

*Auroville*

# NEWS & NOTES

No 1047 - A weekly bulletin for residents of Auroville

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17 October 2024

**RA EDITION**



*Meditation under the Banyan for Maggie Lidchi Grassi*

## PONDERING

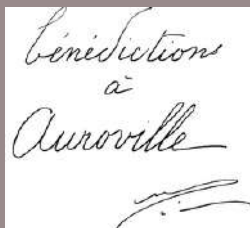
To conquer the difficulties there is more power in a smile than in a sigh.

-- 27 December 1941

<https://motherandsriaurobindo.in/The-Mother/books/words-of-the-mother-II/#face-and-overcome-difficulties>



# THE MOTHER ON AUROVILLE



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Pondicherry, India.  
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behalf of  
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## THE VISION AND THE SOUL

### Page 4

Beginning of the construction of the four pillars

Let Auroville be the symbol  
of a progressive Unity  
And the best way to realise this  
is a unity of aspiration towards  
the Divine Perfection  
in work and in feeling  
in a consecration of the entire life.  
21.2.1972

\*

*Significance of the four pillars*

North Mahakali East Mahalakshmi  
South Maheshwari East Mahasaraswati

\*

*Significance of the twelve rooms*

Sincerity, Humility, Gratitude, Perseverance, Aspiration,  
Receptivity, Progress, Courage, Goodness, Generosity,  
Equality, Peace.

July. 1972

\*

*Significance of the Matrimandir gardens*

Existence, Consciousness, Bliss, Light, Life, Power, Wealth,  
Utility, Progress, Youth, Harmony, Perfection, Unity.

\*

Let us all work with a growing sincerity for the manifestation of  
the Divine Truth.

3.5.1972\*

\*

Goodwill and peace to all.

The city the earth  
needs.



## CONCEPTION AND BIRTH

### A Dream

There should be somewhere upon earth a place that no nation could claim as its sole property, a place where all human beings of good will, sincere in their aspiration, could live freely as citizens of the world, obeying one single authority, that of the supreme Truth; a place of peace, concord, harmony, where all the fighting instincts of man would be used exclusively to conquer the causes of his suffering and misery, to surmount his weakness and ignorance, to triumph over his limitations and incapacities; a place where the needs of the spirit and the care for progress would get precedence over the satisfaction of desires and passions, the seeking for pleasures and material enjoyments. In this place, children would be able to grow and develop integrally without losing contact with their soul. Education would be given, not with a view to passing examinations and getting certificates and posts, but for enriching the existing faculties and bringing forth new ones. In this place titles and positions would be supplanted by opportunities to serve and organise. The needs of the body will be provided for equally in the case of each and everyone. In the general organisation intellectual, moral and spiritual superiority will find expression not in the enhancement of the pleasures and powers of life but in the increase of duties and responsibilities. Artistic beauty which on its side would provide for each one's subsistence and for

the field of his work. In brief, it would be a place where the relations among human beings, usually based almost exclusively upon competition and strife, would be replaced by relations of emulation for doing better, for collaboration, relations of real brotherhood.

The earth is certainly not ready to realise such an ideal, for mankind does not yet possess the necessary knowledge to understand and accept it or the indispensable conscious force to execute it. That is why I call it a dream.

Yet, this dream is on the way to becoming a reality. That is exactly what we are seeking to do at the Sri Aurobindo Ashram on a small scale, in proportion to our modest means. The achievement is indeed far from being perfect but it is progressive: little by little we advance towards our goal which, we hope, one day we shall be able to hold up before the world as a practical and effective means of coming out of the present chaos in order to be born into a more true, more harmonious new life.

Aug. 1954

\*

You say that Auroville is a dream. Yes, it is a "dream" of the Lord and generally these "dreams" turn out to be true—much more true than the human so-called realities!

20.5.1966\*

# 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.

## 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](mailto: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 (RA WCom)

Funds and Assets Management Committee (RA FAMC)

Budget Coordination Committee (RA BCC)

Town Development Council / L'avenir d'Auroville (RA TDC)

Auroville Council (AVC)

Entry Service (ES)

### GB groups:

Working Committee (GB WC)

Funds and Assets Management Committee (GB FAMC)

Budget Coordination Committee (GB BCC / GB BCS)

Auroville Town Development Council (GB ATDC)

Housing Service (GB HS)

Land Board (GB LB)

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

Thank you for your continued support!

In community,

The RA Community Edition News and Notes Team

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# WORKING GROUPS NEWS

## FROM THE ENTRY SERVICE

### **ES # 230 DATED: 14-10-2024**

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

*We thank you in advance.*

The Entry Board (Amy B., Don, Fabienne, Grace, Mirco, Sara, Sonja, Vadivel)

### **LEFT ON THEIR OWN**

- **Prerana DAS (Indian)**
- **Niharika SANYAL (Indian)**
- **Suchithra BALARAMAN (Indian)**

### **NOTE:**

- A Newcomer becomes an 'Aurovillian' once his/her name has been confirmed by The Admission Committee (aka the Entry Board) after following due process.
- The date of becoming 'Aurovillian' is the date of confirmation. An Aurovillian confirmed by the Entry Board is eligible to participate in all community decision-making processes.
- The formal administrative step of entering new residents into the Register of Residents (RoR), is done by the Secretary of the Auroville Foundation. For this, a B-Form is filled in and signed by the individual and a meeting with the Secretary is arranged by the Entry Secretariat. However, until such time as a new Secretary is appointed, the meetings of Confirmed Aurovilians with the Secretary will be pending.

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

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Dear Friends,

As you may know, the Entry Service has been functioning with reduced capacity since January 2024.

The actions taken to stop the work given to the Entry Service by the Residents' Assembly persist. However, according to the Auroville Foundation Act, the power to admit and terminate names from the register of residents is within the exclusive domain of the Residents' Assembly. The new regulations were challenged before the Madras High Court and have been stayed, but have not been finally heard and disposed.

Be that as it may, the Entry Board team has been reconstituted according to the Residents' Assembly approved process and 3 ongoing members welcomed 5 new members. The team has been meeting regularly since May 2024.

*However, we have been advised not to process new applications for the time being.*

We intend to use this time to take up pending work such as requesting mentor reports, and Newcomer self assessments. We plan to resume completing the Newcomer processes, some of which have been left pending for over 6 months as soon as we are advised to do so.

We apologize for the delays however it has been due to circumstances beyond our control.

We pray for relief by the courts in due time.

Sincerely, The Entry Service & Board

# FROM THE AUROVILLE COUNCIL

## REPORT ON RAMI FOR RAS MANDATE - 4TH OCTOBER 2024

Dear Community Members,

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude for your participation in the 1st RAM (Residents' Assembly Meeting) on Friday, the 4th October. The meeting, held at the Tibetan Pavilion, exceeded our expectations in terms of attendance, especially considering that the Forest Group meeting happened simultaneously.

There was a strong sense of community engagement, and we truly appreciate the increasing involvement of the residents within our collective organisation. We are excited to continue fostering this spirit of collaboration and look forward to seeing more of you at future gatherings.

### Meeting Overview:

The meeting began with a brief introduction by RAS (Residents' Assembly Service) explaining how the RAD (Residents' Assembly Decision-making) process functions. Both RAS and AVC (Auroville Council) clarified that RAS is not involved in determining the content of the topics discussed. The Council develops mandates with support from resource persons within the community, ensuring no conflict of interest. RAS acts solely as the process facilitator, following the established decision-making protocols of the Residents' Assembly and does not interfere in any way with the content.

[Link to the video on YouTube.](#)

Here ([click](#)) you will find the presentation that was shared during the meeting, followed by the Q&A session. Below are some of the key questions raised by participants:

---

### Key Questions from the Meeting:

1. Why is the RAS mandate suddenly being reviewed? Are there any legal implications?

*Answer:*

The RAS had long requested a review of their mandate, as the existing 2007 mandate framed RAS more as a decision-making body, whereas their actual role is to facilitate processes for the Residents' Assembly and working groups. The review has been overdue for some time, and from a wider perspective, this review is necessary to align with evolving structures and processes. There are no adverse legal implications.

2. Why is the Council responsible for selecting RAS members?

*Answer:*

The Council was involved in the initial creation of the RAS and has continued overseeing the selection process. Recently, the WCom of the RA has been involved in the selection of the RAS in order to support. However, in the future, this process can be modified, and an alternative method, ratified by the Residents' Assembly, can be implemented if requested by the community. It was also pointed out that the number of applicants for the membership of the RAS has always been small, so the process has been quite simple.

3. Why isn't there a set term for RAS members?

*Answer:*

Since RAS is considered a service rather than an office-holding position and is free from decision making, no term limits were initially set. However, if the community believes that fixed terms would be beneficial, we encourage you to share your feedback in writing. A form will be circulated by RAS to gather suggestions and opinions on this matter.

4. Why is RAS not considered part of the Working Groups (WGs)?

*Answer:*

All groups, including the RAS, provide service to the community. Whether or not RAS is formally classified as part of the Working Groups is less important than the fact that it continues to serve the community effectively. However, we welcome further feedback on this.

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Towards the conclusion of the meeting, RAS conducted a "pulse check" whether there were any objections from the members present regarding moving forward with the process of approval of the RAS mandate.

#### **Next Steps:**

RAS will share a detailed report of the meeting along with a feedback form for the community. You will have two weeks to submit your feedback, which RAS will compile in accordance with the RAD policy. The compiled feedback will then be passed to the Council for integration. Once this process is complete, the Council will call for a second RAM, during which we will hold discussions based on the feedback received.

We once again thank you all for your active participation in this important process, and we look forward to continued collaboration in shaping our community.

In community,

The Auroville Council

Lucas, Martin, Ramesh, Rju, Samrat, Sathiya

## **FROM THE WORKING COMMITTEE**

### **REBUTTAL TO "IMPORTANT NOTICE: CORRECT PROCESS FOR NEWCOMER ADMISSION TO AUROVILLE"**

Dear Newcomers and Newcomers-to-be,

The massbulletin titled "**Important Notice: Correct Process for Newcomer Admission to Auroville**", sent out on 9th October by a group of residents who continue to illegally claim to be the 'Working Committee of the Residents' Assembly' (namely Anu, Arun, Joseba, Partha, Selvaraj, and Tine), **contained confusing and misleading statements**, which we try to clarify here. (More details are given at the bottom of this letter.)

The Governing Board has tried to establish new 'entry and exit' (admission and termination) processes which leaves them as the sole entity with any real say. 'Admission and Termination' has always been a responsibility held by the Residents' Assembly and this is, in fact, stated in the Auroville Foundation Act.

The Court Order of February 23rd, 2024 is clear, and it stays this new regulation because it: ***"erodes upon the power of the Residents' Assembly to allow admissions or cause the termination of persons in the register"***.

Please note that the people who have sent this erroneous massbulletin are signing as the Working Committee of the Residents' Assembly, **yet refuse to acknowledge this same Residents' Assembly's Decision to remove them from their position** in May 2022. How they can continue to try to justify this in their own minds and to everybody else is beyond us.

In May 2022, a Foundation Officer issued an order trying to stop **all** Residents' Assembly Decisions, including the selection of its Working Committee of the Residents' Assembly. There issued a back and forth of legal decisions, but the Madras High Court commented in a judgement:

***"Until further orders, functioning of the Working Committee under Section 20 of the Act shall not be interfered with by the Committee constituted under the impugned Regulations and***



***the Working Committee shall be one as constituted under Section 20(3) of the Act.”***

We should all question these residents who are **claiming to be selected by all of us while doing all they can to erode the role of the RA and spreading falsehood and confusion.**

Please feel free to contact us with any questions you may have. You are welcome to write to us at [workingcom@auroville.services](mailto:workingcom@auroville.services) or visit us during our open hours every Tuesday from 10 to 12 in the old Koodam office (parking and entrance opposite the Auroville Library).

In Service,

The Working Committee of the Residents' Assembly

Aravinda, Bharathy, Chali, Maël (on leave), Matthieu, Prashant, Valli



### **More legal details...**

We invite you to take note of excerpts below from 3 separate court orders, with some explanations.

The Stay Order issued by the Madras High Court regarding the Auroville Foundation (Admission and Termination of Persons in the Register of Residents) Regulations, 2023 (our emphasis in bold.):

*"16. It would appear that the Residents' Assembly is totally ignored under the Regulations for admission or termination of person in the register of residents.*

*17. The reliance placed on Regulation 32(2)(h) of the Act may not enure to the benefit of the respondent. The power to frame regulation with regard to the admission or termination of person in the register of residents would mean to include, laying down certain criteria for admission or termination of persons; however, would not be interpreted to mean that the power of the Residents' Assembly to admit or terminate person in the register of residents as enshrined under Section 19 of the Act would be taken away. **The said Regulation prima facie would be in the teeth of Section 19 of the Act.***

*18. The subordinate legislation may supplement the statute; however, cannot supplant it.*

***Prima facie, the impugned regulation erodes upon the power of the Residents' Assembly to allow admissions or cause the termination of persons in the register.***

*19. In light of that, we pass the following order:*

*"Until further orders, admission or termination of a person in the register of residents of the Auroville Foundation shall not be finalised; nor a person shall be admitted or terminated from the register of residents **resorting to the impugned regulation.**" (Impugned = dispute the truth, validity, or [honesty](#) of (a statement or [motive](#)); call into question. 'Impugned' here refers to the regulations that are challenged in the writ petition.)*

The impugned regulations in this case are those approved by the Governing Board and published in the Gazette of the Indian Government on 19th December 2023. **The order quoted above means that admission and termination cannot be made following the new process outlined in the 2023 Regulations. The Order does not mention the 2020 Regulations (approved by the RA and the Governing Board at that time).**

So under no legal fantasy can it be stated that the 2023 Regulations are valid. If admission and termination of residents is not allowed under them then there is no other relevant provision left and they are void and meaningless.

Regarding the status of the Working Committee of the Residents' Assembly, we have stated on many occasions that the Madras High Court has quashed, with its order of 12th August 2022, the letter of the Officer on Special Duty preventing any Residents' Assembly Decisions. The Secretary of the Auroville Foundation

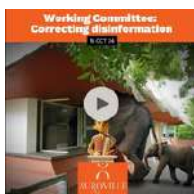
got an interim stay on 26th August 2022, but the same stay was modified with an order of 4th September 2023 declaring that the RA, as a statutory body, may not be restrained from carrying out its functions according to Sections 18, 19 and 20 of the Auroville Foundation Act.

The Madras High Court has further commented in its judgment of 23rd February 2024, concerning regulations for the selection of the Working Committee published by the Secretary in the Gazette of India on 4th January 2024, that *"The subordinate legislation may supplement the statute; however, cannot supplant it. Prima facie, the impugned regulation erodes upon the power of the Residents' Assembly to appoint members of its own choosing to the Working Committee. In light of that, we pass the following order:*

***"Until further orders, functioning of the Working Committee under Section 20 of the Act shall not be interfered with by the Committee constituted under the impugned Regulations and the Working Committee shall be one as constituted under Section 20(3) of the Act."***

On the basis of this order, the only selections of the Working Committee recognized as valid are those made by the RA, most recently in June 2022 and April 2024. Also, irrespective of any legal interpretation, Anu, Arun, Partha (and Srimoyi) were dismissed by the RA in May 2022 while Joseba, Selvaraj and Tine were appointed by those dismissed as 'interim' members. Therefore any insistence to claim to be a Working Committee member by people who have been dismissed and then not attended any of these selections is not legally or ethically supportable.

## AUROVILLE MEDIA LIAISON SERVICE



### WORKING COMMITTEE: CORRECTING DISINFORMATION

Watch the video [HERE](#)



## FO GROUPS NEWS

(not selected by due Residents Assembly process)

### FROM THE FO N&N 1048

Please click [HERE](#) to read the FO groups news

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## A SUMMARY OF EVENTS HAPPENING IN AUROVILLE TODAY

### FOREST CLEARANCES CONTINUE AT PACE Northern Forest Area cleared for road to hill site

A 6 meter wide road has been cleared through Auroville's [Northern Forest Area](#) (NFA), in order to gain access to the area that has been earmarked for a [30 meter tall hill](#) to be built from the soil excavated from the Matrimandir Lake. This project threatens the forest sanctuary and wildlife in the area. Find out about the history of the NFA sanctuary and wildlife breeding ground [here](#).

The land where the hill is being built is jointly owned by Auroville and Michael Bonke. So far, 6 acres of land have been cleared at the hill site and approximately 10 more acres are earmarked for clearance in the future. For reference, this is approximately equivalent to 5 times the size of the Gaia sports field.



Watch [here](#) a drone video of the clearing.

Michael Bonke and the Matrimandir (MM) team are coordinating the project, which will see 1 million cubic meters of soil transported by lorry from the MM to the hillsite over the next two years. The planned height of the hill means that it will tower above the current canopy level, which is around 10 meters high. Michael Bonke claims that after the soil has been transported, the cleared areas will be replanted, however concerns have been raised that it will not be possible to prevent development in that area now that there is a roadway.

Michael Bonke is now de facto in charge of three major projects in Auroville: the MM Lake, the sections of the Crown road not already tendered out to CPWD, and now what is commonly being called 'Michael Bonke's hill'. There has been absolutely no consultation with the community about the hill and as of now, no Environmental Impact Assessment on the project has been done. Pertinent questions are being asked such as:

- Have the correct mining permissions been received?
- Have there been assessments as to the effect the hill will have on groundwater and rainwater runoff?
- Have owners of neighbouring plots been consulted about the shade that a 30m hill will cast on their agriculture?
- Where in the Master Plan is this hill shown?

One reason that has been used to justify this project is that the Mother mentioned a hill in Auroville. One of the stewards of the land has questioned this in an essay called '[The Last Dance](#)', stating that "insinuating that building an artificial hill is actually Her idea, is not only disturbing but highly dishonest. Mother, it is true, did mention a hill to some devotees close to a century ago.

But this, as you know, was at a time when She was vaguely contemplating the possibility of settling, with Sri Aurobindo, on some land in the Deccan, where, in fact, there are natural hills formed by the Deccan traps. She certainly did not ask her devotees to create an artificial hill on this plateau by smothering existing forests and naturally regenerating Ebony so that they may enjoy the view at sunset."

A dialogue was held between Michael Bonke and the NFA stewards, but the road project was presented as a *fait accompli*, and the stewards were informed that the AVFO 'ATDC' had already 'given permission'. Eventually one of the three stewards of the land gave some assistance with the clearing. Bonke was reportedly keen to use the land already owned by Auroville to move the soil as moving soil across public roads requires certain permits.

### **Nine Palms plot cleared without consultation for Eco-Service landfill**

Without communicating or warning the stewards, a plot of land measuring roughly half an acre was cleared from Nine Palms for a new Eco-Service landfill. It appears that the AVFO 'ATDC' identified and allocated the plot in Nine Palms without consulting anyone

with knowledge about Auroville's forests and watersheds. This plot is situated directly above a major water catchment area, with the first aquifer lying about 15m below the surface in summer. Using the site for landfill waste of an unknown grade may contaminate the water table. Additionally, it has been one of the few fertile plots in Nine Palms for the last 25 years, previously used to cultivate peanuts and local grains. Please see [here](#) for a report about the area that was cleared.



Figure 2 Entrance of site



Figure 3 Overview of site

The issue of where to dump the Auroville landfill waste has been a matter of urgency for around one month, due to neighbours blocking access to the previous site. The Eco-Service team had then taken the problem to the AVFO 'ATDC', who initially did not respond to the email requests for action. After some time the Eco-Service team took the drastic action of dumping several loads of landfill waste at Town Hall in order to get the attention of the AVFO 'ATDC'. This is when the AVFO 'ATDC' went on to allocate the plot in Nine Palms without speaking to the stewards. However, Nine Palms is also surrounded by private land, and so this issue could arise again.

[Rubbish at town hall](#)

### **AVFO 'ATDC' plans to clear path for Outer Ring Road through Revelation**

The stewards of Revelation Forest have been informed that the CPWD will soon begin clearing the path for the Outer Ring Road through the Sanctuary, a portion of forest that was meant to be free from human intervention and that is home to several protected and endangered species.



The AVFO 'ATDC' is insisting that the Outer Ring Road take the form of a 'perfect circle' through Revelation Forest. However, several stretches of the planned roads have already been adjusted away from a circle based on land availability and ownership. A less destructive route for the Outer Ring is possible through Revelation, if it follows existing electric lines. However, so far, the AVFO 'ATDC' refuses to consider this alternate route (the alternative route is in red on [this map](#)).

Please see [here](#) for a 2012 study into the regeneration of the Tropical Dry Evergreen Forest in the Revelation Sanctuary. \_

### **AFSANAH GH & PTPS UPDATE**

The AVFO 'FAMC' are attempting to take over Afsanah's Guest House (AGH) by installing executives of their choosing without following the [Code of Conduct \(CoC\)](#) process or producing the required documents with valid signatures. Additionally, they are also attempting to remove Joel, one of the executives of PTPS, via a [trust resolution](#). As the resolution was signed by Joseba who is impersonating a member of the WCom but is not part of the

legally-recognized RA WCom, it is not valid.

In a [massbulletin](#) dated 06.09.24, the RA WCom called out the actions, stating “We question the replacement of people who have proven they are up to the tasks they took on, and who wholeheartedly give their service to Auroville.... and we need to question the motives behind these arbitrary decisions to remove them”. They also shared a [timeline](#) of the attempted takeover of PTPS as well as a [second statement](#) from the AGH team. The newly appointed trustees and executives have been actively blocking basic services such as email, internet, food and housekeeping supplies from PTDC and HERS as well as access to the Guest House Portal. They have also cut the maintenances of the legitimate management team.

These actions are not only hindering the work of the AGH team but are directly affecting the experience of guests and damaging the reputation of Afsanah Guest House. The illegality of the actions of the AVFO ‘WCom’ and ‘FAMC’ was further reinforced by a legal notice & legal opinion that was shared by WCom on 20th September.

A [petition](#) objecting to these recent actions of the ‘GB FAMC’ was launched on 28th August, signed by 539 residents.

## **AVFO: NO NEW SECRETARY BUT THREE NEW DEPUTY SECRETARIES**

The Auroville Foundation has announced via a [recruitment notification](#) that there will be three new Deputy Secretaries, alongside a new Undersecretary, recruited to work in the AVFO. The new positions are Deputy Secretary (Security), Deputy Secretary (Accounts and Audit), Deputy (Administration). Remuneration for the roles range between Rs. 78,800 – 2,09,200 per month, at the same time as many residents have stopped receiving their maintenances. The creation of the three new roles was originally shared in the [66th GB meeting minutes](#), and continues the trend of increased bureaucratization in the AVFO.

There also appears to be uncertainty around the departure of Dr Jayanti Ravi from her role as Secretary. Although her departure seemed to be confirmed in July 2024 when it was [announced](#) that she would be repatriated back to her State Cadre in Gujarat, a [report](#) in the Times of India on 16th September claimed that she may “continue to hold additional charge of the [Auroville] Foundation”. According to the article, an officer holding dual responsibilities would be a “rare phenomenon”. This information however, based on hearsay, has not yet been confirmed by any official news source.

## **LEGAL OPINIONS & LEGAL NOTICE**

Legal opinions on the current status of the [RA WCom](#) and the [Admissions Committee](#) (Entry Board) have been shared with the community via massbulletin. This move was taken due to the continuing disregard of court orders by the AVFO and their appointed ‘working groups’. The lawyer representing the RA highlighted the court order dated February 2024 and stated that “It is my opinion that there is and can only be one Working Committee of the Residents’ Assembly, and no body of persons without the mandate of the Residents’ Assembly can claim to be the Working Committee of the Residents’ Assembly.” As none of the AVFO ‘WCom’ have the mandate and approval of the RA they cannot claim to be the legitimate WCom of the RA, however they continue to do so.

For the Entry Board (EB) the lawyer stated “it is my opinion that the Admissions Committee selected by the Residents Assembly can continue to function under the 2020 Regulations subject to any further or other orders passed by the Hon’ble Madras High Court.”



As they do not currently have access to their office, the EB shared that they were continuing work such as contacting the current Newcomers for their self assessments, and other documentation and scheduling clarification on feedback.

Separately, [a legal notice](#) was sent to the AVFO 'FAMC'. The notice highlighted that the AVFO 'FAMC' is relying on the support of an illegitimate group (the AVFO 'WCom') in order to carry out large scale changes such as changing executives and trustees and removing maintenances. The notice directed them to cease their actions, as these changes are not legal. This legal notice was presented in a video by Auroville Media Liaison (AMLS), which can be found below.



Click [here](#) to watch the video

On 9th October 2024, the AVFO 'WCom' sent a [massbulletin](#) that made several claims regarding the legal opinion on the status of the Entry Board. Despite making a reference to "the undersigned members" the email was unsigned, however it was immediately followed up with a [second mail](#) which stated "For further clarification, the preceding massbulletin ... was signed "The Working Committee," which is composed of the following members:

Anu, Arun, Joseba, Partha, Selvaraj, Srimoyi (inactive), and Tine".

The following day a [clarification](#) was published on Auronet which directly contradicted this statement: "Srimoyi has resigned from the Working Committee on 21.03.2024, she is neither active nor inactive for the Working Committee, and Anu has resigned since 01.08.2024 from the Working Committee; she acts now as a 'resource person'."

## **SILVER FUND REQUESTS IGNORED BY AVFO 'BCC'**

Over one year ago, a group of 5 senior members of the Forest Group who had their maintenances taken away requested the AVFO 'BCC' to consider their applications for maintenances under the 'Silver Fund'. At that time they were told that "All new enrolment under the Silver Fund category are on Hold." Since then, there has been no further reply from the AVFO 'working groups', despite the fact that these seniors have "dedicated their working lives and resources to the development of Auroville", and none of them are now receiving any support from Auroville beyond a 'care package', a total of 4800 rs per month (600rs Health Fund, 2200rs lunch scheme and 2000 rs for shopping at PTDC or PTPS).

In order to highlight their urgent situation and hopefully initiate some action from the AVFO 'working groups', the seniors have been writing to the AVFO 'BCC' on a regular basis (six emails since July 2024) to ask for a response to their request. You can see copies of their emails [here](#). In their email dated 12th August 2024, they stated "Despite our two previous emails ... you have still not responded, nor explained the reasons for your procrastination, nor why you consider that these 5 seniors ... deserve from you such a lack of tact, attention, respect, fraternity, spiritual compassion, gratitude, and kindness, generosity, equality and peace".

## LAND REPORT

An Aurovilian has written an in-depth report on the current land situation in Auroville. Important points in the report include:

- **PKS Case:** There is an ongoing court case regarding illegally occupied land near Evergreen. A resolution is expected by mid-October.
- **Mailam Swami Land:** Temple land is being sold illegally through unregistered leases.
- **Land Exchange Controversy:** The AVFO 'Land Board' attempted more land exchanges, but the registration was denied due to queries from the Collector via the Land Administration Commissioner.
- **TV Kannan:** Kannan previously exchanged several plots of low value inside the Master Plan area for 10 acres of Auro Orchard. He has recently purchased 4.24 acres near Matrimandir, from a family who has Aurovilian members. Kannan also retains land near the elephant tower.
- **Auroville Families- Land Sales:** Two families with Aurovilian members sold land to outsiders. One of the families had a sale agreement with the 'Land Board' that was discarded.
- **Land Board Corruption Concerns:** A 'Land Board' member issued an NOC for disputed property to a relative, raising corruption concerns.
- **Sea Erosion:** Aurovilians taking stopgap measures to protect Auroville land from erosion while no action is taken by the AVFO or their 'Land Board'.
- **Land Board Membership:** There have been several resignations and apparently only one member, a person who was appointed by the Secretary, has access to the emails.
- **CPWD Survey:** Surveyors working outside Master Plan area, raising concerns about land use intentions.

Read the [detailed report](#) for more information.

## UPDATE ON VISAS

The visa situation in Auroville is a continued concern. On 22nd May 2024, Mr. Koshy Varghese, the AVFO officer for visa matters, met with Auroville Forest Group members following accusations of financial non-compliance from the AVFO 'FAMC'. Mr. Varghese reportedly advised forest stewards to comply with directives from Governing Board-appointed groups. Forest Group members who were present clarified that they were following all the processes agreed with the BCC.

Over the following months, Mr. Varghese held meetings with groups of non-Indian Auroville residents, often grouped by nationality.

According to the RA WCom's latest [report](#), published on 17th August, visa extensions were issued to several Aurovilians between May and July 2024. However, most received only 1-year extensions rather than the usual 5 years. For residents whose previous visas had expired months prior, the new visas' duration starts retroactively from the expiration date of their previous visa. This means these residents now have to start the process of reapplying again immediately - a financially and procedurally challenging situation for many.

Additionally, several Aurovilians still remain stuck abroad without a Letter of Recommendation, while others have exceeded the duration of their stay and are stuck in Auroville without a valid visa. On 20th August 2024, a resident reported attending a meeting called by Mr. Varghese with German, Ukrainian and Chinese residents. The meeting allegedly emphasized India's generosity in granting 5-year visas to Auroville. At that time, it was also stated that currently no AVFO staff are authorized to sign Letters of Recommendation for Auroville visas. For several months after her transfer as Secretary, Jayanti Ravi still retained the power to sign

letters of recommendation. However, this power has now reportedly been given by the Chairman of the GB to an Officer on Special Duty, G. Seetharaman. A number of letters of recommendation have been signed in recent days - while some cases are still pending.

Two Aurovilians who received 'Leave India' notices, RA WCom member Maël and Satprem, are currently in Auroville for short visits. Due to visa restrictions neither are working during their visits.

## FOREST ART EXHIBITION

In June 2024, a mystery exhibition was organised in a forest of Auroville, paying homage to the area where the pioneers first began to build Auroville. Titled "Artists in Response", it showcased the creative expression of 24 artists in response to the current crisis. Despite there being no official communication regarding its existence nor its initiators, over the span of a week, 300+ residents visited the site, as news spread on a word of mouth basis. Among the fifty pieces — a wide variety that included interactive installations, panels, paintings, ceramics, metal sculptures, to name a few — every evening there were small events such as screenings of short movies or photo collages. These were accompanied by juice and snacks, creating the opportunity for people to come together in the middle of nature. On the last day, as an unplanned closing ceremony, 100 Aurovilians joined in sharing a moment together by sitting in a semi-circle in a clearing beside a giant banyan tree. Read [N&N n.1034](#) for a personal account of this experience.



## MEDIA & OTHER LINKS

- September 14th 2024, RA Forest Caretakers: [Humorous Newsletter no.0](#)
- September 30th 2024, Auroville Media Liaison Service: [Introducing a New Way to Stay Informed about Auroville](#)
- October 7th 2024, The Hindu: [Government ties up with Auroville Foundation to bring classical art to international audience](#)
- October 4th 2024, The Hindu: [Delegation of diplomats from various nations visit Auroville](#)
- September 26th 2024, The Hindustan Times: [Anger, fear and conspiracies loom large over the experimental community of Auroville](#)
- September 26th 2024, Odisha.plus: [Auroville belongs to humanity as a whole](#)
- September 18th 2024, Times of India: [Lofty dreams turns legal nightmare](#)





# COMMUNITY SHARING

## AUROVILLE DOG SHELTER

### MONTHLY TRANSPARENCY REPORT SEPTEMBER 2024

#### Overview

- New admissions: 20 (294 since April 2023 - 10 tiny puppies dumped again!)
- Rabies suspect cases: 1
- Adoptions and Releases: 15
- Vaccinations administered: approx. 300 (a total of 800 since the start of the vaccination drive)
- ABC shelter dog sterilizations: 12 (110 since February)
- Deworming: approx. 200

#### Donations

This month was a disaster as we barely received any donations, because some of our main donors did not have enough money to donate to the shelter. Our expenses were high, especially staff costs due to the ongoing vaccination campaign trying to combat the rabies outbreak in Auroville. In September, Rs. 100.530 arrived in our FS account and Rs. 65.750 in our bank account, which includes Rs. 50.000 from BCC and also donations sent by AVI USA (USD 556) leaving us with a huge minus of Rs. 1.3 lakh.

#### Expenditures

Animal Food: This month we fed our dogs 2 tons of rice, 1.8 tons of chicken, and 820 eggs, supplemented with donated food items like vegetables and daal which cost us approx. 1.1 lakh.

Staff Costs: Total staff costs for this month for our workers, paid animal care staff, 2 veterinarians, and volunteers was approx. Rs. 1.75 lakh this month.

Medical Costs: This month we were only able to buy urgent medicines and spent Rs 20.000, which does not include the vaccinations. Our stock of medicines is depleted and we need urgent funds to buy more.



#### Releasing of dogs, Vaccination Home Visits & Sterilisations

This month we had to rescue 19 dogs, some of them in extremely bad health, and some puppies that were dumped. As the capacity of our shelter is far beyond the maximum possible and without enough donations to ensure that we can provide sufficient food and care to all of them, we have no other option than to start releasing some dogs weekly. Of course, only dogs which are completely healthy, sterilized, and fully vaccinated will be released. Even though we asked dog lovers and Aurovilians to support us by fostering dogs, nobody came forward, which forces us to take this drastic step.

Despite having no funds we still try to keep our mobile vet clinic every Friday from 10.30 to 13.30 alive where we offer free treatments and free vaccinations as long as stock lasts. We have a long list of pet owners asking us for home visits, without enough money to pay our staff, we have to charge a fee of Rs. 200 per home visit.

We cannot offer any free sterilizations at the moment and need to receive upfront payment to guarantee an operation slot after several people refused to pay for neutering their animals or didn't show up.

#### Partnership with Youth Centre and Youth Link

We are immensely grateful to Youth Centre and Youth Link for instantly agreeing to help us to build 20 dog houses which will be used to house dogs in our new temporary backside area we called "HOPE". Without their support, it would be impossible to meet the target of fencing and open the new area within one month.

## **New Auroville Dog Shelter - Excerpts from our Progress Report to the GB**

*As it is now over a year since the construction of the new Auroville Dog Shelter is not moving forward, we have decided to publish excerpts from our progress report which was submitted to the Governing Board on 30.9.2024:*

Auroville has always had a dog shelter since 2005. In April 2023, a new team assumed responsibility for the Auroville Dog Shelter. In May 2023, the Auroville Foundation decided to build a VIP road through the shelter, prompting ATDC to relocate it. By June 2023, a site near Red Earth Riding School (RERS) was allocated after a thorough search. However, RERS owner Jacqueline Kapur, whose business caters to wealthy clients, offering riding classes that are too expensive for Aurovilians to afford, opposed the location, preferring to use the land for parking and expansion, despite it not being part of RERS.



### New site permission is given & supported by AWBI and Animal Husbandry.

In June 2023, ATDC/Sindhujha granted site permission for the new Auroville Dog Shelter. The Animal Welfare Board of India and Tamil Nadu's Animal Husbandry inspected the site and the shelter, praising massive improvements despite the outdated and crumbling facilities and confirming compliance with all regulations. They allocated a 10 lakh rupee grant for the new shelter's construction, which must be spent within a year. An additional 6.25 lakh was granted for medical and operational costs. The shelter receives Rs 50,000 monthly from BCC Auroville but requires 3 lakhs for operations, relying on fundraising. The Auroville Dog Shelter has signed an MoU with the Dean of the RIVER Vet College in Mettupallayam which turned the shelter into a place of education and training for vet interns, and also entered among others into a partnership with India's largest Animal Care Organisation", People for Animals."

### Governing Board allocated budget for moving

In February 2024 the Governing Board allocated a 2 crore budget for building the new Auroville Dog Shelter at the allocated new site adjacent to RERS which is less than 4 acres in size. The area is more or less the same size that the shelter occupies now with 3.67 acres.

### Objections by Neighbor RERS and Their Resolution

The neighboring Red Earth Riding School (RERS), led by Jacqueline, instigated Edayanchavadi villagers to submit fabricated complaints against the Auroville Dog Shelter, even contacting the Chief Minister's online portal. In response, Dr. Mrs. Latha, Joint Director of the Department of Animal Husbandry intervened, visiting the site in April 2024. She recommended changes to the architectural plans, including a sound-proof barrier to mitigate noise and buffer zones between dogs and horses. The revised plans were inspected and approved by the Animal Husbandry team, who requested immediate construction of the new Auroville Dog Shelter at the site adjacent RERS.

### ATDC building application manager blocks NOC & building permission

After resolving the complaints, Jacqueline was often seen at the Foundation Office, leading Mme Secretary to suggest seeking an alternative site for the dog shelter. However, no suitable options were found, and the Auroville Dog Shelter team initiated the building permission process in May 2024. Unfortunately, Ms. Sindhujha, the building application manager, refused to process it, questioning the shelter's existence despite the agreement of other ATDC members. Misrepresentations about the new site size with Mrs. Sindhujha falsely claiming that it is 7 acres and attempts to limit the shelter's size and scope of activities ensued, stalling

progress for four months and threatening the survival of the shelter while bluntly disregarding Tamil Nadu Animal Welfare Board of India and other government guidelines. Ms. Sindhuja said on audio record during an ATDC meeting that she is following orders from Madam Secretary.

### Private Development Plans Threatening the Greenbelt Master Plan

Another challenge to the Auroville Dog Shelter site is private development plans inside the Greenbelt Master Plan. The private lands alongside the new VIP road are getting purchased by brokers for future business development, in collaboration with 2 village panchayat presidents and inside help from Auroville. An upscale villa housing lay-out (Doctor City) has sprung up just south of RERS and the new shelter site with the lay-out already encroached into the greenbelt masterplan. This village aims to expand and reach the VIP road for easy access and future shopping facilities. The village presidents are adamant that the dog shelter has no place next to RERS as confirmed by Sindhuja, ATDC. Their argument is that a dog shelter would diminish the real estate value of their high-end villas, housings, and hotels. The Auroville Dog Shelter is situated adjacent to RERS on one side and to peramboke land on the other side. The peramboke land would be used to provide access to the VIP road from the south, but the new Auroville Dog Shelter stands in the way of these development plans, effectively serving as the last line of defense for the Greenbelt Master Plan area against private development.

NOC building permission and budget approval with the Finance Committee in Delhi have been delayed for months. The budget request requires the NOC for building permission, after which the Auroville Secretary signs it. Just before her resignation from ATDC, Ms. Sindhuja made an unauthorized attempt to cancel the site permission for the new Auroville Dog Shelter, threatening its future and the protection of the Greenbelt.

Auroville Dog Shelter Team  
Tine, Joseba, Arthur, Mar

## **AUROVILLE DOG SHELTER**

### **PETITION: AN URGENT CALL FOR SUPPORT FROM THE AV ADMINISTRATION**

The Auroville Dog Shelter which has protected the city of Auroville and its surroundings since 2005, is now in a state of crisis. Despite playing a crucial role in taking care of the AV Community's animal population,



vaccinating and sterilizing them, and preventing rabies outbreaks, the shelter is facing severe financial shortfalls due to a lack of adequate funding from the Auroville administration.

During a recent rabies outbreak, the shelter, through sheer determination and one donor (AVI USA) who provided urgent lifesaving funds, vaccinated over 900 dogs and cats—an effort that saved countless lives and contained the spread of this deadly disease. However, despite its clear value to public health to keep residents and animals safe from this deadly disease, the shelter's calls for help were met with silence by the former Auroville administration.

The Auroville Dog Shelter currently cares for over 300 rescue dogs but struggles to meet its basic monthly running costs of Rs 3 lakh. The shelter receives only Rs 50,000 per month from BCC—an insufficient amount that has left it reliant on donations and fundraising. The situation has become unsustainable as often donations are not enough to cover the basic needs of the shelter

like food, medicines, and vaccinations. Without increased support, the shelter might not survive and cannot continue to protect the Community. Please help to raise awareness so that the new Auroville administration understands its responsibility towards its municipal dog shelter.

**We, the undersigned, demand that the Auroville Foundation provide the necessary financial support to the Auroville Dog Shelter. This is not only a call to Auroville as a spiritual city to show compassion towards animals but a necessary step to safeguard public health for the residents and hundreds of thousands of yearly visitors of Auroville. Specifically, we request that the shelter's funding be increased to Rs 3 lakh per month until it can become self-sufficient to ensure its continued operation.**

This shelter is not just about dogs—it's about the safety and spirit of the entire Auroville community. Let's make sure that the values of compassion and care remain at the heart of Auroville.

**Please help us raise awareness and support our petition!**



Please sign our petition [here](https://www.change.org/AurovilleDogShelter): <https://www.change.org/AurovilleDogShelter> (You can choose to remain anonymous).

As the rainy season has started we urgently need your help! Please donate used cloth, food, and building materials at our donation barrel at Old Pour Tous in Kuliyappalam or drop them off in the shelter or if it's not raining every Friday at our mobile vet clinic in front of Solar Kitchen. For donation, please use our FS 251391 - or check our website [www.aurovilledogshelter.com](http://www.aurovilledogshelter.com) for other approved donation gateways

Thank you so much!  
The Auroville Dog Shelter Team

## **SANTÉ - NEW THERAPY**

"My humble greetings, I am very blessed to be a part of this wonderful community. As a **Behavior Technician in ABA therapy**, trained by Centria Health Care, I also hold a master's in Sociology and a bachelors in Psychology. I've contributed to projects in Maternal and Child Health, Nutrition, and Childcare, and I currently offer my expertise as a fellow in Medicine and Health Management at AVF.



I have worked with the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) in the past and currently, I am providing my services at Senior Living centers and in-home services for the elderly in and around Auroville, focusing mainly on memory improvement for patients with nerve disorders through engaging activities like storytelling, puzzles, and music therapy to enhance their receptivity. I also provide family counseling, offering my guidance and emotional support.

I am happy to offer my services to all. Feel free to contact me by booking an appointment through Santé reception (0413)2622803 on **Wednesday and Saturday morning.**"

- Asita Dutta

# RESIDENTS SPEAK

## THE SUPRAMENTAL SOLUTION

*“What is the solution?”* Amidst the intense collective churning, this question was again asked by another aspiring True Aurovillian, and surrender as an answer is highlighted. This Sunlit Path of Surrender or Bhakti has always been the anchor of Auroville’s Three Core Ideal Vision-Goals.<sup>1</sup>

But surrender to who and for what?

Here are our Avatar founders Sri Aurobindo and the Mother for guidance:

*“But something has happened in the world’s history which allows us to hope that a selected few in humanity, a small number of beings, perhaps, are ready to be transformed into pure gold and that they will be able to manifest strength without violence, heroism without destruction and courage without catastrophe.*

*But in the very next paragraph Sri Aurobindo gives the answer: “If man could once consent to be spiritualised.” If only the individual could consent to be spiritualised... could consent.”*<sup>2</sup>

*“And even this unification which already demands a return to the Spirit behind things, is not enough; there must be added to it a vision of the future, the goal towards which humanity is moving, the future realisation of the world, that last “spiritual revolution” Sri Aurobindo speaks about, which will open a new age, that is, the Supramental Revolution.”*<sup>3</sup>

There! Sri Aurobindo and the Mother have given all the answers crystal clear, even lovegifting us the easiest and most joyful Sunlit Path of Bhakti to the Supreme Divine Mother MahaShakti.

*“If we would realise a higher formation or status of being, then it is still through Her, through the Divine Shakti, the Consciousness-Force of the Spirit that it has to be done; our surrender must be to the Divine Being through the Divine Mother: for it is towards or into the Supreme Nature that our ascension has to take place and it can only be done by the Supramental Shakti taking up our mentality and transforming it into Her Supramentality.”*<sup>4</sup>

Who is She exactly?

Sri Aurobindo fully reveals Her in “The Mother”.<sup>5</sup>

***“If man could once consent to be spiritualised.”***

It all unfolds from that conscious act.

**IF...** and we have been amply warned if not.

Om Namō Bhagavate

ॐ Zech . 2024.10.06



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

2. <https://incarnateword.in/cwm/09/27-march-1957>

3. <https://incarnateword.in/cwm/09/3-april-1957>

4. <https://incarnateword.in/cwsa/21/brahman-purusha-ishwara-maya-prakriti-shakti>

5. <https://incarnateword.in/cwsa/32>



# INNER JOURNEY

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

**Tuesday 22nd October, 9 am - 12 noon**  
**Focus: The Vision and the Way**

Led by Ashesh Joshi

Place: Mirabelle Education Centre, Auromodele  
Ph/Whatsapp: 94891 47202 (Please register)

All are Welcome



## SAVITRI SATSANG WITH NARAD

EVERY WEDNESDAY, 04:30 - 05:15PM

*Savitri, this prophetic vision of the world's history, including the announcement of the earth's future.*

We will begin with Book 1, The Book of Beginnings, Canto 1, The Symbol Dawn.

**At Savitri Bhavan - Square Hall.**

## OM CHOIR

EVERY WEDNESDAY, 05:30 - 06:15PM

Please join us in this collective aspiration, in the form of united prayer.

No prior singing experience is required.

**At Savitri Bhavan - Square Hall.**

- Narad.



## AMPHITHEATRE - MATRIMANDIR

**Meditation at sunset with SAVITRI, Sri Aurobindo's long mantric poem, read by Mother to Sunil's incredible music.**

**Every THURSDAY**  
**5.30 to 6.00 pm**

*(weather permitting)*

Enjoy the beautiful open space, 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 to use cameras, i-pads, cell phones, etc. No photos.

Dear Guests, please carry your Guest Card with you –Access only for the Amphitheatre from 5.45 pm and the time of the meditation. Thank you.

*Surya, Velmurugan and Vinay*



## 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](#).



Vipassana

As taught by S.N. Goenka



**Contact:** Sanjay Tumati,  
+91 87909 82210 (available on WA)  
[sanjay@auraauro.com](mailto:sanjay@auraauro.com)



## OPEN CIRCLE ON THE PSYCHIC BEING



Dear Community,

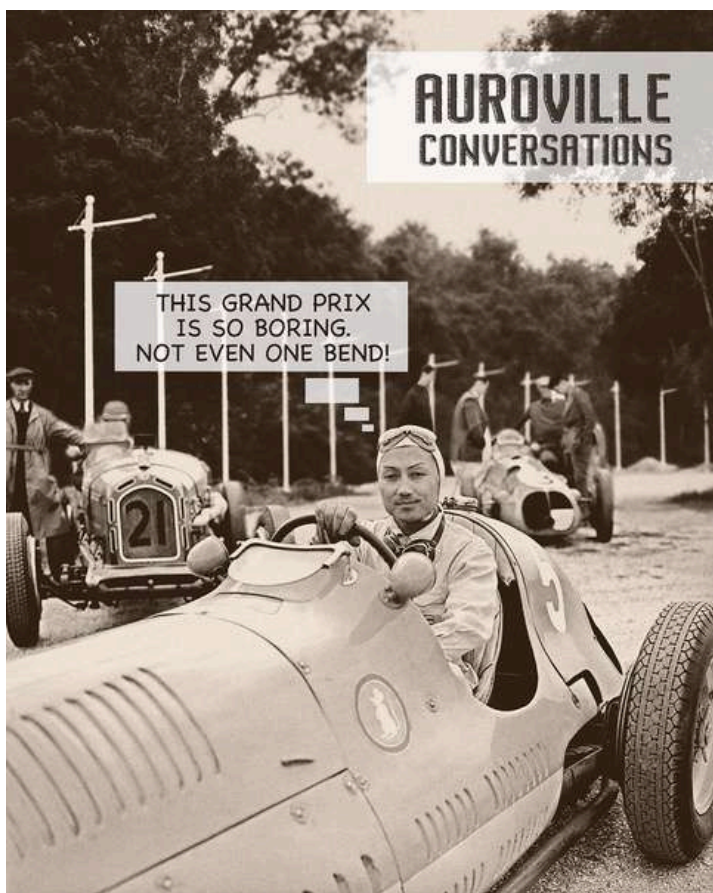
We remind you that the next Open Circle on the topic of the Psychic Being will happen on **Saturday 19 October from 3.00pm - 4.30pm** at the Pavilion of Tibetan Culture.

Please, kindly book your participation in advance by sending us an email to [innerbeing.auroville@gmail.com](mailto:innerbeing.auroville@gmail.com)

Sincerely,

Dan, for the InnerBeing Team

## AUROVILLE CONVERSATIONS



*Submitted by an Aurovillian*

## FRENCH NEWS & NOTES

NOUVELLES D'AUROVILLE



Auro - Traductions

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



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## OBITUARY



### J. JAYARAMAN PASSES AWAY

This is to inform the community of the passing of J. Jayaraman, who lived in Shanti. He was 65 this year.

All those wishing to bid a final farewell can do so at his residence in Shanti where his remains are being kept till the cremation.

The Cremation took place on Saturday 12th October, at 3:30pm, at the Auroville Cremation Ground.

~ OM ~



### AUROSHASTRI PASSES AWAY

Our dear son and brother Auroshastri passed away on Saraswati Puja.

We miss him so much.

- Bobby, Andre, Suryan and Jivatma.

The burial took place on Thursday 17th October at 4pm at the Auroville Burial Grounds.



## LOOKING FOR

### HOUSE SITTING 1

Hi, I'm Shola.

I've been part of the Auroville community for 8 years and am looking for a house-sitting opportunity starting at the **end of November**. I'm a clean and

responsible person who will take good care of your home. If you have a place available for short- or long-term sitting, please contact me on WA 82202 89812.



## VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY

### ENGLISH TEACHING WITH REACH FOR THE STARS

Reach for the Stars in Auroville is seeking English teaching volunteers for **weekly classes** held on **Sundays from 2:00 PM to 3:30 PM**. If you're passionate about education and making a difference, join us in empowering students through English language skills.

#### Requirements:

- Fluency in English
- Enthusiasm for teaching
- Long term commitment - at least 1 year.

Contact: [reachavteam@gmail.com](mailto:reachavteam@gmail.com).

Make a difference with Reach for the Stars!





# SUPPORT NEEDED

## COMMUNITY-SUPPORTED FILM THEATERS: CULTURAL AND SOCIAL HUBS

### AN APPEAL FOR COMMUNITY SUPPORT, MULTIMEDIA CENTER-CINEMA PARADISO

Community-supported film theaters play a vital role in enriching culture, building social connections, and boosting local economies. By offering free screenings and low-cost venues, they make quality films accessible to all, with a lasting impact on education, society, and cultural awareness. Unlike commercial cinemas, they feature independent, international, and classic films, offering unique experiences beyond mainstream entertainment. These spaces foster discussions and collaborations, strengthening the social fabric.

Even in large cities like San Francisco and Chicago—and here in Auroville—these theaters are cherished cultural spaces. They attract diverse audiences and help local businesses like restaurants and guesthouses. Funded by donations, memberships, and volunteers, these theaters focus on accessibility, inclusion, and a far-reaching impact on culture and education.

### Why Community Film Theaters Deserve Support

1. **Education:** Offering workshops and educational programs that enrich learning in unique ways.
2. **Community Engagement:** They foster bonds and create shared cultural experiences.
3. **Cultural Enrichment:** Providing access to films that enhance cultural diversity.
4. **Economic Impact:** Drawing visitors and supporting local businesses.
5. **Versatile Event Spaces:** Ideal for hosting presentations, discussions, and community events.

### A Perfect Fit for Auroville

Auroville's emphasis on human unity, education, and cultural diversity makes it an ideal setting for a community film theater like Cinema Paradiso. It aligns with Auroville's ethos, enriching the cultural landscape, supporting educational programs, and boosting the local economy.



### An Open Call for Support: Let's Thrive Together

We need your support to not just survive but thrive. Here's how you can help:

1. **Financial Contribution:** Consider contributing Rs. 1000/month or more to cover essential costs and continue our programs.
2. **Ideas and Connections:** Share ideas, links, or resources that help us bring films we can't currently afford or upgrade our equipment.

Your support will ensure we continue offering high-quality films for free and maintain the professional space you've come to expect – even as we transition to become a Unit. To contribute, set up an automatic monthly payment at Financial Service (**FS Account # 105106**) and email us at [mmcauditorium@auroville.org.in](mailto:mmcauditorium@auroville.org.in).

Thank you for your ongoing commitment!

Team MMC-CP

*thank you*

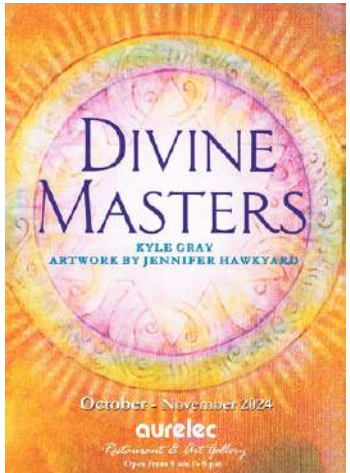
# CULTURAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

## ART EXHIBITIONS

### **DIVINE MASTERS - KYLE GRAY ARTWORK BY JENNIFER HAWKYARD**

OCTOBER - NOVEMBER  
2024

- At Aurelec Restaurant & Art Gallery.
- Open from 9 am - 5 pm.

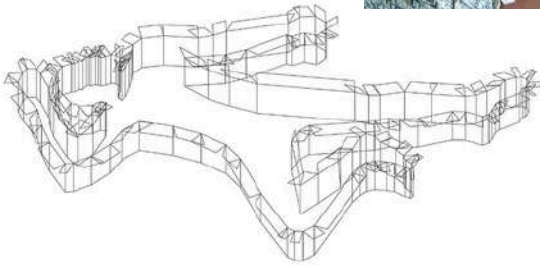


### **CENTRE D'ART CITADINES SUNIL SREE - MORE THAN ONCE**

OPENING ON FRIDAY 18 OCTOBER, 4.30PM

## SUNIL SREE

Opening 18 October 2024 at 4.30 pm  
18 Oct - 6 Nov



From **18 October to 6 November 2024.**

"More Than Once" examines the themes of repetition, resilience, and transformation through the lens of the everyday.

The works engage with objects and imprints that carry the weight of familiarity, drawing attention to what is often dismissed or overlooked. By recontextualizing these elements, the boundaries between the ordinary and the profound are blurred, inviting reflection on cycles of use, disposal, and renewal.

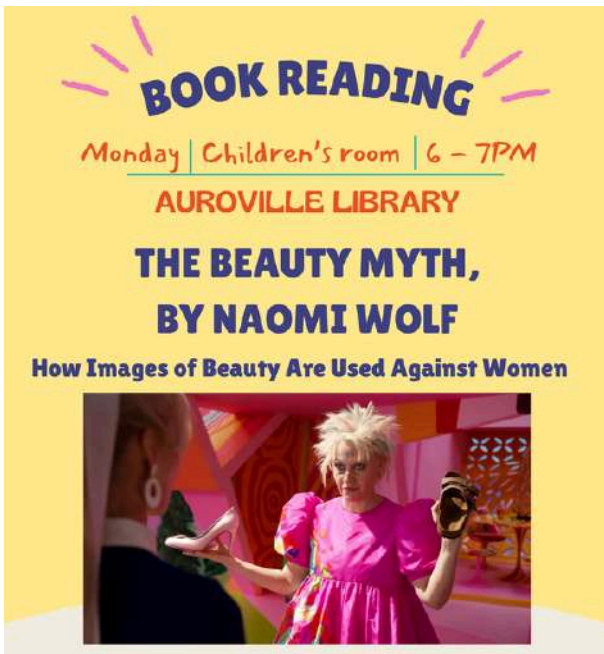
Repetition becomes a method of exploration, where each iteration reveals new layers of meaning. The process of reworking these materials speaks to the persistence inherent in both artistic and societal practices, while subtly critiquing systems of excess and disposability. Here, repetition is not simply the act of duplication, but an opportunity for transformation, offering a nuanced perspective on the potential for renewal within everyday life.

"More Than Once" opens a dialogue on the tension between potential and realized form, where the act of repetition becomes a method of discovery rather than mere duplication. "More Than Once" highlights the persistence embedded in creative and social cycles, revealing beauty and meaning within the very act of continuous creation and re-creation.

- Tuesday - Friday 2 - 5.30, Saturday 10 - 12.30, 2 - 5.30.
- Monday by appointment only - [centredart@auroville.org.in](mailto:centredart@auroville.org.in).
- Guided visits on Saturday at 10.30.

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## AUROVILLE LIBRARY - READING CIRCLES




**BOOK READING**

Monday | Children's room | 6 - 7PM

**AUROVILLE LIBRARY**

**THE BEAUTY MYTH,  
BY NAOMI WOLF**

**How Images of Beauty Are Used Against Women**



**New book reading circle at Auroville Library**

**The Beauty Myth by Naomi Wolf.**

Explore how society's beauty images affect women's lives, self esteem, and well being.

Mondays 6 - 7pm in the **Children's Room**.

Contact Sohela for more information: +91 82332 77556

**Our other reading circles:**

- Mondays 6 - 7pm, main building - **The Prophet by Kahlil Gibran**, hosted by Malcolm (+91 90801 59721)
- Tuesdays 6.30 - 7.30pm, main building - **A New Earth by Eckhart Tolle**, hosted by Debashish (+91 76782 08825)
- Thursdays 6 - 7pm, main building - **When Things Fall Apart by Pema Chodron**, hosted by Helen & Serena (+91 70947 53054 / +91 84897 60966)



## AUROVILLE SINGING FESTIVAL - CRIPA

SAT 26TH - SUN 27TH OCTOBER



**Auroville Singing Festival 2024**

Cripa Saturday 26 October @ 7.30pm

Cripa Sunday 27 October @ 7.30pm

Two days, two different programs

## POETRY



The flower turns its head  
To face the sun.  
I turn my head  
From the road ahead  
To see the flower  
Face to face.  
No, I'm not blocking the sun.  
It turns out that  
The flower has  
A larger face.  
Who is the director  
Of all these turns?  
-Anandi Z.

**Diamond Centre**

Jan. 17, 2011

Twilight and the tempest of the sea  
Crashing waves against the blackened rocks,  
Jagged where once we walked on welcome sands;  
Spume and spray, no terminus of sound  
Against the calm indifference of sky.  
Our lives in consecrated silence grew,  
We faced the great enigma of the self  
And looked beyond the surface for the soul.  
Now all is changing and the sea inside,  
Turbulent assails the old ideas  
And in the undertow our 'isms' drown.  
Far from the friendly shores that satisfied  
Our mortal longings and our appetites  
We founder against the cliffs of old desires  
Hoping to rest secure on a dying past,  
Hoping to survive awhile and breathe  
Familiar air and drink our memories  
As fine liqueur that leaves a lingering taste,  
Recalling years when love and friendship reigned.  
Now with the suddenness that shakes our world  
All we thought we knew is questionable  
And we are forced to face the darker side  
Of human greed, intransigence and lust  
For power as the iron age recedes.  
Something luminous tunnels through the night  
Of human helplessness that we may find  
This certainty through births and deaths to come,  
Our diamond centre burning deep within.

## AV RADIO



**AurovilleRadio**  
The voices of Auroville

Dear Aurovilians,  
Your favourite radio is always working for you. Stay tuned!  
Here you can see on-air schedules.

### Last published podcasts:

- [Une série hebdomadaire de lectures par Gangalakshmi – 468. \(Integral Yoga\)](#)
- [Tara talking about experiences Surfing. \(Education\)](#)



- [Tara and Lorenzo are interviewing their fellow students doing Community Service.](#) (Education)
- [Lorenzo talks about the Top 10 Bands of All Time](#) (Education)
- [The Auroville symbol, The Mother's symbol & Sri Aurobindo's Symbol. - Lali](#) (Education)
- [Erhel talks about Education in Auroville in some schools](#) (Education)

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

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



[Please note, our domain has changed from aouvilleradio.org to aouvilleradiotv.org. Kindly update your bookmarks!]

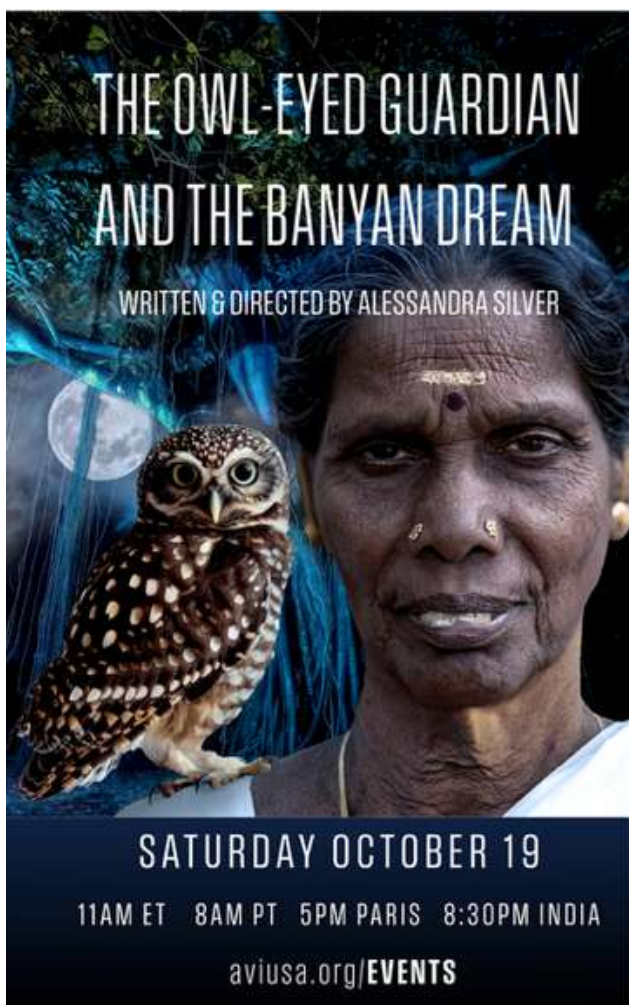
Peace and love.

## CINEMA

**PREMIERE :**

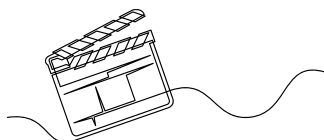
**THE OWL-EYED GUARDIAN AND THE BANYAN DREAM**

AVI USA FILM SCREENING - SAT 19TH OCTOBER




Please join AVI USA and director **Alessandra Silver** on Zoom, this Saturday October 19, for the **premiere** of Alessandra's film, The Owl-Eyed Guardian and the Banyan Dream.

- Read more & Register at [aviusa.org/banyandream-film](http://aviusa.org/banyandream-film).
- Direct Registration link:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0qc-6vpzwrHdyUR5LLe7ruCZLOMBLHn1aG>



## PAVILLON DE FRANCE PRESENTS

**CINEMA** |  | **LE PAVILLON DE FRANCE PRÉSENTE**

OLEG IVENKO  
ADELE EXARCHOPOULOS  
RALPH FIENNES  
RAPHAËL PERSONNAZ

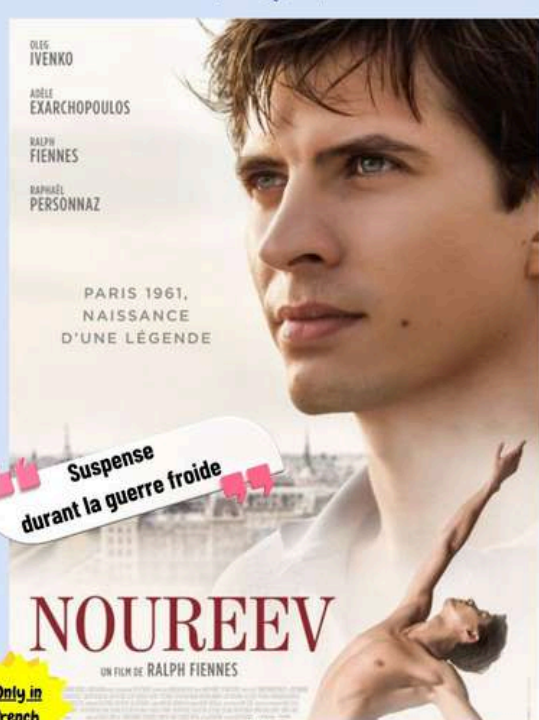
PARIS 1961.  
NAISSANCE  
D'UNE LÉGENDE

**Suspense**  
durant la guerre froide

**NOUREEV**  
UN FILM DE RALPH FIENNES

**Only in french**

**SAMEDI 19 OCT/ 16H00**      **CINEMA PARADISO**  
**SATURDAY 19 OCT/ 4PM**      **TOWN HALL**



A young prodigy of the famous Kirov ballet, Rudolf Nureyev was in Paris in June 1961 to perform on the stage of the Opera. Fascinated by the Parisian nights and by the artistic and cultural life of the capital, he became friends with Clara Saint, a young woman from upscale circles. But the KGB men responsible for monitoring him do not take kindly to his Western associations and call him back to order. Faced with a terrible dilemma, Nureyev will have to make an irrevocable choice, which will change his life forever.

*"The White Crow* is a portrait of the artist as a young man, an attempt to show the complex array of factors — biographical, psychological, social, political — that led to the moment when the 23-year-old dancer made a decision that would change the history of ballet: Nureyev became Nureyev by defecting from Russia to the West at Le Bourget airport in France in June 1961 ... Throughout the film, Fiennes and Hare suggest the extraordinary will and curiosity that drove Nureyev to dance, and to seek out art and culture wherever he could." — New York Times

In French.

Trailer : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=89AJyJgydEU>





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

**Reminder: Friday 18th October at 8:00 pm "PIERROT THE FOOL" by Jean-Luc Godard, France, 1965.**

*With: Jean-Paul Belmondo, Anna Karina, Raymond Devos*



*Synopsis:* Pierrot escapes his boring society and travels from Paris to the French Riviera with his children's babysitter Marianne, a girl chased by hit-men from Algeria. They lead an unorthodox life, always on the run... The film is one of cinema's essential, perhaps because it came at the precise moment when Godard hit his all-time peak, many of his films are considered masterpieces and Pierrot is the crown jewel. A Mediterranean film, sunny and fully saturated colors thanks to the DOP Raoul Coutard!

*Original French version with English subtitles. Duration: 1h50'*

**And Friday 25th October at 8:00 pm**

**"The African Queen"**

*Directed by John Huston, USA, UK, 1951*



*Synopsis:* Samuel Sayer (Robert Morley) and his sister Rose (Katharine Hepburn) are English Methodist missionaries in German East Africa (now most of Tanzania) in August 1914. Their post and supplies are delivered by a small steamboat named the African Queen, helmed by the rough-and-ready Canadian mechanic Charlie Allnut (Humphrey Bogart). After Rose's brother is assaulted by a German soldier at the beginning of World War I, The steamer captain saves prim, sober Rose. Under many quarrels and struggles they have to survive a treacherous African river journey... *A brilliant, funny and exiting adventure film with wonderful dialogues!*

The film was selected for preservation in the United States National Film Registry in 1994, and the Library of Congress deemed it "culturally, historically or aesthetically significant. And Humphrey Bogart won the Academy Award for Best Actor!

*Original version in English with English subtitles. Duration: 1h45'*

**Note: Contributions are very welcome! - Aurofilm Collection**

**Acc. No. 252658**

# Cinema Paradiso



Multimedia Center (MMC) Auditorium

Film program 21 October - 27 October 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.

*Watch out, now some days are mixed up from the usual!*

## **INDIAN – MONDAY 21 OCTOBER, 8:00 PM:**

### **• SARKAARU NOUKARI (GOVERNMENT JOB)**

India, 2024, Writer-Dir. Shekar Ganganamoni w/ Tanikella Bharani, Sammeta Gandhi, Latha Reddy, and others, Drama, 117mins, Telugu w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR (PG)

Satya gets married after carefully choosing the right groom for herself. She marries Gopal, an orphan but a coveted government-job holder. Turned out Gopal is a health promoter entrusted with the AIDS awareness campaign in the village. However, the locals mock him for his profession. The couple is gradually deserted by the village and Satya is ashamed of her husband's job and gives Gopal an ultimatum. When asked to choose between marriage and his job, what'll Gopal pick?

## **POTPOURRI – TUESDAY 22 OCTOBER, 8:00 PM:**

### **• THE GRAPES OF WRATH**

USA, 1940, Dir. John Ford w/ Henry Fonda, Jane Darwell, John Carradine, and others, Drama, 129mins, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR (PG)

The Joad clan, introduced to the world in John Steinbeck's iconic novel, is looking for a better life in California. After their drought-ridden farm is seized by the bank, the family -- led by just-paroled son Tom -- loads up a truck and heads West. On the road, beset by hardships, the Joads meet dozens of other families making the same trek and holding onto the same dream. Once in California, however, the Joads soon realize that the promised land isn't quite what they hoped.

## **SELECTION – WEDNESDAY 23 OCTOBER, 8:00 PM:**

### **• ONLY LOVERS LEFT ALIVE**

USA- France, 2013, Dir. Jim Jarmusch, w/ Tilda Swinton, Mia Wasikowska, Tom Hiddleston and others, Drama – Fantasy, 123 mins, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: R.

Set against the romantic desolation of Detroit and Tangiers, an underground musician, deeply depressed by the direction of human activities, reunites with his resilient and enigmatic lover. Their love story has already endured several centuries at least, but their debauched idyll is soon disrupted by her wild and uncontrollable younger sister.

## **INTERESTING – THURSDAY 24 OCTOBER, 8:00 PM:**

### **• COME WORRY WITH US**

Canada-USA, 2013, Write-Dir. Helene Klodawsky w/Thierry Amar, Efrim Menuck, Jessica Moss, and others, Documentary-Music, 81mins, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR (PG)

The film follows Jessica Moss and Efrim Menuck of The Silver Mt. Zion Memorial Orchestra as they navigate parenthood and artistic ambitions while touring with their infant son, Ezra. Amidst economic challenges and a shifting music industry, they strive to balance family life, artistic integrity, and their band's political commitments in a precarious global landscape.



## **INTERNATIONAL – SATURDAY 26 OCTOBER, 8:00 PM:**

### **• JAM (SLEEP)**

South-Korea, 2023, Writer-Dir. Jason Yu w/ Jung Yu-mi, Lee Sun-kyun, Kim Geum-soon, and others, Horror-Comedy, 95mins, Korean w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR (R)

Newlyweds Hyun-su and Soo-jin face a nightmare when he starts sleep-talking ominously, claiming, "Someone's inside." As he transforms during sleep without memory, Soo-jin's anxiety skyrockets, fearing he may harm her family. Despite attempts at treatment, Hyun-su's sleepwalking worsens, and she grows increasingly terrified for the safety of their unborn child. *Remembering this is the weekend before Halloween and the Indian festivity of honoring the departed spirits!*

## **CHILDREN'S MATINÉE – SUNDAY 27 OCTOBER, 4:00 PM:**

### **• POOH'S HEFFALUMP HALLOWEEN MOVIE**

USA-Philippines-Thailand, 2005, Dir. Saul Blinkoff \* Elliot M. Bour w/ Jimmy Bennett, Peter Cullen, Jim Cummings, and others, Animation-Fantasy, 67mins, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: G

Join Roo and his friend Lumpy on a hilariously haunted Halloween in the Hundred Acre Wood! Excited to trick-or-treat, they hear Tigger's spooky tale about the Gobloon, who turns you into a jaggedy lantern. With courage, they decide to be "brave together, brave forever" and catch the Gobloon to make a special wish!

## **NEW GERMAN CINEMA @ CINÉ-CLUB**

### **CINÉ-CLUB SUNDAY 27 OCTOBER, 8:00 PM:**

#### **• ANGST ESSEN SEELE AUF (FEAR EATS SOUL)**

Germany, 1974, Dir. Rainer Werner Fassbinder w/ Bridgette Mira, El Hedi Ben Salem and others, Drama – Romance, 92 mins, German w/ English subtitles, Rated: R.

The film revolves around the romance that develops between Emmi, an elderly German woman, a Moroccan migrant worker in postwar Germany. They fall in love, to their own surprise and to the outright shock of their families, colleagues, and drinking buddies. In *Ali: Fear Eats the Soul*, Fassbinder expertly wields the emotional power of classic Hollywood melodrama to expose the racial tensions underlying contemporary German culture.

**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, making us to look for a new one. We request you to financially support through a one-time or recurring donation 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)



# COMMUNITY SERVICES

## HEALTH

### SANTÉ SERVICES IN OCTOBER 2024



#### Working Hours:

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

#### Tests and Sample collection:

Monday - Friday : 8:30am - 12:00pm.

No sample collection on Saturday.

#### For emergencies, contact:

Auroville Ambulance (24/7) - Phone : +91 94422 24680

Government Ambulance (24/7) - Phone : 108

#### Appointment

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

<b>Doctor Consultation with Dr.Senthil &amp; Dr.Pavan:</b> Monday to Saturday	<b>Nurse Care - Thilagam, Ezhil, Archana &amp; Sandhya:</b> Daily: no appointment needed
<b>Ayurveda with Dr. Be:</b> TOS	<b>Integrative Psychotherapy with Juan Andres:</b> TOS
<b>Acupuncture with Andres:</b> TOS	<b>Homeopathy with Michael:</b> Monday/ Wednesday/ Saturday
<b>Physiotherapy &amp; Massage with Galina:</b> Monday to Friday	<b>Physiotherapy with Arun:</b> Monday to Saturday (except Friday)
<b>Women's Wellness with Paula:</b> Tuesday & Wednesday	<b>Soundbed Session with Sandhya/ Thilagam:</b> Monday to Saturday
<b>Bio-Well Assessment (Evaluation of your well-being) with Helena – inquiry through email</b> <a href="mailto:adminsante@auroville.org.in">adminsante@auroville.org.in</a>	

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.**

### HEALTH CENTER KUILAPALAYAM

**Contact:** (0413)-3509942 / 3509943

#### Pharmacy:

- 8:00am - 5:30pm Monday to Saturday

#### Doctor Consultation:

- 8:30am - 5:00pm Monday to Friday  
(1 - 2pm Lunch Break)
- 8:30am - 1pm (Saturday)



## ESSENTIAL SERVICES

### AUROVILLE'S FINANCIAL SERVICES

- **Timings:** Monday to Saturday, 9am - 12:30pm, and 3pm - 4:30pm
- **Phone:** 0413 2622171
- **Email:** [financialservice@auroville.org.in](mailto:financialservice@auroville.org.in)

## AVES (AV ELECTRICAL SERVICE)

- **Timings:** Monday to Saturday, 8am - 4:30pm
- **Phone:** 0413 2622132/ 9488868747 for fault works, repair works and job works  
0413 2622264 clarifications reg. electricity bills, job & repair works bills
- **Email:** [aves@auroville.org.in](mailto:aves@auroville.org.in)

## GAS BOTTLE SERVICE

- **Timings:** Monday to Saturday, 9am - 1pm and 2pm - 4pm
- **Phone:** 0413 2622452
- **Email:** [avgasservice@auroville.org.in](mailto:avgasservice@auroville.org.in)

## POUR TOUS DISTRIBUTION CENTRE (PTDC)

- **Timings:** Monday to Saturday, 9am - 5:30pm
- **Phone:** 0413 2622746/ 2622796
- **Email:** [ptdc@auroville.org.in](mailto:ptdc@auroville.org.in)

## POUR TOUS DISTRIBUTION SERVICE (PTPS)

- **Timings:** Monday to Saturday, 8:30 am – 5:00 pm
- **Phone:** (0413) 2622152

## AUROVILLE LIBRARY TIMINGS

### Our timings are:

#### **Mornings:**

Monday to Saturday: 9am - 12.30pm

#### **Afternoons:**

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

Tuesdays: 4pm - 6.30pm

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



## EDUCATION

### **AUROVILLE AIKIDO AT AV BUDOKAN (DEHASHAKTI)**



Aikido is a martial art created in the 1920s by Morihei Ueshiba, a master in traditional Japanese martial arts. Aikido is a path which aspires to the unity of mankind, the unification of the self with the universe, the union of Spirit and Matter. Seen as such, and in the perspective of the integral development of the being as emphasized by Sri Aurobindo and the Mother, it is no wonder that Aikido has always been greatly valued in Auroville and introduced since the very early years. Both children and adults can enjoy and benefit from its complete practice. There are no competitions in Aikido. On the self-defense aspect of it, an aggressor's attack may be stopped without harming or injuring him/her.

*The AV Aikido group welcomes new practitioners, Youth and Adult students, and the ones who would like to revive an old (abandoned) practice!*

#### **Adult classes:**

- Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, 6 - 7:30am, early morning. Beginners are most welcome. Girls and women are especially called to join us.
- **NEW:** we are happy to announce **an additional class on Wednesdays from 5.30 pm till 7:pm**. The first class will be on Wednesday 30 Oct. Welcome!

#### **Children/ young students:**

- Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 4 - 5pm
- For the time being no Saturday 9 - 10am class are offered.

Contact us for more info and registration: write to [budokan@auroville.org.in](mailto:budokan@auroville.org.in) or WA 8300643963 Philippe G. or call 9952812843 N. Murugan.

Cristo, Surya, Murugan, Rita and Philippe  
for Auroville Aikido

## 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.  
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](mailto:mmconcentration@auroville.org.in):  
Any day except Tuesday & Sunday: 8.00 AM to 8.35 AM  
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
- The Auroville units can bring their staff to the Inner Chamber with a prior booking to [mmconcentration@auroville.org.in](mailto:mmconcentration@auroville.org.in):  
Tuesday 8.00 AM to 8.30 AM

### 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.

**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**