cell phones, etc.
Dear Guests, please carry your Guest Card with you - No photos there.
Access only for the Amphitheatre from 5.15 to 6.00 pm.
Please be seated by 5.25 pm

Amphitheatre Team

INVITATIONS

Ever wondered what's happening in the Town Hall?

Come and join us in this educational journey on how Auroville functions.

Saturday 12th of December
9 am - 4 pm, Town Hall

For Auroville Youth & Youth who have gone to Auroville schools and/or work in Auroville. Genuine interest is our most important criteria for participation. Lunch may be provided, sign up (before 9th Dec.) by sms/email to: 8940568266, 9751944989, youth@auroville.org.in.

Thank you, *the Youth Link Team*

Youth Apprenticeship Programme for Working /Organizing Groups

The Governance Action Group, as an outcome of the Retreat at the request of some of the youth, has begun working on a youth apprenticeship programme for Auroville youth who would like to serve on our Working/Organizing Groups.

The Governance Action Group has some preliminary ideas about what such an apprenticeship programme could look like. Now they would like to share their ideas and discuss them with the youth.

If you are an Auroville youth who is interested in this topic and would like to be part of this exploration, you are warmly invited to attend the next meeting of the Governance Action Group, next Monday 9.30 in the SAIER conference room.

Nandanam Kindergarten Open House

Nandanam Kindergarten invites you to join us for our Open House on Monday the 14th December between 11:00 am to 2:00 pm & on Tuesday the 15th of December between 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Come and be part of our ever growing family and explore the wonders of our world.

The Nandanam Kindergarten Team

Food for Thought - Part 1: Farming in Auroville

On December 15th, 4.30 pm at SAIER

The next Joy of Learning sessions will be on food production in Auroville, with particular reference to Auroville's farms. Food is one of those things that many people take for granted. It arrives in the shops and on our plates, but do we care where it comes from? Mother emphasised that Auroville should grow its food organically and aim to be self-sufficient in its food production. Why?

In the first session, we will examine the deeper significance of our food choices. We will also look at the history of farming in Auroville; what is being grown on our farms today; the challenges facing our farmers; and answer some of the most frequently asked questions about Auroville farming.

Farming is very much a 'hands on' experience: to understand it better we need to touch the soil. This is why the second session in this series will be held on an Auroville farm in early 2016.

But first: Session 1 on Tuesday, December 15th, 4.30 to 6.30 pm; SAIER Conference Hall
with our presenters:

Bernard - 'Voyage through the history of Auroville farming'

Jeff - 'FAQ - Farming and Questions'

Vivek - 'Why should we care?'

and the kind support of Charlie, Gilles, Priya and Tomas

If you can, come half an hour earlier or stay a bit longer to visit the related exhibition.

Everybody is welcome! So join us for two hours of learning, discovery, and inspiration on and around a subject that we all enjoy: FOOD
Your Joy of Learning team [Alan, Aneeta, Lalit, Mike, Min and Sophie]

The Teachers Center Invites teachers and parents to the next Conversation on Integral Education

Introvision

*Resolution of inner conflicts in dealing with writing blocks or lack of motivation
in individual learning processes*



This workshop will be given by Kamala who is a high school teacher and a PhD researcher in educational psychology from the University of Hamburg (Germany). She will give a short introduction to a technique of mental self-regulation, called Introvision (by Wagner). She will refer to her empirical work with high school students (11 - 19 years old), with teachers and with educational therapists. Within the 90 mins long workshop she will address the following topics:

- 1) Connection between the body, mind and emotions (so-called "bottom-up" and "top-down" processes)
=> with short exercises
- 2) Genesis of inner conflicts: the "Psychotonus-model" by Wagner
=> with examples of every-day life
- 3) Resolution of inner conflicts: 4 steps to mental self-regulation with "Introvision" by Wagner
=> with practical exercises

Venue: Teachers Centre, SAIER Tuesday 15th December at 4 - 5.30pm

"The true Stories of Volunteers"

Wednesday December 16th - 5 to 7 pm in Unity Pavilion

Riccardo de Amici and Martin Bastide recount their involvement in urban farming and permaculture, and share their experience with Aurovilian farmers and concerned residents.

Often volunteers' input is not considered at its real value; yet, many of them are genuinely connected to Auroville, and their adventure brings progress and creative solutions in many areas.

Once a month, Savi would like to share with the community the beauty of their involvement.

Everyone is welcome: volunteers, newcomers, residents and guests - Juice and snacks will be served - No previous registration.
Contact Savi at: 94 88 08 49 61 for more info.

Insight Seminars invites you to 'Interactive Sessions on Auroville'

Presentations made by Aurovilians on their areas of expertise and sharing their experiences. These introductory sessions are for those who wish to explore various aspects of Auroville; whether they are Guests, Newcomers or Aurovillians.

- **Introduction to the Vision & Concept of Auroville:** 14th December 2015, Monday presented by Ela
- **Auroville Outreach Work:** 15th December 2015 - Tuesday presented by Kathy
- **Auroville Finance:** 16th December 2015 - Wednesday presented by Lyle
- **Wildlife in Auroville:** 17th December 2015 - Friday presented by Tim Wrey

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

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

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

A Glimpse of Myanmar

You are warmly invited to the presentation "A Glimpse of Myanmar", in which Joshua Zahn and Stéphanie Cariello, both of whom spent about three years in Myanmar, will give an account of their experiences. During this presentation, you will get a closer look at the daily life of Myanmar people and learn about different aspects of Myanmar society. After the presentation there will be two short workshops: an "Introduction to Burmese language" and "Highlights of Myanmar through art".

Please make use of this opportunity to discover more about India's not-much-known neighbour.

Venue: Unity Pavilion

Date and Time: December 18th, 5 pm-7 pm.

ALL ARE WELCOME

Kindergarten Open House

The Kindergarten teachers at Center Field invite all interested to visit an exhibition of the children's works, and photos of the activities on Friday 18th of December from 1.15 pm to 4.00 and Saturday 19th from 9 am to 12.00.

Did you know that diabetes can be reversed?

Diabetes need not be a life sentence. You can get normal blood reports and stop taking medicines! Diabetes is more common now than ever before because what we eat and how we live has changed. If you are willing to make a few changes in these habits we can reclaim health together. And if you do not have it, come to learn how to prevent this and related diseases like high blood pressure and obesity.

Dr R Saravanan will be explaining in Tamil, changes that you can make to recover from Diabetes and its complications.

Entry is free!

Date: Saturday 19th Dec 10.30 - 12.30 - Auroville Village Action Grp, Irumbai Rd, Near EB Substation

(From Kottakarai, cross irumbai village, the big by pass - after 100 m left hand side)

And 21st Dec 2015 5 - 7 pm Unity Pavillion,

About the speaker:

Dr. R.Saravanan, is a medical consultant with SHARAN, an NGO working towards a diabetes-free India. (www.sharan-india.org) Dr Saravanan facilitates various seminars and workshops about reversing lifestyle diseases. He has been featured in leading health magazines and has appeared in TV shows. He has contributed a chapter, in the best life changing book "RETHINK FOOD 100 plus Doctors can't be wrong"

Both these talks will be in Tamil. Please inform any Tamil speaking people you may know. Everyone is welcome.

It will be on 2 days, once at Village Action and once in Auroville.

Sri Aurobindo Centre for Advanced Research (SACAR), Puducherry

Organises

"Living Within" Study Camp number 10

December 2015 (26th to 30th)

ESSENCE OF THE UPANISHADS

Speakers:

Dr. Sampadanand Mishra/ Dr. Alok Pandey/Dr. Ananda Reddy/Dr. Richard Hartz

Time: 9.00 am to 5.30 pm everyday

For Registration please contact: sacarstudycamps@gmail.com / 9443019172, 9994190403

Camp Fees:

For Residents at SACAR Guest House: Rs. 5500 (Including stay and food)

For Non-Residents: Rs. 3500 (Lunch and tea included)

Camp Fee Is Non-Refundable

Venue: SACAR, 39 Vanniar Street, Vaithikuppam, Puducherry, 12

Landmarks: Masimagham Road, Mother's Guest House

Submitted by Anandi progress

CLASSES, WORKSHOPS

QUIET HEALING CENTER: Workshops & Courses

Somatic Movement Workshop with Maggie

Friday 18 - Saturday 19 December 2015

9.30 am - 5.00 pm (12 hours)

Quiet Healing Center (tel. 2622329 / 9488084966)

A 2-day neuro-muscular re-education (mind-body training) workshop in the tradition of Thomas Hanna.

Somatics is a system of slow, mindful movement. It improves the function of the nervous system, creating more ease and freedom within ourselves. Somatics teaches us to recognise and release holding patterns, resulting from pain, injury, stress or habituated posture, and enhances any kind of exercise such as yoga, dance, sport or just moving through life.

You will also learn a daily practice in order to maintain better flexibility, coordination, balance and wellness, resulting in a decrease of aches commonly attributed to stress, injury and ageing.

Maggie is a certified Somatic Movement Educator and graduate of the International Institute for Somatic Movement Education (IISME). She is also a highly experienced massage therapist, and has been working in the field of pain relief for over 15 years.

All courses and workshops scheduled in the water will be happening in Quiet's heated warm water pool. So if you have enough of the rains, please join us in the yummy warmth of the beautiful pool.

- WOGA 1 & 2 (already announced last week)
- Couples in Flow (already announced last week)
 - Water & Dance (more info below)
- Watsu & Liquid Flow Basic (more info below)

Water & Dance with Dariya & Daniel

Saturday 19 - Sunday 20 December 2015

9.00 am - 6.00 pm (15 hours)

Quiet Healing Center (tel. 2622329 / 9488084966)

A 2-day workshop for lovers of movement, dance and flow. We will playfully explore and express ourselves on our own, with partners and in group, on land and in water. From self-connection to allowing movements to unfold -- no one deciding where to go, while opening doors for non-verbal communication and sharing.

Connecting on land with our deeper longings, we give the body permission to find its own ways of expression and possibly contact others. Warm water with its sense of weightlessness and fluidity invites us to let go and experiment with our own organic, flowing way of moving.

Water & Dance gives 15 hours of credit for registration as a supplemental class with Watsu India. No previous experience required!

Watsu & Liquid Flow Basic with Dariya & Daniel

Monday 21 - Saturday 26 December 2015 (6 afternoons)

1.30 - 6.00 pm (27 hours)

Quiet Healing Center (tel. 0413 2622329 / 9488084966)

Watsu & Liquid Flow are aquatic bodywork modalities given in a warm water pool. Watsu Basic introduces movements and body mechanics to work with someone on the surface; Liquid Flow Basic introduces and offers a unique underwater experience (with a nose clip). During this course, you will practice basic techniques and qualities of moving another person in water. You will experience floating people and being floated, on the surface and under water, creating a space for deep relaxation and nurturing body, mind and spirit. You may also discover that this kind of bodywork is something you would like to further explore, in which case this course serves as a perfect precursor to Liquid Flow Essence, Watsu 1 & OBA 1, or WaterDance 1.

No previous experience is required! Watsu Basic (16 hours) is recognized by WABA (Worldwide Aquatic Bodywork Association) as part of the Watsu training program. Liquid Flow Basic (11 hours) is part of the Watsu India training program and recognised as a supplemental class with WABA.

Integral Craniosacral Course with Krishna

Monday 21 - Thursday 24 December 2015

9.00 AM - 6.00 pm (32 hours)

Quiet Healing Center (tel. 2622329 / 9488084966)

During this 4-day course in Integral Craniosacral Bodywork we will get in touch with the cranial wave, nervous system, bones and tissues, and learn how to release the stored information in order to live with a clear mind, a free body and an open heart. We will also take a close look at the anatomy and the cranial waves, and practice to feel and notice how changes are taking place.

This is a training for awareness, perception and intuition. A room for self-perception and to experience a respectful way to be with each other and oneself. A space to start the dance between the conscious and the unconscious. All are welcome to create this space together. Experience in bodywork is helpful but not required.

Krishna is a certified "Naturheilpraktiker" and Visionary Craniosacral Bodywork therapist; she's also a Sivananda Yoga teacher. Krishna has been practicing Craniosacral Bodywork for several years and is eager to share her experience and knowledge through this course.

COOKING CLASS

The South Indian Temple cuisine class resumes from this Sunday, 13th Dec at my house.

Pl. register. *Buvana*, Certitude

RESPIRATION WORKSHOP

3 days' workshop

2 dates: December 16, 17, 18 and 23, 25, 26: 9.00 to 4.00 (1 hour lunch break)

Open to all.

For many of us, breathing means air coming in and out the nostrils, inflating more or less the chest and the abdomen. We never really learnt the process of breathing and feel what is going on inside our body.

- Learn to open the rib cage in a proper way and stretch the diaphragm / - Learn to breath slowly, deeply, regularly (Patanjali Yoga Sutras)

Breathing is not just about gas exchanges, it deals also with subtle energies as Prana and is as well the royal way to relaxation (by consciously directing the Sympathetic nervous system) Efficient breathing enlarges consciousness in your life and brings you «Here and Now »

- Learn to reach deeper relaxation, to develop inner feeling, to get more centered.

The control of the breath is also a main tool to release and go above our limits, our blockages, at the physical, emotional and mental levels. Whatever are our issues, breathing blockages are always present.

- Learn to enlarge our comfort zone at those 3 levels.

Stress is the main reason for diseases, by learning to develop and control our breath, you acquire an efficient skill to dissolve stress layer after layer, the best way to recover or prolong health.

As everyone has different issues, a large part of the workshop will deal separately with each participant. Open to every age.

For more details contact Marie Noelle (General medicine doctor certified from France, Yoga, Pranayama, Vipassana, Chi Kong approaches).

Individual sessions also possible. Special price for volunteers. frametim@yahoo.fr, 2622 989 evening time, or try 915 998 7194]

WELLPAPER Workshop 12/12 Saturday

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 have a minimum of 6 participant registered.

The workshop will take place every Wednesday between 9:30 to 12:30. The workshop is held sitting on the floor.

If you would like to join us please email us to: wellpaper@auroville.org.in/ Or call: 0413-2622219.

With Love, *Wellpaper team (Women Empowered through Local Livelihood)*

CONNECTION AS LIFE ENERGY

Introduction to Nonviolent Communication with L'aura Joy, CNVC Certified Trainer

Do you long for more joy, authenticity and depth when connecting with yourself and others?

Do you wonder what gets in the way of connecting and relating the way you truly want?

- Dec 19 & 20 (Saturday, Sunday)
- 10 am-5 pm (with lunch break)

More info & register: contact L'aura: joylivinglearning@gmail.com, 9442788016

*Must attend both days...

A path of Nonviolence (based on Nonviolent Communication, NVC) offers both a deeply-rooted consciousness of oneness, as well as very practical tools to live this more and more in our daily lives. In re-evaluating some of our habitual and conditioned thinking, we see how much of it is life-alienating and based on a culture of scarcity and separation. We'll learn the skills to be able express ourselves with more clarity and to hear others' true (and harmless) message, which in turn leads to more connection between us. When we're connected as human beings, we're in our natural state of wanting to give and collaborate with others.

LIVE YOUR ESSENCE

Saturday & Sunday, 12-13th December, in QUIET

Do you want to feel refreshed and energized to live your life fully? Clear minded when your life is at a crossroads? Empowered to set your own conventions? Eager to take on what's next for you? During this weekend retreat you will not only get to know yourself and your next step in life better, you will also learn basic coaching skills. You will experience the impact you can have with enhanced listening and intuitive skills.

Julie, a certified relationship and career coach in Auroville, will facilitate this retreat.

To register, email: info@aurovilleretreat.org or call: 9843948288. For details, visit: www.aurovilleretreat.org

HOW TO BUILD A SMALL WIND TURBINE

This weekend at TerraSoul, Windarra farm, we are teaching the basic skills needed to build a small wind turbine. We will learn how to make aerodynamic blades, fabricate the generator and understand how to assemble a solar and wind hybrid system. This is a hands-on practical workshop, therefore wear comfortable work clothes.

Dates:

2-day course this weekend (Dec 12th-13 2015)

10-day course 2nd week of January 2016

For more info contact *Jorge* at: +91 9786296441 or email minvayu@gmail.com.

Contribution is required for the courses, Auroville youth is free.

TREE CLIMBING

With professional height safety equipment.

Recreational

You want the experience without learning all the knots? The ropes are already positioned in the trees. The knots are tied and tested before you hook on. After being fitted with your saddle and some short instructions on safety and climbing techniques, you are off and climbing! Kids of all ages welcome.

Advanced

You want to learn the ropes and get off the ground. During class we teach both the double and single ropes techniques plus demonstrate many of the new climbing devices available. You will learn to install the ropes in the trees, tie and use several climbing knots and ascend and descend both with the knots but also with ascenders and descenders.

For conditions and appointment call *Satyajji*: 97 86 40 65 40

AWARENESS THROUGH THE BODY ATB2

A three-day workshop with Amir

December 27th - 29th (Sunday, Monday & Tuesday)

ATB hall, Transition school, Auroville

09:00 to 17:00 daily.

This workshop is for those who have attended the ATB1 introductory workshop.

ATB offers a space where one can go within and perceive the different planes that form the being, with the possibility to enter in contact with a wider sense of self... through activities and games that nurture the learning process of increasing our capacity to be present.

This workshop (ATB2) focuses on:

Revisiting, deepening and integrating the basics of ATB explored in the introductory workshop.

Opening and refining the senses.

Exploration of emotions.

Group dynamics.

Awareness of the Physical Structure - conscious control over contraction and relaxation in the body.

For more information visit the ATB website: <http://awarenessthroughthebody.com/>

To sign up for this introductory workshop, mail Amir at: atbwithamir@gmail.com or feel free to contact Amir or Tamar at: 9751257709/96.

INNER-WORK-WORKSHOP

Introduction to the Integral Yoga of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother - 15th December (Tuesday)

- 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: 'Soul and Psychic Being'

These Workshops are conducted every Tuesday, 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. please visit www.integralyoga-auroville.com.

AVIVA`S METHOD FOR MEN

Aviva method is a physical exercise system which ensures healthy blood flow in the lower body and regulates the related glands for optimal hormone level. One practicing it can enjoy all the benefits of the healing oxygen, minerals and hormones carried by blood to the body parts in this area. These set of exercises developed specifically for men to bring improvement for prostate problems, to increase fertility, to cease depression, and to regulate bowel movements. It uses elements of folk dances, certain habits of natural communities, wisdom of shepherds and facts stated by Western medicine.

Venue: Arka Hall

Workshop date: 12th of December 2015, timing: 3-6 pm

Practice class: 18th of December 2015, timing: 2-3 pm

For more information please contact Zsolti at: bogizsolti@gmail.com or 8489535193

HATHA YOGA CLASS

Restart at Sharnga guest house with Chrisitne P. on Tuesday and Friday: 4.30 to 6 pm
All are welcome.

REIKI LEVEL 1

Reiki level 1 will be held in English on Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd of December. From 10 am to 4 pm. Certificate programme.

For details Contact Betty on 8098074351

or betty@auroville.org.in. (Traditional Reiki of Dr Mikao Usui). Limited places.

REIKI LEVEL 2

Reiki level 2 will be held in English on Thursday 24th of December from 10 am to 4 pm. Certificate programme.

For details Contact Betty on 8098074351

or betty@auroville.org.in. (Traditional Reiki of Dr Mikao Usui).

S C H E D U L E S

WORKSHOPS IN VÉRITÉ: (24 hour advanced registration required)

NEUROLINGUISTIC PROGRAMMING: AN INTRODUCTION - with Christine

Thursday & Friday, 17 & 18 December from 1.30 to 4.30 pm
Connecting With Your Inner Power

Come experience the power of NLP and uncover your true potential. Achieve your goals and success in life... discover a better you! NLP (neuro-linguistic programming) is a psychological tool that enhances brain function. During these two afternoons we will learn the basics of NLP, which can be applied for professional development and personal growth. Learn to set and achieve goals, eliminate limiting self-talk and beliefs and discover resources to reduce stress levels for a more fulfilling life.

CHRISTINE is an NLP Practitioner who has been certified by the International NLP Trainers Association in 2012.

HOLISTIC APPROACH FOR MANAGEMENT OF DIABETES TYPE 2 with Dr. Geeta Auropremi

Friday 18 December - 9:30 am to 12:30 pm (24 hour advanced registration required)

DR. GEETA AUROPREMI has 30 years of experience in Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy. She has an MD in Gynecology and Pediatrics, a YTTTC certificate and diploma in Yoga, and Post-Graduate degrees in Yoga & Naturopathy.

ZEN SHIATSU INTRODUCTORY WORKSHOP with Yaor

Saturday and Sunday, 19 December - 9 am to 3.30 pm & 20 December - 9 am to 12.30 pm.

Shiatsu is a Japanese therapy in which manual (hand) pressure is applied to certain points on the body to work on the body's energy (qi/meridians). Based on the same principles as acupuncture, the purpose of Shiatsu treatment is to release energetic blocks that cause pain and disease, allowing energy to flow throughout the body. In this introductory workshop, you will learn how Shiatsu works by both feeling (receiving) and doing (giving). By the end of the session, participants will be able to give a basic Shiatsu treatment.

Please dress in comfortable, modest exercise clothes as we will work in pairs on mattresses on the floor.

Please contact Vérité if you would like to be the "client" that Yaor will demonstrate on. (As you will not have much opportunity to practice the technique during the workshop, no financial contribution will be expected.)

YAOR is a Savi volunteer, joining us from Israel. He has completed a 2-year senior diploma in Zen Shiatsu therapy and Traditional Chinese Medicine, a 6-month Aromatherapy diploma and a 4-month Bach Flower Remedies diploma. He has

also completed a one month course in Ayurveda and herbs at Anjali School (Kannur, Kerala).

FRESH PERSPECTIVES WORKSHOP with Julie

Wednesday, 23 December - 9.15 am to 12.30 pm

Are you at a cross roads in your life? Are you going through a transition? Do you want to get unstuck?

In this dynamic and interactive workshop we'll explore how you can create clarity, make conscious choices and move forward. Join certified life coach Julie to get fresh perspectives on your life.

JULIE a Certified Life Coach from the Coaches Training Institute in London, Julie combines her extensive coaching, yoga and business consulting experience to facilitate clients finding insight and purpose.

Please contact Vérité to register for the following workshops: 0413 2622045, 7094104329

or programming@verite.in

Contributions requested from guests/volunteers (volunteer reduction by advance application only)

PITANGA CLASSES:

- Iyengar Classes resume with Angela and Tatiana on Wednesday Dec 16th as per regular schedule. Please see schedule in the N&N of Nov 28th for full class details.

FILM

- The Truth about cancer film 1 - Thurs Dec 17th at 7.30pm - This film is a powerful docu-series that goes through groundbreaking research behind cancer and degenerative diseases with new information that can benefit all. The film highlights the fact that cancer is a growing epidemic because of a number of factors including lack of focus on prevention and the weaknesses of mainstream cures. Among other things the film builds awareness of how natural food maintains health and cures disease.

THERAPIES

Appointments are currently available for Acupuncture with Morgana, Psychomotor Relaxation with Camille and Thai Yoga Massage with Mar.

EXHIBITION

- "Notes" - water colour and ink drawing exhibition by Helene until Dec 19th

Pitanga Cultural Centre, Samasti, Auroville (0413)
2622403/2622994 pitanga@auroville.org.in



C I N E M A - Bharat Nivas - AUDITORIUM
 FRIDAY 18 DECEMBER - 7:30 PM (Film show starting at 7:45 sharp)

"SAMURAI - III : "DUEL AT GANRYU ISLAND"

Third part of Hiroshi INAGAKI's Samurai Trilogy - Japan, 1956
 With: Toshiro Mifune, Kaoru Yachigusa, Mariko Okada, Kōji Tsuruta,

Synopsis: The concluding chapter to Inagaki's Samurai trilogy sees Miyamoto Musashi, or Takezo, turning into a true samurai, almost reluctant to draw his sword and rejecting violence whenever possible. But when a group of bandits threatens to overrun a vulnerable village, Musashi employs his skills to defend it. He is sought as a teacher and vassal by the Shogun, Japan's most powerful clan leader, but will reject it, choosing instead to live on the edge of a village, raising vegetables. He seeks Otsu's forgiveness and accepts her love, then sets off across the water to Ganryu Island for his final contest with his arch rival Sasaki Kojiro. By the time the sun has set, only one will return...

Original Japanese version with English Subtitles - Duration: 1h.45'



THE ECO FILM CLUB

Sadhana Forest, December 18, Friday at 7 pm

THE SIMULATION HYPOTHESIS

2015, 50 minutes, Written & Narrated by Kent Forbes.
 Teasing that there are cutting edge physics experiments that imply Simulation Hypothesis could be true, the film begins by reviewing two primary philosophies regarding the nature of life: materialism and idealism. First introduced by Democritus, materialism credits the atom as the basis for all reality, making consciousness the result of a material process. Plato, on the other hand, believed it is the mind itself that gives way to matter; therefore reality is born from ideas.

Before the movie at exactly 16:30 you are welcome to join us for a full tour of Sadhana Forest and an update of our most recent work! After the film you are welcome to join us for a free 100% vegan organic dinner!!

Schedule of Events:

16:00 free bus from Solar Kitchen to Sadhana Forest for the Tour

16:30 Tour of Sadhana Forest

18:00 free bus from Solar Kitchen to Sadhana Forest for the Eco Film Club

18:30 Eco Film Club begins with "previews" of short Sadhana Forest films

20:00 Dinner is served

21:30 free bus from Sadhana Forest back to Solar Kitchen

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 NO Show

19th December NO SHOW

Dear Viewers, sorry for the inconvenience. *Suresh*

AT SAVITRI BHAVAN

THE MOTHER ON AUROVILLE

Dr. Alok Pandey is speaking on the Inner Auroville and the individual Gnostic Consciousness and the Gnostic Community. Often we human beings have the tendencies to get too much tied to forms and names of an institution and forget the inner reality. Then everything has the tendency over time to become a religion, a cult and we lose the Spirit that gave birth to it. Sri Aurobindo has cautioned us about this and The Mother has spoken about it that 'one can literally make a religion out of no religion'.

And when the human mind looks on things through the surface - and things on the external level or outer plane are not up to what we think they should be - then often we lose hope also. The true vision must be from within outwards, it is like a top-down view with an outward view.

The interview by Narad was recorded in November 2014.

Duration: 48min.

Monday, 14th of December 2015, at 6:30pm

BRAINFEVER MEDIA PRODUCTIONS

PROUDLY PRESENTS

Kiritan Flux & Chloé Sanchez performing live together!

FRIDAY 18.12.2015 @ 8 pm

In MMC / CINEMA PARADISO

Flux [flüks], n. Lat. fluxus, fluo, fluxi.

1. The act of flowing; the motion or passing of a fluid.
2. The moving or passing of anything in continued succession. Things in this life are in a continual flux

Tobias Last (aka. Kiritan Flux) - born 1980 in Heidelberg, DE - works as a live visual artist and expanded media producer in Berlin since 2000. His artistic work ranges from VJ shows at prominent techno events to more conceptual live-cinema performances tailored to their unique local context. In addition to artistic works, he co-curates the monthly artist talk event Scope Sessions in Berlin and offers creative and technical freelance services around digital video production and projection.

Chloé Sanchez

The world is becoming more and more a kingdom of images, but can sound still be magic? Instead of images, sounds have the capacity to make us travel as far as our imagination can go. In my work, I try to understand what is sound and how it can impact us.

I'm searching for a kind of echo between our own inner world and a universal expression.

Chloe Sanchez travels between Auroville and France where she composes sounds for performing art, sound installation, radio and documentary. Producer and director for Radio France (French National Radio), she has also created the [Hand Made Radio Art](#) (Collective Labo-radiophonic live performance). In September 2013 she joined the composition class of electroacoustic music at the Experimental Music Conservatory of Pantin (France).

<http://flux.vision> | <http://chloe-sanchez.weebly.com> | <http://brainfever.in>



Cinema Paradiso

Multimedia Center (MMC) Auditorium

Film program 14 December 2015 to 20 December 2015

Indian - Monday 14 December, 8:00 pm:

• **BELASESHE (In the Autumn of My Life)**
India, 2015, Dir. Nandita Roy & Shiboprosad Mukhopadhyay w/ Soumitra Chattopadhyay, Swatilekha Sengupta, Drama, 141mins, Bengali with English subtitles, Rated: PG-13 (U/A)
After 30 years, the celebrated couple of Satyajit Ray's 'Ghare Baire' returns as Biswajit Mazumdar and his wife Arati - an elderly couple. While all assumes Biswajit will announce his will, when he calls for a reunion, he announces that he is going to divorce Arati, his wife of 49yrs. According to him their relation is nothing but a matter of habit, which has only made her increasingly dependent on him, and it is high time they split. What follows is a deep reflection by the couple on the years they spent together. Gently and simply spoken they become an ultimate realization and declaration of love...that touches all. *This film is being re-scheduled. The glitch that was there last time has been addressed. You definitely can't miss this film!*

German - Tuesday 15 December, 8:00 pm:

• **DIE WAND (The Wall)**
Germany 2012, Dir-Writer Julian Pölsler w/ Martina Gedeck, Karlheinz Hackl, Ulrike Beimpold & others, Fantasy-Mystery, 108mins, German w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR.
During a short vacation in the mountains, a woman inexplicably finds herself cut off from all human contact when an invisible, unyielding wall suddenly surrounds the area she is staying in. Accompanied by her loyal dog Lynx, she becomes immersed in a beautiful world untouched by civilization and ruled by the laws of nature.

Interesting - Wednesday 16 December, 8:00 pm:

• **FAT, SICK & NEARLY DEAD**
USA, 2010, Writer-Dir. Joe Cross & Kurt Engfehr w/ Joe Cross, Amy Badberg, Merv Cross, and others, Documentary, 97mins, English w/ Spanish subtitles, Rated:NR (G)
COP21 in Paris just got over. While the primary focus, and rightly so, was to restrict CO₂(e) emitted by fossil fuels (used in various sectors including agriculture and industry), little is spoken about the direct impact of corn-based, industrial scale animal farming for our increasing consumption of meat. What is unhealthy and unjust for the planet, how can it be just for us? Unhealthy food, leads to unhealthy eating habits and bad health. This is a film that demonstrates what an unhealthy diet can do and how to back-track to health. Here Joe Cross heals himself following one of the several sensible eating habits that is good for self and the planet. An inspiring film! Can't help wishing that similarly we take measures to heal our planet too!

Korean - Thursday 17 December, 8:00 pm:

• **GUKJESIJANG (Ode to My Father)**
Korea, 2014, Dir. Je-kyoon Yoon w/ Jung-min Hwang, Yunjin Kim, Dal-su Oh, and others, Romance-War, 126 mins, Korean w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR

Amid the chaos of refugees fleeing the Korean War in December 1950, a young boy, Duk so, sees his fate change in the blink of an eye when he loses track of his sister and he leaves his father behind to find her. Settling in Busan, he devotes himself to his family, working all manner of odd jobs to support them. His dedication leads him first to the deadly coal mines of Germany, where he meets his first love, Youngja, and then to war-torn Vietnam in this generational epic about one man's personal sacrifices.

International - Saturday 19 December, 8:00 pm:

• **THE LITTLE PRINCE**
France, 2015, Dir Mark Osborne, 108 mins, Animation-Adventure, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: GA
A little girl lives in a very grown-up world with her mother, who tries to make sure she is prepared for it. Her neighbor, The Aviator, introduces the girl to an extraordinary world where anything is possible, the world of The Little Prince.

Children's Film - Sunday 20 December, 4:30 pm:

• **TARZAN**
USA, 1999, Dir Chris Buck, Kevin Lima and others, 88 mins, Animation-Adventure, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: GA
man raised by gorillas must decide where he really belongs when he discovers he is a human.

Ciné-Club - Sunday 20 December, 8:00 pm:

• **THE IMITATION GAME**
UK-USA, 2014, Dir. Morten Tyldum w/ Benedict Cumberbatch, Keira Knightley, and others, Drama, 114mins, French w/English subtitles, Rated: PG
Based on the real life story of legendary cryptanalyst Alan Turing, the film portrays the nail-biting race against time by Turing and his brilliant team of code-breakers at Britain's top-secret Government Code and Cypher School at Bletchley Park, during the darkest days of World War II.

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 the 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. Please make a contribution to "Cinema Paradiso" account (#105106) at the Financial Service.

Thanking You, MMC/CP Group Account# 105106, mmcauditorium@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.

Soft Version: We encourage you to ask us for a soft version of News & Notes send directly on your own mail. First, it saves trees, cost of paper (Rs 12.000 monthly are spent only on purchasing paper) and labor cost (900 copies are printed every week). Second we send your soft copy as a PDF file (Same formatting as the printing version with colored pictures) on Thursday morning and you can get information earlier than the printing version which is delivered only on Friday and Saturday. Don't hesitate to mail: newsandnotes@auroville.org.in or to phone 2622133.

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