

*Auroville*

# NEWS & NOTES

No 991 - A weekly bulletin for residents of Auroville

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7 September 2023

**RA EDITION**



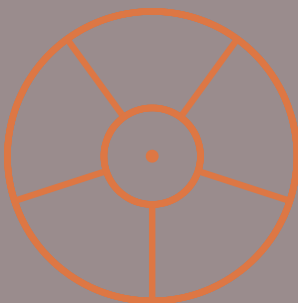
## PONDERING

Physical Education is meant to bring into the body, consciousness and control, discipline and mastery, all things necessary for a higher and better life.

*The Mother – On Education: Vol. 12, p274*

All education of the body should begin at birth and continue throughout life. It is never too soon to begin nor too late to continue.

*The Mother – On Education: Vol. 12, p12*



# HOUSE OF MOTHER'S AGENDA

*(continued from last week)*

The second phase of the work of transformation thus drew to a close. After working for fourteen years, from 1926 to 1940, in an individual, concentrated manner, with a handful of carefully chosen disciples, Sri Aurobindo and the Mother had come up against a wall. The moment the supramental light approached the earth to join with the same light involved in Matter, torrents of mud would rise up from the collective subconscious and drown everything. *To help humanity out, Sri Aurobindo remarked, it was not enough for an individual, however great, to achieve an ultimate solution individually, [because] even when the Light is ready to descend it cannot come to stay till the lower plane is also ready to bear the pressure of the Descent.* It is very significant that the culmination of the second phase of the work of transformation should coincide with the outbreak of the Second World War. When the pressure of the Light descends into one human body, the body of the world, too, begins to glow. What do we really know of the good of the world, or of its evil?

Confronted with that collective resistance, Sri Aurobindo and the Mother hesitated momentarily, wondering whether they should not cut themselves off from the rest of the world, forge ahead alone with just a few disciples, effect the transformation, then return to the collective work by communicating to the rest of the earth the transformation accomplished (or partially accomplished) in themselves. (This same idea has impelled many spiritual, occult, or chivalrous groups in the past to select a secret place far away from the rest of the world, sheltered from the contamination of collective vibrations, to do their work.) But they soon realized that this was an illusion and that afterward the gap or the *atmospheric gulf*,<sup>3</sup> as Sri Aurobindo would put it, between the new accomplishment and the old world would be too great to be bridged. Furthermore, what is the point of an individual success if it is not communicable to the rest of the world? If a supramental being suddenly appeared on earth, no one would even see him! Our eyes must first be unsealed to another way of life. *If you advance on the path that is open in front of you, said the Mother, without patiently waiting for the rest of creation, that is, if you achieve alone something very close to the Truth as compared to the present state of the world – what will happen? The whole is thrown off balance; not only the harmony but the equilibrium of the whole will be upset, because a certain part of the creation will not be able to follow. And instead of a full realization of the Divine, you will have a small, local, infinitesimal realization, and nothing of the goal will be achieved.* Moreover, emphasized the Mother, *if you want to do the work in a solitary way, you absolutely cannot do it in a total way, because every physical being, however complete he may be, even if he is of an altogether superior nature, even if he was made for an altogether special Work, is only partial and limited. He embodies only one truth, one law in the world – it may be a very complex law, but it is still only one law – and the full transformation cannot be realized through him alone, through one body.... Alone, you can attain your own perfection, become infinite and perfect in your consciousness. Inner realization knows no limits. But outer realization, on the contrary, is necessarily limited, and a minimum number of physical persons are necessary in order to achieve a general action.*

In 1940, after fourteen years of individual concentration, Sri Aurobindo and the Mother opened the doors of their ashram. The third phase of the transformation began, a phase that has expanded today to a world scale.



### THIRD PHASE - THE ASHRAM

In India an "ashram" is traditionally a spiritual or religious community whose members are gathered around a Master and who have renounced the world to devote themselves to meditation, concentration, and yogic practices in order to attain "liberation." As we might imagine, though, Sri Aurobindo's Ashram had little to do with this particular definition, except for the fact that the disciples were indeed gathered around Sri Aurobindo and the Mother. It was not an exotic kind of monastery, and still less a place for refuge and peace; it was more like a forge: *This Ashram has been created... not for the renunciation of the world but as a centre and a field of practice for the evolution of another kind and form of life. Even before his arrest in Bengal, at a time when he was not even remotely dreaming of founding an ashram, Sri Aurobindo had said: The spiritual life finds its most potent expression in the man who lives the ordinary life of men in the strength of the Yoga.... It is by such a union of the inner life and the outer that mankind will eventually be lifted up and become mighty and divine.* Hence, Sri Aurobindo wanted his Ashram to be fully involved in everyday life, right in the midst of the world-at-large, since that is where the transformation had to take place, and not upon some Himalayan peak. Except for the main building, where the Mother lived and where Sri Aurobindo's monument is located, the 1,200-odd disciples of all nationalities and all social classes (men, women and four to five hundred children) were scattered throughout the city of Pondicherry in more than three hundred different houses. There were no protective walls in the Ashram, except for one's own inner light; the bustle of the bazaar was just next door.

*(to be continued next week)*

— Satprem, *The Adventure of Consciousness*, Chapter 17,  
The Transformation

[https://sri-aurobindo.co.in/workings/satprem/adventure\\_of\\_consciousness\\_e.htm#066](https://sri-aurobindo.co.in/workings/satprem/adventure_of_consciousness_e.htm#066)

With love and gratitude,  
Gangalakshmi (HOMA)



# NEWS & NOTES GUIDELINES

## HARD DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: TUESDAY 5PM

The content of News & Notes is a reflection of the growth process of this community towards its ideals of Harmony, Goodwill, and Truth. Editing of submissions, mainly for reasons of space and clarity, is done according to an established policy.

### How to submit material:

- Max size of the published poster is 9cm x 9cm independently of the size you sent. The bigger posters will be reduced.
- Please AVOID CAPS letters
- Material (no pdf files, please) may be sent in English only to **newsandnotes@auroville.services**
- Articles for the Notes section should ideally be no longer than 500 words.
- 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.**



## DISCLAIMER:

Please note that the opinions and views expressed on these pages are solely those of the respective authors or work groups and do not necessarily reflect the position of the editors or the larger Auroville community. The News & Notes aims to provide a platform for the publication of diverse perspectives and voices from multiple sources within Auroville.

While our editors strive to ensure the accuracy of the information presented, we cannot guarantee that all information is free from error or omission. Additionally, we cannot be held liable for any alleged misinformation provided or offence caused by the content published.

In the event of any dispute, we encourage readers to consult with the Auroville Council, and we reserve the right to suspend the publication of disputed material. Our commitment to providing an open and inclusive platform for dialogue and exchange of ideas remains steadfast.

The News and Notes team  
**newsandnotes@auroville.services**

## LIST OF ACRONYMS:

**AVF** (Auroville Foundation), **AVFO/FO** (Auroville Foundation Office), **GB** (Governing Board), **RA** (Residents Assembly)

The following groups are divided in two categories: The groups selected by the Residents Assembly through Community decision making Processes and the groups put together by the GB and the FO (not recognised by the Residents Assembly).

### Working groups selected by the Residents Assembly:

Working Committee (WCom)  
Funds and Assets Management Committee (FAMC)  
Budget Coordination Committee (BCC)  
Town Development Council / L'avenir d'Auroville (TDC)

Auroville Council (AVC)  
Entry Service (ES)

### FO selected groups:

Working Committee (WC)  
Funds and Assets management Committee (FAMC)  
Budget Coordination Committee (BCC / BCS)  
Auroville Town Development Council (ATDC)

Housing Service (HS)  
Land Board (LB)

## NOTE FROM THE EDITORS

Dear Community,

if you wish for your events, workshops, and other content to be published in the RA N&N please send it to:

[newsandnotes@auroville.services](mailto:newsandnotes@auroville.services).

### Reminder:

**Please do NOT write to us from an @auroville.org.in mail ID, your submissions will not reach us.** If you only have an *auroville.org.in* mail ID, please use this [FORM](#) to send us your content.

### Support the RA N&N:

As the News and Notes budget is still being disbursed only to the FO N&N, printing and distribution costs are currently being covered by private donations. If you wish to contribute to the RA Edition of the N&N, you can do so by donating to: "NEWSLETTER COLLECTION" **FS #252150**.

We look forward to continuing to serve the over **3000 readers** who receive the RA Edition as well as serving the Auroville community as a whole by providing a platform for all perspectives to be shared with respect.

In community,

The RA Community Edition News and Notes Team

## WORKING GROUPS NEWS

### FROM THE ENTRY SERVICE

#### **ES # 196 DATED: 07-09-2023**

The following people have been recommended by the Entry Board to join our community. Please share your feedback within 2 weeks for potential Newcomers, Associates and Friends of Auroville and within 4 weeks for Potential Aurovilians, Returning Aurovilians, Youth and Spouse/Partner of an Aurovillian in writing to [auroville.entryboard@gmail.com](mailto:auroville.entryboard@gmail.com) OR [auroville.entryservice@gmail.com](mailto:auroville.entryservice@gmail.com).

We thank you in advance.

#### **NEWCOMER ANNOUNCED:**

- **Ganesh SHANMUGAM (Indian)** staying in Ami and working at Graphic section
- **Lakshmi RAJNIKANTH (Indian)** staying in Horizon and working at Housing Service
- **Ponniammal VENKATESAN (Indian)** staying in Abri Forest and Working at Matrimandir and Abri Forest
- **Sergei NIKOLAEV (Russian)** staying in Pitchandikulam and working at Pitchandikulam
- **Yuvana JAYAALASAMY (Indian)** staying in Aspiration and working at Involve Auroville and Unity Farm



### **CHILD OF NEWCOMER:**

- **Serafim NIKOLAEV (Russian)** Born on 18/02/2016 (Son of Sergei)
- **Iasna NIKOLAEVA (Russian)** Born on 21/06/2018 (Daughter of Sergei)
- **Siiana NIKOLAEVA (Russian)** Born on 06/07/2021 (Daughter of Sergei)

### **NEWCOMER CONFIRMED:**

- **Caroline GINDRE (French)**
- **Pranav KUMAR (Indian)**
- **Sohini MITRA (Indian)**

### **AUROVILIAN ANNOUNCED:**

- **Anjana SARAF (Indian)** staying in Kalpana and working at Arka



- **Priya ANBAZHAGAN (Indian)** staying in Promesse and working at Udavi school



### **RETURNING AUROVILIAN CONFIRMED:**

- **YUNSUNG CHO (Korean)**

### **SPOUSE OF AN AUROVILIAN ANNOUNCED:**

- **Malar ARUMUGAM (Indian)** staying in Kriya and working at Sharnga Guest House



### **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.

Yours,

The Entry Board (Alain, Grace, Jayanthi, Lakshmanan, Matilde, Sara, Sonja and Swadha)

### **Entry Service Timings:**

Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 9:30am—12:30pm

Tuesday & Thursday: Newcomer kits, 2:30—4:30pm

Contact: 0413 262-2707, [auroville.entryservice@gmail.com](mailto:auroville.entryservice@gmail.com)

## RA TDC MEETING WITH MATRIMANDIR EXECUTIVES

On August 21st, 2023, the RA TDC met with the Matrimandir (MM) executives.

Please find below some points that were addressed during the meeting:

### 1. Polarisation

The meeting started with a short discussion on the perceived polarisation that Auroville is going through. The RA TDC explained that there is no polarisation about the development of the city itself, as most Aurovilians are here to build the city the Earth needs. What is being questioned is the method: the top-down authoritative approach being implemented since December 2021 is the source of disagreement and polarisation. The RA TDC, as well as numerous community members, believe that only a holistic approach can pave a sustainable road to human unity.

### 2. GB, IAC and RA to work in mutuality

As is stated in the Auroville Foundation Act (AFA), and reiterated in the judgement dated August 12th, 2022, the GB, IAC and RA should work in mutuality.

As per the AFA, the RA has the right to constitute committees, so they regularly select community representatives in various fields, such as the RA TDC. The RA TDC was selected in June 2022 in accordance with the procedure specified in the various legally valid Standing Orders and the Auroville Act. This selection was communicated to the Governing Board vide email dated 28th June 2022. The TDC selected by the RA does not cease to exist just because of the failure of the Governing Board to take cognisance of it.

The AFA also states that the GB has the right to constitute committees too, but that any non-GB members within these committees shall not have the right to vote on decisions. Therefore, it can be said that the ATDC is currently not validly constituted, as it consists solely of non-GB members.

### 3. NGT judgement and legal repercussions

Reminder: all areas in Auroville fall under the ruling of NGT judgement, which states that no further construction is to be started in any area of the project (except the Crown where there are no trees) until proper township plans have been prepared, and prior Environmental Clearance has been granted. Hence, any activity in regard to cutting of trees or construction/development is in violation of the NGT judgement of 28.04.2022, reiterated by the hon'ble NGT on 14.03.2023.

The RA TDC has informed MM executives of the same vide email, as a reminder, since the Matrimandir area - aka the Soul of Auroville - is undoubtedly a part of the Auroville project.

### 4. Environmental Clearance

As mentioned in the point above, proper township plans need to be prepared and prior Environmental Clearance (EC) needs to be granted before any further construction. The procedure to gain EC involves an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) which is extensively described in the EIA Notification 2006, including non-negligible aspects in a project like the MM lake, such as vegetation, topography, and seawater processing:

#### a) Vegetation: trees being cut

*EIAN extract: "Will the construction involve extensive clearing or modification of vegetation? (Provide a detailed account of the trees & vegetation affected by the project)"*

#### b) Topography: adding a sizeable water body

*EIAN extract: "Construction, operation or decommissioning of the Project involving actions, which will cause physical changes in the locality (topography, land use, changes in water bodies, etc.)"*

- *"Impoundment, damming, culverting, realignment or other changes to the hydrology of watercourses"*
- *"Changes in water bodies or the land surface affecting drainage or run-off"*

c) Seawater processing: building a desalination plant

*EIAN extract: “Risks of contamination of land or water from releases of pollutants into the ground or into sewers, surface waters, groundwater, coastal waters or the sea”*

Desalination is a highly energy-intensive process that is often powered with fossil fuels, with emissions that contribute to global warming. A major issue of desalination is the co-produced waste called 'brine' which has a high salinity along with chemical residuals and is discharged into the marine environment. This often harms the marine environment, causing fish to migrate while enhancing the presence of algae, nematods and tiny molluscus. Sometimes, micro-elements and toxic materials appear in the discharged brine. No matter how much attention is attributed to minimising the negative impact, a desalination plant cannot - by any stretch of the imagination - be considered “eco-friendly” at this time.

### **5. MM Test Pond update**

History: An agreement was reached around 2018 after numerous discussions with the then TDC and the Water Group, wherein the test pond would be built and then tests would be run after a certain amount of time (3-4 years) to check the quality, performance, and reliability of the construction. The aforementioned tests would include the characteristics of the water (monitoring of temperature, chemical composition, evaporation, oxygen levels), resistivity of the materials to the pressure (cement blocks and liner), etc. This in turn would allow for adjustments and improvements to be made, as there are numerous variables that could affect this development, especially in view of the sheer size of this project.

Update: The RA TDC raised these points as well as other technical details such as water security (only rainwater run-off used, no groundwater), trees surrounding the lake, possibility of islets or peninsulas. The MM executives described their vision and expounded their views on most of the points raised, which was appreciated by the RA TDC. The MM executives shared that the aforementioned tests are being run periodically to see the evolution of this data, despite the fact that the test pond is actually not even finished yet. Nevertheless, their plan is to continue to expand, without waiting for the completion of the test pond and the associated test results.

### **6. Auroville: its role and “raison d’être”**

The beginning of the meeting was quite bumpy, when judgement was passed on issues such as Aurovilians forgetting why they are here, the status or worthiness of individuals within Auroville, or the perceived absence of community within Auroville. Not only does this go against the RA TDC’s values, it also was not the right platform for this type of discussion, as the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the MM lake. Following a reminder to not fall into stories and judgements, the meeting followed a relatively peaceful course.

However, the RA TDC left the meeting feeling deeply unsettled by the manner in which the MM executives stated that they would not be consulting with the community. The MM project - just like any other project carried by an Aurovillian individual, unit or service - is representative of Auroville for the world at large, and therefore concerns our entire community.

## **FROM THE AV COUNCIL**

### **CALL FOR RESOURCE PERSONS**

Dear Community,

Auroville Council maintains a list of resource persons who support us with our tasks. It has been more than two years since we last invited new people to step forward.

We are looking for people who have good communication and interpersonal skills while being flexible and easily available.

Please answer our call and share your interest, Contact us at: [avcouncil@auroville.services](mailto:avcouncil@auroville.services)

Best regards,  
Auroville Council



## COMMUNITY SHARING

### ACCESSIBLE AUROVILLE PUBLIC BUS SERVICE

Dear All,

Accessible Auroville Public Bus service started in 2016 with help of an Italian donor, who contributed to purchase a public bus to Auroville. Since 2016, we have received good support from Aurovilians, guests and all. The service self-sustained by collecting contributions from the bus users to cover the running expenditures. We were supported by the AVI Canada to cover the yearly maintenances such as, Insurance, Fitness Certificate, Yearly Maintenance of the vehicle. Since the covid-19, the users of the bus have reduced and it became hard to cover the running cost of the bus. Therefore, we often request help from the community to support. We tried different options to increase the bus users but still no progress. Only during the season, the bus is filled with people. So, it shows that most of the aurovilians are willing to use the individual vehicles to visit Pondicherry, other than using the public transport.

We do not get any financial support from the BCC for our monthly running cost or yearly maintenance. We tried a few times with BCC to support the public transport in Auroville to avoid an increase of individual transports, taxis, etc.,. It was never accepted by the BCC since 2016.

Therefore, we invite Aurovilians, New Comers, Volunteers and Unit workers from Pondicherry to use this service to support the public transport in Auroville. While increasing the number of users, the service will sustain itself without any financial crisis. So far, the service could function because the financial gaps were generously covered by advances given by Auroville Vehicle Service, but it cannot continue. **Let us join together to reduce the carbon footprint and the traffic around us.**

**By supporting public transport, you could have a safe Journey, reduce the carbon footprint and save money.**

Last week, **we took an advance of a lakh rupees** to cover the annual maintenance of the bus (Repainting the vehicle, renewal of bus insurance, mechanical work, tyres replacement etc.,). We need to pay back this amount to Auroville Financial service in a month. Therefore, we kindly request you to contribute small or big to cover the loan amount.

**For donations Avbus A/c No : 251675**

#### **Details of works to be done:**

Re-Painting of Bus - Rs.15,000

Tinkering work - Rs. 13,000 (Body + flooring+ rear door)

Tyres Replacement - Rs.21,500 (2 rear Tyres)

Seat repair + Seat cover replacement: Rs.18,000 (10 seats)

Renewal of Insurance: Rs.31,000 (2023-2024)

Mechanical works: Rs.8,150

**TOTAL : Rs.1,06,650**

**The Service is provided from MONDAY to SATURDAY.**

The bus service was resumed from 28.08.2023 to the public to use it.

Thank you,  
AAPB Team, Auroville.



### YOUTHLINK MATCHING DONATIONS

YouthLink has been provided the amazing opportunity to raise funds through a matching donation campaign. This means that whatever donation you make between now and December gets doubled!



So you may be asking yourself, what is YouthLink?

We are a diverse group of youth from Auroville who work towards creating a positive impact in Auroville. We largely cater to the youth of Auroville (ages 16-30), and work towards providing opportunities and experiences. Our main scopes of work are to empower, integrate, and connect young people through our educational workshops, integration programs, and community gatherings. We create opportunities for links within the community that we believe should go together; such as teachers to students, initiatives with similar scopes, work opportunities with job seekers, and people who can support one another; such as mentors to mentees or newfound friendships. Our team is ever-growing and evolving. Currently at 10 members, we are a diverse and proactive community with a common mission and intentions which enable us to work efficiently and harmoniously.

We are also actively improving our organisational structure in order to maintain and increase our efficiency and harmony, experimenting with different methods of decision making, non-hierarchical structures, and management of responsibilities. Our current method embraces the values of self motivation and encourages proactive responses, providing our members the opportunity to explore self discipline and growth, while retaining a macro perspective of our society and the world.

So how can you help, and why?

We currently receive a budget from BCC (4 maintenances+5,000rs budget), however it only covers approximately one third of our monthly expenses.

Our hope is that our matching donation campaign can collect enough money for these maintenances, so that YouthLink can continue to offer free programs.

We also believe that YouthLink currently serves a secondary purpose of being an informal training centre, for the organisation produces youth that are well connected within Auroville, have a strong understanding of Auroville's structures (both social as well as organisational), and are proactive and vibrant, both as individuals and in teams.

And we believe that we can still do more. Every day there are interesting offers and opportunities of collaboration that find us from inside and outside Auroville, as well as ideas from our team. We currently find ourselves not having the time and space to fully concentrate on all the avenues we could explore, hence we are also looking to expand the team in the near future, moving into avenues such as intensive courses and vocational training.

When you donate to YouthLink, you will be providing a team member the opportunity to develop capacity and grow through work, and in extension be offering invaluable programs to the Auroville community as well, such as safety and boundaries workshops, first aid courses, and Auroville introduction programs; which all work towards creating a safe environment for our youth to grow up and to continue the experiment of human unity and collective living. We are constantly researching and communicating with the community to find which areas to focus our efforts!

Please consider supporting us on our journey to shape the future of Auroville through your financial means!

You can find more information about us on our website: [youthlink.org.in](http://youthlink.org.in) or visit our office at Town Hall, under Le Morgan (open to visitors: mon-fri, 10am-12pm).

Please consider supporting us through Financial Service account: 251048 YouthLink

Or through unity fund, link provided on our [website](#).

Remember, with each donation, double the impact! :)

With Love,  
YouthLink Team

# YOUTHLINK

## Matching donation campaign

All donations you make to us from August to December 2023 will be doubled!



# GOAL:

## 10 LAKH RUPEES

AS OF SEPTEMBER 01: 68,000 RS!

Find out more through our website: [Youthlink.org.in/](http://Youthlink.org.in/)



## SRI AUROBINDO'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY CLOSING CEREMONY AUROVILLE BIOREGION SPORTS EVENT

Last year in 2022, we successfully completed a sports event in celebration of Sri Aurobindo's 150th Anniversary in the month of August 2022.



In continuation of the celebration of Sri Aurobindo's 150th Anniversary, we wanted to finish the Anniversary year with a Grand Sports Event along with bioregion villages of Auroville. Therefore, we invited all players and teams from the different villages to participate.

The sports tournament included Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Cricket, Cycling, Football, Kabaddi, Kottipul (Gilli Danda), Kho Ko, Table Tennis, Volleyball and Yoga.

**In total, around 1237 players participated in this sports event, between 30 July to 13 August 2023.**

You can find the full report by clicking [here](#), or by scanning the QR Code:

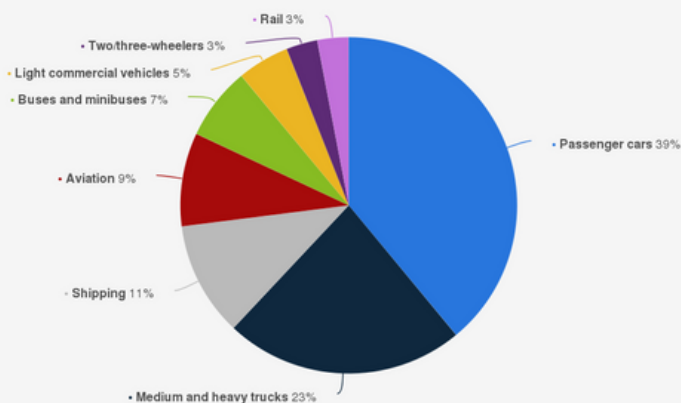


## AUROVILLE VEHICLE SERVICE IS INVITING ALL TO PARTICIPATE IN WORLD CAR FREE DAY, ON SEPTEMBER 22, 2023.

It is a worldwide initiative to encourage motorists to take a break from driving and explore alternatives. So, if you want to be more environmentally friendly, take part in World Car-Free Day. Sure, giving up your vehicle may not be the most convenient way to go car-free, but it is the best way to stop gas-guzzling for even one day. Is it possible to go for an entire day without needing a car? Yes! It can be done. Let's try.



Distribution of carbon dioxide emissions produced by the transportation sector worldwide in 2021, by subsector



Sources  
IEA; Statista  
© Statista 2023

Additional Information:  
Worldwide; 2021

## POETRY

All the mud  
That is smeared  
Onto us  
Only goes to nurture  
The lotus bud  
Rooted in mud  
Rising above  
Revealing the god in us  
That steers the course  
That still blooms  
No matter what

-Anandi Z.



## VOICES AND NOTES

### WHY ARE YOU IN AUROVILLE?

As a bundle of We with a physical body,  
A life force or the vital that animates it,  
A mind that probes and differentiates,  
A psychic that connects with the One Supreme,  
All vying for influence, control and attention,  
Directly to oneself must be asked this question:  
Why are you in Auroville, this City of Dawn?  
We were all made aware before joining  
That this is no ordinary place,  
Not for mere retirement, business or vacation.  
Just review one of our Core Ideals:  
To Be a True Aurovilian.  
From the very beginning,  
Even as it seems forgotten,  
It was made crystal clear  
Why we are here:  
To continue what our Avatar founders  
Sri Aurobindo and the Mother  
Ushered in and on this Earth planted:  
The Truth Consciousness seed the Supramental  
That will replace the reign of the mental,  
The Mind that has done its job well.  
But as usual with this spiritual evolution  
Based on speciated cycles up and down,  
The time has come for an updation.  
Based on our founders' documented revelations  
The process of this paradigm shift  
Was not meant to be that easy  
As this Cosmic Play of the One and Its many  
Is based on infinite possibilities,  
So all possibilities must be exhausted  
Before the New Supramental Age takes root.  
And so here we are in this Great Battlefield,  
In the midst preparing the psychophysical base  
From which the new species  
That will replace the corrupted reign  
Of the transitional humans,  
The Supramental being,  
Will emerge.  
On this Earth coming soon  
A Life Divine.

ॐ

Zech, 2023.09.03

“I saw the Omnipotent's flaming pioneers  
Over the heavenly verge which turns towards life  
Come crowding down the amber stairs of birth;  
Forerunners of a divine multitude,  
Out of the paths of the morning star they came  
Into the little room of mortal life.  
I saw them cross the twilight of an age,  
The sun-eyed children of a marvellous dawn,  
The great creators with wide brows of calm,  
The massive barrier-breakers of the world  
And wrestlers with destiny in her lists of will,  
The labourers in the quarries of the gods,  
The messengers of the Incommunicable,  
The architects of immortality.”

Sri Aurobindo, Savitri, A Legend and a Symbol

[The Book of the Divine Mother . Canto Four . The Vision and the Boon](#)

## PREPARING THE BASE

The importance of the descent of the Supramental Consciousness-Force and Light, although partial, on 29 February 1956<sup>1</sup>, cannot be simply brushed aside.

*"You don't understand the way of my working. You can as well say, "You have the Supramental force, why don't you use it and finish all this muddle?" But it is not like this that the work can be done. The world is not ready for the Supramental force and if it is used without preparing the base, things will shatter completely. I have to prepare the base and then bring down the force." (Excerpt from Words of the Mother - I, Collected Works of the Mother, Vol 13)<sup>2</sup>*

The Supramental Avatars Sri Aurobindo and the Mother of course prepared the base. That is why 1956, 1969 and 1972 happened and the Supramental evolution is happening, unstoppably continuing towards a Life Divine on Earth. And for their torchbearers the individual psychophysical base must also, still, most importantly be prepared. Thus the first two requirements of Integral Yoga, Psychicisation and Spiritualisation, and then Supramentalisation, prior to the Divine Manifestation of the new species the Supramental being in the coming near future.

But it is not necessary to go through what the Avatars went through, having the Grace of progressing through the experiences of others. One can't anyway, that is why there are Avatars for that special role and purpose of ushering in a New Age. A most difficult avataric endeavour as revealed in Sri Aurobindo's and the Mother's comprehensive writings, also from their very close disciples from whom the Mother's Agenda<sup>3</sup> and subsequent revelatory compilations such as Mother or the Mutation of Death<sup>4</sup> have arisen.

For the torchbearers, the best choice is to follow and practice the easiest and most joyful path advised by the Avatars Sri Aurobindo and the Mother themselves, which is the Sunlit Path of Surrender, of Bhakti to the Supreme Divine, so that one becomes a conscious, consenting, willing instrument, through whom the Divine Mother Shakti Herself does the Sadhana according to each one's unique role.

Thus in Auroville we have these as Core Ideals and guidance straight from the Divine Mother Herself:

<https://auroville.org/page/core-documents>

One then goes beyond the mere mental gymnastics when either conducting or participating in a Satsang.

"In the context of yogic philosophy and practice, the Sanskrit word "Satsang" (सत्सङ्ग) can be broken down into two components: "Sat" and "Sang."

- Sat (सत्): This term generally translates to "truth" or "reality." It refers to that which is eternal, unchanging, and real in the highest sense.
- Sang (सङ्ग): This term translates to "association" or "company." It refers to being in the presence of, associating with, or gathering with others.

When combined, "Satsang" can be translated as "association with the truth" or "gathering in the company of the truth." In the context of a collective yogic practice, Satsang typically refers to a gathering or assembly of individuals who come together to engage in activities that promote spiritual growth, self-discovery, and the pursuit of truth or enlightenment. Satsang can include various practices such as:

- Spiritual Discourses: Often, a knowledgeable teacher or guru leads the gathering by sharing teachings, insights, and wisdom from yogic philosophy, scriptures, and other spiritual texts.
- Chanting and Singing: Participants may engage in the singing of devotional songs, mantras, and chants. This can create a meditative and uplifting atmosphere.

- Meditation: Guided or silent meditation sessions might be part of a Satsang, allowing participants to go inward and cultivate a deeper connection to their inner selves.
- Question and Answer Sessions: Attendees may have the opportunity to ask questions related to their spiritual practice, philosophy, and personal growth.
- Sharing Experiences: People might share their personal experiences, insights, and challenges on their spiritual journey, fostering a sense of community and mutual support.
- Service and Acts of Kindness: Satsang can extend beyond formal gatherings to include acts of service or seva, where participants engage in selfless actions to benefit others.

The essence of Satsang lies in creating an environment where individuals can come together to explore and deepen their understanding of spiritual truths, elevate their consciousness, and support one another on their paths toward self-realization and enlightenment. It emphasizes the importance of surrounding oneself with positive influences and like-minded seekers who are dedicated to inner growth and self-discovery."

Om Namō Bhagavate ♡

1. <https://incarnateword.in/agenda/1/february-29-1956>
2. <https://incarnateword.in/cwm/13/relations-with-others>
3. <https://incarnateword.in/agenda>
4. [https://sri-aurobindo.co.in/workings/satprem/mother\\_or\\_mutation\\_of\\_death\\_e.pdf](https://sri-aurobindo.co.in/workings/satprem/mother_or_mutation_of_death_e.pdf)

Zech, 2023.08.29

## AWAKENING SPIRIT

### THURSDAY MEDITATION AT THE AMPHITHEATRE

Every Thursday at sunset, 6 to 6:30pm  
weather permitting

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

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 use cameras, I-pads, cell phones, etc. No Photos.
- Dear Guests, please carry your Guest Card with you. Access only for the Amphitheatre from 5.45 pm and until meditation ends.

Surya & Velmurugan

### PHENOMENA IS A HOLOGRAM

As we now know that phenomena is a hologram,  
All a play of competing consciousnesses,  
Again and again in any quite old particular case  
The soon to be obsolete vital-mental formations,  
Then why be a puppet for its propagation?

Simply apply the antidote, the Psychic's function:

Offer it all to the Supreme Divine for transformation.

That's why a Deva Sangha, a City of Dawn,  
To counter the Ignorance, the undivine.

It's about time:

The reign of the Supramental Consciousness-Force  
On Earth

A Life Divine. ॐ

For understanding and reconfirmation  
Carefully read the following section  
And experience in application:

Western Ideas of Mind and Spirit

<https://incarnateword.in/cwsa/28/the-mind>

Zech, 2023.08.31

## **INTRODUCTION TO THE INTEGRAL YOGA OF SRI AUROBINDO AND THE MOTHER**

**Tuesday, 12th September, 9 am - 12 noon**  
**Focus: The Psychic Being**

Led by Ashesh Joshi

Place: Mirabelle Education Centre, Auromodele  
Ph/Whatsapp: 9489147202 (Please register)

All are Welcome



## **CULTURAL ANNOUNCEMENT**

### **THE FRENCH PAVILION PRESENTS**

#### **Ayurveda and the Wisdom of the Arhuacos, indigenous people from Colombia**

A Conference by Bérengère

**Saturday 9th September 2023 at 5pm**

**Town Hall – Cinema Paradiso**

In English Only. Duration: 30min +Q&A



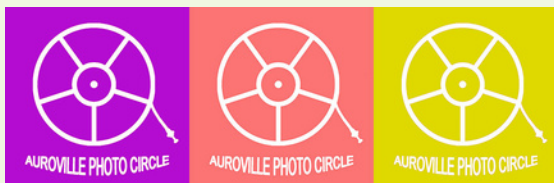
“La Sierra Nevada in Northern Colombia is the highest snow-capped mountain in the Tropics that rises up to 5700m high in 50 kms from the Caribbean coastal city of Santa Marta. There, live 4 indigenous groups that are of prehispanic origin, the Kogis, The Arhuacos, the Wiwas and the Kankuamos. First time I heard about the Arhuacos was in 2011 when a Colombian friend took me to the Sierra Nevada in hope of visiting their territory. Unfortunately, they wouldn't allow any tourists or guests to visit their sacred land, the Heart of the world, as they call it. It's only in 2016 that finally I managed to get an invitation to stay one day, one night with them. From then on started an exchange when we realised that their spiritual healing based on their tradition had the same principles of those of Ayurveda and the flora had many similarities with the one described in the ayurvedic scriptures or in the Siddha pharmacopeia. Since then, I have been going regularly to learn their tradition, their spiritual healing practice, their community organisation, their sense of individuality within the community, learning the wisdom from the Mamos of the community (the spiritual leaders). I came back recently from there and speaking with a few AV friends they suggested that I do a little presentation on them, their purpose in life and what we are implementing health-wise using food, vegetables and aromatic herbs as natural medicine... You're most welcome at Cinema Paraiso on Saturday 9th September where I will be sharing photos of this inspiring community.” – Bérengère.



## CENTRE D'ART - PHOTOCIRCLE

To all the photographers and anybody interested in Photography,

Photo Circle meets again on  
**FRIDAY 8th SEPTEMBER at 5pm**  
in the Centre d'Art multimedia room, at Citadines



The Photocircle brings together Auroville's photographers and amateurs.

We share our own work, we show the work of global photographers we admire, discuss the history of photography, and share techniques.

Anyone can bring and screen a small selection of images.  
Everybody's welcome

## HEALTH

### SANTÉ SERVICES IN SEPTEMBER 2023

#### Working Hours:

Monday - Saturday 9:00 - 12:30pm & 2:00 – 4:30pm

#### Tests and Sample collection:

Mon-Fri before 12:00 pm. No sample collection on Saturday.

#### For emergencies, contact:

Auroville Ambulance (24/7) : Phone: +(91) 9442224680

Government Ambulance (24/7) : Phone: 108

Please call Santé on (0413) 2622803 during working hours for an appointment

<b>Doctor consults with Dr.Senthil &amp; Dr.Sana:</b> Monday to Saturday	<b>Nursing Care: Ezhil, Thilagam, Archana &amp; Sandhya:</b> Daily No appointment necessary
<b>Ayurveda with Dr.Be &amp; Dr.Sonia:</b> Mon /Wed /Thurs /Fri	<b>Pregnancy Care &amp; Women's Wellness with Paula:</b> Tuesday & Wednesday
<b>Acupuncture with Andres:</b> Monday to Friday	<b>Homeopathy with Michael:</b> Mon / Wed / Sat
<b>Integrative Psychotherapy with Juan Andres:</b> Monday to Friday	<b>Physiotherapy with Arun:</b> Monday to Saturday
<b>Functional Medicine with Lize:</b> Monday to Saturday	<b>Physiotherapy with Rebeca:</b> Mon /Wed /Fri
<b>Bio-Well Assessment (Evaluation of your well-being) with Helena:</b> As per availability	<b>Physiotherapy &amp; Massage with Galina:</b> Monday to Friday

In Santé, we value our patient's confidentiality & make every effort to ensure their privacy.

**In case of cancellation or to reschedule, it is necessary to inform us in advance.**

## THE ARTS



PITANGA  
CULTURAL CENTRE

For info & registrations:  
info@pitanga.in, 0413 2622403 / 9443902403 WA

### - EXTENDED - ART EXHIBITION BY HUFREESH DUMASIA

**WHISPERING SOUL**  
Unveiling the unseen world  
**ART EXHIBITION**  
Solo show by Hufreesh Dumasia

OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION  
Saturday, August 5, 2023  
5:00pm - 6:30pm

**Exhibition extended till Sept 16, 2023**

Monday through Saturday  
8:30am to 12:30 pm and  
2.30 to 5.00 pm

[www.hufreesh.com](http://www.hufreesh.com)

### **Whispering Soul Unveiling the Unseen World**

*A delicate communication from the soul to the artist. Unveiling suggests an act of revelation, a lifting of the veil to expose what lies beneath. Hufreesh encourages viewers to explore and engage with the mysteries that lie just beyond our grasp through these artworks.*

**The exhibition is extended till Saturday,  
September 16, 2023.**

Monday to Saturday, 8:30am – 12:30pm and 2:30 – 5:30 pm

Pitanga Cultural Centre  
2622403 / WA 9443902403

[info@pitanga.in](mailto:info@pitanga.in)

### **CENTRE D'ART EXHIBITION**



### **VICHITRA (Everything is Bizarre) by Nupur Jha, in Centre d'Art, Auroville**

The exhibition is open till 14th September 2023,  
Tuesday to Saturday from 2 to 5.30pm.  
Please park at Town Hall parking

# EDUCATION

## TUTION GRADE 1-10

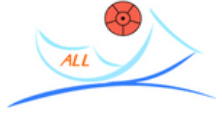
I offer Tuition from grade 1 to grade 10.  
Contact Ashwini 8270512606



## SPOKEN ENGLISH AND HINDI

I offer Spoken English and Hindi sessions for all levels.  
Contact Ashwini 8270512606

## NEWS FROM AUROVILLE LANGUAGE LAB



*Please remember to put your mobile phones on flight mode and switch off all wireless and Bluetooth devices before you enter the Lab. We are a wireless-free space!*

**Looking for:** If you are a true-blue Malayali and speak Malayalam with an authentic Malayalam accent, please contact us by Whatsapp at +919443631861 or email at [tomatis@aurovillelanguagelab.org](mailto:tomatis@aurovillelanguagelab.org). We need to record some words & sentences as well as some simple daily life conversations in Malayalam for a research project.

## Tomatis

### **There are spaces available for both language & therapeutic programmes!**

Please contact 0413-3509932 or email us at [tomatis@aurovillelanguagelab.org](mailto:tomatis@aurovillelanguagelab.org) to schedule your Listening Tests & Consultations.

To know more about the Tomatis Method, please have a look at the following links:

- <https://www.aurovillelanguagelab.org/tomatis-method.php>
- <https://www.aurovillelanguagelab.org/tomatis-kids.php>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wnpXprTI3m0>
- <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeTIG0y-sBMllywZNdZcAng/videos>
- <https://www.listenwell.com/>

For those who slipped through the cracks, whose requests we were not able to respond to, we sincerely apologize.

Please send us an email if still interested, and we'll get back to you soon!

## Current Language Courses at ALL

### **New: German with Ben**

We are thrilled to announce that Ben has joined us as our new German teacher! A recent newcomer & native German speaker, Ben has been an online teacher for three years now, giving integration classes and language courses to immigrants from various backgrounds. He is now eager to apply his skills to an in-person classroom. Ben is a language enthusiast and takes interest in translating poetry and studying ways of integral education. Ben is offering two courses:

#### **Beginner German:**

This 3-month (36-hour) course will be structured around the Goethe Institute material & will employ a variety of audiovisual tools and interactive elements.

- This course will start **September 11**. Classes will take place **Mondays & Wednesdays, 9:30 to 11am**.

#### **German Conversation:**

This 2-month course is for those who already know a bit of German and would like to further polish their speaking skills.

- This course will start **September 12**. Classes will take place **Tuesdays & Thursdays, 4 to 5pm**.

### **New: Spoken Tamil with Saravanan**

The current course will conclude soon. We will start a new batch in September!

Saravanan has been running this interactive and practically-oriented course for the past seven years. The class modules are based on a booklet called "Fun with Tamil", which has been put together with a lot of research and thought. By the end of this course, you would be able to converse in Tamil on day-to-day matters, having achieved a deeper understanding of its sounds, pronouns, conjugations, etc. This course fills quick. Register soon!

- Classes will take place **Tuesdays & Fridays, 9:30am to 10:30am**. Course will start on **September 12** comprising 24 hours of teaching over three months.

### **New: Beginner Hindi with Alka**

We have a new Hindi teacher!

A native Hindi speaker, Alka has a passion for teaching which she has keenly pursued over the last twelve years. Her approach is to make learning easy through games, songs, poems, & other interactive modes. This three-month (24-hour) beginner course is a great introduction to the Hindi language, and intends to make learners comfortable with basic Hindi vocabulary, grammar, and everyday sentences. The course will also make use of the material put together by the Landour Language School, one of the oldest Hindi language schools of India. The course will be paced to align with each student's comfort.

- The course will start on **September 9**. Classes will take place **Saturdays, 10am to 12noon**.

### **New: Beginner Spanish with Mila**

Great news for Spanish learners!

Our long-time Spanish teacher, Mila is ready to start a new batch for Beginner Spanish. This three-month (24-hour) course is structured on the highly-acclaimed book, "Madrigal's Magic Key to Spanish: A Creative & Proven Approach." Mila has been running this course since many years. By the end of the course, students will be equipped with the Spanish alphabet, phonetics, & vocabulary. The course will also delve into verb conjugations, formation of sentences, use of adverbs & adjectives, and work on the student's listening & reading skills.

- We hope to start as soon as we have 6-7 confirmed registrations. Classes will take place twice weekly, on **Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:30 to 3:30 pm**.

### **New: French with Jean-François**

Jean-François offers four 2-month (16-hour) courses.

#### **Beginner French:**

This course is now closed for new registrations.

#### **Beginner French for Teens:**

This course is for students between 13 to 16 years of age. The course is based on exercises that use many media like videos, games, role-playing, etc. to make learning both fun and effective. By the end of the course, students will have an immersion in the French language and will be able to express themselves in a simple way.

- We need five confirmations to start the course. Classes will take place **Saturdays, 11am to 12noon**.

#### **French Conversation:**

For those of you who know a bit of French, this is the perfect course to get more fluent, expand your vocabulary, and speak without inhibition in a diverse & fun group! Each lesson covers a theme of daily life (work, family, hobbies, shopping, projects, etc.) and is aimed at developing the students' ability to express themselves and interact in French. Jean-François would explore a range of topics like food, sports, travel, philosophy, news, literature, economics, social sciences, theater, and more. He will also review the grammar useful for basic conversation.

- This course started on **August 3**. Classes take place **Mondays & Thursdays, 2:30 to 3:30pm**.

## **New: Italian with Fabio**

Fabio is offering two courses:

### **Beginner Italian:**

If you are a beginner with little or no knowledge of the Italian language, you are welcome to join this 2-month (16-hour) course. The course will take students through the Italian alphabet and phonetics, spoken grammar, main verbs, pronouns, sentence structure, etc. By the end of the course, learners will be able to introduce themselves & others in a simple way, exchange information about family, work, holidays, home, etc., speak about everyday activities, hobbies, etc. A range of different topics can be explored based on the interests of the students.

- This course will start **September 11**. Classes will take place **Mondays & Wednesdays, 2:30 to 3:30pm**.

### **Italian Conversation:**

This two-month (16-hour) course is for learners who already have a basic knowledge of Italian and would like to explore the language further & polish their speaking skills. Fabio will delve deeper into spoken grammar, phonetics, conversation, and any other topics of interest. This is mainly for those who took the Beginner course last time, but is open to all. This course will close at 4 registrations.

- This course will start **September 12**. Classes will take place **Tuesdays & Thursdays, 2:30 to 3:30pm**.

## **Intermediate Spanish with Susana**

Our long-time teacher, Susana, is offering an Intermediate Spanish course for students who are already familiar with the various verbal modes in Spanish language (Infinitive, Indicative, Conditional, Subjunctive, and Imperative). The course will focus on polishing the conversational skills of the students and will also dive into the rules of grammar. This is a monthly course.

- Classes take place every **Tuesday, 2:30pm to 4:00pm**.

## **Beginner and Pre-Intermediate English with Rupam**

Rupam continues to offer morning English classes. Her classes are a mix of discussion on current topics, and grammar as necessary. You are welcome to try out a class and see if it fits your needs. However, please note that this is not a drop in/walk in class but is meant for students committed to joining the course.

- Classes take place **Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10:30am to 11:30am**. Enquire now to join!

**If there is a language you would like to learn, and it's not on our list, please send us a query!**

### **To join or enquire:**

Please fill out our form at

<http://register.aurovillelanguagelab.org/>

You may also drop us an email at

[info@aurovillelanguagelab.org](mailto:info@aurovillelanguagelab.org),

call us at **2623661** or **come visit us!**

### **Please Note:**

Registration and contribution are essential before you join a course with us. Please see our team member at the front desk to ensure this is complete, thank you!

The Language Lab is open:  
Monday – Saturday, 9am - 12pm & 2pm - 5pm

Location:  
International Zone, after Unity Pavilion & Pump House.

Contact:  
Phone: (0413) 2623 661, 2622467, +919843030355 Email:  
[info@aurovillelanguagelab.org](mailto:info@aurovillelanguagelab.org)

## Current Schedule of Classes

Language	Level	Time	Day(s) Of Classes
English	Pre-Intermediate & Intermediate	10:30 - 11:30am	Tuesday & Thursday
	Conversation	TBA	TBA
French	Beginner Started 5 August 2023	2:30- 4:30pm	Saturday
	Beginner for Teens To start soon	11am – 12noon	
	Conversation Started 3 August 2023	2:30 -3:30pm	Monday & Thursday
Tamil	Spoken Beginner To start 12 September 2023	9:30 – 10:30am	Tuesday & Friday
Sanskrit	Beginner To start September 2023	TBA	TBA
Hindi	Beginner To start 9 September 2023	10am – 12noon	Saturdays
German	A1.1 Beginner To start 11 September	9:30 – 11am	Monday & Wednesday
	German Conversation To start 12 September	4 – 5pm	Tuesday & Thursday
Spanish	Beginner To start September 2023	2:30 – 3:30pm	Tuesday & Thursday
	Intermediate	2:30 – 4pm	Tuesday
Japanese	Beginner To start November 2023	TBA	TBA
Italian	Beginner To start 11 September 2023	2:30 – 3:30pm	Monday & Wednesday
	Conversation To start 12 September 2023	2:30 – 3:30pm	Tuesday & Thursday

## MATHEMATICS WORKSHOPS AND WEEKLY SESSIONS BY ENLIGHT ACTIVITY.



Dear Reader,

Please take a note of the regular offerings by enlight as mentioned below.

**Math is a play** : Weekly sessions for elementary levels, 1st and 2nd graders on visual mathematics.

These sessions offer a groundwork for middle school and high school math concepts in a playful, non-rigid way. We work together to understand these concepts through various experiences around us which later prove helpful in learning the same concept in a classroom.

These sessions are ideal for parents and children who are long term residents of Auroville.

**Every Saturday 10am-12pm @ The European House**

Please request an appointment to take it further.

**Integral Education and Mathematics** : An Introductory workshop on Integral Education and Mathematics for short-term residents and visitors.

This two hour workshop is ideal for parents, teachers and anyone above 18 yrs who would like to learn from the writings of The Mother and Sri Aurobindo and how an understanding in mathematics can support an individual on the path shown by them.

**Every Friday 4pm-6pm**

To join or enquire about any of the above activities, please connect via email ([enlight@auroville.org.in](mailto:enlight@auroville.org.in)) or phone (Snehal - 9529673687)

\*To understand our learning approach; please click on the link to listen to our podcast with Auroville radio <https://www.aurovillradio.org/interview-with-snehal-d-roy/> \*

\*This event is contribution based

# WORK OPPORTUNITIES

## WORK OPPORTUNITIES AT TLC - THE LEARNING COMMUNITY

### Position Description: TLC Nursery Coordinator

The TLC Nursery (The Learning Community) is looking for someone to develop and curate our nursery space and environment. The TLC Nursery runs five mornings a week for 2-5 year olds. The role is part-time to full-time, with a combination of mornings and afternoons to ensure that there is time in the space with the children, and also without.

The person who takes on this role will provide leadership and training to the nursery facilitators and be responsible for developing the space in a way that aligns with our core values and the children's developmental needs. You will be joining a group of parents and facilitators, however it is important that the person who takes this role is able to work independently and with initiative.

Experience in early childhood education and an understanding of integral education is necessary.

### Position Description: TLC Nursery Facilitator

The TLC Nursery (The Learning Community) is looking for someone to work as a facilitator in our Nursery. The TLC Nursery runs five mornings a week for 2-5 year olds. The role is part-time to full-time, ideally allowing for some afternoons to ensure that there is time in the space with the children, and also without.

The person who takes on this role will be with the children each morning and be responsible for setting up and facilitating the space in a way that aligns with our core values and the children's developmental needs. You will be joining a group of parents and facilitators, however it is important that the person who takes this role is able to work independently and with initiative.

Experience in early childhood education and an understanding of integral education is preferable.



For more information, please contact Lauren at 8489205607 (WA) or [lauren@ecofemme.org](mailto:lauren@ecofemme.org).

## ENLIGHT MATH PROJECT IS LOOKING FOR A VOLUNTEER



Enlight Math Project is an experimental project in the field of visual and psycho mathematics. We challenge the traditional norms of teaching the subject and try to learn it as a language and also like to share our findings with those who are interested.

We are looking to expand our team and looking for volunteers who would like to explore this opportunity as an open minded learner for at least 3 hours a day for 6 days a week.

Please note, a major part of weekly hours are spent working with children under 10 years.

If interested, please drop in an email to [enlight@auroville.org.in](mailto:enlight@auroville.org.in); [enlightactivity@gmail.com](mailto:enlightactivity@gmail.com)

## WORK OPPORTUNITIES AT THE DOG SHELTER



### **Long-Term Core Staff Member Position Available – 1/2 Maintenance Offered**

The Auroville Dog Shelter is in a phase of expansion, and to match our growth, we are offering an opportunity for a dedicated dog lover to join our permanent core staff team. This role entails assuming responsibilities and necessitates your ability to work within our team.

In exchange for 25 hours of work per week (spread across 5 days), we are able to offer 1/2 maintenance to Aurovilians or Newcomers, who are willing to work hand-in-paw with us to elevate the dog shelter to new heights. Beyond caring for our cherished four-legged residents, you will share responsibilities as an integral part of our core team. This role may also involve participating in dog rescues (holding a valid driver's license is a big bonus) and assisting our veterinarian.

Given the training, dedication, and responsibilities involved, we request a commitment of a minimum of one year following a trial period. This position requires the ability to handle stress, engage in physically demanding tasks, maintain a disciplined work ethic, and, above all, you need to show a profound love for animals.

For further details and to arrange an interview, please feel free to contact Coco at (+33672046070) or Arthur at (8122225266) via WhatsApp. We look forward to welcoming you to our core staff team in the near future.

### **Auroville Dog Shelter is looking for an additional executive!**

If you've witnessed our crazy journey through the past four months, navigating through turbulent and challenging times, facing storms and impending destruction, and never experiencing even one week without surprises, you might think we're crazy to ask you to take on this crazy, challenging responsibility without the possibility of financial compensation (unless you manage to convince Auroville for urgently needed additional maintenances)

As we embark on building an entirely new Auroville Dog Shelter, we are seeking a strong-minded and big-animal-hearted individual to join our team as an additional executive. Your support will be crucial in helping us realize this significant project and build something truly remarkable for our dogs and the entire Auroville community.

Your daily presence at the shelter isn't required, but your strong connections within Auroville and knowledge of problem-solving within the sometimes confusing Auroville system will be a valuable asset. With our ongoing need for funding to constantly improve our animal care and expand our AV Community services, we would really need you to handle countless boring grant applications, oversee donation gateways to ensure our commitment to 100% transparency, and assist with organizing various tasks, be they sometimes as banal as finding firewood so we can cook our dogs their meals or even setting up and organizing major charity and fundraising events. The sky is the limit!

We need your professionalism, enthusiasm, patience, love for our dogs, and willingness to participate in our grand vision to build the best model dog shelter in India for our beloved Auroville.

If you think you've got what it takes and want to join us on this incredible journey towards a bright future for the Auroville Dog Shelter, contact us, meet the team, and let us talk! Contact Arthur on WhatsApp 8122225266



# A SUMMARY OF EVENTS HAPPENING IN AUROVILLE TODAY

## MATRIMANDIR LAKE EXCAVATION CONTINUES



The second segment of the Matrimandir (MM) Lake continues to be excavated, uprooting all but one of the mature Neem trees in the area. The second segment is around 2.5 times the size of the test segment. Large quantities of earth have been removed to lower the ground level by 4-5 meters. According to an [RA TDC report](#), around 125 trees are threatened by the work which is a violation of the [NGT judgement](#) stating that no further construction is to be started in any area of Auroville. Earlier this month, Narad - who was given the task of building the MM gardens by the Mother - [resigned from his work](#) in protest against the current actions of the MM executive team.

Apart from the damage to the flora and fauna of the MM gardens, questions regarding hastily pushing ahead with the next section of the lake have been raised by Jan Imhoff, the engineer in charge of the design and testing of the MM lake. In May 2023, Jan wrote an [open letter](#) to the MM executives questioning their decision to start the excavation of the second section before the test section had been finished and evaluated. He wrote that "There is no merit in barging ahead with the next sections of the lake in order to finish the project quickly. We have to adhere to the plan as agreed upon 3 years ago and complete the first section, thoroughly test it and show that it performs well... Failing to do so will create a gigantic maintenance nightmare and lead to a monumental waste of resources." In a ["Note on Planning"](#) released earlier this month, Jan argued that a project on the scale of the MM lake ought to have Planning Approval due to "[the] significant impact on a large number of people, on the environment and on the surroundings, Auroville as well as the villages in the vicinity". It is currently unclear how the lake can be constantly filled and maintained with the necessary quantities of water, without having a detrimental effect on the local water table.

## VISITORS CENTER INFORMATION SERVICE TEAM TOLD TO REMOVE BOOKS

On 19th August 2023, the team working at the Visitors' Center (VC) Information Service was instructed [by email](#) to remove all written material by 1st September 2023. The mail, sent by the AVFO-appointed 'VC executives', stated that the intention was to "move and merge the book selling activity into the space that is presently taken up by the AV Papers book shop; [and] to end the activities of the information giving activity in the VC campus, as this will be taken up by the VC executives". In the following days, all books and relevant documentation were moved out of the space. It is unclear what information the AVFO team will present to visitors, however the Info Service team have been told that they may continue to communicate information to visitors verbally.

## NEW CROWN ROAD 'HOLES' POSE HEALTH HAZARDS

Mosquito larvae have been observed in many of the anchor holes in the paving slabs laid along the Crown Road. There are hundreds of these holes, originally used to lift the slabs into place with a crane. So far the holes have not been filled in by the road contractors and have been left to fill with water after the recent rains. As mosquitos breed in stagnant water, the holes have become a breeding ground, raising concerns of a potential increase in mosquito-borne diseases in and around Auroville.

It is possible that mosquitos are also breeding unobserved in the new Crown Road stormwater channels, which was a concern raised by Satprem in his [report](#) dated 28th February 2023. At that time, Satprem advocated covering the stormwater channels with cast iron grills, stating that “the proposed system is not at all suitable for [the] Auroville context”.

In addition, several reports of injuries due to people inadvertently stepping in these holes have also been reported. A concern was also raised regarding cows possibly breaking a leg by stepping in a hole since they are not easily visible at night or when filled with water and leaves.



## SRINIVASAMURTY'S 'NOTE OF GRATITUDE'

On 31st July 2023, former Undersecretary of the Auroville Foundation Srinivasamurty, shared a [note of gratitude](#) on the occasion of his last day of service at the AVFO. The note was published in the RA News & Notes on 4th August 2023, and by the [AVFO's 'WCom'](#) on Auronet on 1st September 2023. The note has not yet been published in the AVFO News & Notes. Srinivasamurty served as Undersecretary for nearly 30 years and covered the Secretary role on a number of occasions when the Secretary post was unfilled.

At the start of the AVFO takeover of Auroville, Srinivasamurty signed a number of [emails](#) and [filed FIRs](#) (criminal charges) against 6 Aurovilians on behalf of the Secretary.

In April 2023, he was suspended from his role and replaced by B.S Sathyanarayan. It is unclear what the charges against him were, however in a [blog](#) published on Auronet, an Aurovillian well acquainted with Srinivasamurty claimed that the charges against him were “vindictive” and that he had sought legal advice.

Srinivasamurty's note read “Auroville has made me what I am today, hoping more of inner progress and though the outer development may appear to be more of ignorance, pride or ego, still. But it has been the most valuable phase of my life, having started my career here in Auroville! ... But for the unfortunate event in the last part of my service, which taught me hard lessons, I joyfully learnt so much & felt humbled to come across so many sincere aspirants, great scholars and even so called politicians to be deeply spiritual and evolved in their personal lives...”

## **RA TDC - 'IF WE WANT TO TRULY BE THE CITY THE EARTH NEEDS'**

The RA TDC wrote to the Secretary and the AVFO 'Land Board', sharing a [report](#) regarding the recent tree-cutting in Revelation Forest Sanctuary. Several of Tamil Nadu's ministers in the Department of Environment, Forest and Climate Change were copied into the letter. In June 2023, for 2 days, workers employed by the AVFO 'Land Board', cut a total of 1,863 trees aged between 3-15 years old. Most of the trees were rare evergreen species which are slow growing and can take around 200 years to mature. The report states "this has a huge impact, which unfortunately cannot easily be quantified, to biodiversity loss and a young, yet functional, ecosystem".

In the accompanying [letter](#), the RA TDC urged the Secretary and the AVFO 'Land Board' to consider the environmental impact of the current rushed implementation of the Master Plan, not just to Auroville itself but also in the wider context of the earth's climate crisis. They wrote "In this age when the planet is on the verge of going into an unprecedented climate crisis, all planning must be based on the highest levels of environmental sustainability and climate resilience if we - Auroville - truly want to be the City the Earth Needs".

## **FOREST GROUP FACT CHECK OF AVFO 'FAMC' REPORT ON FORESTS**

The Forest Group has [circulated](#) a rebuttal to the recent report of the AVFO 'FAMC' on forest work in Auroville. The document includes the original report and can [be found here](#). Some points include:

- Despite the claims of the AVFO 'FAMC' that "Many of the land parcels in the City area (300+ acres) have been purposefully planted with trees on the infrastructure Right of Ways (RoW) and other City Center areas", the forest was not planted there purposefully, most forest was planted before any gazetted Master Plan existed, and certainly the planting did not occur to impede development, as the report implies. Many foresters have been working in collaboration with Town Hall for development of the City, citing successful instances, such as the Gaia area.
- The AVFO 'FAMC' report also claims that "Many land contours have been changed by digging out large water catchment areas without city detailed planning or approval from the Auroville Town Development Council and solely with the intention to block any city development and maintain hold over the lands enjoyed by the stewards' family and friends." The Forest Group notes that these accusations deny the history of Auroville, in which reforestation and the creation of water catchment areas was a collective work and that the foresters' vital work protected the land from encroachers.
- Other claims of bad financial management and foresters enriching themselves by sale of timber are addressed, as well as the accusation that foresters have not made the effort to set up a sawmill, despite the fact that this has been tried but license has not been given by the government. The foresters note that "Again, it is surprising that your institutional memory is lacking as, in 2012, Chandresh helped draft a letter for the Working Committee to request the AVF to apply for a license and subsequently 5 months later Torkil himself milled up 3000 CFT of Auroville timber in various surrounding sawmills." Both names mentioned are members of the current AVFO 'FAMC'.

You can read [the full document here](#).

## CHANGING THE NARRATIVE

In June 2023, the RA WCom shared [via massbulletin](#) their [response](#) to the AVFO 'WCom' [Annual Report](#) August 2021 - August 2022. The report contained a number of often-repeated narratives that continue to be spread by the supporters of the AVFO to justify the ongoing takeover of Auroville's assets. As the RA WCom notes "With the benefit of nearly 12 months of hindsight since the end date of this report, it is clear that many of these erroneous statements do not reflect the reality of the situation, however, we still continue to hear many of these narratives being repeated." The response addressed numerous errors in the AVFO 'WCom' annual report, the most common of which will be shared in upcoming editions of the Bulletin.

The original statements from the AVFO 'WCom' are presented in italics, followed by the RA WCom responses.

### ***"Auroville development is too slow"***

*"The Galaxy Plan became, years later, the main denominator for the Master Plan. But from the very first beginning it was clear what was asked from the Aurovilians: Constructing the Matrimandir, the Matrimandir gardens, the Matrimandir Lake, the Crown and the four Zones (residential, international, industrial, and cultural). In 2008 the Matrimandir was completed (40 years (!) after the inauguration of Auroville). All the other key-elements had hardly started, in any case they were not completed. To give a dire figure of the total built-up area of what Auroville should have manifested: only 3.2% had been realized."*

The Matrimandir was indeed finished in 2008 after the inner chamber for concentration was completed and accessible since 1993. There are many reasons for the time it took to complete, particularly the technical challenges that the structure of the Matrimandir presented. Several generations of Aurovilians participated in constructing 'the Soul of the City', and consciousness in building it was often seen as more important than the time frame for completion. In Auroville especially, what is truly important is the evolution of consciousness, which is intrinsically linked to how we do things, the process - rather than the speed. Many temples and holy places have been built over generations - this doesn't diminish their importance or value for the community but rather expresses the reverence and consciousness with which these tasks were undertaken.

The recent emphasis on rushed 'development' over the past 18 months has only created more disharmony, destroyed well functioning infrastructure and resulted in works of substandard quality. Auroville's success and value requires a skilled and conscious approach that is incongruous with rushed attempts to impose concrete-based roads and buildings, especially if it truly wishes to become the "city the earth needs".

## SELF-EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Dreamweavers, in their presentation to the community, have initiated a Self-Education Programme and [invite the community to join](#). You can see what the programme is about in the video below, and ask for more details or sign up by sending an email to [selfeducationauroville@gmail.com](mailto:selfeducationauroville@gmail.com).



## CLASSES, WORKSHOPS & HEALING ARTS

### EXPLORING EMBODIED CONNECTION WITH AWARENESS & COMPASSION

This workshop is designed to deepen our connection with ourselves and others. Over the course of these two days, we will explore a variety of engaging topics and techniques to enrich the emotional and communicative alignment.

- **Physical Presence:** We will start by attuning to our own bodies and emotions and explore the subtle aspects of our physical bodies. Inspired by embodiment techniques such as breathing, movement, polyvagal practice, ATB, we experience empathic connection through our energy field.
- **Conscious Integration of Universal Human Qualities/Needs:** We will explore the concept of acting based on underlying needs rather than fleeting emotions, raising our level of awareness in daily interactions.
- **Living Energy of Needs:** Understanding and sensing what the living energy of our needs can be a game-changer. We will dive deep into the Needs energy, and how it can bridge the emotional and communicative divide.

Contact: [dancingtree.smile@gmail.com](mailto:dancingtree.smile@gmail.com)  
8531012459 / 9650826622

**Exploring embodied connection  
with awareness & compassion**

based on Nonviolent Communication

when : 16, 17th  
(Sat, Sun)      timing: 9.30am-5pm



where : Tibetan Pavilion  
with : Vega & Stefan  
contact : 8531012459 / 9650826622  
[dancingtree.smile@gmail.com](mailto:dancingtree.smile@gmail.com)

Pre-registration required

## **The Sound of Bamboo**

Various Styles of the Indian Flute



**Bansuri (Flute) Group Classes With Michael Kalabhumi Music Studio**

**Every Friday** (Beginner: 11am-12pm, Advanced: 12pm-1pm)

Drop in is possible at any time, flutes available to borrow or buy.

**Contribution:**

- Aurovilians, NCs, Volunteers & Local Villagers: Free donation
- Guests: 500 INR

**More Info:** [www.the-sound-of-bamboo.com](http://www.the-sound-of-bamboo.com)

**To Donate:** <https://pay.auroville.org/divine-arts>

Learn More About Divine Arts:

<https://auroville.org/page/divine-arts>

Warm Regards, Dave

M: +44 (0) 7564 119 728 / E: [djsevans87@gmail.com](mailto:djsevans87@gmail.com)

**Every Sunday at Udavi school**

All old students of Vipassana meditation as taught by S.N. Goenka ([www.dhamma.org](http://www.dhamma.org)) having attended at least one 10 day course are welcome to attend a half-day Vipassana course at Udavi School in Auroville.

Date: **Every Sunday**

Timings: **8:30 AM – 12:30 PM** but you can also drop in and join as long as you wish.

Venue: **Udavi School** (building on the left when you are at the front entrance), near Tank in Edayanchavadi (Auroville).

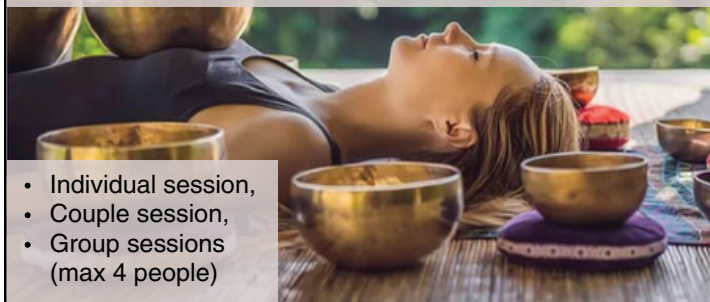
No registration is required.

**Contact:** Sanjay Tumati, +91 8790982210  
(available on WhatsApp)

[sanjay@auraauro.com](mailto:sanjay@auraauro.com)

**ACTIVITIES BY LAKSHMI****Sound Chakras Healing**

Guided vibrational sound journey using **Chakra mantras, Tibetan Bowls and Tuning forks** to help reduce stress, anxiety, depression, insomnia, stimulating the natural cellular healing process, rebalancing the emotions & reconnecting with your true essence.



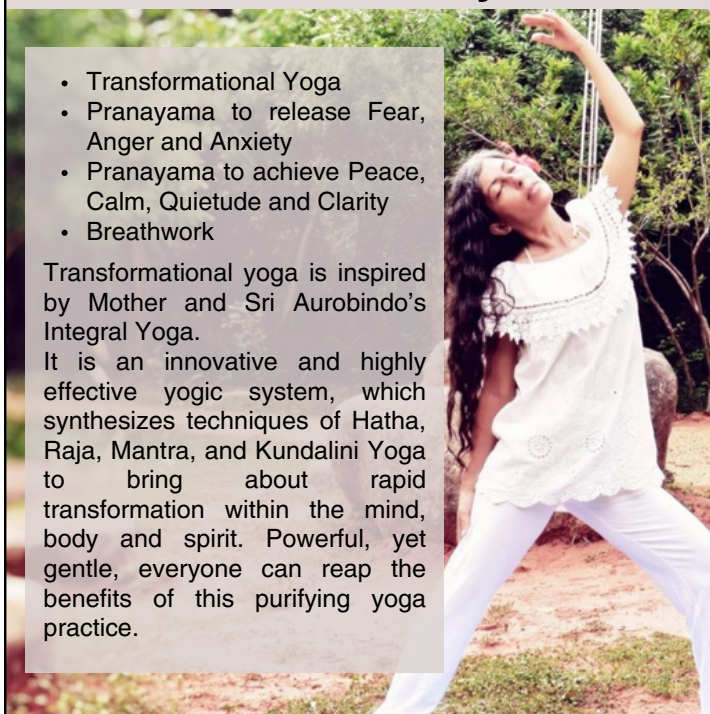
- Individual session,
- Couple session,
- Group sessions (max 4 people)

**Private Transformational Yoga Classes**

- Transformational Yoga
- Pranayama to release Fear, Anger and Anxiety
- Pranayama to achieve Peace, Calm, Quietude and Clarity
- Breathwork

Transformational yoga is inspired by Mother and Sri Aurobindo's Integral Yoga.

It is an innovative and highly effective yogic system, which synthesizes techniques of Hatha, Raja, Mantra, and Kundalini Yoga to bring about rapid transformation within the mind, body and spirit. Powerful, yet gentle, everyone can reap the benefits of this purifying yoga practice.

**Please contact for an Appointment:**

Lakshmi 8489764602 or  
[lakshmiprem369@gmail.com](mailto:lakshmiprem369@gmail.com)

Activity offered under Abhaya, an activity of ASSA, under Artisana Trust

# TIME TO *Travel* to beautiful places

You can definitely count on us for tourism. We will provide all kinds of services required for our tourism.

## Package details:

- Travel arrangements at 2 locations.
- Accommodation.
- 1/2 tour guide.
- Private car.

**ENLIGHT**  
Light of Auroville

Light of Auroville



## Auroville One Day Tour

Imbibe the Auroville experience and journey through the cultural diversity of the international township

- Journey of Auroville
- Village crafts
- International zone
- Forest walk
- Sustainable farming
- Drumming circle and bonfire

One Day prior booking needed

\*Including Lunch

**ENLIGHT**  
Light of Auroville

+91 91594 68946

+91 82700 71581

enlight@auroville.org.in

## EXPLORATIVE EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE

Experience Auroville and travel through the cultural consciousness of the international township



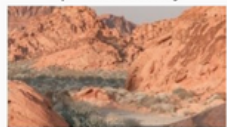
Spiritual Journey



Arts and Crafts



Visitor Center



Canyon Exploration



Units and Activities



Nature Trail



Ecological Farming



Bonfire and Drumming



Resident Family Visit

# Thread art workshop

Every Saturday  
10:00 am - 12:00 pm  
1 day Prior booking needed





Crochet



Macrame




Embroidery

# cooking class

*South Indian culinary art*

**learning to cook is a life skill**  
'Complete your travel experience by learning the art of south indian cuisine with native women'



Every Saturday and Sunday  
10:00 am to 12:00 pm

1 day prior booking need to be done

# Pottery Workshop

GET YOUR HANDS DIRTY AND CREATE SOME MAGIC



10:00 AM TO 11:30 AM  
03:00 PM TO 04:30 PM

MUDDY MONDAYS  
WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS  
SATISFYING SATURDAYS

JOIN US FOR OUR POTTERY WORKSHOPS TO EXPERIENCE WORKING IN CLAY AND GAIN ONE-ON-ONE INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO CREATE YOUR PIECE. ENLIGHT OFFERS A NATURAL AND RELAXED ENVIRONMENT TO IMMERSE YOURSELF IN POTTERY.

OUR WORKSHOPS ARE FOCUSED ON POTTERY FOR BEGINNERS, SO NO PRIOR EXPERIENCE IS REQUIRED.

**For the above activities, please contact:**



[enlight@auroville.org.in](mailto:enlight@auroville.org.in)

+91 91594 68946 / +91 82700 71581





**PITANGA**  
CULTURAL CENTRE

For info & registrations:  
info@pitanga.in, 0413 2622403 / 9443902403 WA



## Program for September 2023

### CLASSES - REGISTRATION REQUIRED

#### **Iyengar Yoga** with Tatiana and Chloé

*All Iyengar Yoga classes are designed for healthy adults. If you have any physical problem, please talk to the teacher before the class to find out if this class is for you. We do not offer any medical yoga classes and our classes are not for people who need a therapeutic approach.*

#### **Mondays 5pm – 6.30pm** with Tatiana | **Level 1**

A general asana practice class. Each session includes the practice of Salamba Sarvangasana (shoulderstand) or preparatory stages. Regular attendance is expected.

#### **Tuesdays 9am – 10.30am** with Chloé | **Yoga for the Spine | All levels**

Suitable for all levels of practitioners. Special attention is paid to relaxing the back and the correct position of the spine in various types of asanas. Each practitioner should be prepared to independently use props such as chairs, rollers, bricks.

#### **Wednesdays 5pm – 6.30pm** with Tatiana | **Level 2-3**

For seasoned practitioners. Classes include both asanas and pranayama. Inverted poses like Salamba Sarvangasana, Salamba Sirshasana are practiced regularly.

#### **Saturdays 9am – 10.30am** with Tatiana | **Restorative Yoga | Level 2-3**

Each session includes time for deep work in inversions, backbends and forward bends with support and deep relaxation on a physical and mental level. Practitioners are expected to independently choose alternative postures according to their ability and are prepared for prolonged use of inverted postures.

#### **Saturdays 11am – 12.30pm** with Tatiana | **Mixed Level**

An active practice class for Iyengar Yoga practitioners of all levels. Suitable for beginners.

#### **Art Therapy** with Gala

**Thursdays, 3 – 5pm for adults**

**Fridays, 3 – 5pm for families**

### HEALING SPACE - BY APPOINTMENT

- Acupuncture by Heidi
- Cranio Sacral Therapy by Anne H.
- Shiatsu by Ulrike
- Thai Yoga Massage by Juan

### YOUTH ACTIVITIES

*These are ongoing educational programs and not available for drop-in attendance during the current school year. If a child is interested, parents need to talk to the teacher before. Please see with the teacher if the class happens during school term break 22/09 – 07/10.*

**Asanas for Teenagers** with Lisbeth  
Mondays, Wednesdays | 4pm – 5pm

**Yoga for children, 5 – 8 yrs.,** with Gala  
Saturdays | 9am – 10am

**Yoga for children, 7 – 9 yrs., with Gala**  
Saturdays | 10am – 11am

**Energy games for children, 9 yrs. +, with Gala**  
Saturdays | 11am – 12pm

## DROP-IN CLASSES

*Join without prior registration!*

### **Mondays (holiday on 18/9)**

7.30am – 9am | **Asanas** with Rachel | All levels

8.30am – 10am | **Yoga Therapy** with Gala | All levels

### **Tuesdays**

4.45pm – 5.30pm | **Odissi Dance** with Rekha | Beginners  
(Not on 26/09)

### **Wednesdays**

7.30am – 9am | **Asanas** with Rachel | All levels

8.30am – 10am | **Yoga Therapy** with Gala | All levels

### **Thursdays**

4.30 – 5.30pm | **Aviva** Exercise with Suriya | For women

### **Fridays**

6.45am – 8am | **Pranayama** with François & Namrita |  
For former “The Art of Living” course participants

7.30am – 9am | **Asanas** with Rachel | All levels

9am – 10am | **Rosa’s ATB special for seniors** | (Not on  
29/09)

8.30am – 10am | **Yoga Therapy** with Gala | All levels

3.45pm – 4.30pm | **Odissi Dance** with Rekha | Beginners  
(Not on 29/09)

4.30pm – 5.30pm | **Reading of the Life Divine** with Balvinder |  
All are welcome to join.

5.15pm – 6.15pm | **Feldenkrais class** with Shari | All levels

### **Saturdays**

11.00am – 12.30pm | **Iyengar Yoga** with Tatiana | Mixed Level,  
open to beginners

## NEW ACTIVITIES

### **Weekly Readings of the The Life Divine**

with Balvinder

**Fridays 4.30pm – 5.30pm**

“The ascent to the divine life is the human journey... This alone is man’s real business in the world and the justification of his existence...” Sri Aurobindo

The weekly reading sessions of *The Life Divine* are led by Balvinder, an Aurovilian and lifelong student of Sri Aurobindo’s writings.

Each session will proceed with Balvinder reading and giving explanations of the English prose.

No prior knowledge of *The Life Divine* is necessary, just an openness to experiencing the beauty and wisdom of Sri Aurobindo’s masterpiece.

All are welcome to join. Feel free to come and listen even once to see if this is for you.

No registration is necessary.

If you wish to receive our program of activities by email, please write to us: [info@pitanga.in](mailto:info@pitanga.in)

*See you at Pitanga, with a smile !*

Pitanga Cultural Centre  
2622403 / WA 9443902403  
[info@pitanga.in](mailto:info@pitanga.in)

## STUDIO BASED ART THERAPY AND COUNSELING

[tialovesart@gmail.com](mailto:tialovesart@gmail.com) / [www.createandtransform.org](http://www.createandtransform.org)  
WA 7094007610

### CREATE AND TRANSFORM

## STUDIO BASED ART THERAPY AND COUNSELING

individual \* group \* family



Therapy can be creative and non-threatening for help with:

- Anxiety
- Depression
- Trauma
- Life Issues

Trauma Informed Art Therapy & Counseling:

- Client Centered,
- Strength Based,
- Solution Focused,
- Incorporating CBT and a creative, eclectic tool box.



**Tia Pleiman, MA, ATR, NCC, LPC**

[tialovesart@gmail.com](mailto:tialovesart@gmail.com)  
[www.createandtransform.org](http://www.createandtransform.org)  
WA 7094007610

Aurelec, Kulilapalayam, Auroville

## CAPOEIRA- MARTIAL ART AND MUSIC WITH GINGA SAROBA

Afro-Brazilian martial art that combines elements of dance, acrobatics, music and movements. More than 500 years old, Capoeira is a constantly evolving art form, come connect and express yourself. Join us for

**Adult Classes :**

**Monday & Thursday - 6:00 PM**  
**Deepanam School**

Contact: 7598446327  
Kiran for Ginga Saroba



## TAI CHI HALL @ SHARNGA

Offers regular Tai Chi Chuan classes from Mon-Sat.

**Monday & Saturday:**

- 7:30-8:30 Chi
- 8:30-9:30 Form

**Tuesdays - Fridays:**

- 7:30-8:00 Chi
- 8:00-9:00: Form

All are welcome

Contact: [taichi@auroville.org.in](mailto:taichi@auroville.org.in) / 0413 2623187



## ACTIVITIES

### AUROMODE HIVE - OPEN HOUSE

SEPTEMBER 8TH 10-5PM

Dear Community,

Join us at **Hive's Open House** on **Friday, 8th September 2023**, from **10 am to 5 pm!**

Discover Hive, the coworking space and find your inspiration in an environment built for productivity and connection.

Try out our coworking space for free and see the difference.

Visit our website at [www.auromode.in/hive-coworking](http://www.auromode.in/hive-coworking) for more details on our plans and facilities.



For inquiries, feel free to reach out to us on WhatsApp at 70921 97375 / 9042759540.

We can't wait to welcome you to our thriving community!

With Best Regards  
Auromode HIVE Team



**Hive**    
Co-Working Space

**FREE  
OPEN HOUSE  
September 8<sup>th</sup>**

Fully Air Conditioned  
24/7 Electricity Backup

 Auromode HIVE, Auroville.  +91 90427 59540  auromode.in

## IT'S TREAT DAY AGAIN!



**IT'S TREAT DAY AGAIN!**

Join us on  
**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH**  
10 AM - 12 PM

  
Auroville Dog Shelter  
Location

As we received a generous donation of delicious snacks and treats for our dogs from a kind-hearted dog lover which are nearing their expiry date, it is time to give a special surprise for all of our dogs!

Join us on **Sunday, September 10th at 10:00 a.m.** for a special event called "Dog Treat Day." We have planned a big surprise for all of our 300 dogs and we invite you to be a part of it. Let's bring smiles to their faces and tasty snacks to their mouths!

We are also happy to give you a guided tour around our shelter and you can meet our puppies and little babies too.

See you next Sunday at the shelter!

[aurovilledogshelter@gmail.com](mailto:aurovilledogshelter@gmail.com)

## JOIN THE COMMUNITY FOOD GARDEN IN SERENITY

Would you like to help us with our community food garden? Want to learn natural farming?

Here's a list of activities you could do/learn with us:

- Harvesting, watering, de-weeding, pruning/sawing branches, mulching, turning the soil,
- Turning the community's food waste into compost,
- Search for basic funding to buy garden tools and compost,
- Social media content creation.

Do any of these activities resonate with you? Or would you like to learn any of these skills with us?

Drop in every **Wednesday**  
from **5.15pm** till dark  
at **Serenity Garden**.

**Contact:** Rekha, 99456 11011

Laure & Rekha



**AUROVILLE CYCLE RIDE**  
SEPTEMBER 9TH, 6:00AM

## AUROVILLE CYCLE RIDE - 4



Dear All,

We invite everyone to join on 9th September 2023 at 06.00am in Town hall Main Parking for the cycle ride for 20kms in and around Auroville.

Let's pedal together to create the awareness and importance of cycling.

Bring your own cycle and a water bottle.

Note: People who don't have a cycle could pick one from us and return it back after the ride

(depends on the availability / First come gets priority).

### Ride Schedule

06.00am : Reporting at Town Hall Main Parking.

06.30am – 07.30am : Cycling around Auroville

07.30am – 08.30am : Breakfast at Town Hall campus

Contact: Raju – 9443074825 / Saranraj - 9787095511  
email: [avvehicle@auroville.org.in](mailto:avvehicle@auroville.org.in)

## VOLUNTEER AND LEARN - FARMING HANDS ON AUROORCHARD

Join Us!

**Monday to Saturday**

7:00am to 9:00am and/or

9:30am to 12:00pm

[auroorchard@auroville.org.in](mailto:auroorchard@auroville.org.in) / WA +91 9566631079



AuroOrchard

# Volunteer and learn farming hands-on!

AuroOrchard is the oldest and one of the largest farms in Auroville, contributing significantly to the food needs of the community.

Join us to learn to work with the soil, plants and food while sharing with a diverse group of people. We offer breakfast made with farm produce.

JOIN US! PLEASE REACH OUT TO US FOR ANY QUERIES!

**MONDAY to SATURDAY** **EMAIL:** [auroorchard@auroville.org.in](mailto:auroorchard@auroville.org.in)  
**7AM TO 9AM and/or** **WHATSAAPP:** 9566631079 (Nidhin)  
**9:30AM TO 12PM**

## ECOLOGICAL HORTICULTURE COURSE AUROVILLE BOTANICAL GARDENS

[ecologicalhorticulturecourse@gmail.com](mailto:ecologicalhorticulturecourse@gmail.com)



**Applications  
open!**

ECOLOGICAL HORTICULTURE COURSE  
DEC 2023 - MAR 2024

To fill the form:



For queries :  
[ecologicalhorticulturecourse@gmail.com](mailto:ecologicalhorticulturecourse@gmail.com)


LAST DATE TO APPLY!  
15TH OCT'23

AUROVILLE  
BOTANICAL  
GARDENS

## JOIN AUROVILLE BOTANICAL GARDEN'S GUIDED TOURS

Come and discover the beautiful gardens on **Wednesdays** and **Fridays**. We start at **9:30**.

Please book your walk at [avbgtours@gmail.com](mailto:avbgtours@gmail.com)



From the 11<sup>th</sup>  
of August to  
the 11<sup>th</sup> of  
October 2023

*Come walk with us!*  
Guided Garden Tour

### Auroville Botanical Gardens

**Wednesdays and Fridays - 9.30 am** (about 1<sup>1/2</sup> hour walk )

Be on time - Bring your water bottle and a hat - Meeting point at BG Kitchen

Please send us an email to: [avbgtours@gmail.com](mailto:avbgtours@gmail.com) to book your walk



## CHANTING CLASS - SERENDIPITY

### Traditional Mantras & Stotras Chanting Classes

at Serendipity Community

Friday 17:00 (Regular class)

with Sonia Novaes



Email: [serendipityauroville@gmail.com](mailto:serendipityauroville@gmail.com)

WhatsApp: +91 8940288090

## RUPHAVATI JOY ACTIVITIES

### BIO-REGION TEMPLE TOUR

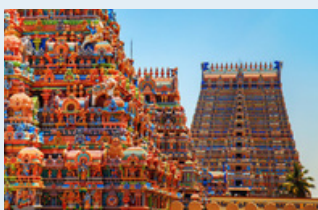
Interested in learning more about the religious heritage in and around the bio-region?

Come take a guided tour of temples around the bio-region.

Starting point from Solar Kitchen.

Can be scheduled anytime throughout the week.

Please contact in advance for more information and booking.



### SOUTH-INDIAN CUISINE - COOKING CLASS

Learn to cook some delicious delicacies of south India with Rupavathi.

**Monday to Saturday  
between 10AM and 5PM**  
at creativity.

Please book sessions in advance.



### THAI MASSAGE

**Monday - Saturday between 9AM and 5PM**

To book massage sessions or for more information, please contact personally.

### TAILORING

We can tailor and customise any kinds of dresses, sari-blouses and kurtas.

For any of the above services, contact information below:

Phone/WhatsApp - 8098845200

Email - [rupavathijoy@gmail.com](mailto:rupavathijoy@gmail.com)

## ECO FEMME OPEN HOUSE

### ECO FEMME OPEN HOUSE

Every Thursday morning  
from 10:30 AM



Dear friends,

Join our open house at our office in Auroshilpam every **Thursday morning at 10:30 AM till 12 AM.**

Come and learn about:

- Sustainable menstrual products (cloth pads, cups and period panties),
- Menstrual cycle awareness and,
- Our not-for-profit work.

You can also pick up discounted cloth pads, cups, period panties and cloth nappies.

See you soon!

The Eco Femme Team

## LOOKING FOR

### LOOKING FOR LONG TERM HOUSESITTING

Hello

This is Ritu.

I am looking for a long time house-sitting. I am an Aurovillian and have been in Auroville for a little above 5 years. I work full time at the Auroville Botanical Gardens. I prefer a quiet environment and would keep the place clean. I can take care of animals and of garden if needed.

Please write to me at [rituparna.sarkar1@gmail.com](mailto:rituparna.sarkar1@gmail.com) or contact me on 9791481800.

Thank you!



## LOOKING FOR HOUSESITTING

I am a young Korean lady, Aurovilian, looking for housesitting until April 2024. I love animals and nature. I am happy to contribute towards house sitting.

Gigi 8148931243

## FOODS, GOODS & SERVICES

### KINISI OPEN HOUSE IN WITH TORK MOTORS

13TH SEPTEMBER 2023



We are pleased to announce that we will be hosting an **Open House** in KINISI, this time in partnership with **Tork Motors**, to showcase the much awaited TORK KRATOS R electric motorcycle.

**Do visit between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. to check out and test ride the TORK KRATOS R Motorcycle.**

This electric motorbike was exhibited in Pune, India in 2018 and generated considerable public interest. Before it went into production, the TORK team conducted extensive testing, including at the Isle of Man TT, TTXGP, and many other events. More information can be found at [Tork Motors](#)

The TORK and KINISI team will be available to answer any inquiries you may have.

Team Kinisi



### MARC'S C.L.C - COFFEE LEARNING COMMUNITY RECURRING EVENTS AND SEPTEMBER CLOSURE

#### Recurring Events

##### Every Saturday:

- 10am - 12pm: Coffee Cupping Sessions
- 3pm - 5pm: Kombucha and Fermented Drinks Workshop

##### Every Friday:

- 3pm - 5pm: History of Indian Coffee (Tamil or English)

#### Monthly Classes *(check on the dates)*

##### We offer classes on:

- Foundations of Specialty Coffee, coming up in October
- Foundations of Roasting, coming up in October
- Molecular Coffee: A Master Class, online in October

**Location:** CLC, on top of Marc's Cafe Store

**For bookings and more info,** visit our website:

[Marcscoffees.com](http://Marcscoffees.com) or email us at [Admin@marcscoffees.com](mailto:Admin@marcscoffees.com)

It is imperative to book your slot at least a day ahead, either by email or phone at 0413 - 2199556, only during office hours.

#### September Closure

Please note that we will be **closed for 3 days in September** (25-26-27) due to our participation in the World of Coffee event in Bangalore (first time in India). We'll be **back on September 28th.**

Wish us luck as one of our in-house baristas competes in the National Barista Competition!





## JOIN DROPZY

### Products and services from in and around Auroville.

Dropzy is a mobile app platform for Products and Services from in and around Auroville helping to deliver it at your convenience.

Developed by 



**Dropzy** is a mobile app platform for ordering from a wide range of in and around Auroville eateries, grocers, bakers, farms, etc and has partnered with ITS (Integrated Transport Service) whose delivery personnel will pick up the orders from the outlets/stores and deliver them to the customers at their convenience.

**Dropzy** works by providing a complete ordering and delivery solution that connects the existing neighborhood outlets/stores with the comfort and convenience of ordering from home.

Find new customers, build your business and grow your sales. Increase your order volume, drive more revenue and improve profitability with help from **Dropzy**.

#### Register your Unit/Activity

Click on this link: [www.dropzy.in/join-dropzy](http://www.dropzy.in/join-dropzy)

Know more about Dropzy on [www.dropzy.in](http://www.dropzy.in)

Regards, Sathish Arumugam for Dropzy

## RAPID CARE SERVICES RCS

**Rapid Care Services** has been serving the community at its best capacity.

Over the period of 6 months, we have made a lot of improvements with our services and technicians in order to cope with quality, beauty and time, which are the 3 mandatory factors that we work on.



Rapid Care Service, as an Auroville activity, is dependent only on Aurovilians and Auroville, while we also do not take advantage of our own community in terms of rate and quality. We make sure the work is completed on an economical budget without compromising quality.

Please use Rapid Care Services to keep Auroville's economy healthy, and rotational to benefit Auroville as a whole.

#### List of services provided by Rapid Care Services:

- Aluminum channel work
- Welding
- Carpentry
- Masonry - renovations and remodulation
- Plumbing
- Painting
- Insect Treatment
- Fencing
- Electrical
- Washing machine repair & installation,
- A/c repair and installation,
- Inverter repair and installation,
- Dth repair and installation and
- Furniture purchase assistance

Kindly contact us and hire our services at the below mentioned contact details.

Balaji - 8270071581 ; Arun - 7639810621

[rcsrapidcareservices@gmail.com](mailto:rcsrapidcareservices@gmail.com)

[rapidcare@auroville.org.in](mailto:rapidcare@auroville.org.in)

## SOLITUDE FARM - 2023

### Farm



Solitude has a small farm shop which is stocked daily with fresh seasonal produce.

There are also some ayurvedic powders such as giloy or guava leaf and also chilli powder, turmeric, pickles and dried flowers. Solitude also runs a C.S.A. fruits and vegetables basket service where people sign up in advance for a basket of seasonal produce.

- Papayas
- Assamese giant lemons
- Pineapple
- Plantain
- Bananas
- Wild spinach
- wild salad greens
- sundakkai
- banana stem
- banana flower

### Cafe

The cafe runs from Monday to Saturday serving a local food vegan thali.

We also serve farm salads, smoothies, deserts, vegan coffee etc...

The cafe runs a lunch scheme.

### Education

Solitude farm runs mini permaculture workshops during the week (Wednesdays and Fridays) and longer weekend workshops on a monthly basis. Pricing is flexible for Aurovillians.

### Tour

Every Saturday we offer a free tour of the farm sharing the narrative and philosophy in practice of how a food forest can emerge through natural farming and permaculture.

### Volunteers

Solitude Farm is happy to welcome volunteers.

Timings 8:00 am -12:30 pm

We offer breakfast, tea and lunch.

### Opportunities

Solitude Farm Cafe is looking for a serious person to manage the POS and accounts, stock, excels etc for the cafe and farm. Replying to emails and calls.

Solitude Farm is looking for people to help with the educational workshops.

To find out more:

email: [solitudepermaculture@gmail.com](mailto:solitudepermaculture@gmail.com)

whatsapp: 9843319260

Solitude farm & café

Auroville



*Solitude Farm*

## AIRCON CLEAN OFFERS COMPREHENSIVE AIR CONDITIONER CLEANING SERVICE KNOWN AS "JET SERVICE".



The Jet Service includes not only the filter cleaning but also indoor cooling coils, blades, and blower wheels, indoor cooler drain tray cleaning and outdoor unit with AC jet pump.

After a cleaning service your air is fresh and healthy, reducing sickness and helping you live a healthier life.

Save up to 30% power usage with a regular cleaning service.

Contact **AIRCON CLEAN** now at 9786809518 or email us at [airconclean.av@gmail.com](mailto:airconclean.av@gmail.com)

Regards, Julien.

## REPAIR OF AIR CONDITIONERS, FRIDGES, WASHING MACHINES AND APPLIANCES

Loganathan working at Mahasaraswati Shop (near PTPS, Aspiration area) is a long term Aurovilian that has gained a lot of knowhow through looking after and repairing all kinds of machines. He happily repairs your machines and appliances.

You may contact him via phone  
/ SMS or whatsapp  
+91 94434 93025



## AUROVILLE LIBRARY TIMINGS

Auroville Library opening timings:

**Mon - Sat: 9am - 12.30pm**

**Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri & Sat: 2pm - 4.30pm**

**Tues: 4pm - 6.30pm**



Every **Saturday** between 10am -11am: **Children's storytime!**

## GOYO - KOREAN SILENT RESTAURANT

TUESDAY & FRIDAY - 12:30PM

[goyo@auroville.org.in](mailto:goyo@auroville.org.in) / +91 94896993809



### Goyo

korean silent restaurant

Tuesday & Friday  
12:30p.m

 +919489693809

 [goyo@auroville.org.in](mailto:goyo@auroville.org.in)

 luminocity, Auroville 605101

please book for lunch  
minimum a day before

TASTE OF KOREA

## HAIRCUTS

Hairdresser. For your and / or your child' s next haircut: inspired, striving for perfection, 11 yrs young artist Ahana looks after your and / or your child's hair and well being.

After everyone who came was happy and content, we are now requesting short and long HAIR MODELS to step forward and try something new and beautiful!

For an appointment kindly contact 9751513906 (all messenger providers, no calls) or [essence.touch@yahoo.de](mailto:essence.touch@yahoo.de)

## AV RADIO

Dear Aurovilians,



**AurovilleRadio**

The voices of Auroville

Your favourite radio is always working for you. Stay tuned!

[Here](#) you can listen to the stream channel (playing 24/7).

[Here](#) you can see on-air schedules.

### Last published podcasts:

- [La Vita Divina Ep32](#) (Sri Aurobindo)
- [Soul Tracks Se.5, Ep.8 Bum Notes and All Stars, One and All.](#) (Music)
- [I just wanna write – Ep.13 “Positive Surroundings”](#) (Creative Writing)
- [Une série hebdomadaire de lectures par Gangalakshmi – 449](#)(Integral Yoga)
- [Exploring Education in Arts, Animation and Film-making – 17 “Brief History of Animation”](#)(Cinema)

Auroville Radio Tv is maintained and supported with the help of a small town budget and voluntary donations. If you as Aurovillian wish, **make a donation to F.A. number 0867**. Thanks for your help!

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

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

Peace and love

Regards, AvRadio team



## AUROFILM IN AUROVILLE RADIO

As part of Aurofilm's outreach programs, we run weekly sessions in association with Auroville Radio every Tuesday at 9:30am. It is a series called "Exploring Education in the Arts, Animation and Film-making" by Abhijit Roy. This week we are sharing the episodes from #9 to 12, broadcast during the month of July/August. Please find the links below to listen to each of them:

- [Exploring Education in Arts, Animation and Film-making – Ep. 9 “Georges Méliès and Edwin S. Porter”](#)
- [Exploring Education in Arts, Animation and Film-making – Ep. 10 “What Should I Start Drawing as a Beginner?”](#)
- [Exploring Education in Arts, Animation and Film-making – Ep. 11 “Animation Hall of Fame”](#)
- [Exploring Education in Arts, Animation and Film-making – Ep. 12 “ Early\\_growth of the film industry”](#)

Enjoy!

Aurofilm team

## CINEMA



Presents at **MULTI MEDIA CENTRE AUDITORIUM (MMC, Town Hall)**

*Reminder:* **FRIDAY 8th** : “ADIEU PHILIPPINE” by Jacques Rozier, France, 1961

**FRIDAY 15 SEPTEMBER, 8:00 pm**

“THE FLORIDA PROJECT”

*Directed by* **Sean Baker**, US, 2017

*With:* Willem Dafoe, Brooklynn Kimberly, Prince Bria Vinaite, Valeria Cotto, Christopher Rivera, Caleb Landry Jones

The story takes place in a surreal environment dominated by the nearby Walt Disney World, which was code named "The Florida Project" during its early planning stages.

*Synopsis:* Six-year-old Moonee lives with her young single mother Halley at Magic Castle Inn & Suites, a budget motel in Kissimmee, Florida, near Walt Disney World. She spends most of her summer days unsupervised and making mischief with her downstairs neighbor Scooty. Bobby, the motel manager, has made arrangements for people like Halley to live there while not undermining the policy as he realizes that many such tenants have no place to go otherwise, although the motel's policy is not to allow long term rentals... (Not for young/small children -PG13).

*Original English version with English Subtitles. Duration 1h.51'*

**NOTE:** On **Sunday 17th** in Kalabhoomi, Aurofilm will hold a Cine-master Class on “Graduation”, a Romanian award winning film. After the projection the film will be presented by **Professor Sivakumar M.** Details in the next issues of the News and Notes!

**Auroville TO PONDICHERRY**

	Trip 1	Trip 2	Trip 3
Svaram Musical Center	7:00	8:50	14:50
Vérité Guest House - Junction	7:02	8:52	14:52
Town Hall - Main Parking	7:06	8:56	14:56
Solar Kitchen (Ex Round About)	7:10	9:00	15:00
Certitude Entrance	7:12	9:02	15:02
New Creation Road	7:17	9:07	15:07
SBI Bank—Kuilapalayam	7:19	9:09	15:09
ECR Junction—Aroma Guest House	7:23	9:14	15:14
Quiet Healing Center—Junction	7:26	9:17	15:17
Lotus Hotel—S.V Patel Salai	7:36	9:30	15:30
Ashram Road Junction	7:38	9:33	15:33
Ashram Dining Hall	7:40	9:35	15:35

**Pondicherry TO AUROVILLE**

	Trip 1	Trip 2	Trip 3
Ashram Dining Hall	8:00	12:15	18:10
Ashram Road Junction	8:02	12:17	18:12
Lotus Hotel—S.V Patel Salai	8:07	12:22	18:17
Quiet Healing Center—Junction	8:17	12:32	18:27
ECR Junction—Aroma Guest House	8:20	12:35	18:30
SBI Bank—Kuilapalayam	8:25	12:40	18:35
New Creation Road	8:27	12:42	18:37
Certitude	8:32	12:47	18:42
Solar Kitchen (Ex Round About)	8:34	12:50	18:44
Town Hall - Main Parking	8:38	12:54	18:48
Vérité Guest House - Junction	8:42	12:58	18:52
Svaram Musical Center	8:45	13:00	18:55

- **Workers bus pass** Rs.850 per month (AV Units, Services & Activities).
- **Student bus pass** Rs.1200 per month
- **Bus pass** with 10 Single trips Rs.750

**Aurovilian & New Comers:**

- Round trip without bus pass Rs.150 per passenger
- Oneway trip without bus pass Rs.100 per passenger

**Volunteers & Guests of AV:**

- Round trip without bus pass Rs.200 per passenger
- One way trip without bus pass Rs.150 per passenger



**EMERGENCY NUMBERS**



**Ambulance (24/7):**

Auroville 9442224680	PIMS 0413 2656271		
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**Security (24/7):**

AV Safety & Security Team 9443090107	Auroville Police Station 0413 2677318	Kottakuppam Police Station 0413 2236148	Vanur Fire Station 0413 2677368
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**Health:**

Health Center 0413 2622123	Santé 0413 2622803	Farewell 8903836246	
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**Mental health 24/7 support:**

Vandrevala Foundation +91 9999666555

**India Emergency Response Service (24/7): 108**

# FO GROUPS NEWS

(not selected by due Residents Assembly process)

## FROM THE FO WC - FO N&N 990

### REGARDING TWO WRIT PETITIONS

This is to inform the community that 2 Writ Petitions filed by Aurovilians against the Auroville Foundation were dismissed by Madras High Court.

The first Writ Petition WP 13970 filed by Abha Tewari Arpi on 28 April 2023 challenging the Office Orders of 12.4.23 by the Auroville Foundation to reconstitute the management of 14 committees or units under the Auroville Foundation. The petition was filed to quash the same. It was dismissed by Madras High Court on 11.8.23.

In point #10.2 the judge reiterates the powers of the Residents Assembly as per the Foundation Act in section 19, then concludes:

A close reading of Section 19 of the Foundation Act: '*Functions of Residents' Assembly*' indicates that its functions are limited to admission or removal of any person from the register of Residents' Assembly, to organize various activities of Auroville, to formulate the master plan for Auroville, and to make recommendations to raise funds for Auroville.

**However, the constitution of various committees for efficient discharge of duties and functions of Act is left exclusively to the Governing Board. Therefore, the contention of the petitioner that the Governing Board ought to have consulted the Residents' Assembly before reconstituting the various committees is untenable...**

12. For the above stated reasons, this Court does not find any merit in the petition, and the same is dismissed.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Writ Petition filed recently by Aurovillian Deepa Dunan Mckenzie of Solitude was rejected at the admission stage. WP SR.No. 87772 of 2023. Deepa asked the Foundation to stop planning and construction of the Outer Ring Road. She also claimed that she was asked to vacate her house without proper legal procedure and would be relocated due to the upcoming outer ring road.

Vide order dated 11.08.2023, the court has categorically dismissed this petition with the following key remarks:

*Para 7: '...It is not the case of the petitioner that the property belonged to her. [...] A reading of the statutory enactment, viz., The Auroville Foundation Act, does not envisage any provisions where the property of the respondent would be given to third party either on rent or lease or otherwise. The preamble of the enactment would suggest that the Act had been enacted to provide for acquisition and transfer of undertakings of Auroville and to vest such undertakings in a foundation established for the purpose with a view to make long term arrangements for the better management and further development of Auroville.'*

To further elaborate on this point, all residents of Auroville are permissive occupants and have voluntarily signed up for the project which has preset ideals, a Charter and values guiding daily life given by the Mother based on the works and yoga of Sri Aurobindo. None of these ideals relate to holding on to property, in fact one of the key ideals of Auroville is that of non-ownership towards a spiritual goal of being free from the sense of personal possession.

**The Working Committee  
(Anu, Arun, Joseba, Partha, Selvaraj, Tine)**

# Cinema Paradiso

Multimedia Center (MMC) Auditorium

Film program 11 September 2023 to 17 September 2023

**Cinema Paradiso-Multimedia Center is now in operation at 100% seating capacity. However, if you want to wear a mask it is your choice.**

***To organize the seminar/program please email us. Our projector is crawling towards the end of its life. It has served well, but it is time for us to look for a new one. For this or to support our work you could financially support us. Please find necessary details at the end of this note.***

## **Indian and diaspora – Monday 11 September, 8:00 pm:**

### **• TARLA**

India, 2023, Writer-Dir. Piyush Gupta w/ Huma Qureshi, Hardik Thakkar, Kukul Tarmaster, and others, Biography-Drama, 127mins, Hindi w/English subtitles, Rated: NR (G)

One of two chefs who made Indian cooking popular in India, and abroad through their recipes and bestselling cookbooks, and shows is Tarla Dalal. She is the chef to have received the coveted Padma Shri Award. Her story also captures the silent women empowerment movement that took place in the 70-80s and shows us how Tarla played an instrumental role in helping women of the era realize their dreams and follow their passions as evident from letters she received. These letters became a major source of inspiration for the film that show cases her journey from her kitchen to the living rooms of the entire country, inspiring homemakers to become entrepreneurs.

## **Potpourri – Tuesday 12 September, 8:00 pm:**

### **• BLAZING SADDLES**

USA, 1974, Writer-Dir. Mel Brooks w/ Cleavon Little, Gene Wilder, Alim Pickens, and others, Comedy-Western, 93mins, English-Yiddish-German w/English subtitles, Rated: R

A town where everyone seems to be named Johnson is in the way of the railroad. In order to grab their land, Hedley Lemar, a politically connected nasty person, sends in his henchmen to make the town unlivable. After the sheriff is killed, the town demands a new sheriff from the Governor. Hedley convinces him to send the town its first sheriff.

## **Interesting – Wednesday 13 September, 8:00 pm:**

### **• WHAT IS WOMAN?**

USA, 2022, Dir. Justin Folk w/ Matt Walsh, Gert Comfrey, Marci Bowers, and others, Documentary, 95mins, English w/English subtitles, Rated:NR (R)

It's a film where the director explores gender identity. He simply and calmly questions various "experts" and activists about gender identity issues, discusses with people on city streets, and also interviews a "gender affirming" therapist, a sex change surgeon, a male college professor in women and gender studies, and a female pediatrician. He also talks to critics of the gender identity movement and some tribesmen in Kenya.

## **Selection – Thursday 14 September, 8:00 pm:**

### **• MI OBRA MAESTRA (My masterpiece)**

Argentina-Spain, 2018, Dir. Gastón Duprat w/ Andrea Accatto, Lucas Aranda, Raúl Arévalo and others, Comedy-Drama, Spanish w/English subtitles, 100 mins, Rated: NR (G)

Arturo is an unscrupulous art dealer and Renzo his socially awkward painter and longtime friend. Willing to risk it all, they develop an extreme and ludicrous plan to save themselves.

**International – Saturday 16 September, 8:00 pm:**

• **MARLOWE**

Ireland-Spain-France-USA, 2022, Writer-Dir. Neil Jordan w/ Liam Nesson, Diane Kruger, Jessica Lange, and others, Crime-Mystery, 109mins, English w/English subtitles, Rated: R

In 1939 Los Angeles, private detective Philip Marlowe is hired by wealthy heiress Clare Cavendish to find her missing lover, Nico Peterson, a prop master at Pacific Film Studios. Marlowe discovers that Peterson is believed to be dead after allegedly falling down drunk and run over by a car outside an exclusive club. However, Marlowe is sceptical of the circumstances surrounding Peterson's supposed death and begins to investigate further, despite lack of interest from his friend, homicide detective Joe Green. Marlowe delves deeper into the case, uncovering a web of deceit and corruption among the city's elite.

**Children's Matinee – Sunday 17 September, 4:30 pm:**

• **MEET THE ROBINSONS**

USA-Japan, 2007, Dir. Stephen J. Anderson w/ voices Daniel Hansen, Wesley Singerman, Angela Bassett and others, Animations-Adventure, 95 mins, English, Rated: G

Lewis is a brilliant inventor who meets mysterious stranger named Wilbur Robinson, whisking Lewis away in a time machine and together they team up to track down Bowler Hat Guy in a showdown that ends with an unexpected twist of fate.

**CLASSIC FILM FESTIVAL@ Ciné-Club:**

**Ciné-Club Sunday 17 September, 8:00 pm:**

• **ATLANTIC CITY**

USA, 1980, Dir. Louis Malle w/ Burt Lancaster, Susan Sarandon, and others, Crime-Romance, 94 mins, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: R.

In a corrupt city, a small-time gangster and the estranged wife of a pot dealer find themselves thrown together in an escapade of love, money, drugs and danger.

**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.

For scheduling programs at MMC/CP venue: please email us at [mmcauditorium@auroville.org.in](mailto:mmcauditorium@auroville.org.in). **We appreciate your continued support. Pl donate to "Cinema Paradiso" (account #105106) or set up for a monthly contribution.**

Thanking You,  
MMC/CP Group Account# 105106,  
[mmcauditorium@auroville.org.in](mailto:mmcauditorium@auroville.org.in)

