

# *Auroville* NEWS & NOTES

No 1024 - A weekly bulletin for residents of Auroville

24 April 2024

RA EDITION



TLC - The Learning Community @ Town Hall, 2016

## PONDERING

Progress: to be ready, at every minute, to give up all one is and all one has in order to advance on the way.”

The Mother, Words of the Mother - III: Progress  
<https://incarnateword.in/dict/progress>



# HOUSE OF MOTHER'S AGENDA

(continued from last week)



How many times, how many times have I seen that he had written down my experiences.... Because for years and years I didn't read Sri Aurobindo's books; it was only before coming here that I had read *The Life Divine*, *The Synthesis of Yoga*, and another one, too. For instance, *Essays on the Gita* I had never read, *Savitri* I had never read, I read it very recently (that is to say, some ten years ago, in 1954 or '55). The book *Sri Aurobindo on Himself and on the Mother* I had never read, and when I read it, I realized what he wrote to people about me—I had no idea, he had never told me anything about it!... You see, there are lots of things that I had said while speaking to people—that I had said just like that, because they came (gesture from above) and I would say them—and I realized he had written them. So, naturally, I appeared to be simply repeating what he had written—but I had never read it! And now, it's the same thing: I had read this passage from *Savitri*, but hadn't noticed it—because I hadn't had the experience. But now that I have had the experience, I see that he tells it.

It's quite interesting.

Maybe we'll have to reread *Savitri*?...

In fact, if we wanted to be really good, we would try to translate the whole of *Savitri*, wouldn't we? What we are doing now with the end [Book X], we would do with all the rest. There is a part I tried to translate all alone, but it would be fun to do it together. We could try. Not for publication! Because there is immediately a debasing: everything that is published is debased, otherwise people don't understand. We would do it for ourselves.

But it's very interesting.

Just the other day I noted something down on the subject (Mother looks for a note, then reads it):

"Very rare and exceptional are the human beings who can understand and feel divine Love, because divine Love is free of attachment and of the need to please the object loved."

That was a discovery.

That's why people don't understand; for them, love is so much like this (Mother intertwines the fingers of her two hands) that they cannot even feel or believe that they love if there isn't an attachment like this (same gesture). And necessarily, the consequence of attachment is the will, the desire, the need to please the object of one's love.

If you take away the attachment and the need to please, people scratch their heads and wonder if they love. And it's only when you take away those two things that divine Love begins!

This, mon petit, we'll talk about again, it's a revelation.

That's why they don't understand and that's why they can't feel it.

The Mother, Agenda, September 8, 1965

<https://incarnateword.in/agenda/6/september-8-1965>

With love and gratitude,  
Gangalakshmi (HOMA)



# NEWS & NOTES GUIDELINES

## 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 posters should be 1 MB, JPEG format. Bigger posters will be reduced or cropped to fit.
- 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 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)

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## NOTE FROM THE EDITORS

Dear Community,

### **Here is some important information:**

- You can read past issues and subscribe [HERE](#).
- If you wish to support the N&N community Edition, you can donate at this account Nr: **FS #252150**.
- Content sent through [@auroville.org.in](mailto:@auroville.org.in) mail ID, will only reach us if you use this [FORM](#) to submit your content.
- The mail ID to submit content is:  
[newsandnotes@auroville.services](mailto:newsandnotes@auroville.services).

Thank you for your continued support!

In community,

The RA Community Edition News and Notes Team

# WORKING GROUPS NEWS

## FROM THE ENTRY SERVICE

**ES # 224 DATED: 25-04-2024**

### NOT READY TO JOIN

- **Giordano GIANNOTTI (Italian)**

If you need to contact the Entry Board, write to:  
[auroville.entryboard@gmail.com](mailto:auroville.entryboard@gmail.com)

## FROM THE RA WORKING COMMITTEE

### **NOTE TO THE COMMUNITY REGARDING EMAILS FROM 'FAMC@AUROVILLE.ORG.IN'**

Dear community,

We write to you regarding emails that several people have received from the GB-FAMC with the request to vacate at the earliest the Auroville assets they are stewarding to make way for roads or 'lines of force'. It is not in the direct purview of the GB-FAMC to take on matters of planning and development. As you may be aware, the ATDC constituted by the GB under Section 16 of the Auroville Foundation (AVF) Act, which had been directing such work, has been declared invalid by the Madras High Court judgment of 15th March 2024 ([attached](#)).

Legal notices regarding this have been sent to the CPWD and the AVF office on 8th April 2024 ([attached](#)), and separately to the 'ATDC' on 15th March 2024 ([attached](#)).

Therefore we question the decisions of the ATDC on this basis, as well as the fact that it did not have a GB member, which is a requirement of any committee constituted by the GB under Section 16 of the Act.

Additionally, the 'GB-FAMC' was also constituted by the GB under Section 16 of the Act so the only member with 'voting rights', i.e. decision-making power, is the ex-officio GB member named in the Standing Order. The relevant minutes of the FAMC, signed by this GB member, in which he authorises this decision, should be shared when such demands are being made.

With the above in mind, we do not recognise the decisions taken by these groups.

In case you or someone you know also receives a letter from the GB-FAMC with this type of request, it is good to ask questions such as under which authority they are acting and for the detailed plans of the area. Another important action would be, in case any workers or other individuals appear onsite, to ask them for work orders. If they cannot show any, then ask for a supervisor to come onsite with a work order, and then show them the legal notices and court ruling.

Please contact us if you receive such a communication or if someone shows up onsite. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

in Service,

The Working Committee of the RA (Aravinda, Bharathy, Chali, Mael (TOS), Sauro, Valli)



**WORKING COMMITTEE**  
of the Residents' Assembly  
AUROVILLE FOUNDATION

L'avenir d'Auroville (Anan, Divya L, Dorle, Island, Lata I, Natasha S, Tom G)



# INVITATION TO A GM ABOUT PRELIMINARY DRAFT REGULATIONS FOR THE TDC

Dear Community,

We request your presence for a General Meeting on the **30th of April, 2024**, in Kalabhumi at 6 pm, regarding formulating draft regulations about the constitution and function of the Town Development Council (TDC).

As you may be aware, on the 15th of March the Madras High Court (MHC) gave a ruling on the Standing Order issued by the Secretary on behalf of the Governing Board (GB) for the appointment and functioning of the TDC (see [attached](#)). In a nutshell, the Standing Order constituting the TDC is invalid. A new TDC can be constituted only after new regulations are made, approved by the GB and published in the Gazette of the Government of India.

Another point in the ruling states as follows: However, it will be open for the respondent Foundation, through its Governing Board, to frame fresh regulations in tune with the provision of the Act and the observations made herein.

Many of the observations made in the judgement are related to the role of the Residents' Assembly in planning and development, including choosing the TDC. Therefore, L'avenir d'Auroville (formerly RA TDC), in consultation with the Working Committee, have taken the initiative to draft a preliminary set of regulations to be presented to the GB for their approval.

We would like to present this draft to the community and invite feedback. The meeting will start with a short welcome to the new members of the Auroville Council, Entry Board and Working Committee before presenting the draft preliminary regulations and having a short Q&A session.

In Service,

The Working Committee of the RA (Aravinda, Bharathy, Chali, Mael (TOS), Sauro, Valli)



**WORKING COMMITTEE**  
of the Residents' Assembly  
AUROVILLE FOUNDATION

L'avenir d'Auroville (Anan, Divya L., Dorle, Island, Lata, Natasha, Tom)

*L'avenir d'Auroville*  
OF AND FOR THE RESIDENTS' ASSEMBLY



*Auroville*

## GENERAL MEETING

Called by L'avenir and  
the WCom of the RA

**Tuesday 30 April 2024**

**Starts: 6:00pm**

**At Kalabhumi**

- Welcome to all the new members of working groups
- Presentation of draft TDC regulations
- Short Q&A session

See you on Tuesday April 30th, 2024 at 6 pm in Kalabhumi!

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## COMMUNITY SHARING

### **AN ANNOUNCEMENT FROM TLC (THE LEARNING COMMUNITY)**

Dear community,

We would like to inform the wider community that in a meeting called by SAIER board on Wednesday 17th April, TLC (The Learning Community), was informed that SAIER has decided to withdraw all financial support for TLC (facilitators' maintenances and running budget) and reclaim all assets accumulated over the years. We were also told that we will need to vacate TLC Base Camp by July '24.

TLC has been under the SAIER umbrella for many years, categorised as a "middle school". Those who know us understand well that we clearly do not fit this definition.

We are not a school. We are a community of learners, working with all ages, from nursery to adult education, as well carrying out research projects on Integral Education.

While this news has come as a shock, and there is sadness and a sense of loss, we feel that this is an opportunity for TLC to finally embark on the journey we have known for some time will benefit our community.

Discontinuing under the SAIER umbrella will enable us to continue our active research on Integral Education without having to justify or compromise on our visions, goals and their implementation, which clearly do not fit with the definitions of a school as set down by SAIER.

We have met with TLC's parents and facilitators to share and reflect on this new phase of TLC, and to update the community on our ideas for a way forward.

The news brought up a mix of surprise and sadness, together with positive energy and a will to move into this next phase with inspiration and joy, believing in our capacity to flourish and grow from this experience, adults and children alike.

It was clear that all present know that TLC is not Base Camp!

It is much, much more 🙏

There are many practical aspects of this new phase to work out.

We are in communication with FAMC to move TLC to an alternate umbrella. Here too, we have met with much resistance blockages, yet we are determined and feel able to move through this period with grace and gratitude, and find solutions to enable the continued growth of this beautiful project which has undergone a deep journey of 16 years. We aspire to continue and deepen within the Auroville context of un-ending education and a laboratory of research into human consciousness and evolution.

We have faith, trust and feel Her support and guidance.

We reach out to our wider Auroville community for your support, be it in your love and good wishes or in any practical way you would like to offer help ❤️

We are happy to meet, talk and share at any point.

Please feel free to reach out to us at [tlc@auroville.org.in](mailto:tlc@auroville.org.in)

With much care and gratitude

The Learning Community





## **[PETITION RESULTS] ✨🌱 REQUEST TO HALT THE EXCAVATION OF THE MATRIMANDIR LAKE FOR AN INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PROCESS 💧🌟**

Dear Community,

We would like to thank those who participated in the recent Matrimandir lake petition.

Below are the details of the results:

### **The Matrimandir Lake Petition, April 2024**

Submission Period: 6th - 18th April (13 days)

**Total Verified Signatures: 463**

**- In Favor of Halt: 461**

(Aurovilian: 445 / Newcomer: 10 / Auroville Youth Below 18: 6)

**- Against Halt: 2**

(Aurovilian: 1 / Newcomer 1 / Auroville Youth: 0 )

**- Abstentions: 0**

We have entrusted the list of signatures to the RA Working Committee.

Considering the past record of results of petitions on Matrimandir related issues, this is one of the largest manifestations of community engagement for a topic related to the Matrimandir in recent years.

On April 18th, a group of residents met and handed over the petition results (without disclosing the name of the signatories) to the executives. Regrettably, they were not open to dialogue with the delegation of residents.

Meanwhile, as seen in the latest public postings by the MM executives, they are determined to continue the excavation work, despite the call to halt the excavation from a large number of community members through the petition.

We will arrange an open reply to their letter as well as prepare for further actions to try to prevent additional damage to the Peace area of Auroville.

In solidarity,

Concerned Residents

## **POSITIVE NEWS FROM AUROVILLE FARMERS**

This report is to celebrate that despite the obvious recent setbacks, challenges, and all the negativity, Auroville farmers continue to do what they have always done and will do for as long as we can - grow healthy food for Auroville in ways that support the local ecosystem.

Last month, Auroville farmers sent **3,128** kilos of vegetables and **3,301** kilos of fruit to Foodlink to be distributed to the Auroville community, mainly through PTPS and Solar Kitchen, with 46 different sorts of vegetables and 24 different sorts of fruit harvested last month. In addition, nearly 20,000 (19,764) eggs were sent to Foodlink, along with 6,327 litres of milk, 846kg of various sorts of rice and 327 kg of polished and unpolished varagu (the latter procured from the bioregion and processed in Auroville).

When you think of how all this food has been produced/grown using farming methods that benefit both our natural environment as well as our bodies, the benefits to us both individually and collectively go far beyond the financial units in which this food is counted. Next month, we hope to also include produce from Auroville farms distributed through other channels, some of which spreads the blessings from our farms to Puducherry and beyond.



If you would like to learn more about the fruit and vegetables grown in Auroville, you can download this digital book for free at: <https://tinyurl.com/3kxm9kx8>

You can also download this poster about seasonal food in Auroville created by Isabelle <https://tinyurl.com/3m5pvyd8>

To explore the whole world of food in Auroville, which includes not only how it is grown but its cultural meaning in this international township, please visit Isabelle's new website: <https://foodpathsauroville.com>

If you have any feedback or questions you would like to ask us, please contact us at [aurovillefarmers@gmail.com](mailto:aurovillefarmers@gmail.com)

Sent by Priya and all Auroville farmers

## **ASSISTANCE TO AMERICAN SOCIAL SECURITY RETIREES AND APPLICANTS.**



"Greetings, I am Gary, a Friend of Auroville, from America whose career was with the Social Security Administration, the primary USA retirement and disability system. Should any in Auroville be potentially eligible or receiving its benefits and have questions I would be happy to volunteer my assistance. Its Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program may also be of interest should future US residence be contemplated. Please first email me a synopsis of your concerns at [gary@ionet.net](mailto:gary@ionet.net) as well as your WhatsApp number. Put \*Auroville/SSA\* as the subject line of your email. I will be in Auroville till 4/30 but can respond remotely once back in the US. Thank you."

## **SAIER CALL FOR PROJECT PROPOSALS**

DEADLINE FOR PROPOSALS: 30 APRIL

Dear community,

SAIER, the Sri Aurobindo International Institute of Educational Research, supports innovative education-related projects to be conducted and completed during the financial year. Individuals, sub-units and groups can propose projects. Support can be requested for human resources as well as material costs.

SAIER is accepting project proposals for 2024-25 under three headings: (1) Research, (2) Activities and (3) Publications.

Please write to [saiier@auroville.org.in](mailto:saiier@auroville.org.in) to request these application forms.

The deadline for proposals is **30th April 2024** to be considered in the first batch.

Kristen  
SAIER office

## **MONTHLY TRANSPARENCY REPORT APRIL 2024**

As part of our commitment to transparency, we are happy to present our report for April.

### **Overview**

New admissions: 15 (215 since April 2023)

Rabies suspect cases: 0

Adoptions and Releases: 7

Vaccinations administered: 9

ABC shelter dog sterilisations: 17 (66 since February)

Deworming: 56

### **Donations**

This month was a disaster as we only received Rs. 82.800 in monetary contributions which includes Rs. 50.000 funds from BCC which is the second month in a row where we don't come even close to covering our monthly running costs of Rs. 3 lakh. We urgently need support! Please donate!

### **Expenditures**

Animal Food: This month we fed our dogs 1.8 tons of rice, 2 tons of chicken, and 600 eggs, supplemented with donated food items like vegetables and daal which cost us approx. 1.35 lakh.

**Staff Costs:** Total staff costs for this month for our workers, paid animal care staff, 2 veterinarians, and volunteers was Rs. 1 lakh this month.

**Medical Costs:** This month we spent Rs. 40,000 on urgently needed medicines, syrups, blood tests, hospital visits and materials for sterilizations.

### **Kitchen Roof collapse**

The infrastructure of the old shelter is continuing to deteriorate at an alarming rate. This month the kitchen roof collapsed as the old support beams broke posing a severe threat of life to our workers. We had no option but to convert a half-finished dormitory into a temporary kitchen. As in the last few years, the infrastructure of the shelter had never been maintained properly and only sub-standard materials were used for construction, it is a race against time until it becomes unsafe to house animals there. We kindly ask Aurovilians and dog lovers to help us with their time, energy and donated materials to fix up the shelter.

### **Temporary halt of free sterilizations**

Regrettably, despite our best efforts to secure funding, we are unable to continue offering free sterilizations for dogs adopted from our shelter and for financially disadvantaged dog owners. Until additional funds become available, we must suspend this service. However, we will continue to provide sterilizations every Monday at our cost price of Rs. 3,000 (Rs. 2,500 for Aurovilians). We apologize for any inconvenience and remain committed to ensuring the well-being of all dogs in the AV community and bioregion.

### **Inspection of the Department of Animal Husbandry**

Our new neighbor, the Red Earth Riding School raised an objection that the shelter would relocate to the allotted Auroville land next to it, stating incorrect facts about the dog shelter. We have invited a delegation from the Department of Animal Husbandry on April 17th, 2024, to inspect the allocated site for the construction of the new Auroville Dog Shelter. The delegation was presented with architectural plans crafted by esteemed architects, which were thoroughly reviewed and found to meet all safety standards, particularly in relation to the adjacent Red Earth Riding School, ensuring the well-being of both horses and dogs.

Following the site inspection, the delegation visited the existing Auroville Dog Shelter, where it was confirmed that, contrary to complaints raised by the Red Earth Riding School, the actual number of dogs residing at the shelter is presently 250 (plus 33 puppies), not 1,000 as falsely stated. Moreover, it was affirmed that all dogs are microchipped, vaccinated, dewormed, and sterilized, and are maintained in good health and good condition despite the challenging situation of the deteriorating old shelter facility. The Department of Animal Husbandry approved the new site and recommended starting the construction of the new Auroville Dog Shelter immediately.

We thank everyone for your continued support of the Auroville Dog Shelter! We are moving forward towards a bright future for our canine friends and everyone who loves animals.

Auroville Dog Shelter Team  
Tine, Joseba, Arthur, Mar

## **URGENT APPEAL FOR HELP FOR AUROVILLE DOG SHELTER**



The infrastructure of our old dog shelter is deteriorating rapidly, posing serious risks to both our workers and the well-being of our dogs. This month the roof of our kitchen collapsed, forcing us to hastily convert a half-finished dormitory into a temporary cooking area. Years of neglect and the use of substandard materials and unprofessional work have contributed to the shelter's current state, with internal fences, enclosures, roofs, and electrical lines in urgent need of repair.

With only Rs. **50,000** in monthly funding from BCC against running costs of **Rs. 3 lakh**, we are unable to cover the necessary expenses. We urgently appeal to Aurovilians, dog lovers, and friends for support in repairing and temporarily fixing up the old shelter until the construction of the new facility is complete. Your donations of building materials, as well as your time and energy, are crucial in extending the life of the old shelter for a few more months. Please join us in ensuring the safety of our dogs.

You can contact us through our new website: <http://www.aurovilledogshelter.com> or message Arthur via WhatsApp directly: **812225266**

## VOICES AND NOTES

### **OPEN LETTER IN RESPONSE TO THE LATEST INVITATION TO COLLABORATE BY AUROVILLE FOUNDATION OFFICE**

Dear Koshy Varghese,

Thank you for the invitation. I will not be able to attend the event at this time. It is good to hear that there is interest from the Auroville Foundation Office to hear from the Residents. Unfortunately, this call also comes with the fact that there has been over 2 years of systematic attempts by the Auroville Foundation Office to silence, intimidate, expel, dismiss and ignore residents of Auroville.

This systematic take-over has happened through various methods; creating a parallel and illegitimate (by the word of the Auroville Foundation Act) administration in Auroville, dismissing any residents working in Auroville that do not comply to the wishes of the Office of the Secretary, withdrawing the stipends that support hundreds of people livelihoods (both in and around Auroville), destroying homes, and making countless unilateral decisions that go against the spirit of collaboration that Auroville is known for and cherishes. This is not to mention the verbal threats by the Auroville Foundation Office to many Aurovilians, the criminal court cases on a number of Aurovilians, and withholding of visa applications creating an atmosphere of insecurity and intimidation that is unsuitable and unprofessional. This call to meet and participate while all these actions remain on-going can only feel performative, superficial and tone deaf at best. One wonders what is the true reason to host an event such as this and sending an invitation that blatantly ignores the current situation that many understand as an existential threat to the Auroville community.

Collaboration and participation are absolutely necessary to build Auroville, but it must be a true collaboration, and one that acknowledges the reality that this community is currently facing. Unfortunately, collaboration is impossible in the climate the Auroville Foundation Office has created. There have been too many threats to those who think or do differently than what the Secretary likes for anyone to truly offer diverse ideas on how to build Auroville. Freedom of thought and speech are vital aspects of building a diverse, resilient, and forward thinking community. The intimidating actions of the Secretary have caused immense damage to the goodwill we depend on to create community, to foster the honesty, care, and bravery to share and build Auroville together. I fear that this feeling of discomfort to speak one's mind will plague Auroville for years beyond the Secretary's tenure in Auroville.

I request that those working in the Office of the Secretary truly consider the implications of their actions and policies over the last 2 years, and swiftly take the necessary steps to remedy the situation in order to help restore balance and a spirit of creativity. A few meaningful steps that would surely demonstrate a real willingness to collaborate would be to withdraw criminal court cases against Aurovilians, cease to ignore the role and function of the Residents Assembly in choosing their own working groups, halt the hasty sale of Auroville land that has only incurred major financial loss to the community, re-institute the maintenances and funding for groups which have been cut, and issue visas in a timely manner.

In hope for a true collaboration,  
Isa Prieto

## **AN OPEN REPLY TO THE MATRIMANDIR EXECUTIVES (ANTOINE C, DIVYA KARUN, JOHN H, JUDITH R AND SUNDAR K)**

24th April 2024

We would like to respond to some of the key points in two recent postings by the present Matrimandir executives, '[Matrimandir diary](#)' and '[Regarding a petition to halt the excavation of the Matrimandir Lake](#)'.

1) **Test lake:** It is important to start with this topic. There was no clarification in your letter for why the executives chose not to complete the test lake and didn't conduct a proper study, before continuing on to the second phase of the lake. This appears to many of us as highly unprofessional and in contradiction to statements which were previously made. Why is this all being done in such haste? In reality, the deadline to complete the lake for the Mother's 150th anniversary is a self-imposed mandate by the present executives and a limited number of their specific supporters.

2) **Large hill:** According to the executives, a large hill was "Mother's wish". As we know, she said many things on different occasions and in different contexts. She never said anything in a 'religious' and dogmatic manner. She did not mention the size of the hill. We may eventually need hills and/or have a plan to utilise the excavated soil but let us finalise a plan for the whole project as well as the unloading locations, and get the logistics ready before digging so extensively. It is furthermore questionable that combining this idea with a hydropower generator along the hill slope would be sustainable. The current industrial approach has been seriously questioned since the manifestation of the test lake and this generator along the hill would be another addition of a lifeless and short-sighted industrial approach. Are we repeating here the problems of the past, or are we here to find solutions to these problems from the past? Is it not the time in our history to learn more from nature and live better with nature instead of further manipulating and destroying it? When [Roger signed a simple lake drawing in 2005](#), it was only said "[at least 2m](#)" for the depth of the lake. Is 10m not a very obvious exaggeration? This is the only drawing Roger has signed. Interestingly this drawing contains 5 peninsulas and a small island which were totally discarded in the current lake design. It is a rather absurd logic from Michael Bonke that in order to create a tall mountain he has decided to dig the whole lake to 10m deep. In reality 5 meters depth of water would be sufficient to maintain low water temperature in order to minimize daily water evaporation.

3) **HDPE liner:** It has come to light that the HDPE liner in the test lake is actually already leaking and a lot of harvested rainwater was lost. We are aware that the small HDPE pond in one of the Gardens of the Unexpected in Matrimandir was continuously leaking as well. Some of us were told by the executives and the lake team some years ago that the test lake's HDPE lining will be supervised and conducted by a specialised team from Germany. Indeed they came, but have the results been tested and checked? What if the leaking points were at the bottom of the lake covered by the layer of gravel? There is no leak detection system installed in the test lake nor planned for the lake. We were also told that the HDPE water channel along the Oval will bring beauty and living organisms inside water. Today it is a known fact that it emits a bad smell and the fish and plants are dying in the channel on a daily basis. How are the Matrimandir executives and technical teams learning from these previous experiences and are they readapting their larger plans accordingly?

4) **Water usage:** Regarding the usage of groundwater for the lake project, we were publicly told several times by Michael Bonke that it is safe to put drinking water in the newly proposed HDPE underwater storage (highlighted in yellow). It was explained that it will help to raise the water level of the lake and this stored drinking water will be supplied to the city. It is important to note that the only source of clean water in Auroville is groundwater pumped from aquifers that are being depleted faster than they can recharge. So far there is no state approval for the desalination plant and pipeline for Auroville and the project has not advanced for many years. We are not objecting to the desalination plan but this is the present reality. Further, all the run-off water from the garden's watering is going to the oval water channel and eventually to the lake, therefore the oval water channels and the test lake have already been partly filled indirectly by the groundwater. As the recent massive tree cutting in the area will raise the general temperature of the whole Matrimandir peace area, we sincerely hope that there won't be more additional intensive watering in the gardens when the groundwater situation in the area is increasingly on the brink.

5) **Absence of approvals:** We are aware that there is no site approval nor building permission given to the test lake as well as for the current phase of the lake. The record shows that the past Matrimandir executives applied to L'avenir d'Auroville/TDC in 2008/2009 and 2018 to obtain the necessary permissions. However, no green light has been given yet for the present design. This goes against community approved processes. Matrimandir being a unit directly under the Auroville Foundation does not justify this bypass. In the official communications, L'avenir d'Auroville/TDC emphasised several times that no groundwater is to be used in the test lake (or the lake project in general). The present executive appointments were done by a process of the Residents' Assembly. The Selection Committee was composed of RA selected members, representatives from the FAMC, Auroville Council and Working Committee. The then FAMC Auronet announcement dated 1 April 2022 in which the selection committee made two specific points: 1) *We recommend that a review of the work plan is done annually and;* 2) *It is expected that the executive team will present the proposed 4-year plan to the community.* Based on a thorough review of the records / Auronet posts, N&N announcements, etc., the team has never presented its proposed work plan to the community. If nothing else, the team would do well to now conduct an annual review as directed by the selection committee.

6) **Garden development:** As you have mentioned garden development, unfortunately this is another area where a severe lack of transparency prevails at Matrimandir. The old designs which are currently implemented by the Matrimandir team in the garden of Light and Wealth did not go through a proper community process.

This is the reason that the previous executives had to re-organize a more open and transparent design approval process in collaboration with the then RAS, Working committee and the Auroville council. The community was invited to the selection and national/international panels have participated in the selection and improvement of the designs. Why has a similar open and transparent process not been initiated for the Lake and its surrounding garden?

7) **Safety concerns of sliding doors:** Since you mentioned this item in your letter, the so-called 'golden sliding door' at the Matrimandir entrance has been deemed unsafe by government certified engineers and other professionals. We hope the Matrimandir executives will share the sliding door design approved by certified engineers before implementing the design again. Matrimandir welcomes many visitors daily, including VIPs and occasionally VVIPs. Safety within the Matrimandir compound should be up to code by national as well as international standards.

8) **Soil excavation:** After 4 years of construction of the Test Lake there is still no viable method to transport the soil to its intended final location. This basically doubles the cost of excavations, crores of rupees are lost, diesel fuel is being burned and polluting the environment. Also, the [different excavated soils are being mixed](#) in the 'temporary' hills. We find this to be highly unprofessional and wasteful, and your 'explanation' that they will be reused in the reverse order that they were excavated is not credible since the layers have not been kept separate. These unique soils are a precious natural resource. We can utilise them for different purposes according to their specific quality, such as Earth-based buildings ( CSBE, rammed earth and poured concrete) or leveling the road for the subgrade, at the condition that they are not mixed. This is yet another reason for us to request you to halt the excavation work immediately.

9) **Transparent communication and consciousness:** We were told many times by some of the executives: "We are doing Mother's work." It is rather alarming when such dogmatic statements are made, especially to fellow Aurovilians, while it seems to be made without any accountability to Auroville's future sustainability and the ecological balance of the bioregion. Such a response cannot be an excuse for refusing to exchange, closing any possibility of dialogue or transparency. Communication and transparency are of the foremost importance in an administration or organisation, and consciousness in all actions and works is what is expected of all of us here in Auroville.

Last but not least, as you have mentioned the Lotus pond, we also learned that Michael Bonke has a plan to replace the Inner chamber crystal to a "translucent" quartz sphere. There are already samples that only a small circle of people were allowed to see. The present executives have already allowed it for a change to a crystal sphere at the [Lotus pond](#) under Matrimandir without informing the community of this change. A translucent crystal will not permit the Sun's ray to reach the Earth as seen presently, both figuratively and symbolically. It is not the mandate of Matrimandir executives to change major features of Matrimandir according to their preferences.

We understand this is a lot to take on. We are sharing these points with you because we deeply care and are concerned. We take this moment to express our sincere and heartfelt wish to engage and dialogue about our collective future. You remember... We built Matrimandir together, with the many challenges and different approaches, and opinions, etc. We want to continue the work at Matrimandir together. Can we invite a genuine collaboration?

Concerned Residents

**Note:** *in case you have problems opening the linked files and graphics, please download them, or clean the cache on your browser, or try a different web browser.*

## THE GRIFT: A GIFT THAT KEEPS ON TAKING

The Governing Board, a g(r)ift that keeps on taking.

Auroville is in chaos. Spirits are low. What is going on?

The Governing Board (GB) is appropriating the whole of Auroville as their own. Jarring as these paid bureaucratic employees have not put an iota of their personal wealth or effort into its creation. All this seems to be ignored for the most part by the IAC (except for two members) who are entrusted with the task of advising the GB and to ensure that the residents can carry out their daily activities freely. Nothing could be further from the truth with regard to "freely carrying out our day to day activities".

Be it land, trees, homes, workplace and lastly even the literal fruits of our farms, everything is grabbed and run into the ground or controlled by a small group of Avlian members that hold multiple posts -(highlighting the lack of recruits)- with absolutely no accountability to the residents. The best efforts of the Secretary's enforcing agent is the FAMC, who cuts maintenances of your current activity, service or unit to be "realigned" by whatever it is that they (on behalf of the secretary) believe is required, they even extort taxes for visas and have the gall to back date this new policy - which has not been passed by or approved by the Residents (as stated in their own mandate for the adoption of new policies). The GB minutes were hidden for long, but after multiple RTI's and the "severe displeasure" of the CPIO and his advice, they are now posted on the AVF website. These read like the notes of a cabal who hatch new plans or nod in approval of each new grift or outrage. Straight faced, they suggest that the employed staff should be treated on par with Aurovilians, their children shall be educated for free and health services and other community organised services must be provided by Auroville, the burgeoning paid staff has taken over teachers quarters and appropriated other assets it believes are its own claiming that GOI grants were provided for its construction -never mind the change of purpose... The paid staff, without committing to Auroville or investing a gram of voluntary work or personal monies shall, it is decreed, be entitled to our community services. The FAMC questions none of these exploitative ideas, they proceed at the behest of the politically appointed GB and nod their heads eager to persecute Aurovilians with relish and zeal.

The AVFO doesn't stop at appropriating GOI funded buildings, it has equally grabbed the Town Hall paid for by the European Commission, and structures or homes built and belonging to stewards.

The collective funds of the residents in the form of contributions, or profits of units have disappeared from collective reporting, the FAMC feels no obligation to report to the community nor to answer emails or letters, they are seated high above us and are no longer concerned by such mundane administrative niceties or duties. We do not know how many members of the illustrious group are left but for three, each besotted with their own personal agenda of frustration - Complicated Accounting based on mistrust, making money never mind the atmosphere, punishing folk believed to be cheaters (except for the cheaters employed by the above persons or the secretary mind you). The composition of the FAMC designated by the Secretary has a high concentration of actual millionaires, they have a lot to say on what the rest of us are allowed to have or do. Meanwhile, over the last 2 years they have not produced a single report of the monies that they are supposed to administer on behalf of the community. They extol the virtue of transparency and parsimony ... "a simple life" they proclaim. They demand a forced contribution for people requiring visas, they help themselves to your FS account at a whim, and they ensure that they alone can decide on your projects and if you have the right to fund-raise for it. They alone will decide what work you should do, and if you are fit for it. All of this along with a steady stream of forms for re-orientation or re-education, reporting, accounting methods for proclaimed transparency (except for themselves). The forms and rules appear to have the goal to ensure that they have all the necessary documentation required for the Governing Board and Secretary to delist and remove you from Auroville (reminiscent of the communist era). It's quite astonishing how they are all happily going along with the program that will ensure the powers to remove older Avlians- its a brave new world, change is necessary, the old broken egg to make an omelette phrase perhaps soothes them as their "brothers and sisters" are deported, delisted and removed.



Who are these folk? Aside from the a bevy of new bureaucrats and officers, a small group of non avlians, newcomers and newish Aurovilians provide the needed assistance, these have little understanding of AV's history, have never experienced AV before the Foundation and have no reference about what the early days of values and aspirations were, have provided no effort in creating anything here, but are excited about their roles as they are handed our community made services, like our archives, our community finances, housing and other postings. This work normally requires collective trust for this responsibility and is given to people who have contributed considerably to AV or made the effort of building up the service. Next amongst these are a small number of older Avlians who have decided that their frustrations are a Divine movement, and that they represent the wishes of the Mother, thus they are no longer obliged to perform their mandates as representatives of the RA and are suddenly unable to comprehend the Foundation Act in their bid to hold on to power. The ends justify the means, never mind the community, consciousness in matter or common sense. They have taken to abusive cult methods. They remain silent when lands are sold at a loss, when homes or trees are destroyed or when Avlians are thrown out, they are also quick to cry victim of bullying (the irony) when the community voices its opposition to their ideas. Perhaps frustrated by the lack of yogic advances in their own lives, they have resorted to wholly external displays of "progress"; conflating the Auroville Charter with building the city. They have departed from any core value of spiritual teaching and have entered the dangerous level of stridence that allows all abuses towards their fellow residents as justified. They excuse the increasing violations of the Act, and are apparently silent at the numerous visa's (over 100) and maintenance (for over 300 old Avlians) that have been removed along with numerous long time employees that were dismissed without severance. Houses have been demolished where people are living. A life's work of dedication is worth nothing to these brave souls who forge ahead accompanied by a motley crew of new adepts, police or other hired hands of the office. Thereby providing this politically armed take over of Auroville with a convenient clothing of legitimacy, even if it is admittedly thin and getting thinner by any measure of decency or humanity.

But how is this allowed to happen? There is nothing decent or human with the way things are being enacted... the MoE under which Auroville is situated remains mute and other stalwarts of decency in the GOI look the other way. They prefer the laughable lies and glib sound bites that are offered. Mumbblings of anti development, anti government, foreigners etc are all conveniently vague accusations to arouse a resentful eye and carry on the punishments. After all it's far simpler than the more complex truth or denouncing the disturbing and outrageous actions perpetuated by this cabal.

And what is lost? A multilayered society, a lifetime of work done with enthusiasm based on goodwill, freedom of expression and devotion by so many that has built the Matrimandir, greened the plateau and created a hub of inventiveness .. all of this takes great faith and trust. A faith and trust that is so obviously and easily abused by this new order of bureaucrats and their following. They seem unaware that most Aurovilians on maintenance (18k a month) will always give a contribution to service offered freely, because we understand the costs and appreciate the service. Bureaucrats do not understand these codes nor do they wish to. They want Aurovilians to service their needs while they malign them and destroy or take their homes. To beat them into compliance to follow their ideologies and hair brained ideas.

The visitors tour recently implemented with the imagination of a Govt tourist dept provides a template of the ideas of success and development the GB has in store for Auroville. For a fee you are urged to purchase kitschy trinkets and cheap food items (not necessarily made in Auroville) that are sold every few metres along the path way that leads to various sights on the way to the Matrimandir viewing point, a selfie spot with a "I love Wildlife" background and cement replicas of wildlife (of which the habitat has been decimated by these same folk) are some of the entertainments provided.

On the ground more disturbing activity takes place. Let's look at the carving off of Auroville properties, these are done secretly—take the example of AuroOrchard Farm, the oldest best run farm which provides over 60 percent of Auroville's food. The Mother expressly reserved this area for organic farming. One fine morning, the residents in AuroOrchard wake-up to find their access, fields, farms, homes, cowshed, well, water supply being fenced up by a new owner! Barely has the shock been absorbed when another wave hits them. Another area to the east has been sold. They only find out when they are alerted to a stranger on the property by the sound of a chainsaw. Upon investigation you find this new owner cutting down trees on the property they have cared for on behalf of the community for 55 years.

The tone deaf sycophants are jubilant, they refuse to see the scam for what it really is. "Development" and "Consolidation" are the droning beats that excuse the dance of destruction and grift. You can read their enthralled postings, in awe of their own inspiration, "HOMA" one squeals with pride at her own "inspiration", is suggested as the new name for this atrocity located on a tiny plot that has been acquired in exchange with an ugly building, (that will require crores to make decent). Completely missing is any concern for what has been done to another part of the community nor the details of food and financial losses incurred.

You may note that many of the persons subsumed in the fold of the grifters have contributed little or nothing—neither funds nor energy—to Auroville. Despite this, we find ourselves subjected to constant verbal and written assaults by them. Casually using phrases from the Mother to justify their attempts to appropriate, seize, sell, dispose of assets painstakingly built over the years, diligently scraping together money bit by bit to create a shelter, only to be reminded repeatedly by these new paid bureaucrats that 'everything belongs to the Collective!'. However, it's clear that, in their perspective, 'everything belongs to the Collective' actually means 'everything belongs to them'.

It certainly does not belong to the community residents. The words of the Mother stating "only those that have resolved to live permanently in Auroville have the right to intervene in its organisation" is not one of the quotes that is useful to them... it will not be read nor obeyed to...

Our collectivity is a messy mix of lives, cultures, goodwill and badwill, the "human condition" in other words. But what an extraordinary attempt this adventure has been to defy it. We are made up of so many types and kinds. Perhaps our tolerance of dishonest or difficult persons has allowed some of the more perverse elements we see at work today grovelling around the corridors of power. Issues of racial insensitivity could also have become a room for progress and growth. Instead these challenges were not faced due to our inability and unwillingness to deal with our issues head-on.

Today, the "shadow cabinet" (as they have been known for years) are effectively in power. These people have consistently prevented Auroville growth by refusing permission for building after building, so besotted and fearful of doing something against the masterplan. They have consistently blocked any efforts in participatory planning and collective input. They have a successful propaganda campaign. Over the years the truth has been morphed to ensure that they are the victims, that ecology is the enemy, and that foresters have blocked building Auroville. In their eyes Auroville equals the city and that the city equals the Master Plan, and that the Mother blessed the Master Plan, (she did not it was made after she left her body). They are the ones that have shrunk Auroville to the size of the current version of the MP and thereby delegated Auroville lands to being "outside the MP". Some of the shadow cabinet members are not happy with what is going on and the poor manner of the execution of the work. But they will stay silent and never make their views known or speak up openly for their fellow Aurovilians or against the abuses. Doing so may reduce their future chances of influencing the next administrator, or may turn the proverbial "eye of Mordor" on themselves. They will remain quiet to authority but will howl and cast aspersions on Aurovilians... it's so much safer. There are the Lakshay's and Vikram Ram's of this world, (again folk who have nothing to show in terms of work in Auroville) but who are eager to destroy, they egg-on the powers by providing salacious gossip or exploiting race differences and faults to justify the takeover and grift.

A large portion of our residents are unhappy but are mute or subservient to authority. In a place dedicated to perfection and progress it is easy to be frustrated in Auroville and it is easy to browbeat Avlians into believing their failure. More prefer to not understand what is happening. They remember things that didn't work that well (or did not work well for them) and prefer to hope that it all will work out for the best, or that they will manage to pass personally unscathed by the events - an ostrich type of spirituality as it were. Another group is a little more clear-sighted, they dare to disagree with the abuse and clear misinterpretation of the Act. These few will be paying the price with their visas, maintenance, homes or businesses. These threats are to ensure the silence of all the other groups and make sure that no one else dares to stand up for the dream.

- Nobody in Particular

## AUROVILLE'S GOLDEN AGE: GEORGES (VIKAS)

The Avatar's opus is society; all types must be represented, in the alchemical crucible of transformation: the demons and the angels – and the mediocre too. Auroville parades all of them.

*“Georges was an exceptional person, a kind soul, sincere and with nothing but goodwill for all” wrote an Aurovilian at his passing, eight years ago, when he reached the other shore.*



Memories surface, fragments of reminiscences, like autumn leaves reminding me the wonder of springtime. Georges hailed from a remote village in the mountains of Southern France, a terrestrial paradise where wild horses roamed free. As a child, he walked for hours in the woods, with his father and his little sister, picking up pebbles, leaves, grasses, flowers, and anything that stroked their tender imagination; his father chose the winner of the day. As a teenager, Georges sat with a book on the branch of a tree on the edge of a cliff, lost to the world for hours. His mother was a pious Christian with strong social concerns, true to the Gospel – and his father an idealistic communist: this was Georges' initiation to life. When one is well-born, half of the work is done, the early Ashram sadhaks used to repeat. Surely Georges was one of them.

Pondering over the mysterious antinomies of the universe, Georges chose philosophy as his university subject but the grand questions of existence kept eluding him. Confronted with the injustices of society, he started working instead in a factory, while spending entire Sundays (the access was free) in museums, the Louvre in particular, mesmerised by immortal masterpieces.

Striving for a just, humane society, Georges was a typical 1968 offspring seeking a truer life. Travelling widely in haphazard ways he lived in esoteric communities; making his synthesis with no other guru but his inner self, he explored many paths. Repairing houses without charging, content with what people gave him, for years he made a dignified living. Offered money and gifts he didn't seek, to succour someone in need Georges was always ready to give whatever he had at that moment. Taking side with the poor and the oppressed, he was a friend to the gardener, the worker, the villager, shared meals with the humbles and attended their weddings.

Asked how could he leave behind the idyllic surroundings where he grew up and those genuine people, Georges's reply was unwaveringly the same: he was happy, in his small flat in Vikas he had all he needed. 26 square metres, a porch, a minuscule garden which he attended, the green cycle he painted... He refused any maintenance and was so honest that the only time, because of the deluge, he shared a free taxi for seniors he insisted on paying.

He was well versed in the art of parsimony and wore clothes (gifted by his sister) till their very end; recycled objects and every scrap of paper; used water and electricity sparingly; did the house cleaning and laundry himself, first thing in the morning. His simple way of living, consistent with his beliefs, made him a happy free bird.

Endlessly giving for the sake of giving, looking for harmony and balance in impossible situations, Georges was cogently aware of Auroville's impossibilities. He sat as a silent observer at the Council's meetings and was a member of the Temporary Feedback Review Committee. When needed, he publicly raised issues, calm and firm.

Georges had a solid culture on art, was widely read on most varied subjects and published two books. He worked at the Seagull bookstore and made new friends, discussing titles with people. He was an avid reader of spiritual matters and particularly of Sri Aurobindo, who often came up in our discussions, with Georges referring to poignant, enlightening texts.

He was his own guru and never compromised, his innate goodness shattered all obstacles. In moments of distress, feeling the downfall was unstoppable, I turned to him, solid as a rock, and hope returned. Compassionate, self-effaced, relentlessly giving, a wise man with no claims whatsoever, irreplaceable, Georges belonged to the higher realms the Mother describes and to them has returned. May his luminous example not be in vain.

[Submitted by Paulette]

## **MATRIMANDIR – TEMPLE OF THE SUPREME DIVINE MOTHER**

A new video showing an alternative design for the Matrimandir Lake has appeared: <https://youtu.be/moFaD2iJXyU>

The presentation is quite appealing, but upon careful scrutiny seems to lack in depth, both technically and figuratively. These following comments came up earlier in the morning of 19th April 2024 as a response to fellow Aurovilians, and based on unfolding events that were announced to the community later that day, were premonitory:

It's very beautiful in concept, but then the problematic questions come:

- How to implement this, now that the current one is ongoing?
- Will another court case be lodged to stop the current works?
- This proposal says it's rain-fed only, which will not be enough at such shallow depths. Water will evaporate and dry off in the rainless season (I have experienced this for six years living in our family-owned 4-hectare place in the Philippines, the whole stream in our district dries off).
- Thus the needed depth of the current works. We are on an elevated plateau, remember?
- Did you watch the presentations by Michael Bonke at Savitri Bhavan, on why this depth and the use of plastic sealing of the lake bed? Why bentonite clay was rejected? Why a hill is needed for the circulation of water?
- The Mother in Her Vision of Auroville also mentioned a hill emerging for a specific purpose, and of course the lake, which are happening. Should we not rejoice that these are happening and that someone is funding them?
- Folks talk of not using machines in building and maintaining the lake, but who amongst the Aurovilians will do this with their bare hands these days? We are in Year 2024, are they really living in the modern present preparing for the future, or stuck in the dead past?
- Please consider carefully before organising another protest movement, as the Mother said, protests and resistances to change create disharmony<sup>1</sup>, a recognisable stamp of the false-separative egomind.
- We can take the constant development and progress of successful Auroville commercial units thanks to their proactive and forward-looking Executives. Will the Executives allow the workers to make the crucial decisions? The workers can make suggestions, but the final decisions must be made by the Executives. The hierarchical governance structure of any organisation must be respected and imposed. The same with building the City of Dawn, the willing servitors have to allow the Executives of particular units up to Auroville's overall collective management to move it forward.
- We are invited to participate in the Auroville of the Supramental Kalki Avatar Sri Aurobindo and the Mother primarily to hasten the advent of the new species the Supramental being, which will take many generations.

This is our Primary Vision-Goal as outlined in our Three Core Ideals<sup>2</sup> and our Aims and Principles<sup>3</sup>, as it is very obvious globally the deteriorating corruption of the old mental world of falsehood of the humans. We have been warned many times by the Mother, "collaborate... or crashing circumstances", "Truth or the abyss". This is why the building of the modern and future-oriented City of Dawn is most important for the whole world, the whole of Mother India and not just for a few. We are meant to prepare a modern spiritual sanctuary,

- a Gurukul revealing and applying the Integral Knowledge which include the understanding of the hidden Cosmic Forces of Life<sup>4</sup>, preparing a transformative cradle for all the incoming Sun-eyed Children from all over the world.
- Bharat Mata, the Guru of the World, is in a renaissance and we have to do our bit to help make Her great and prosperous again, to bring back to global prominence Her Dharma of Divine Love and Oneness, which clearly reflect the Five Dreams of Sri Aurobindo<sup>5</sup>. We have to make Auroville the Great City of Dawn the Mother envisioned, upgrading the living standards of everyone in and around this community, spiritually and materially. Salvation is physical, after all, and we are here to manifest this divinity by first collaborating with each other according to our shared Vision-Goal.

Now we offer all of these, our successes and difficulties and our very selves to the Supreme Divine Mother MahaShakti who will modulate us all including the building of the City of Dawn accordingly.

Also, again as a reminder, 1988 happened and Auroville came under the legislated and legal administration and governance of the Government of Mother India through Her Ministry of Education. This happened for a reason which has the blessings of the Supreme Divine Mother MahaShakti, otherwise it would not have happened. This is very obvious and very true to this day.

The Supreme Divine Mother MahaShakti knows better than any ordinary human, thus our Sunlit Path of Bhakti, of Surrender<sup>6</sup> to Her, which is the easiest and the most joyful path.

Whoever is in a position of executive power has the blessings of the Supreme, or as the saying goes the "Mandate of Heaven", until such time that this mandate is handed over to the next Son or Daughter of Heaven.

So before going against this or any Mandate of Heaven, especially the building of Auroville according to the Mother's guidance, please pray very deeply and sincerely to Her, as any resistance or protest to this Mandate creates disharmony and sufferings.

The Mother invited us all here together from all over the world for a specific purpose:

"Now for me, things are no longer exclusive, not at all. I very clearly see the possibility of using the most opposite tendencies AT THE SAME TIME... with some slight deftness, that's all. It's not exclusive, I don't say, "Ah, no, not this!" No, no, no: everything, all of it together. That's what I want, to succeed in creating a place where all contraries can be united."<sup>7</sup>

The painful experiences are integral parts and parcel of the evolutionary process of awakening and Supramental transformation. No pain no gain. We co-learn from each other, and the way of suffering shows through individual and collective experiences the imbalance and disharmony resulting from intentions and actions that are out of sync with the Vision-Goal of Auroville.

There is Only One and we are all THAT unfolding as one evolutionary movement. Some move forwards while others get dissolved in the constant creation-destruction Dance of Shiva. To be in a constant state of inner soul equality within this ever-unfolding movement of diverse forces and beings, to be in the state of Samata, is to be always in the Sunlit Path of Bhakti to the Supreme Divine Mother MahaShakti.

We continue on...

Om Namō Bhagavate 🙏

1. <https://incarnateword.in/agenda/08/may-6-1967>
2. <https://auroville.org/page/core-documents>
3. <https://incarnateword.in/cwm/13/aims-and-principles>
4. <https://incarnateword.in/compilations/toc/the-hidden-forces-of-life>
5. <https://incarnateword.in/compilations/a-call-to-the-youth-of-india/five-dreams>
6. <https://incarnateword.in/cwsa/29/surrender>
7. <https://incarnateword.in/agenda/10/december-31-1969>

Zech, 2024.04.22

## POETRY

Sole on soil  
Direct connection  
One step at a time

-Anandi Z.



## AWAKENING SPIRIT

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

Tuesday, 30th April, 9 am - 12 noon  
Focus: The Vision and the Way

Led by Ashesh Joshi

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

All are Welcome



### A SATSANG ON THE INTEGRAL YOGA

A sacred gathering for the study and practice of the Integral Yoga of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother, founders of Auroville, the City of Dawn.

*"The first necessity is the inner discovery in order to know what one truly is behind social, moral, cultural, racial and hereditary appearances. At the centre there is a being free, vast and knowing, who awaits our discovery and who ought to become the active centre of our being and our life in Auroville."* — The Mother

We start right here, in the Eternal Now, from where we each are at this ever-progressive moment, and share our unique experiences on the path of rediscovering and embodying who we really are.

Facilitated by Zech Joya

Schedule: **Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:30-7:00pm**

Venue: Conference Room, G/F SAIER Building, Town Hall Complex, Auroville



[Please click this link for details](#) or scan the above QR Code

## AMPHITHEATRE - MATRIMANDIR

Every **THURSDAY**  
6.00 to 6.30 pm



Meditation with Sri Aurobindo's long mantric poem, 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.

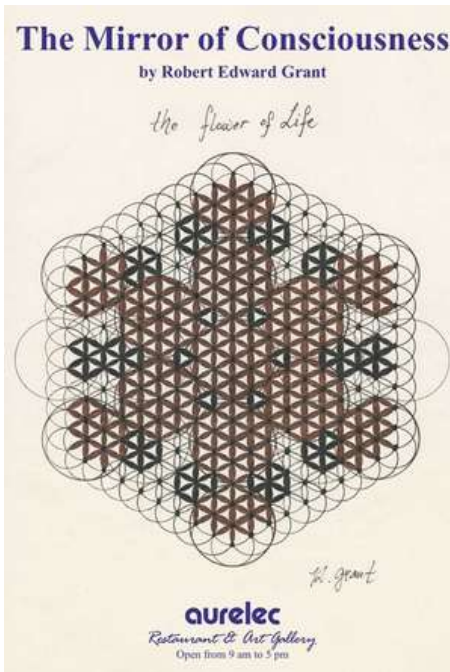
**Access for the Amphitheatre only from 5.45 pm and until meditation ends.**

Thank you  
Surya for Amphitheater team

## ART & CULTURE

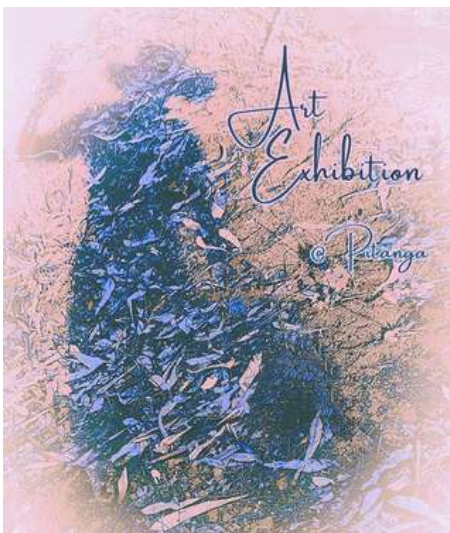
### AUROLEC RESTAURANT & ART GALLERY

MIRROR OF CONSCIOUSNESS - OPEN 9AM TO 5PM



### ART EXHIBITION BY CLAUDINE PARE

5 APRIL-4 MAY 2024 @ PITANGA





# HEALTH

## AUROKIYA INTEGRAL EYE CENTRE @ ARKA



Aurokiya Integral Eye Centre  
(An Auroville Activity)



## EYE WELLNESS CENTRE



### Working Hours:

Monday - Saturday  
(9.00 am -5.30 pm)

### Services Provided:

- Emergency eye care services with primary-level care
- Complete eye testing facilities for eye problems
- Follow-up services for surgeries and consultation from Aravind
- Spectacles and contact lenses
- Eye medicines (Homeopathy, allopathy, and Ayurvedic Drops)
- Personal guided support to visit Aravind Eye Hospital for surgeries and procedures
- Personalized eye exercise training, eye yoga sessions, and vision therapy sessions. Both morning and evening slots are available

**Contact:** [aurokiya@auroville.org.in](mailto:aurokiya@auroville.org.in); [aurokiya@gmail.com](mailto:aurokiya@gmail.com)  
WA/ Mobile: 8012305151: [www.aurokiya.com](http://www.aurokiya.com)

## SANTÉ SERVICES IN MAY 2024



### Working Hours:

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

### Tests and Sample collection:

Mon-Fri before **8:30** - 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**

<p><b>Doctor Consultation with Dr.Senthil:</b> Monday to Friday</p>	<p><b>Nursing Care:</b> <b>Thilagam, Ezhil, Archana, Sandhya:</b> Daily No appointment necessary</p>
<p><b>Ayurveda with Dr.Be:</b> Mon/ Tue/ Wed/ Fri</p>	<p><b>Integrative Psychotherapy with Juan Andres:</b> Monday to Friday</p>
<p><b>Acupuncture with Andres:</b> Mon/Tue/Wed/Fri/Sat</p>	<p><b>Homeopathy with Michael:</b> Mon/Wed/Sat</p>
<p><b>Physiotherapy &amp; Massage with Galina:</b> Monday to Friday</p>	<p><b>Physiotherapy with Arun:</b> Monday to Saturday</p>
<p><b>Bio-Well Assessment (Evaluation of your well-being) with Helena: Inquiry through email (<a href="mailto:adminsante@auroville.org.in">adminsante@auroville.org.in</a>)</b></p>	<p><b>Soundbed Session with Sandhya/ Thilagam:</b> Monday to Saturday</p>

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.**

## LEELA THERAPY



Leela therapy is available for those wanting to resolve their personal issues or dealing with mental or emotional challenges, such as depression or trauma. It can also support those looking to deepen their personal & spiritual growth.

Therapy is offered by Kardash in person or on-line, through Inner Sight (an Activity under LEAD). For more details see [www.innersightav.org](http://www.innersightav.org) or whatsapp Kardash on 9940934875.

## EDUCATION

### 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!*

### Something New: Evening Programs!

From **1st February 2024**, we have launched a new experiment. The Language Lab has extended its opening summer hours from 5pm -6:00pm, Monday to Friday. We are offering special evening programs which include conversational practice with native language speakers, talks, as well as self-learning and guided study in different languages with our mediatheque. This program | is free of cost to everyone: Aurovilians, Newcomers, Volunteers, Guests and people from around the Auroville area. The Language Lab has always been open to all and this program will be as well. Ever learnt a language but feel a bit rusty now? Come and revive it! All, including Guests are welcome to join. Come share your language with others!

Conversation Practice sessions would be Mondays for Sanskrit Tuesdays for Spanish & Tamil, Wednesdays for French, Thursdays for English (On the Auroville Charter and The Dream) and Fridays for Hindi, German & Italian. Please come forward for other languages! All are welcome for these sessions.

Do let us know if you would like to be part of this experiment and what you would like to receive and offer, either as a participant or a facilitator, by sending an email to [info@aurovillelanguage.org](mailto:info@aurovillelanguage.org) or a WhatsApp message to +91 98430 30355.

### Sanskrit Chants with Vishvanathanji

Learn Sanskrit Chanting in the light of Mother and Sri Aurobindo.



We will learn 8 traditional Sanskrit Chants, invocations to the Divine Mother, to deepen our aspiration, widen our receptivity, and to bring down in us samata, peace, courage, humility, sincerity, harmony, gratitude, and perseverance.

The sessions will be led by Vishwanathan, supported by his wife Lalitha. Their study of the writings of Mother and Sri Aurobindo has deepened and enlarged their understanding of the traditional Sanskrit chants and in turn the chants are a great help in their sadhana. They feel blessed to share these traditional Sanskrit chants.

**So, every Monday from 5 to 6 pm all are welcome to join to learn these inspiring Chants!**

### Our first full-length publication:

We are delighted to share that our first full-length publication, "From Resonance to Bonding" by Dirk Beckedorf & Franz Müller, is now available on Amazon! The book gives an in-depth explanation of the Alfred Tomatis method, its scientific basis, how and why it works, along with detailed case studies. Order through our website: <https://books.aurovillelanguage.org/>

You can access the detailed Table of Contents, as well as 2.5 chapters of the actual book for free [here](#), before deciding to order through Amazon.

This book has information for a wide variety of professionals in different fields, as well as laypeople. For example, midwives, doulas, gynaecologists, as well as pregnant women, parents-to-be and recent parents, will find the chapter on “Resonance in the Womb” full of incredibly fascinating information. It is an excellent summary of all the research since Dr. Tomatis’ pioneering work in the early 1950s, on the development of listening in the womb.

For now, in India, it is only available as a Kindle e-book. You can use a free kindle app to access it (mobile, tablet or desktop). We are looking for sponsors to cover costs of the first print run, so that it can be available as a paperback.

### **Looking for:**

We found a volunteer for the Telegu translation editing work, and for most of the other tasks. But we could definitely still do with someone to help with fundraising and English Teaching. and We always welcome volunteer language teachers

## **Tomatis**

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

Please contact 0413-3509932 or 04132622467 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-sBMlyyWZNdZcAng/videos>
- <https://www.listenwell.com/>

## **Language Courses at ALL**

### **New Beginner Hindi with Kaushal**

Kaushal is a native Hindi speaker who is keenly interested in introducing the beauty and nuance of this language to eager learners. In this 16-hour (2 months) course, he will give an introduction to speaking, writing, and reading so as to familiarize students with the Hindi language.

Days & time: Wednesdays, 02:00 pm to 04:00 pm

Started on: Early June 2024 (TBA)

Duration: 16 hours (over two months)

### **New Beginner Sanskrit with Kaushal**

In this 16-hour (2 months) course, we start with the sounds and the alphabet, we shall enjoy exploring simple words, conversation and chanting of selected mantras.

Day & time: Thursdays, 02:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Starting day: Early June 2024 (TBA)

Duration: 16 hours (over two months)

### **If there’s a language you would like to learn but it’s not listed ... please let us know!**

### **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 262-3661, text us at +91 **9843030355** 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 completed, thank you! 🙏

The Language Lab is open:  
Monday – Friday, 9am - 12pm & 2pm - 7pm  
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	11:00am - 12:00pm	Tuesday & Thursday
	Conversation Intermediate Start date 9 April 2024	4 - 5pm	Tuesday & Thursday
	Conversation Pre-Intermediate Start date 8 April 2024	4 - 5pm	Monday & Wednesday
	Beginner Start Date 8 April 2024	10:30am – 12noon	Monday & Wednesday
French	Beginner Completed	2:30- 4:30pm	Saturday
	Conversation Post Beginner Completed	10:30am – 12noon	
	Conversation Intermediate Will continue until 29 April 2024	2:30 -3:30pm	Monday & Thursday
Tamil	Spoken Beginner Completed	9:30 – 10:30am	Tuesday & Friday
Sanskrit	Beginner June 2024 (tbc)	2 – 4pm	Thursday
Hindi	Beginner June 2024 (tbc)	2 – 4pm	Wednesday
German	A1.1 Beginner Completed	9:30 – 11am	Monday & Wednesday
Spanish	Beginner Completed	2:30 – 3:30pm	Monday
	Intermediate Completed	2:30 – 4pm	Tuesday
Japanese	Beginner - TBA	TBA	TBA
Italian	Beginner Completed	4 – 5pm	Wednesday & Friday
	Intermediate Completed	4 – 5.30 pm	Thursday

### TUTION GRADE 1-12

Tution classes open for students from grade 1 to grade 12. Please contact on my WhatsApp 8270512606. Ashwini



### SPOKEN ENGLISH AND HINDI

Hi! My name is Ashwini and I have an experience of 20 years as a Spoken **English, Hindi, Kannada and Marathi** language trainer for all levels. If you are interested in learning one of the above languages either in oral or written form please contact me on my WhatsApp 8270512606.

## CLASSES, WORKSHOPS & HEALING ARTS

### CONSCIOUS NATURE IMMERSION AT MAHAKALI PARK

**About the Park:** MahaKali Park is one of the 4 parks of Auroville, which is developed as a place for holistic awareness and self-development through nature. We guide you into an educational and meditative walk in the forest. The historical experience of green spaces in the specific context of Auroville have led to a unique understanding of holistic ecology. Providing a space for a direct connection with the organic "web of life" brings, in turn, insights for our self-study and yoga of work.



**When:** Every Wednesday and Sunday

**Contributions:** Accepted for the management of the site.

**Clothing:** Be adequately clad to prevent mosquito bites. You may also carry mosquito repellents.

**Venue:** Meeting point at Révelation's main gate 5-10 min before the time of the session (Search for "Revelation Forest" on Google Maps)

**Contact:** Vignesh +91 9620493716

**Please note:** The park is not yet accessible without our supervision, Thank you for your understanding!

**Gmap link:** [Revelation forest Auroville](#)

## MINDFULNESS FOR STRESS REDUCTION (MBSR) - 1 WEEK COURSE

29TH APRIL -5TH MAY



This secular course synthesises the ancient Eastern wisdom on mindfulness with the Western science on stress reduction, positive psychology & neuroscience.

The course has been found to improve participants' ability to cope with the stresses of everyday life - giving space to respond to situations rather than react. It has been found to help with anxiety & depression, to help manage chronic pain & lower blood sugar levels, to improve emotional regulation; increase attention, focus & memory; and plant inner seeds of happiness, resilience, kindness & acceptance.

It is suitable for those new to meditation as well as experienced meditators looking to deepen their practice.

'It's actually something akin to a radical act of love just to stop in your life, just to drop in on the moment and be aware of what is going on' Jon Kabat-Zinn

We will meet daily from Mon 29th April to Sun 5th May. Course timings are **7.30-9.30am (daily) from Mon 29th April- Sat 4th May** and **8.30am - 12pm Sunday 5th May**.

The course will be held at Maloka, Anitya community and is hosted by Inner Sight (a LEAD activity).

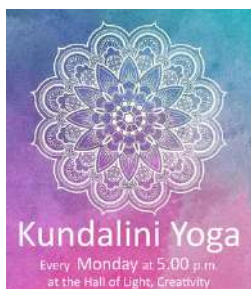
Registration is required. Message Helen (WhatsApp **7094753054**) for booking and details.

## KUNDALINI YOGA CLASSES

MONDAYS, 5 TO 6.30 P.M.

IN THE HALL OF LIGHT. CREATIVITY

Kundalini Yoga is called the Yoga of Awareness. It is a dynamic, powerful tool that is designed to give you an experience of your soul. To achieve that it uses the combination of Asanas, Pranayamas, Mudras and Mantras.



All levels, come 5 minutes before, bring your own mat. Contribution for the use of the room.

Contact: Bel whatsapp 91 7598892065.

Certified Kundalini Yoga teacher.

## DEEP SOUND BATH IN CREATIVITY

### TIBETAN BOWLS

Hall of Light  
CREATIVITY community

**Every Friday  
from 5 to 6:30 PM**

Starting from 17th November



### There will be a LIGHT massage by the Tibetan Bowls.

Lie down, relax, simply allow yourself to experience the ancient sound from the Tibetans bowls.

The practise produce a soothing sound believed to have a powerful effect in the body's energy system, helping to balance the chakras and promote healing.

*"If we accept that sound is vibration and we know that vibration touches every part of our physical being, then we understand that sound is heard not only through our ears but through every cell in our bodies. One reason sound heals on a physical level is because it so deeply touches and transforms us on the emotional and spiritual planes."*

Drop in the Hall, no reservation needed.

Please arrive 10 minutes before.

Guest 600 rs / Volunteer 300 rs

Aurovilians and Newcomers, conscious contribution

Sathyayuga

WA +917639761930



## MARTIAL ARTS - AUROVILLE AIKIDO NEWS

Auroville Aikido at AV Budokan (Dehashakti):



**Adults regular schedule for Beginners and others:** (with N. Murugan and Surya) Welcome to join this beautiful and complete practice in the form of a Japanese martial art: every Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday early morning from 6 to 7.30 am + Wednesday evening 5.15 to 6,30 pm.

**For children** classes (with Surya, Philippe G. and Cristo) and other info, please contact us: [budokan@auroville.org.in](mailto:budokan@auroville.org.in) and 83001 89062 (Surya) - 99528 12843 (Murugan/WA) - 83006 43963 (Philippe/WA).

Reasonable contributions required.

## VIPASSANA MEDITATION

**Date:** Every Sunday

**Timings:** 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM but you can also drop in and join as long as you wish.

**No registration is required.**

**Venue:** Udavi School (2nd building on the left when you are at the front entrance), near Tank in Edayanchavadi (Auroville). Location [here](#).



Vipassana

As taught by S.N. Goenka



**Contact:** Sanjay Tumati,  
+91 8790982210 (available on WA)  
[sanjay@auraauro.com](mailto:sanjay@auraauro.com)

## TAI CHI HALL @ SHARNGA

The Tai Chi Hall in Sharnga community offers daily classes, six days a week.

**Mondays & Saturdays:**

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

**Tuesdays - Fridays:**

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

We practice three forms (24, 108 and 127) in the Yang style, as taught by the Inner Way School - Stevanovitch Method ([artduchi.com](http://artduchi.com)). All are welcome to drop in.

**Our next beginner's intensive is from February 12 to March 2, 2024.**

[taichi.auroville.org](http://taichi.auroville.org) / [taichi@auroville.org.in](mailto:taichi@auroville.org.in)



## YANG STYLE TAI CHI 50 FORM BY PARK JISEONG



# YANG STYLE TAI-CHI 50 FORM

Facilitated by Park Jiseong

Tai-Chi is the art of change.


Learning how to drive your energy.

Also called "Moving Zen"

Tai-chi is a mental & physical training method.

from 22<sup>nd</sup> of April

Every Mon, Wed, Fri 7AM-8AM

Register on WA +91 70943 39490  Budokan, Dehashakti

## PITANGA



PITANGA  
CULTURAL CENTRE

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



## Program May 2024

**DROP-IN CLASSES** *Join without prior registration!*

### Mondays

7:30am–9am, **Asanas** with Rachel  
8:30am–10am, **Yoga Therapy** with Gala  
4pm–5pm, **Doing No-Thing Consciously** with Mike

### Tuesdays

No drop-in class on that day for now.

### Wednesdays

7:30am – 9am, **Asanas** with Rachel  
8:30am – 10am, **Yoga Therapy** with Gala

### Thursdays

4:30pm–5:30pm, **Aviva Exercise** for women with  
Suriyagandhi  
4:30pm–6pm, **Vocal Sound Healing** with Lola last class before  
summer break: 25/4

### Fridays

6:45am–8am, **Pranayama** with François & Namrita, For former  
“The Art of Living” course participants  
7:30am–9am, **Asanas** with Rachel  
8:30am–10am, **Yoga Therapy** with Gala  
3pm–4pm, **Reading Circle of Savitri** with Patricia - An  
interactive session  
4:30pm–5:30pm, **Readings of the Life Divine** with Balvinder  
last class before summer break: 10/5  
5:15pm–6:15pm, **Feldenkrais** with Shari, not on 26/4, last class  
before summer break: 17/5  
5:15pm–6:15pm, **For Giving Love** with Marie-Claire

### Saturdays

9am–10:30am, **Asanas** (Intermediate level, for regular  
practitioners) with Rachel  
2:15pm–4:15pm, **Truth Based Relationships**–Practical  
Sessions with Juan Andrés  
4:30pm–5:30pm, **Body Music** with Anandi Z., last class before  
summer break: 27/04

## YOUTH ACTIVITIES

*Classes with Gala and Lisbeth will resume after the summer  
holidays in July.*

## CLASSES – BY APPOINTMENT

**Art Therapy** with Gala

- Thursdays, 3–5pm for adults
- Fridays, 3–5pm for families



## Chinese Tea Ceremony with Chun

- Saturdays, 3–4pm
- Do not wear any kind of perfume on this day

## HEALING SPACE – BY APPOINTMENT

- Thai Yoga Massage by Juan

## WORKSHOP

### Workshop “Born Free” with Ange Sabine Blanchflower

- **Monday 13–Friday 17  
May,**
- **Daily 12:45–1:45pm, for 5  
days**



### A Five-Day Manifestation Workshop

Ange invites, “If you find that you are stuck, and nothing you have done so far has really had impact on changing your life, If you have great ideas and dreams for your life but you don't know how to make them happen, If you feel lost, even though you know so much, Then this workshop is for you.”

- Registration required.

*Pitanga supports a cashless economy in Auroville. If you are hosting a guest who'd like to join our activities, kindly inform them that contributions need to be made cashless.*

*If you wish to receive our program of activities by email, please write to us.*

*See you at Pitanga, with a smile!*

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

## QUIET HEALING CENTER



Quiet Healing Center, Auroville 605 104, Tamil Nadu, India

[www.quiethealingcenter.info](http://www.quiethealingcenter.info) / [quiet@auroville.org.in](mailto:quiet@auroville.org.in)

Mobile & WhatsApp: +91 9488084966

### Quiet Healing Center Summer Break

Quiet Healing Center will be closed from **Friday 26th April till Monday 17th June** for annual repair and maintenance works. With our apologies for any inconvenience,

Quiet Healing Center Team



## ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

### TANGO - NEW CLASSES

**Spanna**  
STUDY  
**TANGO**

**AUROVILLE**  
**TANGO**  
New batch starts  
the first week of each month

**MON**  
19:00  
Introduction  
to Tango  
20:00  
Opensource

**WED**  
19:30  
Guided  
Practica  
20:00  
Practilonga

**HARMONY**  
Bharat Nivas

No partner required.  
Bring socks or dance shoes.  
And plenty of joy!

+91 98211 66082 | [tango@auroville.org.in](mailto:tango@auroville.org.in)

### INTEGRAL MATHEMATICS: A JOURNEY OF INSIGHT AND INSPIRATION

Embark on a transformative journey through the qualitative realm of mathematics, where the mind's eye uncovers profound insights and timeless wisdom. In this illuminating lectureseries, we delve deep into the essence



of mathematics and its profound impact on the human spirit.

**Section 1: "Echoes of Wisdom":** Delve into the sacred texts of ancient Sanskrit scriptures, including Vedic and Vedantic teachings, resonating with the wisdom that transcends time.

Explore the same texts that ignited the intellectual flame within Sri Aurobindo, illuminating pathways to understanding mathematics in its purest form.

**Section 2: "Insights Illuminated":** Navigate the corridors of knowledge as we revisit the profound commentary and insights of Sri Aurobindo. Gain clarity and depth in your comprehension of mathematics through the lens of a visionary sage, enhancing your appreciation for its qualitative dimensions.

**Section 3: "Inspirations Unveiled":** Trace the footsteps of the greatest mathematicians in history and uncover the narratives behind their revolutionary discoveries. Connect with the human spirit that propels mathematical exploration, finding resonance in their journeys of insight and revelation.

Through these three enlightening sections, we invite you to integrate and nurture the qualities of insight, intuition, and intellectual depth that mathematics cultivates within the receptive mind. Join us as we embark on a quest to unravel the qualitative tapestry of mathematics, illuminating the path to greater understanding and enlightenment.

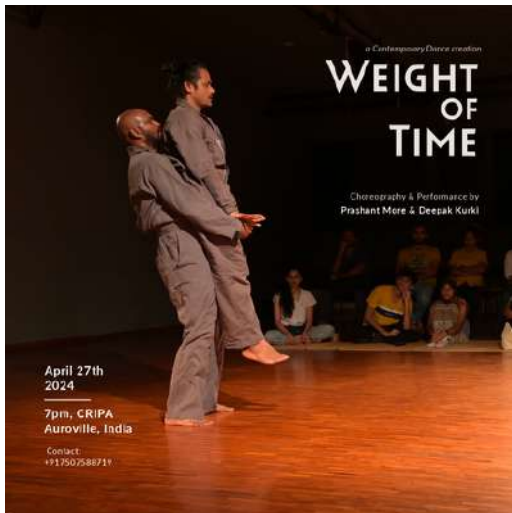
**Date :** 27th April 2024

**Time:** 4-5 pm

**Venue :** Sangam Hall, Savitri Bhavan

## **WEIGHT OF TIME – A CONTEMPORARY DANCE CREATION**

27 APRIL, 7PM @ CRIPA



"Weight of Time" invites you to question the traditional idea of art having a purpose.

Instead, it encourages you to be present and enjoy the performance for the sake of the experience. This dance piece offers a space for relaxation and immersion in the art, composition, and shared emotions. It explores moments of boredom, silence, pleasure, solitude, anxiety, and vulnerability, illustrating how time transforms in the face of life's routine.

Choreographed, Designed and Performed by Deepak Kurki & Prashant More

**Date:** 27th April, 2024

**Time:** 7pm

**Venue:** CRIPA, Auroville

## **MULTIDISCIPLINARY IMPROVISATION LAB**

# **A CALL TO CO-CREATE MULTIDISCIPLINARY IMPROVISATION LAB**

**THROUGH DANCE, MOVE, VISUAL ARTS,  
POETRY, SPOKEN WORD, THEATER, AND MUSIC**

- Step beyond labels and redefine your art form.
- Embrace the unknown and explore the interplay between disciplines.
- Safe space for artistic exploration.
- Self-motivated creation.
- Spaciousness for individual expression.
- Recognition of equal value in every movement, sound, and word
- Emotional storytelling through embodied movement and music.

**THURSDAYS 5PM TO 7PM CRIPA SMALL HALL  
DISCOVER THE BOUNDLESS POTENTIAL OF COLLABORATIVE  
IMPROVISATION**



## FOODS, GOODS & SERVICES

### ANITYA COMMUNITY LUNCH

Our community lunches are still happening during the summer!  
Contact Serena on WA to book one day in advance: +91 84897 60966

Contribution required (discount for AV/ NC and Volunteers)  
See you at 12:30 on Thursdays and Fridays in our community kitchen!

Mathilde for the Anitya team



## JOIN OUR COMMUNITY LUNCH

Come and taste a delicious local non-spicy vegan meal made from our garden and Auroville farms' products, while sharing a good time with Anitya's community members



**Every Thursday & Saturday- Contribution required**



Our project aims at creating settlements in Auroville to experiment a spiritual way of life based on 5 main principles:

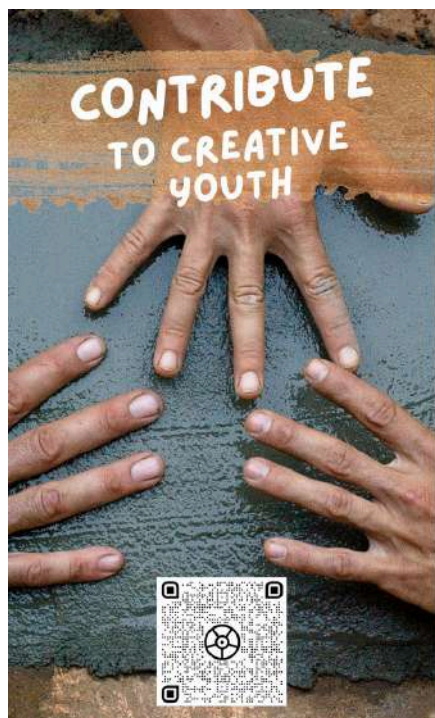
**Impermanence, Community Spirit, Sustainability, Self-sufficiency and DIY**

**MUST book min. 1 day in advance: +918489760966**

Anitya is a community project registered under LEAD, Auroville  
Location: Center Field, after center GH, follow the ANITYA signs  
To know more about Anitya: [joyofimpermanence.in](http://joyofimpermanence.in)



### CONTRIBUTE TO CREATIVE YOUTH



**Empower Young Minds at Youth Center!**

**\*Cause:\*** Your contribution fuels educational activities and workshops for young creators.

**\*Join the Youth:\*** Help sustain our legacy! Your support ensures a thriving space for ideation and creativity.

**\*Make a Difference:\*** Be a part of something special. Contribute today and empower the youth!

 [youthcenterauroville](https://www.instagram.com/youthcenterauroville)



## AUROVILLE LIBRARY SUMMER TIMINGS

We will be closed on Wed 1st May.

From Thursday 2nd May onwards we will have summer timings for May and June:

- **Mon - Sat mornings: 9am - 12.30pm**
- **Tues - Thurs - Sat afternoons: 4pm - 6.30pm**
- **Mon - Wed - Fri afternoons: closed**

**Storytime** for children will continue through summer - Saturday mornings 10am - 11am



## QUTEE ELECTRIC SCOOTER SERVICE



Many in Auroville are not aware that a quality service for all brands of electric scooters, and especially the ones (Humvee) made here over the years, is conveniently available. The Qutee service center is located near the Certitude entry of Auroville across from the Road Service just off the tar road before the Puncture Service. New and old electric scooters can be repaired, maintained or replaced. Also battery services (recycle, repair, replace), Uninterrupted Power Supplies (UPS) and solar system services can be conveniently arranged. All work is coordinated by Govindaraj (Aurovilian) with decades of experience.

You may call Qutee # **9443372418** for any of your requirements. Upgrade to electric transport and solar power.

## NEW CO-WORKING SPACE AT EUROPEAN HOUSE

An illustration of a co-working space. On the left, three people (two women and one man) are sitting at a long table, each with a laptop. On the right, two more people (one man and one woman) are sitting at another part of the table, also with laptops. The background shows hanging plants and pendant lights.

**New co-working space !**

The European House is pleased to welcome you in its co-working space. Come benefit from our wifi and the quiet of our place to focus and get your work done !

- **Mon 8:00AM to 12:00PM**
- **Tues 8:00AM to 12:00PM**
- **Thur: 8:00AM to 12:00PM**

**WHAT YOU GIVE:**  
**Free contribution**   
Help us pay our internet bills and improve the place !

**WHAT YOU GET:**  
**A quiet environment**   
Come enjoy the quiet of our conference room 3 mornings a week !

**A place you can privatise !**  
You need a place to host a meeting ? A workshop ? Or any other group activity ? Send a request and book the place !

GOOD **WiFi** 20 **Chairs** FREE **Tea**

  
EUROPEAN HOUSE  
IN SOCIÉTÉ COOPÉRATIVE

 +33 6 95 52 44 30  
 european.house.auroville@gmail.com

## HALF-PRICE MAROMA PRODUCTS FOR ALL AUROVILIANS IN THE OUTLET STORE



Maroma is happy to announce that it is offering all products at half-price to all Aurovilians in its **Aspiration Outlet**. Come by and see our great range of all-natural cosmetics, soaps, shampoo and more! Great for gifts to loved ones, including yourself. The Outlet is located in the Maroma Campus in Aspiration and is open **9am - 5pm, Mon-Sat**. See you there!

Much love,

The Maroma Team

## COME ENJOY PIZZA AT THE YOUTH CENTER! FRIDAYS, SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS!

Youth Center  
Youth Center Auroville

Come join our  
**Pizzeria**

Savor the best pizza at Youth Center! We craft delectable Italian inspired flavours right here in Auroville.

**FRI - SAT**

**START AT**  
07:00 pm - 09:00pm

**YOUTH CENTER**  
Auroville

**PIZZA NIGHT**

**STAY TUNED**

8428061801

YouTube Youth Center International

Instagram @youthcenterauroville

## SOLITUDE FARM - FRESH LOCAL FOOD

Dear friends,

so much beautiful fresh produce in this season.

Subscribe for a basket that can be picked up from Solitude Farm once a week ( or more ).

Salad greens, spinaches, veggies, fruits and more.

9843319260

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





## 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



## LIGHT FISH

PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIO AURELEC

### Services:

- Fashion Photography
- Product Photography
- Food Photography
- Architectural Photography

Phone: 8279300821  
[sales@light-fish.com](mailto:sales@light-fish.com)



## 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.

## STUDIO BASED ART THERAPY AND COUNCELING

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

### STUDIO BASED ART THERAPY AND COUNSELING

individual \* group \* family

a service under MAATRAM



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, Kulapalayam, Auroville



## SURABHI SUPPLIES

Dear Auroville Community,

**Surabhi Supplies** is dedicated to aiding individual community members, units, and projects in **acquiring a wide range of materials and equipment**, including but not limited to construction supplies, appliances, machinery, and more.

Our service offers several advantages to the community, such as **reduced prices** achieved through **bulk purchases** and **volume-based discounts**. We have established strong partnerships with various manufacturers and dealers who share our commitment to advancing Auroville's development.

Our primary goal is to streamline the procurement process for everyone, thus saving valuable time, energy, and costs while providing a high level of service to the community.

If you have any inquiries, please don't hesitate to reach out to us at:

Email: [surabhisupplies@auroville.org.in](mailto:surabhisupplies@auroville.org.in)

Phone: +91 98438 46458 (WhatsApp/Call)

Sincerely,  
Surabhi Supplies

## RAPID CARE SERVICES RCS

Dear Residents,

We are happy to announce that **Rapid Care Services** have successfully completed one year. We began operations in December 2022.



We take this opportunity to thank all the people who believed in us. Reach out to us for any enquiries that need our assistance in home and yard work. Look forward to your continued use of our services in the future.

Category	Services
Metal Works	Channels , Doors , Piping , Fabrication
Plumbing	End to End, Job works
Furniture	Repairs, Made to order
Masonry	Repairs, Renovations and Remodulation
Painting	End to End, Job works
General Maintenance	Floor Waxing, Powder Coating, Fumigation, All Home Utilities
Installations	Washer and Dryer, Air Conditioner, Inverter, Dth, Security Camera
Electrical Works	Wring, Meter box, Lights, Switches & Sockets, Motion sensor.

Contact: + 91 8270071581 / +91 7639810621

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

Secondary Email: [rcsrapidcareservice@gmail.com](mailto:rcsrapidcareservice@gmail.com)

Instagram handle: @rapidcare1

For Rapid Care  
Balaji & Arun

## WE CAN HELP TO FIX ALL YOUR BROKEN ITEMS

**New Waves**, a unit registered under Kattidakali Trust located in Aurelec Premises, Prayogashala, Auroville is offering the services of **PCB Assembly, SMD soldering, de-soldering** and **minor repair of appliances**.

The unit can also undertake sub-contract of your production work on job work basis.

If you have any requirements, please contact Dhandapani, Executive at 0413-2622295,

Mobile 9443090082 / 8098193820 or via e-mail to [newwaves@auroville.org.in](mailto:newwaves@auroville.org.in)



## TRAVEL NEWS FROM INSIDE INDIA



Namaste, Bonjour, Hello and Vanakkam from Inside India

We are always open and ready to take the hassle away from you when it comes to booking your travels, be it in and out of India, as well as Inside India itself...

Mr. Ganesh our Travel Consultant will be at our **Kalpana office from 10:30 till 16:00**, Landline 2623030 (Monday to Friday). Saturdays on appointment only.

He can also be contacted anytime via mobile or WhatsApp: +91 9894598686

And by e-mail: [travelshop@inside-india.com](mailto:travelshop@inside-india.com)

We can also help you build the dream tour of India in general, Southern India in particular. You may send us your request by email [insideindia@auroville.org.in](mailto:insideindia@auroville.org.in)

### Some current offers:

- Malaysian airways offer fare is available from Chennai to Seoul.
- Air India special fare from Chennai to Milan, Sydney and Melbourne.
- Aerofloat flight offer fare is available from Delhi - Moscow - Delhi.
- The new Premium Economy cabin features on Emirates new A380 now flying between Dubai and the following destinations: Auckland (AKL), Bengaluru (BLR), Christchurch (CHC), Houston (IAH), London Heathrow (LHR), Los Angeles (LAX), Melbourne (MEL), Mumbai (BOM), New York John F Kennedy (JFK), San Francisco (SFO), São Paulo (GRU), Singapore (SIN), Sydney (SYD), Tokyo Narita (NRT)
- Air France and KLM have launched promotional fares in the Premium Economy Cabin and Premium Comfort Class from India to select destinations in Europe, Central & South America. Offer valid for sales until 30 April for travel commencing between 1 May - 30 June 2024

### Trip ideas:

- Looking for a weather change, why not Nepal, Kashmir, or Ladhak... and of course closer to Auroville, Kodaikanal is there too...
- A change of scenery only one short flight away, Cochin maybe... Sri Lanka of course... Andaman Islands? Maldives...

We are accepting both Indian and International debit and credit cards, as well as UPI IDs and QR code payments at our office. #Conditions apply. And of course transfer on our Financial Service Account are very welcome...

### Travel Tip:

Several travellers were "boarding denied" as check-in staff didn't accept the **e-FRRO Stay Visa** as valid document without backed it up with additional documentation. Therefore we advise to take beside the Stay Visa document (please make sure your current Passport details are in it) your Original Visa, which is maybe in an older expired Passport. If not available anymore, take at least a photocopy of the original Visa.

Please note that It is now mandatory for the applicants to attain a pre-approved ETA before travelling to Sri Lanka. Also note – Sri Lanka immigration has stopped issuing Visa on Arrival to Indian nationals.

The Embassy of the Republic of Turkey announces that Turkish authorities has commenced requiring the "Electronic Airport Transit Visa" (e-ATV) for Indian & Nepalese passport holders traveling to Mexico, Panama, Colombia and Venezuela, Transiting via the Istanbul Airport.

## LOOKING FOR

### LOOKING FOR A LONG-TERM HOUSE SITTING



Dear Community,

I am a confirmed Aurovilian and looking for a long-term house sitting, starting from end of July or earlier. I am single, originally from Italy and I contribute to the Community through various activities. I am a clean, reliable, quiet and respectful person.

Please reach out on **8667648515** or mail at [solespazio@gmail.com](mailto:solespazio@gmail.com)

With Love & Gratitude,  
Enzo



### LOOKING FOR A HOUSE SITTING

My name is Cheenu I'm looking for a housesitting. I love pets, I am clean, Newcomer and living in Auroville since my childhood.

**8270404258**

### LOOKING FOR WET VACUUM CLEANER

I am looking to borrow or rent a wet vacuum cleaner to clean a carpet.

Please let me know if you do have one.

I need it for 1 day

Beber **638563 5943**



### PENCILS & DIARY

- pencil colors
- ruled diary with 31 pages or slightly more

Thank you for reading and replying.

Love, Deepa

981157667 (only sms/ call- no wa)

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



## AVAILABLE

### BUNK BED TO SELL

We still have a couple of bunk bed to sell from our previous boarding.

Contact beber 638563 5943



### SAMSUNG GALAXY A71 (SM-A715F/DSM)

- RAM: 8GB\*
- ROM: 128GB
- (quad camera) 64MP + 12MP + 5MP + 5MP
- (front) 32MP
- Battery : 4500mAh

Screen is brand new.

Purchase price : 35.000rs

Selling price : 16.000rs

Contact : beber 638563 5943



## FRENCH NEWS & NOTES

NOUVELLES D'AUROVILLE



Auro - Traductions

Click [here](#) to read the French News&Notes

or

Scan the QR code:



**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

- Monthly Rs. 800: Aurovilians & Newcomers, No validity
- Student Pass Rs. 1200 per month/ 24 days round trip
- Rs. 150 Round trip for Aurovilians & Newcomers
- Rs. 200 Round trip for guests

**Bus passes** are available at  
Auroville Vehicle Service,  
Town Hall, Auroville, 0413 2623302



**EMERGENCY NUMBERS**



**Ambulance (24/7):**

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

Auroville Police Station 0413 2677318	Kottakuppam Police Station 0413 2236148	Vanur Fire Station 0413 2677368
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**Health:**

Health Center 0413 3509942 & 3509943	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**

## SUPPORT NEEDED

### SUMMER CAMP AT OUR KUILAI CREATIVE CENTRE - MAY'24

#### Need your support!

At our Kuilai Creative Centre, we conduct a SUMMER CAMP each year in May for our students who are participating in various Activities throughout the year. And we wish to make them delighted by conducting many types of fun activities and outings during their summer holiday breaks including lunch and snacks, while their parents are still working.

Most of the children are from our Av Bio-region. These children will range in age from 10 to 17.

- Trip to Kodai for Four Days (A Hill Station in South India )
- Visit to Matrimandir and Many other places in Auroville.
- Eye care sessions by Aurokiya Eye Care.
- Many fun games and activities
- Free lunch and free snacks



#### Any sort of support is welcome - For your support...

- <https://aviusa.org/?form=Kuilai>
- <https://auroville.org/page/donate-from-india>
- From Auroville: **240051**- Kuilai Creative Centre Collection
- For contact: +91-**8608473385**
- [kuilaicreativecentre@auroville.org.in](mailto:kuilaicreativecentre@auroville.org.in)  
or [kuilaicreativecentre.auroville@gmail.com](mailto:kuilaicreativecentre.auroville@gmail.com)



## TAXI SHARE

### AUROVILLE TO CHENNAI AIRPORT - 27.4.24 AND BACK

From **Auroville** to **Chennai Airport**, **April 27, Saturday**, Leaving Auroville between **4:30 and 5:00 am**

From **Chennai Airport** to **Auroville**, **May 6, Monday**, leaving the Airport between **7:45 - 8:30 am**

Please contact +91**8447181515**  
email: [kumarsehdev455@gmail.com](mailto:kumarsehdev455@gmail.com)

### RIDE SHARING TO CHENNAI AND BACK - 6 MAY

I need to go to Chennai on the 6th May for an appointment at 10am. I will then return to AV approx 2 hours later. Please get in touch if you need to go to Chennai and would like to share the taxi. Honor: 9159856148

### AUROVILLE TO KODAIKANAL IN MAY

Anyone driving to Kodaikanal in May.  
Happy to share fuel cost, songs, travel stories and laughs.  
Thank you for reading and replying.  
Love, Deepa **981157667** (only sms/ call- no wa)  
[stigmatad@gmail.com](mailto:stigmatad@gmail.com)

### REGULAR TAXI TO SRI MA IN MAY

If you're interested to share a taxi to Sri Ma once a week in the month of May  
get in touch to reserve a place

Isha  
message: +91 **96555 34514**

## AUROVILLE TO CHENNAI - 7 MAY

Dear friends,

I am looking for someone to share a taxi to Chennai airport.

I leave Auroville at **7 p.m. on Tuesday, 7th of May** for a flight which leaves at 1:50 a.m. on the 8th.

Let me know if you want to come with me.

love, Shanti

[anandshanti@proton.me](mailto:anandshanti@proton.me) / landline: 0413 2623314

## A LITTLE BIT OF HUMOUR

### OPEN LETTER TO THE SUPRAMENTAL

Dear Supramental,

We hope this message finds you well, or at least in good enough spirits to address a rather pressing matter. It seems we have a few overenthusiastic admirers down here who have taken it upon themselves to pave the way, quite literally, for your grand arrival.

In their fervent belief that a perfect circular road, adorned with streetlights like ornaments on a Christmas tree, will serve as the ultimate beacon for your descent, they've managed to wreak havoc on our once pristine environment. It's a sight to behold, really, if you're into the whole "environmental catastrophe" aesthetic.

Now, we understand you might have other priorities on your cosmic to-do list, but we figured it's only fair to give you a heads-up. We've even gone the extra mile and compiled a comprehensive list of these devoted souls and their respective addresses. You know, to make your job easier.

So, whenever you are ready, we will send you the list of the chosen ones eagerly awaiting your illuminating embrace.

But behold ! It is quite an extensive list. Frankly, we've lost count of how many sacrificial trees and displaced wildlife have fallen victim to their zealotry.

So, dear Supramental, we kindly implore you to swing by at your earliest convenience and scoop up your adoring disciples. Trust us, it's a win-win situation: they get their cosmic enlightenment, and we get to salvage what's left of our community and start caring for the environment again.

Looking forward to your prompt intervention.

Warmest regards,

The Sane Citizens of Planet Earth

## CINEMA



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

*Reminder: Friday 26th "THE NIGHT OF THE IGUANA" by John Huston, US, 1964*

And **Friday 3rd May –at 8:00 pm**

**"GOOD WILL HUNTING"**

*Directed by Gus Van Sant, US, 1997*

*With: Robin Williams, Matt Damon, Ben Affleck, Stellan Skarsgård*

*Synopsis: A psychological drama about Will Hunting a gifted young man whose great intellectual capacity and acuity for mathematics is counterbalanced with his impulsive and arrogant character. Will meets a therapist who challenges him to see life differently, revealing to him what matters most.*

*The film was nominated nine times for the 1998 Academy Awards winning Best Original Screenplay for Affleck and Damon and Best Supporting Actor for Robin Williams. A touching story beautifully filmed with gorgeous landscape!*

**Mikhail Sokolin** will introduce the film and is inviting the audience to "embark on a journey into the nature of the human condition: its beauty and difficulties."

*Original version in English, with sub-English - duration: 2h.05'*



# Cinema Paradiso



Multimedia Center (MMC) Auditorium

Film program 29 April 2024 - 05 May 2024

Cinema Paradiso-Multimedia Center is operating at 100% seating capacity.

Seating starts about 15mins before screening and stops as the film starts. Kindly arrive in time.



A reminder not to use cell phone for any reason while the program is on, and no food/beverage to be taken inside the hall.

## Indian – Monday 29 April, 8:00 pm:

- **AACHAR & CO**

India, 2023, Writer-Dir. Sindhu Sreenivasa Murthy w/Sindhu Sreenivasa Murthy, Anirudh Acharya, Harshil Koushik, and others, Drama, 105mins, Kannada w/ English subtitles, Rated: U(G)

The 1960s was a time of change especially for women breaking stereotypes. Set in 60s Bangalore, the film follows Suma and her nine siblings in a traditional conservative family headed by Madhusudan Aachar. When Madhusudan Archer passes away, Suma finds herself in a new role of shouldering family responsibilities, facing challenges, and discovering herself in the process. A must watch!

## Potpourri – Tuesday 30 April, 8:00 pm:

- **NUOVO CINEMAPARADISO (Cinema Paradiso)**

Italy-France, 1988, Writer-Dir. Giuseppe Tornatore w/Philippe Noiret, Enzo Cannavale, Antonella Attili, and others, Drama-Romance, 174mins, Italian w/ English subtitles, Rated: PG

In this classic tale, famous film director Salvatore returns to this native Sicilian Village following death of his mentor Alfredo. He remembers the hours he spent at the Cinema Paradiso with Alfredo nurturing his skills in filmmaking. It highlights the dying trade of traditional film making, as it also explores a young boy's dream of leaving his little town to foray into the world outside.

## Interesting – Wednesday 1 May, 8:00 pm:

- **ALTERNATIVA**

Spain, 2023, Dir. Agustí Corominas & Juan del Río, Documentary, 115mins, Spanish-Catalan-English w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR (PG)

From Latin Alter (other) and Nativus (born) this film showcases innovative initiatives of transition made by ordinary people as they redesign their lives in alignment with the values such as earth's health, equity, and solidarity, responding to the systemic crises at various levels - energetic, economic, ecological, social, cultural and epistemic. This film is sourced and contributed by The Green Silk Road, an Auroville Activity. Gijs from the Activity will briefly introduce the film.

## Selection – Thursday 2 May, 8:00 pm:

- **PERSEPOLIS**

France-USA, 2007, Dir. Vincent Paronnaud & Marjane Satrapi w/ Chiara Mastroianni, Catherine Deneuve, Gena Rowlands, and others, Animation-Biography, 96mins, French(primarily) w/ English subtitles, Rated: R

Based on autobiographical graphic novels series by Satrapi this film narrates the story of the political and cultural evolution of Iran through the eyes of a young girl. It is filled with moments of joy and grief as the story is simply told through illustrations. It is a brave, humorous and honest insight into life in a theocracy.

## **International – Saturday 4 May, 8:00 pm:**

### **• CHLOPI (The Peasants)**

Poland-Serbia-Lithuania, 2023, Writer-Dir. DK Welchman & Hugh Welchman w/Kamila Urzedowska, Robert Gulaczyk, Miroslaw Baka, and others, Animation-History, 114mins, Polish-Latin w/ English subtitles, Rated: R

The film tells the story of Jagna, a young woman determined to forge her own path within the confines of a late 19th century Polish village - a hotbed of gossip and on-going feuds, held together, rich and poor, by pride in their land, adherence to colorful traditions and deep-rooted patriarchy. When Jagna finds herself caught between the conflicting desires of the village's richest farmer, his eldest son, and other leading men of the community, her resistance puts her on a tragic collision course with the community around her.

## **Children's Matinee- Sunday 5 May, 4:00 pm:**

### **• THE LITTLE MERMAID**

USA, 2023, Dir. Rob Marshall w/ Halle Bailey, Jonah Hauer-King, Melissa McCarthy, and others, Family-Fantasy, 135mins, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: PG

A young mermaid makes a deal with a sea witch to trade her beautiful voice for human legs so she can discover the world above water and impress a prince.

## **MARCEL PAGNOL FILM FESTIVAL @ CINÉ-CLUB**

In his films, Pagnol transfers his playwriting talents onto the big screen. His editing style is somberly reserved, placing emphasis on the content of an image. As a pictorial naturalist, he relies on film as art to convey a deeper meaning rather than solely as a tool to tell a story. Like his plays, Pagnol's films emphasize dialogue and musicality. The themes of many of Pagnol's films revolve around the acute observation of social rituals.

## **Ciné-Club Sunday 5 May, 8:00 pm:**

### **• MARIUS**

France, 1931, Dir. Alexander Korda w/ Raimu. Pierre Fresnay and others, Drama – Romance, 130 mins, French w/ English subtitles. Rated: NR.

The film takes place mostly in the waterfront bar of César, Marius's father. Marius works in the bar and his good friend since childhood, Fanny, works outside the bar selling cockles. Marius has a hidden desire to travel to exotic places with the ship crews that depart from the docks of Marseille. This is a part of the Marseille Trilogy which includes the films Fanny and César.

**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.

***To organize a seminar/program at MMC kindly email us at [mmcauditorium@auroville.org.in](mailto:mmcauditorium@auroville.org.in). Our projector is crawling towards the end of its life, compelling us to look for a new one. You could financially support through a one-time or recurring donations 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)

