

# News and Notes

No 836

*A weekly bulletin for residents of Aurouville*

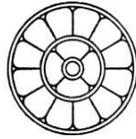
19th September 2020



Flower Offering

photo: Pranab Bhanjadeo

# HOUSE OF MOTHER'S AGENDA



(continued from last week)

It is ready for anything, latches onto anything, takes advantage of the least crack to force its way back on stage, the slightest pretext to spit out its inky cloud and overcast everything in an instant. A thick, black and sticky instant cloud. It is a fight to the death, for it knows perfectly well it is going to die. It is its last hand, the very one now playing its last card in the world. At the bottom, all the way down at the very bottom, it is a microscopic knot of pain, something that shrinks from the sun and joy, something suffocating and frightened of vastness. It is as hard as rock, perhaps as hard as the original rock of the earth. A dark NO to life and NO to everything. It simply will not. It is there, and it will not budge. It is perhaps the essence of death, the root of night, the original cry of the earth spurred by the Sun of Truth.

And it remains there to the end - in fact, the end of the end - it remains there perhaps to force us to descend to rock bottom and discover our immortal face beneath this mask of death. If it were not there, we might all have already fled into the heavens of the Spirit. But it is said that our immortality and our heaven must be wrought in matter and through our body.

If we can catch that painful elf - for it is pain itself - just before it buries itself completely, it exhibits a whole daily, material and imperceptible mechanism. This is the great resistance to the change of power, the molehill trying to stay the law of Harmony. Therefore it is where the battle is taking place at this moment, in the microcosm and the macrocosm. It is like a caricature (or the more exact face) of all the polished and civilized activities of the brilliant elf of the higher levels: doubt, fear, avidity, self-centeredness, all the contractions, prehensions and apprehensions of the mental pseudopod. It is a minuscule and ridiculous functioning, and, if by chance we notice it, we shrug it off or attach no importance to it. But we are wrong. We look at everything from atop our mental arrogance, as if those trifles were inconsequential. But they have staggering consequences. We do not see it because we live in our logical and symmetrical clouds. But life grates; there is an immense, universal grating whose source lies in those ridiculous little grains of sand. At the level of matter, there are no "little things," because everything is made of little things, and that absurd reaction of doubt or fear is the incalculable equivalent of the mental misjudgment that makes us shut the door on a brilliant opportunity. We are constantly shutting the door on Harmony, turning our backs on the miracle, locking out possibilities, and making ourselves sick into the bargain. For, at the material level, this Harmony does not flow in majestic symphonies through the great arteries of the spirit; it uses what it has. It percolates through minuscule channels, fragile filaments quivering within our material consciousness; it enters in droplets, spurts, discrete quanta that look like nothing - a passing breath, a flicker of a smile, a wave of ease without reason - which change everything. We do not notice the change because we live in our normal chaos, our usual suffocation, but the seeker, who has become a little clearer, begins to notice, to sense those minute changes of density, those sudden obstructions, those minuscule expansions, those air pockets in his material substance. He sees the almost instant effect of a tiny little emanation of doubt, an absurd fear or tensing up without apparent cause, a ridiculous and morbid imagination crossing his atmosphere. He discovers a thousand sly little pulsations, deceitful palpitations, dark impulses in the great material pond. He puts his finger on fear, the great, voracious and retractile Fear which covers the world like the protoplasm inside its gelatine membrane - the slightest touch, the least breath of air, the tiniest ray of sun, and it contracts, shuts the door and rolls up into a ball in its membrane. The immediate reaction to everything is NO; then, sometimes, a yes blurted out, as if impelled by the same fear of missing something. He discovers the fantastic morbid and defeatist imagination of matter, as if, for matter, life represented a kind of dreadful invasion from which it had never quite recovered, a fall perhaps from the original bliss of the stone, an irruption of death into its peaceful routine. ...

So the seeker learns of Harmony. He learns it step by step, by trial and error, tiny little errors that sow disease and confusion. At this stage, the experience no longer takes place in the intellect or heart; it takes place in the body. ... But the day we catch hold of that tiny poisonous vibration, we will have the secret of immortality, or at least that of the prolongation of life at will. We die because we give in, and we give in in thousands of little instances. The choice between death and immortality must be made again at every instant. ...

But this is still a negative and human way of approaching the experience. In fact, the Harmony, the marvelous Harmony that attends to everything, does not want to teach us the laws of hell, even a minute hell. It wants the sunlit law. ... The miracle is everywhere, at each instant; it is the very nature of the universe, its air, its sun, its breathing of harmony. Only we keep blocking the way, putting up our walls, our sciences, our millions of devices that "know better" than this Harmony. We must learn to let it flow freely, to let go - there is no other secret. ... It wants us to be the true masters of its solar Secret, to be fully what we have always been, free and kings and joyous, and it will pound and pound our miserable secrets until we are forced to knock at its sunlit door, to open our hands and let its sweetness flow over the world and into our hearts.

— Satprem. On the Way to Supermanhood. Chapter 11. The Change of Power

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

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When you want to make a progress, the difficulty you wished to conquer increases tenfold in importance and intensity in your consciousness. You have only to persevere. That is all; it will pass away.

~ The Mother, MCW, vol. 14, Words of the Mother II, -p227



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## COVID 19 UPDATE

### Details re volunteer-based delivery system

As announced earlier, we have set up a volunteer-based delivery system to assist people during their quarantine period, who are unable to find adequate support from friends and family to assist for their needs. This service is available as below:

- Food delivery for people in quarantine at the approved isolation facilities- Sharanam and Tibetan Pavilion
- Food delivery for Aurovilians and Newcomers in quarantine at Center Guesthouse, if they cannot quarantine at home after a travel or after testing negative
- Home delivery for those who are in home quarantine
- Home delivery for the elderly members of the community who need support for their shopping

We are grateful to have some volunteers who helped us with deliveries in the past months and we have received a lot of appreciation for the spirit of the volunteers from the people who were assisted. From our experience with this volunteer-based delivery system, we face several challenges in regular commitments from volunteers or having enough volunteers available at several times of need to deliver food, as well as coordinators to organise the delivery at different times of the day. We now reach out to the community once again for volunteer needs for specific roles as mentioned below:

**1. Volunteer/ Delivery Coordinator for Basket Delivery:** Dedicated hours over certain days would be needed, as well as a smartphone to access WhatsApp & email. The coordination over the phone between the outlets, delivery volunteers and the members of the community receiving the service is required.

**2. Regular Delivery Volunteers:** People who have their own vehicle, and could dedicate their time over a committed number of hours and days. The deliveries would be done following the standard operating procedures to ensure self-safety.

**3. Delivery Volunteers on short notice:** People who can't commit fixed days and times, yet have flexibility with their work/schedule and could assist on a short notice when required for some specific tasks.

We would like to take this opportunity to share that the Auroville community has shown a beautiful spirit of volunteering during this lockdown period, AND we are still in need of many volunteers for helping in food deliveries, basket deliveries, etc. If you can help, please write to [covid19TFdelivery@auroville.org.in](mailto:covid19TFdelivery@auroville.org.in).

While this is a call for volunteers, we also encourage our community members to help their friends, neighbors, etc. during this critical time in case someone needs food or groceries. People who are helping those in quarantine have to follow the Standard Operating Procedures for deliveries which can be found in this [link](#).

If you are interested to volunteer and need more information about who the delivery system is for, and how it works please see [here](#).

Warm regards,  
Working Committee, COVID Task Force & COVID Delivery Team

Current GOI immigration/travel restrictions:  
<https://boi.gov.in/content/advisory-travel-and-visa-restrictions-related-covid-19-1>



## WORKING GROUP REPORTS

**From the AVC:** This is to inform you that Dan has resigned from the Auroville Council for personal reasons. We are wishing Dan all the best.



## From the RAS: GM+ Reminder - Proposals for Working Group Membership Selection Process

### HOW TO PARTICIPATE:

**ONLINE** - Click [here](#) to proceed with the online GM platform.

The GM will run until **SATURDAY, September 19**

[Learn more about the GM+ platform >>>](#)

The online GM+ platform requires an Auronet account as it is meant only for Auroville community at large. If you don't have an Auronet account or have problem with login, please contact the Auronet team at: [auronet@auroville.org.in](mailto:auronet@auroville.org.in) for registration.

**IN PERSON:** Relevant materials are available to be viewed in person at Town Hall ground floor. Please feel free to leave your questions and comments (on paper) that will be passed on to the stakeholders.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### MISSING PERSON



Arun Pratap Singh, 22-years-old, from Uttar Pradesh, has been reported missing by his family. He was last seen in Auroville in May 2020 and may still be in the neighboring area. If you see him, please call AVSST Emergency number: +91 944 30 90 107. The Police and his family are looking for him. Thank you,  
~ Auroville Safety & Security Team



**Open Invitation for World Bamboo Day Event**  
18<sup>th</sup> September, 10AM to 5PM  
at Auroville Bamboo Centre

We are happy to inform you there will be open house (for Aurovilians, registered guests & registered volunteers) AND a webinar on various aspects and use of bamboo as part of sustainable living. You can request the webinar link by writing to: [bamboocentre@auroville.org.in](mailto:bamboocentre@auroville.org.in). For more Webinar details: 2623806, 2623394. Website: [www.aurovillebamboocentre.org](http://www.aurovillebamboocentre.org)

All Covid precautions to be strictly followed. There will be limited entries and temperature checking before entry.

**Cafeteria @ Visitors Centre** - The Cafeteria and the Dosa Corner are now open every day, including Sundays. They are both closed on Monday nights. Dosa Corner is open only in the evenings from 6pm onward. From Saturday evening, Cafeteria will offer daily Home Delivery between 6 and 8pm (except Mondays). You will need to phone around 6 for delivery by 7pm and before 7 for delivery around 8pm, and give your cell number. Cafeteria phone is 2622248. Enjoy!  
~ Your Cafeteria team

**MAROMA®**

We take great pleasure in announcing the opening of our Showroom.

Come shop your favourite beauty, body and home care products and experience the exclusive collection of Paul Pinthón's Sculptured Wax Candles.

Our Showroom is located in our Unit  
Aspiration Street, Auroville Vanur Taluk  
Tamil Nadu-605101  
Time: 9.00am to 5.00pm  
Tel: (+91)413 262 2126  
email: [maroma@maroma.com](mailto:maroma@maroma.com)



**Cleanup event details:**

Starting time: 7.00AM  
 Place: Certitude  
 Route: Certitude - Pitchandikulam bridge  
 Sacks, Gloves, Masks, Sanitizers will be provided  
 This cleanup is specially on behalf of the 'World cleanup day' event on 19th September



1. restoration from available resources
2. restoration from bought resources (if not available)
3. dismantling into:
  - a. spare parts which can be used for repairs
  - b. materials that can be used for crafts and upcycling
  - c. waste

**What we already have:**

Basic necessary tools and skills, goodwill, and aspiration.

**What we need:**

**Space** - Ideally, 3 zones: storeroom, repair room, exhibition space for restored devices. It can be one room separated into zones. Space needs to be in a common access area, preferably somewhere in the center of Auroville (so that Aurovilians/Services/Units can bring equipment without spending much time), with electricity, preferably water, and with the ability to lock it.

We will also need work tables, chairs, and shelves (or materials for making them).

The center will not need external financing. When a person takes restored equipment, they can contribute an adequate amount by blue sheet. We can also possibly sell art/upcycled items made by spares which can't be more in use. This being said, we will appreciate any help with equipment, materials/spares, or money, especially in the initial stage.

**Perspectives of project development:**

If other volunteers will join our project, we can extend our service to other functions like key duplication, mechanical repairs, furniture repairs, repairs of big size equipment (washing machines, fridges, etc.) You can contact us at [alexey@auroville.org](mailto:alexey@auroville.org). Thank you.

**WELCOME**

**FROM THE ENTRY SERVICE - ES # 050- 19-09-2020**

Our team is happy to recommend the following individuals as Aurovilians, Newcomers and Friends of Auroville, joining Auroville. Prior to Newcomer, Aurovilian and Friend of Auroville status confirmation, there is a period for feedback from the community: For Newcomers, Associates and Friends of Auroville two weeks, and for Aurovilians and Returning Aurovilians, one month. Kindly forward your support or grievances to [entryservice@auroville.org.in](mailto:entryservice@auroville.org.in).

**NEWCOMERS CONFIRMED:**

- Manikandan Ganesan (Indian)
- Sriman KOTA (USA)

**AUROVILIANS CONFIRMED:**

- Aparajita BARAI (Indian)
- Ashok ANNADURAI (Indian)
- Deeptendu SARKAR (Indian)
- Frederic LE COENT (French)
- Mano SELVARAJ (Indian)

**YOUTH TURNED 18 CONFIRMED:**

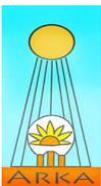
- Madhan MURUGAN (Indian)
- Mathan SHAKTHIVEL (Indian)
- Santhan SHAKTHIVEL (Indian)

**SPOUSE / PARTNER / CLOSE FAMILY MEMBER OF AN AUROVILIAN CONFIRMED:**

- Poonam MOHANTHY (Indian)

**NOTE:**

- The Newcomer probation year becomes effective only after
- the duration of the process cannot exceed 18 months from the date of confirmation.
- An Aurovilian is a resident of Auroville, aged 18 and above, whose name has been entered in the Register of Residence (RoR) as maintained by the Auroville Foundation Office.
- The change of status from Newcomer to Aurovilian is the B-Form. An Aurovilian's name is entered into the RoR after he/she has met with the Secretary of the AVF with an appointment arranged by the Entry Secretariat. These appointments are fixed by the Entry Secretariat according to the availability of the Secretary, but not at any personal request of an individual.



**Arka - Updated Website & New Practitioner**

Check out our updated website: [www.arka.org.in](http://www.arka.org.in). And welcome Mukta, who offers -Ayurvedic massage, Garshana with wool & silk gloves, Chinese Anmo and Energy Techniques. By appointment only. 965 542 2346

**La Terrace** is now **open daily from 8 AM to 8 PM**, except Thursdays are closed. - La Terrace Team

**LOST & FOUND**



**LOST DOG** - On Thursday 10th our little fluffy white dog, Bianca (female, 4 YO), wearing a violet collar. If you've seen her or seen anyone taking her, PLEASE contact +918098362620. Substantial reward offered! Thanks, Alessandra

**APPEALS**

**Reuse & Repair Center - (Electrical and electro-technical) (Proposal by Yury and Alexey)**

Introduction: In Auroville people and organizations use a huge amount of electrical devices and equipment, but:

- here there is no facility to repair or redistribute them
- many broken types of equipment can be repaired or used for repairing another one (for example, some LED and CFL bulbs can be repaired)
- most electronic parts cannot be recycled or cannot be recycled directly, which makes an impact on the environmental condition.

**Proposal:** We can create a Repair & Reuse Center for the restoration and distribution of electronic and electromechanical equipment.

The source of the equipment is people or organizations in Auroville. We would like to catch some of the waste streams of places like Town Hall, Matrimandir, schools, Eco-service, etc. and direct it from waste to reuse. Depending on the condition of a device the process will be:

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

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### Pitbull on offer on AuroNet is not a safe pet

The particular pitbull dog that is being offered on the Bazaar by a man named Raj, is not a family dog, nor is it a community dog. This dog has killed pet dogs and has bitten people. This dog needs to be with someone who can take full responsibility for its behavior and understand the risk this dog presents. Raj needs to be honest about this dog. It does not have a good temperament and it is unpredictable. This dog should not be living in a community with children or other beloved creatures. This dog is dangerous to have in a safe, loving community.

### Calling the Future Survey Part 3: Suggested Changes

Asked in which fields Auroville needs to change, an overwhelming majority of respondents (72%) listed the economy, followed closely by farming/ food distribution (64%) and water and energy supply (51%). Social interaction/collective life (48%) and spiritual life and aspirations (39%) were also frequently mentioned as areas where we need to improve.

Respondents were asked to identify one or two of the most important changes that needed to happen in the areas they identified. Those who identified the present economy said there is a need to rethink it. We should support the basic needs of all residents, possibly through providing a universal basic income, and minimise or eliminate money exchange between residents through some kind of prosperity system for essential goods and services. The PTDC concept should also be developed. Others said far more Aurovilians should work directly for the collective, there is a need to find an alternative to tourism as the mainstay of the economy and, more generally, “move away from the money mind”.

Ways of moving towards food self-sufficiency included providing additional financial support to existing farms, allocating more land for farming, encouraging communities to grow their own food through the cultivation of circle gardens, and encouraging more people to participate in farming. In this context, suggestions included building 50 houses on existing farmland to encourage people to work there, and requiring all residents to work one day a week on farms or in food distribution.

The environment was another area of concern, and suggestions for changes included a more conscious use of our water resources and the need to become independent of the TNEB grid through the widespread adoption of solar power.

Others mentioned the need to strengthen our collective life through better communication, collaboration and participation in collective activities. Strengthening our spiritual life was seen as vital. Respondents emphasised the need to follow the spiritual goals of Auroville and to have a spiritual practice as a means of developing love and compassion and, ultimately, of changing our consciousness.

Some initiatives to effect change were proposed during the lockdown. Many respondents had not read them, but of those who had, 43% supported Solitude Krishna’s proposal to accelerate food sovereignty for Auroville through the creation of circle gardens in communities and eating local foods, 35% supported Jasmine’s call to improve food security and distribution, while 28% endorsed the Exploring Prosperity proposal which seeks to provide the basic necessities to all Aurovillian residents. Other initiatives which received support included Chandresh’s ‘Basket of Needs’ (25%), David’s post-pandemic planning proposal (25%), Noel’s action plan for food security (25%), the Aura Platform (19%), detailed suggestions for preparing Auroville for future emergencies from the Deep Adaptation group (19%), and Yves’ ‘User Manual for a Revolution in Auroville’ (16%). Existing proposals, like those for the Birth Centre and the Lotus proposal for re-inventing our economy, were also mentioned.

The survey was only the first step. The next step has now begun. Focus groups are forming to promote and materialise change in the different areas identified, with the possibility of integrating them with the ‘Prosperity: a Letter to the Divine Mother’ concept now being presented regularly to many small groups of Aurovilians. The focus groups also plan to approach other groups working on topics relating to change and development in Auroville.

Hopefully, those who have proposed specific initiatives for change will use the survey as an inspiration and practical help to implement those changes. They will be heartened by the fact that many respondents said they were willing to change habits, while 60% said they were willing to participate in projects that may emerge, or be given new life, as a result of the survey, particularly those related to the economy, food production, and the environment. A further 21% said they might be willing to help.

The full survey report, including graphs and respondents’ anonymous comments, will be published on AuroNet very soon for those who wish to examine the results in more detail. Please inform those who do not have access to AuroNet but would like to read the full report that they can contact us at [callingthefuture@gmail.com](mailto:callingthefuture@gmail.com) and we will send it to them. You are also welcome to send your thoughts, ideas and proposals to the above email address.

Calling the Future survey team  
- Alan, Amy, Dan, Dominique, Fred, Laurence

### Reorganisation at Buildaur / Dustudio

We hope all of you have been well and safe during last few months of anxiety, uncertainty and transformation, worldwide. These are challenging times and we all need to endure, & find new ways of survival and progress.

We at Buildaur/Dustudio, have also been going through some significant transformation and reorganization of our administration. As you may know, our unit is part of Auroville Foundation under Kattida Kalai Trust. We, the Executives of Buildaur, have had several deliberations with the Trustees, accounts teams and auditors. All this has been ongoing with a spirit of transparency and commitment to our work, projects & Auroville. Our team has been taken fully into confidence and the work has gone on without any interruptions, throughout.

After many deliberations, brainstorming sessions and agreements/disagreements, normal for such a process, we are happy to inform you that an amicable settlement has been reached with everyone’s consent. A detailed resolution by Kattida Kalai Trust has been drafted in consultation with the Executives of Buildaur and in guidance of our auditor. This will be shared with the working groups and all necessary teams by the Trustees, as deemed fit by them. In a nutshell, here are the details for everyone concerned and connected with our work and organization:

Buildaur will continue to function as it is with all its commitments, projects, liabilities, teams, etc. under Dharmesh Vikramsinh Jadeja and Rakhee Kane, as continuing executives. It will continue as and where it is in the community of Swayam, at its present premises, Dustudio. All ongoing projects will continue unhindered with the present teams as they are. Henceforth anything that concerns Buildaur administratively or otherwise, shall be directly dealt only with its executives in charge.

All Auroville City Services contributions, any pending, etc. is all settled by the continuing Executives till the current year, as per the existing policies of Auroville. Details are available with City Services & their regular monthly reports shared with the community will reflect the same. Some fellow Aurovilians have shown special interest in our growth and contributions and these lines are dedicated to them, and we request them to continue encouraging us and our volunteers & staff, as you have done in the past.

Buildaur will soon become DUSTUDIO, as its new brand image and will continue its work in the same spirit and enthusiasm, in spite of ongoing and expected challenges.

Mr. Dhruv Bhasker will part ways and establish a new unit, **Samangal**, with agreed terms and conditions, assets and funds, with a fresh team and premises. Samangal, his new unit, has a functioning asset allocated under this agreement, at Petite Ferme. He will continue with his ongoing projects on his own, with his team. Henceforth, anything that concerns Mr Dhruv Bhasker, personally or his projects, shall be dealt only with him directly at his new premises.

We all have agreed to move on with our creative journeys and our lives, with positivity, and chart our own paths with a fresh perspective. We have enjoyed working together over last years. However, we feel that one has to take a cue from Nature and life processes, to rejuvenate oneself and create our own space for delivering excellence, transformative action and utilize one's energy for betterment of all.

We hope this message speaks of our commitment as much as it conveys with clarity, our eagerness to move forward independently. We also hope that your continued encouragement, mentoring and support will help us chart our own paths for future successfully, independent of each other. Thanks to everyone who has mentored and supported us through this challenging transformation.

Our best wishes for a progressive and creative journeys ahead to all connected with our projects. We hope the new path ahead is blessed by the Divine for All of Us.

----- Dharmesh Jadeja, Rakhee Kane & Team Dustudio  
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#### For US voters: Great news if you want to vote

I went to [FVAP.gov](http://FVAP.gov) and now understand how it works. I vote in Hawaii, so I don't know if it will work exactly the same for other states. (You have to pick your state in the beginning of the form.) But in Hawaii it's possible to fill out this form, print it, sign and date it, and upload it and send it by email! They will send back the ballot to your email address if you pick that option! Then you can even vote by email, meaning you sign the ballot and upload the form again. If you vote this way, they have your signature on the form and what you mark. You give up the "secret" ballot. But this way there is no need either for the US post office or the Indian one, unless you choose to mail it back. Fax is also possible.

I did this at our copy shop in Town Hall which is open the full day. Don't start the form if you can't print and upload it where you are. Or see what's asked and then do it again (as I did).

- From Shanti, Samasti, [shanti@auroville.org.in](mailto:shanti@auroville.org.in), 2623314.  
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#### Trio Kitchen (at Aurovelo)

We are now open for dining in, **Mon -Sat, 9:30 AM. to 3:30 PM. (Sunday-Closed)**, keeping all the guidelines of the current situation. Take away options are also available. 9442645597 for orders or questions. All are invited to enjoy our veg, non-veg dishes and desserts!  
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-Trio Kitchen Team



#### Taste of Africa - Fundraiser Lunch Mon/Wed/Fri - noon til 2:30 PM

Authentic and delicious vegan meals available: *Crispy Falafel from Sudan*, *smooth savory Peanut Veg Medley from Burundi* and *mouth-watering Misir from Ethiopia*. Please enter through the gate nearest Bharat Nivas. and stay updated on the Auroville Covid Task Force's guidelines. FMI: +91 90801 59721. Peace, Love & Umoja - African Pavilion Team

#### MATRIMANDIR

At Matrimandir Nursery we have three types of flowering plants available; Plumerias, Orchids & Adeniums. Come select and take home (for a contribution) on

**Friday 18th & Saturday 19th from 8:30 am to 4:30pm.**

Call Shankar 958 589 7528 for details or look for him at the nursery. If you cannot make it on these days, you can call for an appointment for another day.  
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- Matrimandir Team



#### Opening of Inner Chamber

The Inner Chamber is now **open from 4:30 - 6:30 PM with prior booking** (Aurovilians, Newcomers & long term volunteers holding a valid MM pass, **15 people per sitting** in the Inner

Chamber. Mat will be folded after one use.

The Petals are **open from 7 to 8am.** (No booking required). **1 person per petal** (12 petals open). After concentration, the petal will be closed. For details on protocols, SOPs etc, see Auronet: <https://auroville.org.in/article/81400>

To comply with Government Regulations and conditions required by the Covid 19 Task Force and the Working Committee, access will have to be very limited and strict protocols will have to be followed.

- Only 15 people (with prior booking) plus 1 duty person will be allowed in the Chamber at any one time.
- At the entrance to the Park of Unity, masks will have to be worn, the hands sanitized and the temperature taken. The name of each person will be recorded, with community, contact details and temperature.
- All bags and cell phones will have to be deposited at the Access Office. Everyone is strongly recommended not to bring any personal belongings at all.
- Everyone is also requested to come in freshly laundered clothing.
- At the Pillar, hands will again have to be sanitized.
- Masks will have to be worn all the time in Matrimandir even during concentration.
- Arrangements for putting on the socks will be supervised so people do not sit in the same places used by others.
- A limited number of places will be laid out in the Inner Chamber and after one use the mat will be folded over the cushion and not used again that evening.
- Anyone needing to cough or sneeze will have to leave the Chamber and the building immediately.

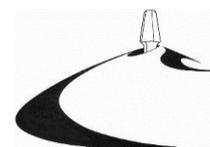
Given all the above strict conditions, if you would like to come to the Inner Chamber for concentration, please inform the Matrimandir Access team at [mmconcentration@auroville.org.in](mailto:mmconcentration@auroville.org.in).

( Note: You will first get the public auto-response regarding closure, but this is for visitors who write to this address. The email of all Aurovilians will be answered in any case.)

Prior booking is not needed for the morning Petal visit. A/C will be off, but will be used to cool the room before your visit. Please give your Name and Community and what evenings you would like to come and how long you would like to sit. As the number of places is very limited you will be informed by email of the date/s and time/s when you can come. Every effort will be made to meet your request/s.

You are reminded that the **Park of Unity is open everyday from 6 am to 8 am (for Aurovilians and Newcomers only) & 4:30 pm to 6.30 pm every day (for Aurovilians, Newcomers and Volunteers holding a valid Matrimandir Pass)**

Thank you, -----  
- Matrimandir Executives and Access team



**AMPHITHEATRE - MATRIMANDIR**  
Meditation at sunset with Savitri  
- read by Mother to Sunil's music  
**Every THURSDAY, 6 - 6.30 PM**  
(weather permitting)

For the time being, access is limited to Aurovilians, Newcomers and Pass holders. Enjoy the beautiful open space, the immense sunset and 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 not to bring/use cameras, i-pads, cell phones, etc. Please carry your pass with you. Thank you.*

- The Amphitheatre Team



## Natural Impressions - Ambient Live Music by Nadaka - Saturday evening, 5:45 to 6:30 PM

Enjoy this peaceful moment in the Matrimandir Gardens, by the Amphitheater. SOP to be followed in the Matrimandir area.

### LOOKING FOR

**Old smartphone** - I need it to access What's App. - If by chance you have one lying around, contact Isha at 0413 2622192.

**The book "PRINCE CASPIAN"** (Nr 4 of the Narnia series). Please, please lend this book to us if you have it. Story reading is such a wonderful experience! We couldn't find this book in any library and are longing to read it. Thank you so much. Ulrike Urvasi, Sanjana, 9442069249(sms), 00491745803786 (whats app), [ulrikrishna@gmail.com](mailto:ulrikrishna@gmail.com)

**Children seat** - for bicycle, 2<sup>nd</sup> hand, to carry my grandson around - Contact Sonja: 9626886029.

**Coir mattresses** - Even deteriorated is fine for our purpose - Contact Megha: 04132623576 or [unitypavilion@auroville.org.in](mailto:unitypavilion@auroville.org.in).

**Housesitting** - Long term guests/volunteers looking for a home until next summer. Family of four, looking to make a contribution while taking care of your place. Jim, Tel/WhatsApp/ Telegram/Signal 887-040-2201.

### AVAILABLE

**House & office items & construction equipment** - Sofa set (3 seater and 2x 1 seater). 1 Coffee table. 2 Office desk tables 6x2,5x2,5'' (each sit 2 people comfortably). 4 Office chairs w/o wheels. 2 foldable tables (desk size). 2 ceiling light fixtures with 2 long led tubes 20W each. 2 monitor stands. 1 kitchen robot/blender/juicer set. 1 juicer. 1x 16L pressure cooker. 1 aircrete foam machine and hand held concrete mixer. Joseph WApp +917094027046; [joartault@gmail.com](mailto:joartault@gmail.com); +91 (0)70940 27046

**Reva car** - Requires new battery and charge controller. Willing to donate to project that could benefit. Contact [Martin@auroville.org](mailto:Martin@auroville.org)

Brand new sleek black matte-finish motorbike helmet. Contact G at [sattvig@gmail.com](mailto:sattvig@gmail.com) or 8407997970. Cheers :)

**Appliance Service** - Good, prompt and very reliable servicing of AC's, fridges and washing machines. Ashok, 978-766-7691. (submitted by Lieve)

**House helper** - Angama from Edayanchavadi is looking for full or part time work. She is cheerful, very friendly, 100% reliable, very good with kids, experienced and hardworking. [sonialalitadevi@gmail.com](mailto:sonialalitadevi@gmail.com) or +91894028809 (Whatsapp)

**Gardener** - Ram is looking for work in the afternoons. He is the best gardener I have worked with in the last 50 years! Contact Shyama at 262 2525 or 944-270-8149.

### GREEN MATTERS



#### Water Saving Tip of the Week!

Next time it's time to plant, make the effort to put local plants in your garden. Replace your water-hungry grass lawn with native species of plants that do not require water. With Love from the Water Group - helping Auroville become a water-sensitive city. [watergroup@auroville.org.in](mailto:watergroup@auroville.org.in)/[www.aurovillewater.in](http://www.aurovillewater.in)

#### Join the BEACH CLEAN UP!

We invite you to join and share our passion for a cleaner beach and ocean and a way of living more sustainably and restoratively on our beautiful planet earth.

**Tanto's beach on Wednesday, 4-6pm**  
**Quiet Beach on Saturday, 4-6 pm**

Sorting and recycling work at Terra Soul Farm's Makers Space in Auroville from 10.00 to 1.00 every morning except Sunday.

Contact Livia for whatsapp group: +91 80564 61257

<https://www.instagram.com/zerowastebeach>



Here's the new of your favorite radio! You can listen to the stream channel here: <http://aurovilleradio.org:8000/av-radio-128.mp3>. It broadcasts mixed music and LIVE events 24/7 from our Town Hall studio.

All LIVE episodes of the week (click title to get the podcast):

- [A Cup of Joy](#) (wellness) w/ Vega & Francesco, **Mon, 2:30pm**
- [Nutritional Cultural Redemption](#) (food and farming) with Krishna McKenzie every **Tuesday at 10:30am**
- [Punk and Around](#) (music) w/ Wobbli & Dudy, **Tues @ 2.30pm**
- [The readings by Gangalakshmi](#) (en francais) **Wed, 10:30am**
- [Marlenka's Weekly Offering](#) (literature) **Wednesday, 11 AM**
- [The Best of What's Still Around](#) (music) with Dhani Muniz **Wednesdays at 2:30pm**
- [The Neo Urban Chronik](#) (humour) with Froggy de Frenchy **every Friday at 10:30am**
- [Tamil Literary Forum](#) (Tamil culture and literature - In Tamil) with R. Meenakshi **every Friday at 11am**
- [Happiness, Love and Laughter](#) (wellness and well-being) Fif/MediClown Academy every **Mon/Wed/Fri around 12 noon**
- [Audible Weed Walk](#) (local food) w/ Nina, **Fridays at 2:30pm**
- [Soul Tracks](#) (music) w/ Jules and Matthew, **Saturday at 3pm**

All the recordings can be downloaded on the AurovilleRadio website [www.aurovilleradio.org](http://www.aurovilleradio.org). Write us if you need more information or with suggestions: [radio@auroville.org.in](mailto:radio@auroville.org.in)

Your favorite radio is changing and evolving - STAY TUNED :)

*These talks have apparently happened the last 2 Saturdays. The only notice given was in the Auroville Arts listing, so if you didn't catch that ... Eds.*

#### Manifesting Auroville - Conversations with Doshi

Many interesting questions were raised in last week's (5<sup>th</sup> Sept) conversation between Dr B.V. Doshi (first chair of Auroville's TDC), Toine van Megan and Sreevatsa Ramesh (current Interface Team member for L'avenir d'Auroville/TDC) which was hosted by **Auroville City Conversations**. The questions discussed included:

- How the notion of Galaxy can manifest in reality
- Whether there is space in the Galaxy plan for all perspectives,
- What is needed to move us forward, and
- the need to shift the discussions around town planning from the small details to the big picture.

Last weeks' conversation can be viewed here - <https://youtu.be/xScC002Lu5M>

On the 12<sup>th</sup>, City Conversations continued this discussion with Dr. B.V. Doshi, Toine van Megan, Sreevatsa Ramesh, Omar Rabie and Andrea Cammarata. It will explore Auroville's landing pad and questions of: How to move from the vision to a physical grounding and make them work together? How will the physical implementation help the notional elements to be realized? What are the progressive landing pads and landing steps needed for the Galaxy to manifest?

We look forward to further conversations with B.V. Doshi on these topics in the coming weeks, In the meantime we would welcome your thoughts on how we as a community can discuss these questions together.

Warmly, L'avenir d'Auroville (Saravanan and Sreevatsa)

Attached files: [Doshi talk.jpg](#)

## Thanks to Joy of Impermanence

When you came, some of us were feeling: Ipochi Auroville! But you came, and it was the same old energy, but new, updated. Three years later, you show us a reality. Thanks! .You can be proud of your work and the push you have given to the Dream!  
~ Anandi-a

### Kaleidoscope #16 - 'Dreams and Changes' is out

Kaleidoscope is a monthly magazine by the Faith Group (age 12 - 14) of Deepanam school. [Here is the link to read it: https://issuu.com/faithclass/docs/dreams\\_and\\_changes.](https://issuu.com/faithclass/docs/dreams_and_changes)

The One I look for, looks through these eyes,  
The One I yearn for, sets ablaze this heart,  
So perhaps this One and I are one.

~ Samrat

### Announcing: Informed Consent AV A Vaccination Study, Support & Advocacy Group (on Auronet)

**AIMS:** A group of self-responsible Aurovillian individuals to organize the following toward individual and collective decision-making, to be continually expressed in the most conscious actions possible.

1. Supporting and promoting INFORMED DECISION-MAKING PROCESS for individuals regarding vaccination for themselves, their children, (or even their pets).
2. Spearheading conscious and responsible community POLICY around vaccination.
3. For collectively navigating & clarifying any vaccine-related:
  - HEALTH contraindications & risks
  - Local LEGAL ISSUES
  - POLITICAL ISSUES

Participation in this group does not require alignment any particular stance or opinion. In fact, disagreement and a variety of different views can often be more valuable than agreement for expansion and refinement of knowledge. All coming in the spirit of goodwill at the service of the Truth to the best of your ability are more than welcome. Thanks and welcome!

## CULTURAL ACTIVITIES



### AUROVILLE ART SERVICE - 'basket' for the week

1. AVARTS OFFERS STORY BUILDING WITH RASHMI - For the age group 6 - 16, join the online story building session with Rashmi every Thursday at 11am.

Message Rashmi on 94482 35935 to get the meeting details.

2. AUROVILLE CITY EXHIBITION PRESENTS AUROVILLE CITY CONVERSATIONS - Participate in the online series of Auroville City Conversations by emailing [aurovillecityconversation@gmail.com](mailto:aurovillecityconversation@gmail.com)

3. INKO SHARES - The winners of the 2020 International Teenage Design & Art Award can be viewed at [https://www.inkocentre.org/Virtual\\_Connect\\_Infotainment.html](https://www.inkocentre.org/Virtual_Connect_Infotainment.html)

4. AFRICAN FILM FESTIVAL NEW YORK - Is streaming a wonderful selection of African films on [africanfilmny.org](http://africanfilmny.org)

5. ACCESSIBLE HORIZON FILMS PONDICHERRY SHARES (TAMIL)

A series on screenwriting in Tamil. This is not only for aspiring screenwriters or writers, but also anyone who's interested or passionate about the filmmaking process. This episode discusses 5 must-have qualities of a screenwriter. Ep 5: <https://youtu.be/a7rx6DUjSY>

6. PICKLE FACTORY DANCE FOUNDATION AND GOETHE-INSTITUT KOLKATA OFFER - 'Contagion - performance/space/community', 8 conversations investigating gathering spaces as a societal need, the uniqueness of the live performance experience, and possible ways forward for artists, audiences

and venues to build and celebrate strong and empathetic communities. 25 Sept - 17 Oct. To know more, visit [www.picklefactory.in/contagion](http://www.picklefactory.in/contagion)

7. WILD VOICE AND SELF-COMPASSION BY SHALINI SEKHAR - An online embodiment circle led by Shalini inviting women to connect with voice and self through breath, touch, voice-work and body-based enquiry. Tuesdays at 14:30 IST (15, 22, 29 September and 6, 13 October). Check the Facebook event [www.bit.ly/wildvoice](http://www.bit.ly/wildvoice) for more information.

8. EMBODIMENT CIRCLES - on a variety of themes run for five weeks, [www.embodimentcircle.com/embodiment-circle-online/](http://www.embodimentcircle.com/embodiment-circle-online/)

9. COLLECTIVE TRAUMA SUMMIT - A 10-day online event to explore methods for working with unresolved and hidden trauma in individuals, communities, and society. With a special place for the role of music, the arts, and poetry for collective healing. Includes readings by poets such as Naomi Shihab Nye, Jane Hirshfield and David Whyte. Sep 22 - Oct 1, 2020, [www.collectivetraumasummit.com](http://www.collectivetraumasummit.com)

## FILMS

AFRICAN PAVILION  
Auroville presents

**HYENAS**

Directed by Djibril Diop Mambéty  
Senegal 1992 • English Subtitles • 1h 53m

Join us for classic African cinema under the stars  
Popcorn and Herbal Tea will be served

**Saturday September 26th 7:00pm**

Please NO SMOKING at African Pavilion

## CLASSES/WORKSHOPS



### Art Classes at Creeva

Monday, 5-7 PM - Watercolour Painting  
w/ Sathya

Friday, - 9.30-11.30 AM - Drawing w/ Audrey

Please confirm your presence with the artist at least the day before. Sathya 9486145072; Audrey: 9786411419



Therapy and Classes are ongoing with our therapists and teachers

### Qi Gong work out sessions

Mon/ Wed/ Fri, 21st/23rd/25th Sept., 7 - 8 AM  
Pavilion of Tibetan Culture, International Zone

Orientated to issues of blood pressure and circulation. True harmonising flow of blood by nourishing Yin energy. Guided by Andres Lokuta. Whatsapp 965 547 4497  
Social distancing for work out will be observed.



## AUROVILLE LANGUAGE LAB NEWS

### New Classes:

#### English lessons for kids (3-12 yrs old):

If you think your kids need extra attention in English during this period, Anastazja Duda is a TEFL teacher, who has been teaching kids mostly in Asia (Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand, India and Myanmar). She is starting **conversational English classes for kids**. She is happy to fulfil personal targets of the students as well. The kids will have an introduction and a general meeting with the teacher before joining the class; please contact us for an appointment.

**It's never too late to learn A to Z:** We welcome your workers to come and learn English alphabets and basic vocabulary. This is an absolute beginner's course for all those who wish to take up classroom learning at a comfortable speed combined with multimedia resources.

#### Astronomy with Miko from the 1<sup>st</sup> week of October.

**Astronomy Introduction** - You will study the basic movements of the planets and the history of our understanding of these movements. At least an intermediate level of English is required.

**Introduction to Esperanto** - This international language is a tool for unifying the human race through neutral communication, which gives an advantage to no particular nation. It is easy to learn and pretty in the ear. Please contact us with your preferred days and timings, so that we can arrange a time appropriate for all students.

**Intermediate Esperanto** - Open to those who have taken the introduction course either here or on-line.

New students are requested to register at: <http://register.aurovillelanguagelab.org/> to join any of the class offerings.

For more info on regular classes, please visit our website: <https://www.aurovillelanguagelab.org/courses.php>

**Online course:** German online classes have started. There are two different timings for the A1 level: one in the morning, every Tue and Thurs, from 8.15 to 9.45 am and the other in the evening from 5.30 to 7 pm. The B1 level is every Mon and Wed from 6.30 to 8 pm. You will find information on how to access the relevant online learning platform once you register at: <https://register.aurovillelanguagelab.org/online-courses/>

**Tomatis:** There are spaces available for the Tomatis program for Aurovilians and those who have lived in Auroville during the lockdown. The Tomatis Listening Training is used for a variety of issues and as a tool for personal self-development, in addition to helping learn languages faster. Please check out our website ([www.aurovillelanguagelab.org/Tomatis-Method.php](http://www.aurovillelanguagelab.org/Tomatis-Method.php)) and call 04134036922 for more information.

**We are looking for Aurovilians, Newcomers, or LT Volunteers for language teaching, especially for French & Italian.** If interested, please contact the Lab.

We request all those coming to the Language Lab premises for these classes and programs to respect all Covid guidelines.

**Remember to switch off your mobiles before you enter.**

The Language Lab is open Monday - Friday 9:00 am- noon and 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm, Saturday 9 am to 12 pm.  
Phone: 262-3661, 4036920/22; [info@aurovillelanguagelab.org](mailto:info@aurovillelanguagelab.org)  
International Zone, after the Unity Pavilion & Pump House

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### **NEW WORKSHOP**

#### **Road back to Nature, Sustainability & Well Being**

We invite you to come and explore how to grow, identify, harvest, prepare and cook local food. Integral to this is an understanding of the medicinal and nutritional values of these plants and how to use them to make your own soaps, detergents, toothpowder and Ayurvedic remedies.

This course has already started. People are welcome to sign up for a discounted price for the remaining 6 sessions or drop in for individual workshops. Each workshop is followed by lunch.

**Session 3 (19th Sept) "Milling with millets":** making dosa, idli and adhai using the traditional granite tools. Understanding slow food and its implicit taste and nutritional value.

**Session 4 (26th September) "Popeye's Power:** Cooking mixed spinach greens that we learn to notice growing all around us.

**Session 5 (3rd October) "Go Bananas":** Juicing and cooking with banana stems and banana flowers. This important part of Tamil cuisine is so overlooked these days and yet with a little experience these foods can become a highly nutritious and tasty part of our diet.

**Session 6 (10th Oct) "Sustainable Suds":** Making Bioenzyme, bath soap and shampoo. Making our own soaps helps us to value wastewater as a resource to grow our own food. It helps us to reduce our dependence on an industrialised economy and meet our needs in a very simple and sustainable way.

**Session 7 (17th October) "Fill your belly without white rice!":** cooking satisfying vegetables. Tapioca, yams, palm root, sweet potato, plantain and taro are all traditional foods that used to be eaten as daily staples. These traditional plants that grow easily, have diverse tastes and nutritional values and an important cultural relevance have by and large been forgotten. But they can be revived simply by us cooking them and enjoying their wonderful tastes.

**Session 8 (24th October) "Potions & Powders":** Learn how to make your own medicinal powders and concoctions and use them as remedies and tonics for you and your family. Reserve your place NOW! [Solitudepermaculture@gmail.com](mailto:Solitudepermaculture@gmail.com)



### **Auroville Aikido - Registration of young students for when schools reopen!**

We are happy to inform you that a group of 9 children already practice the Aikido weapons once weekly since July (adults too ;-)) and these classes are going on well. As you might know, this practice is possible for there is no direct contact between practicing partners. However, we are hoping that all schools will reopen soon and that normal practice will be possible again. This announcement is in anticipation of that moment, and you can already ask your children (from 8 to 15 yrs of age) if they would like to join - or rejoin/continue- Aikido.

With the reopening of schools, the usual 3 classes weekly will restart, where students are expected to attend a minimum of 2 classes a week in order to follow the curriculum and progress. **Classes will be: Monday-Wednesday-Friday, 4.15 to 5.15 PM.**

Please let us know! You can contact us at [budokan@auroville.org.in](mailto:budokan@auroville.org.in), 0413-262 3813 or 83001 89062 (no whatsapp). Interested adults can contact us here too!

With thanks and warm regards, ~ Cristo & Surya



### **African Drum Course Fridays, 4 - 5 PM**

Learn to play African rhythms from a pro! Prakash is an artisan of many instruments and specializes in the crafting of djembes. He has been playing and teaching djembe, dun dun and other percussions, and even worked at Svaram in Auroville. Prakash even built (and rebuilt) many of our drums at African Pavilion. He will walk us through hand exercises, different drumming techniques, how to care for your drum, and he'll hand us the keys to his veteran drummer knowledge.

The Shamba Ya Moto squad will definitely be joining his workshops to deepen our connection to our natural rhythms. If you'd like to be part of the core #SYM crew someday, we encourage you to join us this Friday at 4pm.

Prakash and African Pavilion will provide a limited number of djembes. Bring your own djembe if you have one. Contribution will be asked and costs for 3 classes or more will be reduced.

FMI: +91 90801 59721 or [africa@auroville.org.in](mailto:africa@auroville.org.in)

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⇒⇒⇒PLEASE GO PAPERLESS!

RECEIVE THE NEWS&NOTES by EMAIL weekly!

It comes 2 days sooner and is in color! Subscribe at

[newsandnoteslist+subscribe@auroville.org.in](mailto:newsandnoteslist+subscribe@auroville.org.in)

or click directly on this [link](#)

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**EMERGENCY NUMBERS**

**Auroville Emergency Contact Numbers**

**Save them in your phone now!**

Auroville Safety and Security Team: 9443090107:  
04132623400; [security@auroville.org.in](mailto:security@auroville.org.in)

Ambulance: Auroville: 9442224680

PIMS: 0413-2656271/72

Farewell: mobile number: 8903836246. reachable 24/7

Emergency Service of India: 108

JIPMER hospital 2278380 / 2272389

General Hospital 2336050

Puducherry helpline: 104

TN COVID helpline: 044-29510500

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Important information about News & Notes  
Hard deadline for submissions or cancellations: Tuesday 5pm  
FOR THE ISSUE to be published that SATURDAY (though the  
digital version generally goes out on Thursday)

The contents of *News & Notes* are a reflection of the growth process of this community towards its ideals of harmony, goodwill, discipline and truth. Editing of submissions, mainly for reasons of space and clarity, is done according to an established policy. How to submit material: Material (no pdf files, please) may be sent (in English only) to: [newsandnotes@auroville.org.in](mailto:newsandnotes@auroville.org.in).

Please do **NOT** send submissions and inquiries as a "Reply" to the digital subscription mail. There is NO guarantee that anyone will see communications sent this way!

Please try your best to send your announcements, reports, film schedules whenever they are ready. Any modifications of submitted *News* items must be sent to the editors before Tuesday 5pm. Please do your best to submit copy that is ready for printing (i.e. Word shows you typos, extra spaces, punctuation errors, etc - don't make us do all the work!).

We regret not being able to attend to visitors on Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thurs AM due to work pressure.

Articles for the Notes section should ideally be no longer than 500 words.

Visiting hours: Hit or Miss. Call first or email for appointment.

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: