

# News and Notes

#875

A weekly bulletin for residents of Auroville

19<sup>th</sup> June 2021



# HOUSE OF MOTHER'S AGENDA

(continued from last week)

## The Atoms?

... For this Density (capable of crushing an elephant) is as extraordinarily fluid as it is crushing. It is like an impalpable breeze (but a dancing breeze, if one may say so!), which becomes “palpable” only when it encounters an obstacle – but then, it suddenly becomes as hard as a fall of an axe. You clearly understand, the body clearly understands that this substance could fashion another kind of body – but the Wall? But the transition from one substance to the other, or the slow substitution of one substance for the other?

There is an Illusion somewhere. What is that incredible Resistance to an incredible Power?

The Vedic Rishis called it “the Rock”.

The atoms?

But as early as 1918, when that “rush” had already been pounding his body for eight years, Sri Aurobindo clearly said:

*“In every particle, ATOM, molecule, cell of Matter there lives hidden and works unknown all the omniscience of the Eternal and all the omnipotence of the Infinite.”*

The cells I have certainly seen at work, radiantly and obstinately. But these atoms?

Are we really talking about “atoms”, or about something else?

These atoms, like these cells, *must* have that same radiant Consciousness, and certainly they are not what we think they are at the end of our microscopes, no more than the cells are what we think they are under our scalpel.

Or are these atoms, like these cells in the past, wrapped in another layer that gives them their rocky impermeability? That may be the true question. In the past, when I still perceived these cells from outside, under our habitual layer, they too seemed mechanical and mortal – once that layer was gone, I saw their Marvel of consciousness.

## The Primeval Inconscient

Always, as soon as there is consciousness, there is power.

That is the most basic *fact*.

Unconsciousness is death.

We labor hard to learn this fact, or un-cover this fact. We need many “misfortunes”. The whole evolution is full of “misfortunes”, yet there is always a joy of existence, an irrepressible joy. That is another fact. On this sublime contradiction we have built all our tragedies and chants to tell the best of our hearts, and always this Beauty, irrepressible too, as though both this Beauty and this Joy were the true substance of our being. That is a fact, too. And at the center of everything, this Fire in search of both Joy and Beauty forever denied. That is the first and the last Fact. Such are the data and the tools of our existence.

This fundamental Contradiction is the best evolutionary lever or spring that we have – it is our key of fire. *“I think it wise to bow before the storm”*, said Electra’s sister, but that is not the case with Sophocles’ heroes, who grab hold of their disaster to... un-cover another cry in themselves. And that cry is always right, even if it dies or is immured alive, like Antigone. And finally, that cry of Fire is all-powerful – that is the last discovery we have to make. For this Trinity – joy-beauty-fire – is the supreme Power and the supreme key of our evolution.

We went off the rails on the way, more particularly in the year 399 before our dark era, when Socrates was assassinated. Instead of discovering ourselves, we have discovered everything, except ourselves, except our joy, except our power. One day, a child of India who had never philosophized, but who was the daughter of India, this blessed land replete with buried (and scorned) treasures, found herself in front of an intelligent man of the West who was explaining Descartes to her. This daughter of India listened quietly, when suddenly she laughed, “Sir, your Descartes baffles me! ‘I think, therefore I am’ – what an idea! As for me, I would rather say, ‘I am, therefore I think.’”

There is no “I am”, so we have thought out all kinds of spells, which have obligingly modeled themselves on our thought.

In reality, this “I am” can be discovered only in the heart, then truly and totally in the body. Then we discover that this “I” is the whole world and contains all the powers of the world – but to know it, one must have burned long and broken many thinking walls. And also undergone a number of demolitions of the grammatical I.

This body, then, after having let itself be invaded and hammered by this unthinkable Energy – hammered for years, almost savagely by that Athena, who was nonetheless Zeus’s daughter and goddess of Wisdom – kept hitting against the same Rock under the feet, and perhaps all around itself. Like the supreme Prison. And this cellular, innumerable “I” persisted in living in that burning, increasingly dense “milieu” – as if it were about to burst any second. But the Rock did not burst.

Sri Aurobindo said *“the foundation stone”*. And he dug into it, or pounded it, for forty years, unthinkably. He never said what took place. But obviously there is a solution – there have *always* been solutions to Evolution’s impossible situations. And we may have come to our Solution at last.

(to be continued next week)

– Satprem . The Tragedy of the Earth - from Sophocles to Sri Aurobindo . The Victory Over Matter

## FROM THE WORKING GROUPS



### From RAS: Nomination for the Land Board is going on!

This is a friendly reminder to participate in the Land Board selection process.

The Auroville Council, Working Committee, FAMC and ATDC are inviting you to nominate yourself or others to join the Land Board team. If you are nominating someone else please check with them first if they are willing to serve in this capacity!

The selection process will be done by (<https://bit.ly/34d3eYD>) that will be responsible for selecting the new members for the Land Board.

#### How to nominate:

- **ONLINE** please use this link to nominate yourself and others. [https://auroville.formstack.com/forms/landboard\\_nominations\\_2021](https://auroville.formstack.com/forms/landboard_nominations_2021)
- **ON PAPER** - if you are not comfortable with digital tools, you can submit your nomination(s) on a paper form, which is available from the RAS sounding board in Town Hall (opposite Financial Service). You can also drop by the RAS office (Town Hall ground floor, ex-HRT office) on Thursdays between 10 am and 12 noon, and the RAS team will help you register your nominations.

**The deadline for nomination is SUNDAY, 20th of June 2021!**

Please make sure that those you nominate, including yourself, have the necessary capacities for the work, by reading (<https://goo.gl/3JrKnQ>).

For more information, please do not hesitate to contact us at [raservice@auroville.org.in](mailto:raservice@auroville.org.in).



**Auroville  
Town  
Development  
Council**

*L'avenir d'Auroville*

**L'avenir d'Auroville / Auroville Town Development Council**

#### Invitation to participate - Resource Mobilisation

The ATDC work area *Resource Mobilisation* includes (but is not limited to) the following:

- Creation and identification of opportunities for Auroville residents to take part in the planning and development work for the Auroville Township (Human Resources.)
- Creation and identification of research opportunities for students, interns and research partners.
- Engagement with professionals with expertise in town planning and development including functional areas such as energy, water, waste management etc.
- Fundraising for the planning and development work and the building of the Auroville Township. This includes the building of long-term partnerships with individuals, institutions and corporate bodies and cooperation with the private sector for in-kind (material) support.
- Engagement and cooperation with other resource mobilisation and liaison services, activities and initiatives of Auroville to avoid external engagement overlaps.
- Engagement with the Central and State Government for statutory support (land, taxation etc.)

We plan to eventually have six full-time persons in the Resource Mobilisation team. For now, we would like to identify three Auroville residents who become the first members of this team and start with the work.

If you think that you can contribute to the Resource Mobilisation work on a full-time basis, please send us an email to [avenir@auroville.org.in](mailto:avenir@auroville.org.in) before 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021. At a later stage we may also invite part-time participation and enhance cooperation with existing resource mobilisation initiatives in Auroville. The need of the moment is to set up the anchoring team of at least three persons.

There will be similar appeals for other work areas.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



**PCR Test:** Given the effect of CoVid on so many members of our community and the need for CoVid tests to be done by private labs, the BCC has allocated funds towards the reimbursement for a PCR test. Test should have been recommended either by an Auroville doctor or the Santé Coordination team for symptomatic patients and primary contacts from 1st of May 2021. Please note that certain conditions apply for the refund and the final assessment for reimbursement will be determined based on established criteria. Criteria include:

- Doctor prescription OR
- Santé Coordination team recommendation OR
- Maximum refund of Rs.1600 only for 1 test per patient
- Refund for tests done post-01/05/2021 only
- No refund for testing done for other reasons (travel etc.)

Please open the link to this request form: [CoVid test reimbursement](#) and fill in the required details and submit for assessment. If you have difficulties opening the link, please write to [adminsante@auroville.org.in](mailto:adminsante@auroville.org.in) so we may help you.

Once the Santé Coordination team receives the submitted form with your information, and has processed your request based on the given criteria, you will be refunded the amount of Rs.1600 to your FS account. Please note that the refund is only available for 1 PCR test per patient.

It may take a short while for the refund to be processed and we request your patience and understanding.

Stay well. And be safe.

The Santé Coordination team



**International Day of Yoga:** As you may be aware, in 2014 the United Nations General Assembly declared June 21st the International Day of Yoga. Since then this day has been observed each year throughout the country with a wide variety of activities, with the 'objective of building an enduring public interest in yoga by highlighting its importance and contribution as a significant asset for improving public health and wellness'.

We are aware that hatha yoga and other physical forms of yoga are practiced by many of you here in Auroville, even continuing through the pandemic via online sessions and other creative ways. We encourage any of you who practice yoga or integrate it into your lives in one way or another to share some form of documentation (photos, written reflections, descriptions, etc) of this with the Auroville Foundation Office ([avfoundation@auroville.org.in](mailto:avfoundation@auroville.org.in)) so they can compile these responses and send them to the Education Ministry as a reflection of this shared interest.

With thanks and best wishes,

The Working Committee

(Anu, Arun, Chali, Hemant, Partha, Sauro, Srimoyi)



**Baby Born:** We are happy to share the birth of our baby boy DHEERAN who is the new love of our lives. He was born on 05/06/21.

With happiness, parents: Kamalraj & Nivetha,

Grandparents: Narayanasamy & Vishva,

Paneerselvam & Rukmani.

## WELCOME

FROM THE ENTRY SERVICE - ES # 086

Dated: 19-06-2021

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

### YOUTH TURNED 18 CONFIRMED:

Noe PRIGENT (French)

### LEFT ON HIS/HER OWN:

Suma HOULDSWORTH (USA)

### NOTE:

- The Newcomer probation year becomes effective only after the NC kit has been returned and should not exceed 18 months from the date of confirmation.
- A Newcomer becomes an Aurovilian once his/her name has been confirmed by The Admission Committee (aka the Entry Board) after following due process.
- The date of becoming Aurovilian is the date of confirmation. An Aurovilian confirmed by the Entry Board is eligible to participate in all community decision-making processes.
- A confirmed Aurovilian becomes officially a Resident of Auroville once the individual has filled in and signed the B-Form and his/her name has been entered in the Register of Residents (RoR) maintained by the Auroville Foundation Office (AVF).
- A Resident of Auroville is eligible to become an executive of a Unit or Service of Auroville and to get an ID card issued by the Auroville Foundation.
- A meeting with the Secretary of the AVF will be arranged by the Entry Secretariat according to the availability of the Secretary and not at any personal request.

## VOICES and NOTES



Few programmes are still active and you're favourite radio is alive! Stay tuned!

**Here** you can listen to the stream channel (playing 24/7).

**Here** you can see *on-air schedules*.

Last published podcasts:

[Suryamayi's PhD on Auroville - chapt.9 "Conclusion \(part 1\)"](#) (Research)

[Soul Tracks - The Mayfly Sessions, ep. 6 "Pick Up Sticks"](#) (Music)

[Edible Weed Walk ep.45 "Peppers that changed the world and us"](#) (Food education)

....and more! on [www.aurovillerradio.org](http://www.aurovillerradio.org)

For more information write to [radio@auroville.org.in](mailto:radio@auroville.org.in)

## AVAILABLE

Hybrid Tamarind shelled with seeds Rs. 70.-/kg. Shelled and deseeded Rs.180 /kg. Contact Diego 9487061008 or Mani 97873 98595 or either 262239

## LOOKING FOR

Used (second hand) keyboard (electric piano): if anyone has one please contact Maya-93608 76928



## News from Auroville Language Lab

Ongoing Closure: With the on-going Covid situation, all in-person language classes & the mediathèque, remain closed. We are arranging for online classes; please stay tuned!

Online classes!

We currently have two 3-month online courses on-going:

Beginner German with Verena  
Regular classes will be 90 min each, & will take place twice a week, Mondays & Wednesdays, 04:30pm - 06:00pm (IST).



Basic knowledge of the German language, such as the alphabet, numbers, pronunciation, basic grammar, as well as knowledge of German vocabulary, is required for this course. (As well as to have had attended any Beginners class previously). Throughout the course, we will deepen the ability to listen and understand, as well as the ability to converse confidently, and with written knowledge. You can start reading, speaking, and writing simple sentences with proper grammar.

Verena is currently completing a teacher's training with inspiring methods for German as a foreign language through Max - Mueller Bhavan Institute, Chennai. She will be happy to include those methods in future teachings in the next German class.

If interested, please send us an email to [all@auroville.org.in](mailto:all@auroville.org.in), & fill in our registration form: <https://register.aurovillemediathèque.org/>

Beginner Tamil course with Murugesan, is now into its second week, & is progressing well! Lovely to have a majority of Aurovilian students participating!

### ALL: SCHEDULE OF ONLINE CLASSES as of 15.06.2021

LANGUAGE	LEVEL	TIME	DAY
German (started 14 <sup>th</sup> Jun)	A1.1 BEGINNER	04:30 pm - 06:00 pm	Mon & Wed
Tamil (started 31 <sup>st</sup> May)	BEGINNER (Group 1)	02:00 pm - 03:00 pm	Mon & Thurs
	BEGINNER (Group 2)	03:15 pm - 04:15 pm	Mon & Thurs

### 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: 0413-262-213**