

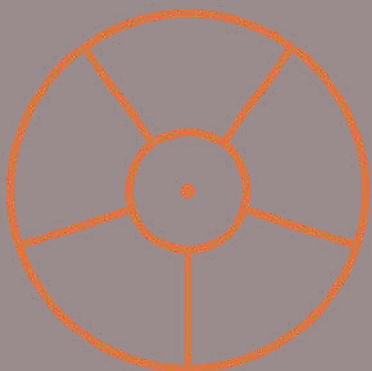
Auroville

NEWS & NOTES

No 1032 - A weekly bulletin for residents of Auroville

20 June 2024

RA EDITION



PONDERING

At last a place where one will be able to think only of progressing and transcending oneself.

At last a place where one will be able to live in peace, without conflicts and without rivalries of nations, religions and ambitions.

At last a place where nothing will have the right to impose itself as the exclusive truth.

~ January 1967

<https://dream.books.prisma.haus/en/the-aims-of-auroville>



(continued from last two weeks)

All he would make his own, leave nothing free,
Stretching his small self to cope with the infinite.

Obstructing the gods' open ways he makes
His own estate of the earth's air and light;
A monopolist of the world-energy,
He dominates the life of common men.

His pain and others' pain he makes his means:
On death and suffering he builds his throne.

In the hurry and clangour of his acts of might,
In a riot and excess of fame and shame,
By his magnitudes of hate and violence,
By the quaking of the world beneath his tread
He matches himself against the Eternal's calm
And feels in himself the greatness of a god:
Power is his image of celestial self.

The Titan's heart is a sea of fire and force;
He exults in the death of things and ruin and fall,
He feeds his strength with his own and others' pain;
In the world's pathos and passion he takes delight,
His pride, his might call for the struggle and pang.

He glories in the sufferings of the flesh
And covers the stigmata with the Stoic's name.

His eyes blinded and visionless stare at the sun,
The seeker's Sight receding from his heart
Can find no more the light of eternity;
He sees the beyond as an emptiness void of soul
And takes his night for a dark infinite.

His nature magnifies the unreal's blank
And sees in Nought the sole reality:
He would stamp his single figure on the world,
Obsess the world's rumours with his single name.

His moments centre the vast universe.

He sees his little self as very God.

His little 'I' has swallowed the whole world,
His ego has stretched into infinity.

His mind, a beat in original Nothingness,
Ciphers his thought on a slate of hourless Time.

He builds on a mighty vacancy of soul
A huge philosophy of Nothingness.

In him Nirvana lives and speaks and acts
Impossibly creating a universe.

An eternal zero is his formless self,
His spirit the void impersonal absolute.

Take not that stride, O growing soul of man;
Cast not thy self into that night of God.

The soul suffering is not eternity's key,
Or ransom by sorrow heaven's demand on life.

O mortal, bear, but ask not for the stroke,
Too soon will grief and anguish find thee out.

Too enormous is that venture for thy will;
Only in limits can man's strength be safe;
Yet is infinity thy spirit's goal;
Its bliss is there behind the world's face of tears.

A power is in thee that thou knowest not;
Thou art a vessel of the imprisoned spark.

It seeks relief from Time's envelopment,
And while thou shutst it in, the seal is pain:
Bliss is the Godhead's crown, eternal, free,
Unburdened by life's blind mystery of pain:
Pain is the signature of the Ignorance
Attesting the secret god denied by life:
Until life finds him pain can never end.

Calm is self's victory overcoming fate.

Bear; thou shalt find at last thy road to bliss.

Bliss is the secret stuff of all that lives,
Even pain and grief are garbs of world-delight,
It hides behind thy sorrow and thy cry.

Because thy strength is a part and not God's whole,
Because afflicted by the little self
Thy consciousness forgets to be divine
As it walks in the vague penumbra of the flesh
And cannot bear the world's tremendous touch,
Thou criest out and sayst that there is pain.

Indifference, pain and joy, a triple disguise,
Attire of the rapturous Dancer in the ways,
Withhold from thee the body of God's bliss.

Thy spirit's strength shall make thee one with God,
Thy agony shall change to ecstasy,
Indifference deepen into infinity's calm
And joy laugh nude on the peaks of the Absolute.

(to be continued next week)

— Sri Aurobindo, Savitri
A Legend and a Symbol
Book Six: The Book of Fate

Canto Two: The Way of Fate and the Problem of Pain
<https://incarnateword.in/cwsa/34/the-way-of-fate-and-the-problem-of-pain>

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 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

Thank you for your continued support!

In community,
The RA Community Edition News and Notes Team

FROM THE ENTRY SERVICE

NO ANNOUNCEMENT THIS WEEK

If you need to contact the Entry Board, write to: auroville.entryboard@gmail.com

FROM THE WORKING COMMITTEE

VOICE OF AUROVILLE - ISSUE 06 (JUNE 2024)



VOICE OF AUROVILLE

Dear community,

We hope this message finds you well despite the summer heat. Although delayed by one month, we are happy to share with you the sixth issue of our quarterly journal, Voice of Auroville, which aims to inform wellwishers and friends of Auroville across India and the globe on the current unfolding events with factual updates and articles.

As with previous issues, this sixth edition focuses on the crisis Auroville is going through, reporting on events between February and May 2024. It also highlights Auroville's work towards bioregional development over the past decades.

You can read and download the full edition in pdf format [here](#). In case you would have missed them, the five first issues of Voice of Auroville are accessible [here](#).

Please feel free to forward and share this email with friends and well wishers of Auroville. This is how the news can spread and Auroville's voices be heard. Everyone's actions count.

Additional people who wish to be added to the subscribers list or be removed from it can email voiceofauroville@auroville.services. Please also feel free to share any feedback or suggestions to voiceofauroville@auroville.services.

As usual, we take this opportunity to express our gratitude to the Voice of Auroville editorial team, as well as to all those who provided us with contents and pictures to illustrate this issue. Thank you!



ISSUE 06
JUNE 2024

VOICE OF AUROVILLE

News & Highlights from the Auroville Community



This publication is endorsed by the Working Committee of the Residents' Assembly of the Auroville Foundation.

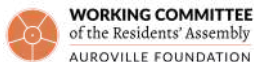
AUROVILLE
Media Liaison

Scan the code to read Issue 6 of VoA:



In community,

Your RA Working Committee
Aravinda, Bharathy, Chali, Maël (TOS), Matthieu (TOS), Prashant (TOS), Valli



RAS MEMBERSHIP CALL

Dear Community,

We are writing to update the community about the membership of the Residents' Assembly Service (RAS). We are pleased to inform you that Peter L. has been confirmed as a RAS member to replace Manas who has resigned with effect from the 31st May 2024. The current RAS team now comprises Peter and Tatiana, with the support of resource persons as and when needed.

With this in view, we would like to invite residents to apply to join this important service to our community. The RAS needs service-oriented people with a strong community spirit to reinforce the existing team. They should be willing to assist residents in understanding and navigating community processes. Ideally, this requires a wide range of skills in communication, organization, and coordination. The preferred skill set includes:

- Basic IT skills necessary for managing digital records, communication, and other relevant tasks.
- Fluency in English, with proficiency in Tamil preferred.
- Knowledge of Residents' Assembly processes.
- Willingness to learn.
- Regular attendance and commitment to work.
- Ability to maintain confidentiality.

The RAS organizes decision-making and selection processes, tracks these processes, coordinates with the Residents' Assembly, and collaborates with various services and working groups. The RAS serves as a conduit for the voices of residents, helping them stay connected with the overall organization of Auroville.

If you are interested, please send an email to the Auroville Council at avcouncil@auroville.services.

Kind regards,

The Auroville Council and the Working Committee of the Residents' Assembly

COMMUNITY NEWS

COMMUNITY SHARING

An important community event and potluck is in preparation for **MONDAY 1st JULY (from 5.30 pm onwards)**. Please mark the date! More information to be announced soon. See you there!

LAND REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

An approximate total of 28.73 acres of prime road-side Auroville properties have been exchanged for Total of approx - 38.63 3/4 Acre gained, these are located primarily in the Green Belt with approx. only 16 acres in the city area.

All Auroville properties that were exchanged are on the state or national highway. All Auroville lands have been evaluated at the minimal guideline value instead of the market rate. We note that only the AV plots have a low acre guideline value compared to other plots nearby or even on the same Survey number whose subdivisions have a square foot rate!

Many Av lands that were exchanged have lost investments like; access, water pipes, wells, houses, trees etc (none of these assets are listed in the sale document under the schedule of properties where they should be).

The AVFO is using the perfect circle ideology held by a minority of members that have been conveniently empowered by the AVFO, in order to privately gain by selling the Auroville Assets developed over 55 years (many which were purchased and named by the Mother Herself) for undeveloped lands with the excuse that they need to follow the outdated MasterPlan and complete the Green Belt circles!

Will the uncorrupted empowered members realize the fraud and have the courage and decency to resign?

EDITOR'S NOTE:

This report was sent by the Working Committee of the RA in May. A resident has sent it for publication in the News and Notes. You can read the **full LAND REPORT at the end of this N&N issue** or you can click [HERE](#) for the PDF version.

SECOND ROUND OF AUROVILLE DOG SHELTERS MOBILE VET CLINIC!



After the huge success of last Friday's soft launch, our Mobile Vet Clinic will offer again this **Friday, June 21st from 11.30 until 1.30 pm** its services to the AV Community in front of the **Solar Kitchen Parking Lot**.

We are happy to present to the Community the plans and architectural drawings and give detailed information about the construction of the New Auroville Dog Shelter which will not just be an animal sanctuary but an amazing place for every Aurovilian, guest, and visitor. Please provide us with your feedback, your suggestions, and criticism as this is an important project for the entire Community to participate in. In a few weeks, we will give a public presentation of the new Auroville Dog Shelter incorporating valuable Community Feedback.

For Friday's Mobile Vet Clinic, you can bring your animals if they need our services. Please note as the shelter is completely overcrowded with barely any funding, we cannot accept at the time being more puppies, but we are happy to provide the following services:

- **Free Consultations:** Receive expert veterinary advice to ensure your animals' health and well-being.
- **Basic Medical Care:** We are able to address minor ailments and provide necessary treatments.
- **Cost-Price/Donation-Based Vaccinations:** Affordable vaccinations to keep your dogs protected. (We don't have funds for cat vaccinations at the moment)
- **Spay/Neuter Bookings:** Schedule sterilization surgeries, an essential step in managing the growing puppy population.
- **Animal Care Information:** Valuable tips and advice on how to keep them happy and healthy.
- **Volunteering Information:** Lots of opportunities to volunteer in the old and for building the new Animal Care Shelter!

If you want to support us by donating, please use our FS Account 251391

VOICES AND NOTES

THE AUROVILLE THAT WAS

When I joined forty years ago, Auroville was a predominantly young society of idealists with minimal material needs. Most of us lived in huts, under a keet roof; in the greenbelt, with no electricity and hardly any phone. When the windmill did not turn, we had no water either; then a bullock cart from Grace delivered to us water in barrels: free of charge, of course.

I don't remember a single car. Didn't Roger utter, in a famous interview, "no car enters the city"? Bicycles were the current transport; in Mother's years, in Aspiration even these were collective property and the motorbikes were used for work only. Via the Pour Tous baskets we got whatever food was available; in the eighties, it was still rationed. There were no 'summer holidays' (and certainly) no air conditioners; all year long we stayed in Auroville, coping with the long blackouts. Auroville will be and was our faith. Nothing else mattered.

In that atmosphere of freedom, the illimitable freedom of yearning souls whose wealth is to live with nothing, the presence of the Mother was tremendously strong. Those were her children, the children of the 1968 revolution, which Auroville had preceded by three months. The abysmal disparities between the poor and the rich had come to end, and so did the petty goals of a comfy life. The residents still lived according to the Mother's guidelines, spontaneously; in fact, often below. Revolution had come from within, the revolution of the Spirit.

This is the Auroville I joined, and those were the people who attended our general meetings. The life conditions were harsh, we were not numerous and we did not vote; we just raised our hands, took decisions on the spot and these were implemented. We came to the meetings well prepared; there were informative articles in the News and Notes and we debated a lot among ourselves. Our adhesion was sincere, anyone was free to speak; the participants were motivated and what we decided was genuinely felt. If something went wrong, or someone did wrong things, the community was promptly informed; a general meeting was called and the process started all over.

Whenever the heart took over, there were no parties or rivalries. Living by the heart, there were no secrets. Merged in a world where ethnicity, culture and status were superseded by the vision of something magnificent we were called to build made us one; sharing harshness and difficulties, we braved them all and lived content. The Ideal only existed.

Evoking the years of my Auroville apprenticeship, when youth flocked at the quest of a society of brotherhood, equality and freedom, today seems evoking a fairytale. But it was a fairytale that we lived, day in and day out; we would have not exchanged our sort for anything else in the world. Whatever duress we had to go through was nothing, compared to the magnificent destiny awaiting us, just for simply living the Dream.

With gratitude, proud of having shared the Dream with the founders of Auroville. One day, when the original spirit takes over again, that Dream will be.

Paulette



Archive image: Claudine, living at the Matrimandir Camp and working on site

TUNNELLING AS RESISTANCE, AS SELF-ORGANIZATION, AS SEEKING

Since antiquity, tunnels have been used in war for both offence and defence. For defence against a powerful enemy, the weaker side has to go underground for survival. Digging a cave provides shelter. Creating a network of tunnels provides a lot more, it allows for resistance.

Tunnelling is not retreating in fear, but actively responding, in what is a bleak, losing situation. Tunnellers are resisters. And should be seen as seekers. The tunneller has to abandon all that they were doing in life and focus all their energies on a dark wall, the task in front of them. They work persistently and patiently towards a small hope, in the form of some light and fresh air, and to connect with another human in an opening.

Why talk about tunnelling today? We have to see clearly that we are all being bombarded. Constantly. In many ways. While the vast majority are not under the explosive bombing raids, the large

number of wars on the human and the planet make the present the darkest moment in human history, and at a time of amassing the greatest power, the future appears even more grave. That gives an historic opportunity for everyone to tunnel. As a seeker. And as a resister.

What is the work of tunnelling today? What will today's tunnels look like? <https://medium.com/@aandolan/tunnelling-as-resistance-as-self-organization-as-seeking-e23960730282>

Rajesh

LEARNINGS FROM THE STANDUP

An event last weekend, a session of standup humour by outsiders, provided many learnings.

One learning was that Auroville needs to laugh. Just laugh. Aurovilians need places to gather to laugh. And find time to relax in company. Away from the crown and the ring. Away from danger.

Aurovilians have a greater awareness of the world, the environment, and the human psyche. And its not from google or ai. They do have a higher level of consciousness. This was proved repeatedly as three comedians – whose model of success was based on being weird, vulgar, focusing on the superficial – found no connection with the audience.

Aurovilians will have to rely on their own talent and allow it to point inwards, learning to laugh at themselves. Didn't Mother say that?

There was a learning about provocation, but it belongs elsewhere.

Apologies to all discomforted by the event: hosts, audience, and performers.

- The Organisers

POETRY

"Why are you always smiling?"

*"I once fell down in my childhood
And got up laughing.
I've been smiling ever since."*

*"Oh... Isn't it the longest marathon?
No wonder your skin wrinkles."*

*His eyes winked and twinkled.
His wrinkles deepened.*

*Something in me
Smoothened.*

AWAKENING SPIRIT

AMPHITHEATRE - MATRIMANDIR

**Every THURSDAY
6.00 to 6.30 pm**



During the Summer months, Sunil's music and Savitri read by Mother will be replaced by the beautiful New Year Music, also by Sunil and with each time a different prayer by the Mother - recorded with the 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, l-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

ACCESS TO THE PARK OF UNITY AND MATRIMANDIR

The Park of Unity

The Matrimandir, the Petals, the Lotus Pond, Banyan Tree are areas of SILENCE

- The Park of Unity is open to Aurovilians and Newcomers
Daily: 6.00 AM to 7.30 PM
- Aurovilians may bring close family and friends to the Gardens
Daily: 9.00 AM to 3.30 PM
- Volunteers and Donors require a pass to enter the Park of Unity. Timings will be indicated on the pass.
- Published events in the Park of Unity are open to Aurovilians, Newcomers, Volunteers, Pass holders and Guests. Guests should bring their Aurocards.

The Inner Chamber of the Matrimandir

The Matrimandir is a place for silent individual concentration.

- The Inner Chamber is open to Aurovilians and Newcomers:

Monday – Saturday	6.00 AM to 8.00 AM 4.30 PM to 7.30 PM
Sunday	6.00 AM to 12.00 PM 4.30 PM to 7.30 PM
- The Inner Chamber is open to SAVI registered Volunteers:

Wednesday – Monday	8.00 AM to 8.40 AM.
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 Arrival at 7.45 AM at the Office Gate
- The Inner Chamber is open to Aurovilians wishing to accompany a maximum of 5 close family and friends, no more than once in two weeks, with booking 3 to 5 days in advance to mmconcentration@auroville.org.in:

Any day except Tuesday & Sunday:	8.00 AM to 8.35 AM
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 Arrival at 7.45 AM at the Office Gate
- The Inner Chamber, the Petals and the Gardens are open to the Children of Auroville and the Outreach Schools:

Tuesday	9.00 AM to 11.00 AM
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- The Auroville units can bring their staff to the Inner Chamber with a prior booking to mmconcentration@auroville.org.in:

Tuesday	8.00 AM to 8.30 AM
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The Petals of the Matrimandir

- The Petals are open to Aurovilians, Newcomers and Pass holders

Monday – Sunday	7 AM to 8 AM,
Tuesday	AM closed.
Daily	5 PM to 6 PM

Access to Matrimandir for Visitors and Guests Matrimandir Viewing Point

The Viewing Point is open to the general public on presentation of a Pass.

Visits to the Matrimandir Viewing Point are free of cost.

Free passes can be obtained at the Auroville Visitors Centre

The Viewing Point lies south of the Park of Unity and offers visitors a panoramic view of the Matrimandir and the Gardens and the Lake.

Timings starting from the Visitors Centre:

Daily: 9.00 AM to 5.30 PM

The Inner Chamber of the Matrimandir

The Inner Chamber is open to Visitors and Guests by prior booking only. Visitors and Guests seeking to concentrate in the Inner Chamber are requested to inquire at the Information Desk of the Visitors Centre after first visiting the Viewing Point. Prior booking is required to access the Inner Chamber at least one or two days in advance. Bookings for concentration are given for the following or the first free day as per availability and are accepted only up to one week in advance. Minimum age 10 years. The Petals are open to Visitors on the morning of their Inner Chamber visit.

INTRODUCTION TO THE INTEGRAL YOGA OF SRI AUROBINDO AND THE MOTHER

Tuesday, 25th June, 9 am - 12 noon
Focus: Collective Yoga

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, or at an agreed upon venue in Auroville

By appointment only: please call 8300191193



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



Also check Zech's Weekly Sharings:

<https://zechjoya.blogspot.com>

Or scan the QR Code on the left

HEALTH

LEELA THERAPY

A unique combination of psychotherapy, self-inquiry and ancient teachings of Enneagram of Liberation. I invite you to be supported by heart based and trauma-informed skills, taught by Leela School of Awakening.

Private 1:1 sessions are a powerful and intimate container to work on your deep emotional healing and self-discovery.

Anything, and everything is welcomed.

Leela therapy is offered by Kardash in person or on-line, through Inner Sight (an Activity under LEAD).

For more details see www.innersightav.org or whatsapp Kardash on 9940934875.



SANTÉ SERVICES IN JUNE 2024

Sante

Working Hours:

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

SATURDAY AFTERNOONS WILL BE CLOSED IN JUNE

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

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

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.

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; aurokiya@gmail.com
WA/ Mobile: 8012305151; www.aurokiya.com

EDUCATION

TUTION GRADE 1-12

Tuition 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.

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!

People have started to come back. Samskrit Chanting, Spanish, French and English and French Conversation Practice sessions are happening on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 5-6pm. For the English conversation sessions, the focus continues to be on the Auroville Charter and The Dream. All are welcome for these sessions.

Our first full-length publication: We are thrilled to announce that the long-awaited printed copies have finally arrived!!! They are now on sale at the Lab and will be available soon at other outlets, and at the Auroville Library. Please come to the Lab, have a look, and pick up your copy!



“From Resonance to Bonding” by our German Tomatis colleagues and friends, Dirk Beckedorf & Franz Müller, is also available on Amazon as an e-book. The paperback version is not available on Amazon yet, but you can pre-book by going to <https://books.aurovillelanguagelab.org/> and click on “Pre-Booking (Paperback in India).”

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.aurovillelanguagelab.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 buy the paperback or 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. The book holds deep insights for anyone working in the field of education.

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 our form at <http://register.aurovillelanguagelab.org/> You may also drop us an email at info@aurovillelanguagelab.org, call us at 262-3661, text or whatsapp 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! 🙏

Current Schedule of Classes

Language	Level	Time	Day(s) Of Classes
English	Pre-Intermediate & Intermediate 8-Hour (Monthly)	11:00am – 12:00pm	Tuesday & Thursday
	Learn English through theatre 8-Hour (Monthly)	11:00am-12:00pm	Monday & Wednesday
	English Pre-Intermediate Youth Group 8-Hour (4 weeks)	3:00 to 4:00 pm	Monday & Wednesday
	English Pre-Intermediate Adult Group 8-Hour (4 weeks)	4:00 to 5:00 Pm	Monday & Wednesday
	English Intermediate Adult Group 8-Hour (4 weeks)	4:00 to 5:00 Pm	Tuesday & Thursday
	Conversation Intermediate Start date 9 April 2024 8-Hour (4 weeks)	3:00 – 4:00pm	Tuesday & Thursday
	Study Hall and English tutoring 8-Hour (4 weeks)	4:00 – 6:00 pm	Friday
	Facilitating English Teacher Training 8-Hours (4 weeks)	5:00 – 6:00 Pm	Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday
French	Beginner 8-Hour (1 months)	4:00 – 5:00 Pm	Tuesday & Thursday
Persian	Persian Language and Poetry	10:00 to 11:30 Am	Saturday
Sanskrit	Beginner	2:00 to 4:00 pm	Thursday
Hindi	Beginner	2:00 to 4:00 pm	Wednesday
Tamil	Spoken Beginner Starting 14 th of June	09:30 to 10:30 am	Tuesday and Friday
	Spoken Intermediate Starting 15 th of June	11:00 to 12:00	Saturday
	Reading & Writing Starting 15 th of June	9:30 to 10:30	Saturday
Spanish	Beginner Starting 3 th of July	2:30 to 3:30	Monday & Wednesday
	Intermediate Starting 3 th of July	To Be Announced	TBA
Italian	Beginner Starting 17 th 21 st of June	To Be Announced	TBA
	Intermediate Starting 17 th 21 st of June	To Be Announced	TBA

The Language Lab is open:
Monday – Friday, 9am - 12pm & 2pm - 6pm
Saturday, 9am - 12pm & 2pm - 5pm

Location:

International Zone, after Unity Pavilion & Pump House.
Phones: (0413) 2623661(Lab), +919843030355 (Lab WA, 2622467, 3509932 **Email:** info@aurovillelanguagelab.org and tomatis@aurovillelanguagelab.org

CLASSES, WORKSHOPS & HEALING ARTS

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

Mon 8th July - Sat 13th July



This course synthesises ancient Eastern wisdom on mindfulness with Western neuroscience, mind-body medicine & positive psychology.

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

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

Timings are: **7.30-9.30am (Mon to Fri) & 9am - 4.30pm on Sat 13th July.**

The course is led by Helen. Message her on 7094753054 for booking & details or see innersightav.org The course is hosted by InnerSight (an Activity under Hospitality Trust)

QUIET HEALING CENTER



Quiet Healing Center, Auroville 605 104, Tamil Nadu, India
www.quiethealingcenter.info / quiet@auroville.org.in
Mobile & WhatsApp: +91 9488084966

WOGA (Yoga in Water) with Friederike & Tamara

Saturday 6th & 20th July
(4:30 - 6.00pm)



WOGA is based on classic yoga poses and stretches, modified for standing in pool water, which is waist-to-chest high. Classes are structured like their yoga equivalent on land: breathing, warm-up exercises, a series of poses, and a relaxation period.

The substantial decrease of gravity in warm water allows greater ease of movement, unblocks articulations, lengthens & melts muscles, and removes negative tensions, thereby preventing stress, insomnia and anxiety.

No previous experience required (also no need to be able to swim)!

Baby Watsu with Friederike

Monday 8th & 22nd July
(9:30 - 11.00am)



A special opportunity to connect with your baby! You'll be guided how to hold, feel and move your baby, using the qualities of warm water, so that you and your baby can feel safe, at ease, and enjoy this quality time together.

You'll learn and practice the basics in the group, while you stay focused on your baby's needs in the moment. In the end, there is free playtime.

Please bring towels and a closing swimming pant for your baby.

For babies between 2 and 12 months with their parents.

SUN & SOIL

Natural building workshop

INTRODUCTION

Delve into the heart of ancient techniques and modern sustainability. Unravel the intricate tapestry of natural buildings and materials, weaving together the timeless wisdom of cob, wattle, and daub.

Join us for this **5-day full-time workshop 7:30 am-5:00 pm**.

Discover the essence of mud through hands-on exploration and theory. Bring structures to life, each whispering stories of generations yet to unfold.

From **July 8th till 12th** - at Auroville, at Youth Center.
SOIL WALK | NATURAL BUILDING | DORODANGO ART | BIO ENZYME WORKSHOP | OPEN HOUSE

For registration and more info, please go to our website:
Youthlink.org.in



VIPASSANA MEDITATION

Date: Every Sunday - for those who have attended at least one ten day Vipassana course as taught by SN Goenka.

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

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



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

VÉRITÉ WORKSHOPS

Pre-registration required

Please contact Verite @
0413 2622045, 2622606, 9363624083 or
programming@verite.in, www.verite.in



Face & Eye Yoga: Face your Self – with Mamta Saturday, June 22, 9:15am – 12:00pm

The physical & mental state of our inner world determines how we experience our outer world. Sense organs are the tools for each experience we have. Face Yoga involves simple self-massage techniques & exercises to release tension in the facial area, stimulate blood circulation & improve efficiency of our sense organs. In an era of increased screen time, our eye health may be compromised, unless we actively exercise this area. Eye Yoga uses techniques such as palming, blinking, near & far viewing & candle gazing. You will also learn tips to prevent eye damage caused by screen time.

Food is Medicine: Lifestyle Health Practices – with Parvathi Saturday, June 22, 2:00pm – 04:30pm

Learn about your body's constitution (Tridosha) & the plants, foods, spices & lifestyle practices that benefit your constitution & help prevent health complications. Parvathi will also demonstrate the proper way to prepare decoction/ infusion teas.

Introduction to Ayurveda & Panchakarma – with Dr. Geeta Friday, June 28, 2:00pm – 4:30pm

Ayurveda, the ancient Indian medical system, includes Panchakarma, which is a set of five cleansing procedures. Learn the appropriate use of and principles behind these practices, which aim to detoxify, rejuvenate, and restore balance to body, mind and spirit

Food is Medicine- Lifestyle Health Practices – with Parvathi Saturday, June 29, 2:00pm – 4:30pm

Learn about your body's constitution (Tridosha) & the plants, foods, spices & lifestyle practices that benefit your constitution & help prevent health complications. Parvathi will also demonstrate the proper way to prepare decoction/ infusion teas.

AUROVILLE AIKIDO AT AV BUDOKAN (DEHASHAKTI):



Adults' regular schedule for beginners and all levels: During the summer we continue our early classes but discontinue the Wednesday evening and Sunday morning.

So, welcome to join this beautiful and complete practice in the form of a Japanese martial art: every **Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday from 6 to 7.30 am** (with N. Murugan and Surya).

Reasonable contributions required for the Budokan (a SAIER sub-unit).

Children classes (from age 8) will restart in July.

For more info, please contact us: budokan@auroville.org.in
and/or call 083001 89062 (Surya) - 099528 12843
(Murugan/WA) - 83006 43963 (Philippe/WA).

REGENERATION LISTENING CIRCLE



Regeneration Listening Circle:

Mondays 6:00 am & Wednesdays 5:00 pm

Session duration: 1.5 h

Experiences of previous participants:

"Because of the ecological problems humanity is facing, I didn't want to have children, but after this circle today, I do again" - Guest

"I'm very sensitive and I could feel the spirits of Mother Nature with us in this circle; very beautiful" - Newcomer

"This talking-stick gives me Power; and with great Power, comes great Responsibility" - Aurovilian

Limited seating - Location will be shared after your reservation under +49 1638041124 WhatsApp

Submitted by Nadim

SVARAM IS TAKING A BREAK IN JUNE



SOUND JOURNEY

is taking a break!

Sessions at the UTSAV Building are postponed until 3rd July 2024

See you soon!



TAI CHI CHUAN @ SHARNGA

SUMMER SCHEDULE - MAY 13 TO JUNE 22

Tuesdays - Fridays:

- 7:30-8:00am Chi
- 8:00-9:00am Tai Chi Chuan form



Except May 27 - June 1, when there will be class only on Tuesday 28th and Friday 31st.

PITANGA CLOSED: 2 JUNE - 7 JULY



Summer maintenance work

Pitanga remains closed to the public during the month of June, 2 June - 7 July, for annual maintenance work.

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

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

PRINCIPLES OF NON VIOLENT COMMUNICATION

PRINCIPLES OF NONVIOLENT COMMUNICATION
WITH STEFAN & HENRIKE



AN EXPERIENTIAL JOURNEY TO THE BASICS OF NVC

WHEN?
Sunday 23rd June 2024
9.30 to 16.30
Please only sign up if you can come for the whole day

WHERE?
Pavilion of Tibetan Culture, Auroville

WHY PARTICIPATE?

- Have an experience of how NVC can help build connection between people, even in conflict
- Get an overview of NVC principles and processes
- Take home straight forward impulses on how to connect with yourself and others in different ways in the future

SCAN FOR INFO & REGISTRATION



organised by YouthLink Auroville

LINK to Register: <https://s3.2hacurl.page/DCpzPIJje>

CAPOEIRA - MARTIAL ART AND MUSIC WITH GINGA SAROBA

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



Join us for classes for teens and adults (15 yrs and above)
Intermediate : Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday - 5.15 PM - Dehashakti

Beginners: Tuesday and Thursday - 6.00 PM- Dehashakti
Contact: 7598446327

Let us know if you would like more information.

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

TANGO AUROVILLE

Wanna 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

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

HARMONY Bharat Nivas

+91 98211 66082 | tango@auroville.org.in

IMPROVISATION CLASSES IN CRIPA

STARTS 6H JULY, 3:30 PM - 5:30PM

For queries write to: michaelsokolin@gmail.com

IMPROVISATION CLASSES

Starting 6th July
Every Saturday
15:30-17:30
in Cripa (small room)


In these classes our intention will be to explore freedom and authenticity in movement, sound and interaction.

Our intention will be to stay free, vast and sincere in a group dynamic.

You can expect a combination of physical and psychological warm ups, improvisational games and self-expression exercises.

We will practice deep listening and staying receptive to the space, to the moment and to ourselves to become more in tune with what is natural allowing it organically to come forth; without performing, acting, effort or tension.

OFFERING BY MIKE
FOR QUERIES: [MICHAELSOKOLIN@GMAIL.COM](mailto:michaelsokolin@gmail.com)



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

MAKER SPACE



Join us on the **20th of June** for the opening of our new youth maker space at the Youth Center, **Monday to Friday from 8.30am till 12.30pm.**

Discover the endless possibilities of learning, creating, and innovating with wood, metal and more, in our collaborative workspace.

A facilitator will be available to provide assistance in learning how to use the tools and technologies, as well as hands-on experience in bringing your ideas to life.

Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity to be a part of our growing maker community.

What can you learn:

CUTTING BOARD/ LAMPS/ RENOVATION OF FURNITURE/ METAL & WOODWORK / WELDING/ ARTS & CRAFTS/ JEWELLERY/ UPCYCLING

INTERNATIONAL YOGA DAY - 21 JUNE 2024

In 2014, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) declared 21st June as the International Yoga Day (IDY). Yoga is an invaluable gift of India's ancient tradition which moves beyond physical exercise to embrace the unity within oneself and the world.

Everyone is invited in this collective aspiration for Unity

Bring your Yoga mats and be **seated by 5.45 am.** Entry from **West Gate** (viewing point) will be open from 5.15am

Muthukumari, Sudha, Mollika, Nilima, Anand, Santosh and Velumurugan

FOODS, GOODS & SERVICES

AUROVILLE LIBRARY SUMMER TIMINGS

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

NEWS FROM THE AUROVILLE LIBRARY

Photo Exhibition by Lisbeth



The Auroville Library is happy to exhibit photos by Lisbeth from Madhuca.

They show Muthialpet, Annapurna, the Canary islands, and some portraits.

Everyone is welcome to see them during our opening hours.

Mon - Sat : 9am - 12.30pm

Tue, Thu & Sat : 4 - 6.30pm

HAIRCUTS

Hairdresser. For your and / or your child's next haircut: inspired, striving-for-the-perfect, 12 yrs young artist Ahana looks after your and / or your child's hair and well being.

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



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

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...

You name it, we do it: Flight tickets, Bus tickets, Train tickets, Travel Insurance, Visas, transport in Taxis, even some required nights of rest if that is the case...

Our door is open from **9h30 till 4pm**.

Mr. Ganesh our Travel Consultant will be at our **Kalpna 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

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 or insideindia@inside-india.com

Some current offers:

- Malaysian airways & Thai airways special fare from Chennai to Seoul.
- Etihad airways offer fare is available from Chennai to Frankfurt, Vienna, London, Zurich, Milan, Munich, Brussels, Seoul.
- Special Business Class Fare from Chennai to Seoul on Cathay Pacific.
- Qatar airways special fare from Chennai to Paris, Frankfurt, Milan, Munich.
- Qatar airways Special one way fares from Chennai to New York, USA
- Aerofloat flight offer fare is available from Delhi - Moscow - Delhi.

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...
- You can also have a look at our current offer for Chettinadu

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 Tips:

Several travellers were "boarding denied" as check-in staff didn't accept the **e-FRRO Stay Visa** as valid document without backing 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.

Indian nationals can now be issued long-term, multi-entry **Schengen visas** valid for two years after having obtained and lawfully used two visas within the previous three years. The two-year visa will normally be followed by a five-year visa, if the passport has sufficient validity remaining. During the validity period of these visas, holders enjoy travel rights equivalent to visa-free nationals.

Srilankan Tourist Visa 30 days single entry fees waiver scheme for citizens of China, India, Indonesia, Russia, Thailand, Malaysia, and Japan is valid until further notice. Indian Nationals can apply for E-tourist visa through the given link <https://www.srilankaevisa.lk/> Indian Nationals are entitled to visa exemption for the purpose of tourism and short-term business engagements, for a period not exceeding 60 days. Visa on arrival at the immigration checkpoints on arrival for the purpose of tourism, for a period not exceeding 15 days.

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.

eVisa fees waiver scheme has been introduced for citizens of India, China, Indonesia, Russia, Thailand, Malaysia, and Japan, with immediate effect, valid until May 31st, 2024 (Last date of arrival) for tourism only. To avail of the scheme, please select the 30-day single entry eVisa option.

Thailand has extended its visa exemption program for tourists from India and Taiwan for another six months, allowing these travelers to enter the country without a visa until November 11, 2024. Travelers from India and Taiwan can stay for a maximum of 30 days without a visa.

Also, [this LINK](#) will tell you all that you need to know about Flight delays and/or cancellations.

Finally, [this LINK](#) can be useful too in case you are travelling on your own... or not...

Thanks a lot to all of you who already trusted us.

Have a great week...

Inside India New Team

DROPZY

Dropzy
Food, Groceries,
Fruits & Veggies,
Body Care,
Wellness, etc.
Stay home, order
and access. We'll
drop it to you.

Dropzy is a multipurpose mobile app platform for ordering and accessing information from a wide range of in and around Auroville eateries, grocers, bakers, farms, therapists, professionals etc. **Dropzy** delivery personnel will pick up the orders from the outlets/stores; deliver them to the customers at their doorsteps and convenience.

Kindly do download the mobile app to register yourself to place orders supporting the outlets in and around Auroville and to find out relevant information to your needs.

Download link as shown below:

Android

<https://rb.gy/32zcx>

iPhone

<https://rb.gy/visp4c>

Desktop

<https://rb.gy/bpnud5>



Stay tuned in to our announcements and the app regularly, for more updates.

Best regards, Sathish Arumugam / For Dropzy
Mobile: +91 8098144686 / www.dropzy.in

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



AURODENT OFFERS IN JUNE



MAKE YOUR SMILE WHITER AND BRIGHTER

ABOUT US

We are following the highest standards of the treatment. Our team is dedicated to making your visit the most comfortable.

June Month Offer

25% off

Teeth whitening

MAKE YOUR SMILE Healthy

JUNE MONTH OFFER

50% off

Teeth cleaning

4 in 1 Procedure

- .Scaling
- .Air flow
- .Brushing with paste
- .Calcium gel application

aurodent@auroville.org.in

Auromode (opposite of CSR), Auroville 605101.
What's up 9629199328 Land line: 0413-2622063

LIGHT FISH

PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIO AURELEC

Services:

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

Phone: 8279300821
sales@light-fish.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



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 Saturdays** in our community kitchen!



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



Limited seats available

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



ARE YOUR TREES GETTING THE CARE THEY NEED?!

At **TreeCare** we have been working hard to expand our services and reduce our wait time. Call us today for a free visit & consultation.

Contact us through
+91 90420 59890 or
office@treecareindia.com.

We have always believed in providing the best quality services, as well as educating people about the field of ARBORICULTURE and its importance in today's landscape.

Warmly,
TreeCare Team



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



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

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

Secondary Email: rcsrapidcareservice@gmail.com

Instagram handle: @rapidcare1

For Rapid Care, Balaji & Arun

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

Regards, Julien.

ECO FEMME OPEN HOUSE

eco femme

Come learn about:

- Sustainable products like cloth pads, menstrual cups, period panties and cloth nappies
- Menstrual cycle awareness
- Ethical business in a women-led social enterprise
- Our not-for-profit menstrual health education

EVERYONE IS WELCOME.

Every Thursday, 10:30am - 12:00pm

P.S. You can pick up all our eco-friendly products at a discount!



Eco Femme Office
Auroshipam, Auroville

ecofemme.org | WA: +91 94871 79556



NEWS & UPDATES FROM MARCS COFFEE



Hello everyone,

We've got some exciting updates to share with you:

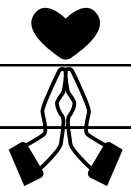
1. Our lovely **Cacao plants** are all set to be potted! If you're keen, swing by in the morning from 8 to 12.
2. We've got plenty of **SCOBY** to grab for anyone interested in brewing their own kombucha at home.
3. Starting now, our **closing time** will be **8 pm every day** (except Wednesday as we are closed all day).
4. Exciting news! We've transformed our rooftop into a cozy terrace, perfect for hosting art **events, music and games** (like *Bloomo*). If you have any ideas or talents to share, get in touch with us!

Looking forward to seeing you all soon!

Please write to admin@marcscoffees.com
Marcs café team



SUPPORT NEEDED



LE MORGAN NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT!

Le Morgan Cafe (town hall) has ceased its activity one year ago, but is still struggling to settle its debts (suppliers and mostly the gratuity of the 5 workers).

We, Odile and Jean-Marc, have to find **5 lakhs** for this settlement. We have tried hard to get some help, but couldn't get any from the new AV administration (famc, trust...). Since the covid crisis, we have no income at all, but we are asked to refund the restaurant deposit from our own pocket. So, this is a call for help to our brothers and sisters who remember the good service, the friendly welcome and nice food we have tried to provide them during 18 years.

Every donation will be welcome for reducing our burden.

FS. account:102619.

Odile, Jean-Marc

TAXI SHARE



TAXI TO CHENNAI AIRPORT 23 JUNE

Taxi goes empty to Chennai airport to **return 01.00 AM** to Auroville on **Sunday morning June 23d.**

Ride to the airport can be used if it fits anyone's needs approximately.

Contact Jan, Gaia, +91 9443309312

SHARE TAXI TO SRI MA ONCE WEEKLY IN JUNE

Send a message if interested 🌞

Isha
message: +91 96555 34514



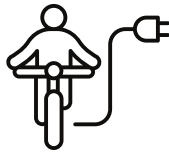
AVAILABLE

OLA ELECTRIC BIKE

Ola electric bike for sale. Eleven months old.

Contact: 8270065871 or 9786773255

Submitted by Kittu



LOOKING FOR

VIKAS COMMUNITY IS LOOKING FOR A FULL-TIME GARDENER

Given the next retirement of our gardener who has worked here for over two decades, Vikas Community is looking for a full-time gardener. English communication skills are required. Please get in touch with Gali: gali@auroville.org.in



FRENCH NEWS & NOTES

NOUVELLES D'AUROVILLE



Click [here](#) to read the French News&Notes or
Scan the QR code:



CINEMA

MMC ANNOUNCEMENT

Dear All:

Aurofilm is taking their annual break in May-June 2024 and hence there will be no Friday evening films from now through June.

So, on Fridays 17, 24, 31 May; 7, 14, 21, 28 June 2024, and as of now also 26 July 2024 -- if there are groups or individuals who want to book evening programs you can. For example, you can plan a program starting at 5pm ending by 7:30pm. Provided that the program ends by 9:30pm it should be fine.

Booking procedure will remain the same. If interested, you can decide on a date(s), starting and ending time of your intended program and write to us at mmcauditorium@auroville.org.in to inquire about availability. We go from there.

Thank you,
With Best regards
Multimedia Center (MMC) Team



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



Cinema Paradiso

Multimedia Center (MMC) Auditorium

Film program 24 June 2024 - 30 June 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 Subcontinent – Monday 24 June, 8:00 pm:

• JOYLAND

Pakistan-USA, 2022, Writer-Dir. Saim Sadiq w/Ali Junejo, Rasti Farooq, Alina Khan, and others, Comedy-Crime, 126mins, Punjabi-Urdu w/English subtitles, Rated: NR (R)

This critically acclaimed debut film by the director, set in inner-city Lahore, centers around the low-income Rana family. The patriarch controls the family that is cramped in a small apartment. He wants a male heir. When the elder son has the fourth daughter the focus fell on the younger son, Haider, to provide a son. His wife Mumtaz a talented working woman is nudged to leave the work she loves in hope for a male heir. Haider, a non-achiever, claimed to have landed a job of a theatre manager. In actuality, he is a backup dancer at a Bollywood-style burlesque. There he becomes infatuated with a strong-willed trans woman, Biba. The film depicts, with sensitivity, the complex characters who find themselves trapped in tasks that are expected of them. *A good film!*

Potpourri – Tuesday 25 June, 8:00 pm:

• AWAKENINGS

USA, 1990, Dir. Penny Marshall w/Robert De Niro, Robin Williams, Julie Kavner, and others, Biography-Drama, 121mins, English w/English subtitles, Rated: PG-13

Dr Malcolm Sayer is put in charge of several catatonic schizophrenia patients in a Bronx-based psychiatric hospital. However, he soon tries to test a new drug that could hopefully revive them. This is the only film where De Niro and Williams appears together. *A good watch!*

Interesting – Wednesday 26 June, 8:00 pm:

• TAYLOR SWIFT: THE ERAS TOUR

USA, 2023, Dir. Sam Wrench w/ Taylor Swift, Mike Meadows, Max Bernstein, and others, Documentary-Music, 169mins, English w/English subtitles, Rated: PG-13

The cultural phenomenon continues on the big screen! Immerse yourself in this once-in-a-lifetime concert film experience with a breathtaking, cinematic view of the history-making tour. It is a filmed version of Swift's record-breaking show, captured over three performances in Los Angeles' SoFi Stadium. Aside from a few "bloopers" over the closing credits, there're — no interviews, no behind-the-scenes footage, no commentary to distract. *Enjoy the show.*

Selection – Thursday 27 June, 8:00 pm:

• SÅ SOM I HIMMELEN (As It Is in Heaven)

Sweden, 2004, Dir. Kay Pollak w/ Anders Nyberg, Ola Olsson, Carin Pollak, and others, Music-Comedy, 133mins, Swedish-English-Italian w/English subtitles, Rated: NR (PG)

A successful international conductor (Michael Nyqvist) suddenly interrupts his career and returns to his childhood village in Sweden. He is asked to listen to the church choir and from that moment nothing in the village is the same again. The choir grows, and the conductor makes both friends and enemies and finds love. *A heartwarming film to watch!*

International – Saturday 29 June, 8:00 pm:

• WICKED LITTLE LETTERS

UK-USA-France, 2023, Dir. Thea Sharrock w/Jessie Buckley, Olivia Colman, Timothy Spall, and others, Comedy-Crime, 100mins, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: R

A 1920s English seaside town bears witness to a dark, absurd scandal in this riotous mystery comedy. Based on a stranger-than-fiction true story, the film follows two neighbors: deeply conservative local Edith Swan and rowdy Irish migrant Rose Gooding. When Edith and fellow residents start to receive wicked letters full of unintentionally hilarious profanities, foul-mouthed Rose is charged with the crime. The anonymous letters prompt a national uproar, and a trial ensues. However, as the town's women, led by Police Officer Gladys Moss, begin to investigate the crime themselves, they suspect that something is amiss, and Rose might not be the culprit after all. *A good watch!*

Children's Matinee – Sunday 30 June, 4:00 pm:

• KAZE TACHINU (The Wind Rises)

Japan, 2013, writer-Dir. Hayao Miyazaki w/Hideaki Anno, Hidetoshi Nishijima, Miori Takimoto, and others, Animation- Biography, 126mins, Japanese w/ English subtitles, Rated: PG-13 Inspired by the famous Italian aeronautical designer Caproni, Jiro dreams of flying and designing beautiful airplanes. When his vision does not allow him to be a pilot, Jiro joins a major engineering company in 1927 and becomes one of the world's most innovative and accomplished airplane designers. The film follows his life in animation.

BLACK & WHITE CLASSICS @ CINÉ-CLUB

Ciné-Club Sunday 30 June, 8:00 pm:

• ALPHAVILLE

France, 1965, Dir. Jean-Luc Godard w/ Anna Karina, Eddie Constantine and others, Sci-Fi – Drama, 99 mins, French w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR.

Government agent Lemmy Caution is on a secret mission to Alphaville, a dystopian metropolis in a distant corner of the galaxy. Caution is hot on the trail of rogue agent Henri and a scientist named Von Braun, the creator of Alpha 60, a computer that uses mind control to rule over residents of Alphaville.

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. 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

LAND REPORT

Auroville is currently grappling with governance and funds and assets management issues that jeopardise its founding principles and its foreseeable future. The focal point of our concern today involves the opaque land exchange processes conducted by the Auroville Foundation's Governing Board and their "Land Committee", the Secretary's Officers and some members of the Land Board, which have led to significant financial and ethical discrepancies and the loss of our very valuable lands on state and national highway.

In Brief:

- The AVFO's recent practice of granting access to private properties through Auroville land when viable alternatives exist raises questions about potential underhanded deals.
- Land exchange decisions require consultation with the Residents' Assembly's Working Committee and Funds and Assets Management Committee (FAMC) as per Auroville Foundation Rules 1997 (Section 4(d) & (e)). This mandatory consultation and information sharing have been absent for the past two years.
- Established procedures, including independent land valuation as implemented by the previous Secretary, Mr. Chunkath, have reportedly not been followed for recent exchanges.
- GFR rules mandate permission from the Finance Ministry for property sales by autonomous bodies, which is also allegedly absent.
- Disposing of Auroville properties before revising or reformulating the nearly expired Master Plan, Perspective 2025, is unwise.
- The circular Green Belt area as originally envisioned, is not realistic as over 600 acres are occupied by several village settlements and temple lands.
- Previous land exchanges along main roads have not benefited Auroville. The peaceful green entrances to the Auroville area were deemed an important purchase priority and are now cluttered with commercial development and litter.

Generally it can be observed that:

- Auroville's land consolidation effort was built on voluntary land sales by ancestral landowners and purchases by Aurovilians and well-wishers/devotees world wide. Opaque transactions at a loss dishonour their goodwill.
- Lands purchased during the Mother's time hold special significance and require utmost care, community consultation, and transparent processes in the rare instances of any sale or exchange.
- The recent dismissal of Aurovillian Land Board members and appointment of outsiders, coupled with a total lack of communication regarding land exchanges, raises concerns about conflict of interest and lack of adhering to proper procedures.
- Encouraging sales/exchanges over direct purchases not only results in financial losses but also deprives Auroville of prime properties. The current exchange practices damage Auroville's reputation among local ancestral land owners and donors worldwide.

Some main concerns:

Under the guise of consolidation for development the AVFO has exchanged prime Auroville properties. It has become evident (see list attached) that a large portion of the lands received in exchange are predominantly located in the Green Belt and are therefore not required for "development". The basis for the consolidation itself is no longer tenable.

- **Massive Undervaluation:** Lands of Auroville that are valued between Rs 4.4 to Rs 8.7 crores per acre (and up to 13 crores per acre based on their current market value per square foot, which is common practise given their prime location) have been exchanged at rates alarmingly lower, causing a financial loss to Auroville exceeding 100 crores. It is not known who this considerable amount of money is benefitting, and this enormous financial discrepancy raises strong suspicions of mismanagement and misconduct for the sake of private gain.
- **Enormous Financial Loss:** Specific instances have surfaced where AV land was exchanged at Rs 7 lakhs per acre, a figure grossly inconsistent with market rates and the strategic value of the locations involved (near a national highway or other prime road locations). In a November 2023 exchange the Auroville land was exchanged at less than 1% of its real market value.
- **Lack of Transparency:** Recent land exchange processes have been marked by complete opaqueness and an absence of proper process, including how the land was benefitting Auroville, and an evaluation by an independent, empaneled entity.

The Residents' Assembly and their elected representatives were also not consulted nor involved in these land exchange processes, while they are the first custodians of the Auroville land, which has been entirely consolidated with donations from residents and well-wishers worldwide for 60 years.

Actions taken so far:

The WCom of the RA has written numerous times to the GB and IAC regarding these discrepancies, we have informed various relevant officials and have requested swift intervention from the Ministry; as the situation will reflect unfavourably on the Central Government's oversight of autonomous bodies (like the Auroville Foundation) and have pleaded to urgently take the following actions:

1. Initiate a freeze on all ongoing land exchange deals in Auroville, with immediate effect.
2. Conduct a thorough investigation by an independent agency into the suspected malpractices and undervaluation of all lands involved in exchanges since 2022.
3. Ensure the return to a due diligence process, including proper environmental impact assessments and public consultations, as well as the involvement of the Residents' Assembly - one of Auroville's statutory authorities - through its bona-fide representatives.
4. Hold the Governing Board and the Office of the Secretary accountable for their actions and take appropriate measures to prevent such malpractices in the future.

We have also sent a legal notice to the District Registrar on 21-9-2022 quoting the General Finance Rules (GFR) that states "No land belonging to the Government or any of its bodies including autonomous bodies, PSUs etc shall be sold without previous sanction of the Government" (Rules 309 of GFRS, 2017) and informing that the Working Committee of the RA has not been consulted (as stated in the Rules and Regulations of AVF Act "Powers of the Governing Board" section: (i) to sell, transfer, lease or otherwise dispose of any immovable property of the Foundation in consultation with the Working Committee and the FAMC).

In May 2022 a letter was sent to the District Registrar and again in March 2023, we have written to the Collector and to other appropriate authorities.

An RTI reply in September 2022 from the CPIO & Under Secretary (UNESCO desk), in response to asking if permission for exchange had been sought, stated that no information is available regarding sanction of the Central Government in order to sell, transfer, lease or otherwise dispose of any immovable property of the Foundation since 1 July 2021. A letter dated the 29th March 2023 from the Under Secretary of the Gol, Department of Higher Education, MoE, to the Secretary Auroville Foundation, sends a reminder of Rule 309 of GFRS 2017 to the AVFO and sends comments in respect of agenda point No.8 of the 56th Governing Board meeting of Auroville Foundation held on 07.11.2020, and further states that the MoE will further examine as per the extant of Gol rules.

An RTI reply on Dec 2023 from the MoE on land exchange states: "henceforth, this Ministry thus devised a set of principles to serve as a checklist for the Governing Board to endorse and approve proposals for land exchange or purchase." ... "2. Further, the approval of the GB for such proposals would be considered final, provided that necessary financial prudence and due diligence is exercised by the GB as per the following checklist/principles:

- I. No govt- fund or grant in aid should have been used in procuring or improving the land being exchanged by AF.
- II. All provisions of applicable statutes, at Central and State level, and safeguards against land alienation as also due process for securing clearances should be followed during land acquisition
- III. The GB should be satisfied that (a) the acquisition is critical for realising the Master Plan (b) the land being exchanged could not have been put to better use to further the objectives of Mother's Charter and (c) the potential benefits outweigh the costs and adverse impacts of the acquisition."

Questions and observations arise on the above checklist principles supplied by the MoE:

1. The Auroville Foundation Rules, 1997, require approval by the RA Working Committee and FAMC and not simply the GB's; however there is no mention of this.
2. Several other countries have provided funds through grants for the development of the lands exchanged. The terms and purposes of these grants and donations must also be respected.
3. So far the mechanism and persons employed by the GB have failed in their tasks concerning land alienation and acting with any professionalism.

They have systematically undervalued Auroville lands, the Govt surveyor has not been present to demarcate the property, creating havoc on site amongst the residents and between the “purchasers”, while the resident stewards are not informed

4. When the Mother has herself written on June 9th 1971 in French that “I authorise that all lands of AuroOrchard shall be reserved for organic agriculture” is the GB then placing its ideas and priorities for development and land use above the Mother’s explicit wishes? What role do the words of the Mother herself have on the GB’s interpretation today?

5. There have been no 5 year reviews and no detailed Development Plans (DDP) on the Master Plan (Perspective 2025) as required, which leads us to believe that the GB is developing Auroville according to its own wishes and without consulting the residents (as stated in the Act). Also, development is inconsistent with the Master plan in several cases such as: there is no parking lot in the city area envisaged, as has been developed near the Solar Kitchen, a “circular road” is mentioned but there is never any mention of a “perfect circle” or any jargon regarding a “yantra”. These are myths or personal beliefs created by certain persons without any authority.

Reasons to believe there are malpractices:

1. Since 2022 nearly 25 acres of land, abutting state/national highways (with high market value) have been exchanged for 36 acres of land with no public access (substantially lower market value). As we write, we believe more exchanges were or are being negotiated. These lands are not only in the city area but many are in the Green Belt.
2. In the disposal of survey nos TH 183/1 & 185 (Auro Orchard), it is noteworthy that similar property (the Universal Farmhouse), located exactly opposite on the same state highway has a current market value averaging 1400/- to 2400/- per sq ft according to its proximity with the road, while the land exchanged in Auro Orchard has over 400 metres of frontage road, but was disposed of at the guideline value of only 16/- per sq ft, causing a conservatively estimated loss of at least Rs 60 crores to Auroville.
3. Auroville Foundation purchased (on 17.11.2023) 2.46 acre land near the Matrimandir Nursery (bearing IR 318/3) at Rs 3,780 per sq ft while the prevailing guideline value for the land is listed at Rs 18 per sq ft. The land in the city area has no public access and is not near any national highway, so the market rate is very exaggerated. Auroville land located on the highway is exchanged at the listed guideline value of Rs.16 per sq ft rather than the much higher market rate.
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4. Commonly accepted mechanisms of price discovery for disposal of land like legal opinions, evaluation by empanelled evaluator, announcement in newspapers, call for tenders, etc, have not been followed in all the above cases, and in several instances the subdivisions of a plot have much higher guideline values than the AV land.

5. There has been secrecy about all the recent land exchanges, the Aurovilian residents working or residing on these plots have not been informed, nor has the Working Committee or the Funds and Assets Management Committee been consulted. It is apparent that two Land Board members who are related have negotiated purchases with their business partners. Property purchase documents show their relatives and in-laws as buyers, who subsequently sell the land to speculators like Mrs. Vijaya (owner of Mother Care Holidays Resorts - Hotel Serena) and Mr. T. Kannan. These speculators appear to be exploiting the situation to acquire prime Auroville properties at Auroville’s expense. Sellers are reportedly further being misled about government purchase restrictions and directed to sell to the aforementioned third parties.

6. Lands disposed of have not been surveyed by a government surveyor as mentioned previously; in one case (sale deed numbered 7603/2023), for 10 acres of Auro Orchard the FMB is hastily hand drawn. (This has resulted in the loss of the main access, a house, three cow sheds, two godowns, the primary bore well and the irrigation distribution for the entire Farm. This was an obvious error as none of the above mentioned assets are mentioned in the schedule of property.

7. According to GFRS 2017 rule 309, autonomous bodies are to mandatorily have central government approval before disposal of lands. However, the Ministry of Education replied on December 5, 2023, to an RTI saying “M/o Education has not sanctioned anything related to sales/exchanges/leases/disposals of land as yet”, but the District Registrar has registered these land exchanges in spite of lack of these mandatory approvals.

8. The Working Committee of the Residents’ Assembly has sent a legal notice to the District Registrar (Tindivanam) on the 21st of September 2022 and on the 18th of November 2022, but necessary action was not taken. On the 3rd of May 2023, yet another letter was sent to the District Registrar (Tindivanam).

9. On the 29th of March, 2023, the Ministry of Education sent an email to the Secretary of the Auroville Foundation (No. 2-13/2020-UU) commenting on the minutes of the 61st and 62nd meetings of the Governing Board bringing her attention to GFRS 2017 rule 309 and pointing out that the same information had been conveyed by them in respect of the 56th Governing Board meeting minutes. This shows that the land has been disposed of in spite of repeated objections by the central government.

10. A letter dated 14th November 2023 from the Working Committee of the Residents’ Assembly to the Governing Board of the Auroville Foundation and the International Advisory Committee highlights questionable land exchanges.

11. A letter dated 5th Dec 2023 from the Working Committee of the Residents’ Assembly to the members of the Governing Board and the International Advisory Council again highlights questionable land exchanges.

12. According to the Auroville Foundation Rules, 1997, Section 4(i), the Governing Board of the Auroville Foundation is to consult with the Working Committee of the Residents’ Assembly and the Funds and Assets Management Committee before proposing disposal of land. However, no such consultation has been done. In fact, the disposals have been kept secret from the above groups and from most of the members of the Land Board of the Auroville Foundation.

13. According to the Foundation Office, these lands are being exchanged to consolidate lands in the city area of Auroville (according to Perspective Plan 2025). However, in reality, many of the valuable lands were exchanged for properties outside of the city area.

14. In February 2022, when Mr. T. Kannan (recent beneficiary of the AuroOrchard land with survey nos TH 183/1 & 185) was approached by the Land Board of Auroville with regard to consolidation of city lands, his request for these same plots of AuroOrchard were refused by LB on behalf of FAMC and WC (due to the Mother’s legacy in purchasing the farm, her message regarding it and its purpose). However, since the Secretary of the Auroville Foundation changed two active and effective Aurovilian Land Board members in June 2022 and employed two non-Aurovilian Special Land Officers, permission was granted without following due procedure.

15. In early March 2024, a letter from 4 of the 5 members of the IAC was sent to the GB to halt exchanges until measures towards transparency and fairness to all stakeholders have been taken.

(Note: One of the roles of the IAC according to the Act under “Section 21. Advisory Council. (3) : ... advise the Governing Board on any matter relating to the development and management of Auroville.”)