

*Auroville*

# NEWS & NOTES

No 1056 - A weekly bulletin for residents of Auroville

2 January 2025



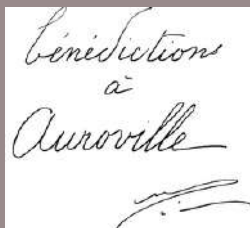
## PONDERING

We surrender to Thee this evening all that is artificial and false, all that pretends and imitates. Let it disappear with the year that is at an end. May only what is perfectly true, sincere, straight and pure subsist in the year that is beginning.

The Mother, 1935, New Year Messages, THE WORDS OF THE MOTHER III/CWM VOL 15  
<https://motherandsriaurobindo.in/The-Mother/books/words-of-the-mother-III/#new-year-messages>



# THE MOTHER ON AUROVILLE



First Edition 1977, Reprinted 1993, 1999  
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behalf of  
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## CONCEPTION AND BIRTH :

### NEW CONSCIOUSNESS

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It is not something one can pretend to have; an individual cannot pretend to have it, either he has it or he hasn't, because (*laughing*) in any circumstance of life, if it is a pretension, it will show clearly! On top of that, it does not give you any material power. There again, X once said—he was speaking of the *true* hierarchy, the hierarchy based on each one's power of consciousness—the individual or individuals who are at the very summit necessarily have the least needs; their material needs become less as their capacity of material vision grows. And that is very true. It is automatic and spontaneous, not the result of an effort: the wider the consciousness, the more it embraces things and realities,—the less its material needs; automatically, because they lose all their importance and value. The need for material necessities is reduced to a minimum, which will itself change with the progressive development of Matter.

And that is easily recognisable, isn't it: it is difficult to act the part.

And the second thing is the power of conviction, that is, the highest consciousness, when it is brought into contact with Matter, spontaneously has a greater power of conviction than all the intermediary planes. By mere contact, its power of conviction, that is, its power of transformation, is greater than that of all the intermediary planes. That is a fact. These two facts together make it impossible for any pretension to last long. I am looking at it from the standpoint of a collective organisation all the play of the various influences (*gesture of mixture and conflict*)

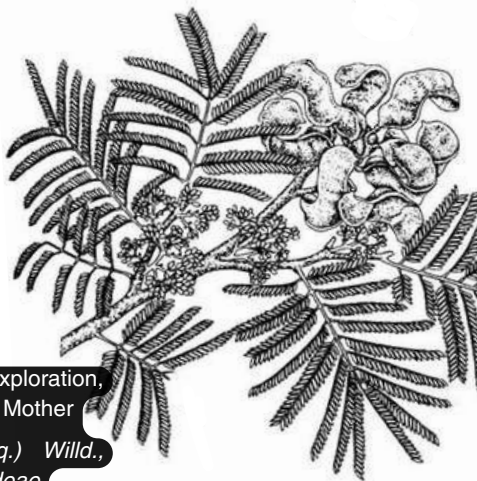
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and that in itself is a sure sign: even a slight descent—even into the domain of higher mind, higher intelligence—and the whole conflict of influences begins. Only what is right at the very summit and is perfectly pure, has this power of spontaneous conviction. Therefore, whatever one may do instead of that is an approximation and it is not much better than democracy,—that is, the system which wants to rule by the greatest number and the lowest level—I mean social democracy, the latest trend.

If there is no representative of the supreme Consciousness—that can happen, can't it?—if there isn't any, there could be instead, it could be tried, government by a few—a small number set between four and eight, something like that, four, seven, eight—who have an *intuitive* intelligence: 'intuitive' is more important than intelligence —with an intuition that is manifested intellectually.

This would have its drawbacks from the practical point of view, but it would perhaps be closer to the truth than the lowest level — socialism or communism. Everything in between has proved

The city the earth  
needs.



**Intuitive Knowledge**

Innumerable and vast for exploration,  
it is pure and fragrant. - The Mother

*Caesalpinia coriaria* (Jacq.) Willd.,  
Leguminosae, Caesalpinioideae  
*Divi-divi*

to be incompetent: theocracy, aristocracy, democracy and plutocracy, all those have been a 'complete failure'. The other one, the socialist or communist government is proving itself a failure as well.

Basically socialism and communism correspond to a kind of absence of government, because they do not have the power to govern others; they are obliged to transfer their power to someone who exercises it, like a Lenin for example, because he was a brain. All this has been tried and proved to be incompetent. The only thing that could be competent is the Truth-Consciousness which would choose instruments and express itself through a certain number of instruments, in the absence of one—'one' is not enough either, 'one' would necessarily have to choose a group.

Those who have this consciousness may belong to any socialclass: it is not a privilege of birth, but the outcome of personal effort

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and development. In fact, that is an outward sign, the obvious sign of a change from the political point of view—it is no longer a matter of classes and categories nor of birth—all that is obsolete. It is the individuals who have attained a certain higher consciousness who have the right to govern—not others, regardless of their social class. This would be the true vision.

All those who participate in the experiment should be absolutely convinced that the highest consciousness is the best judge of the most material things. What has ruined India is this idea that the higher consciousness deals with higher things and that lower things do not interest it at all, and that it understands nothing about them! That has been the ruin of India. Well, this error must be completely eradicated. It is the highest consciousness which sees most clearly,— most clearly and most truly—what the needs of the most material things must be.

With that, a new type of government could be tried.

# 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 & 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 no: **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 & Notes Team



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# WORKING GROUPS NEWS

## FROM THE ENTRY SERVICE

### NO ANNOUNCEMENT THIS WEEK

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



## FO GROUPS NEWS

(not selected by due Residents Assembly process)

## FROM THE FO N&N 1059

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

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## OBITUARY



### JEAN-MARIE LEFT HIS BODY

This is to inform that Jean-Marie (Siddhartha Forest) left his body, during the night of 31st December to the dawn of 1st January, at home.

Jean-Marie's remains are resting at Farewell.

The cremation details will be announced as and when available.

For those who knew him: he was a true disciple of Sri Aurobindo and The Mother. Through and through an Aurovilian with heart and soul.



### NAVROZ MODY



Navroz Mody, environmental activist, died in Pondicherry on Dec. 20, 2024. He was 79.

Born and raised in Bombay, Navroz was the only son of Kersasp and Rati Mody. He attended the Cathedral School, where he was a great sportsman, Head Boy in 1964, and Palmer House Captain. He was awarded the MacDonald Medal for Leadership in 1963. From 1965 to 1969, Navroz studied at the Dartmouth College, New



Hampshire, USA, under the mentorship of Hans Penner, noted scholar of comparative religion. Returning to India, he worked as Regional Editor for Oxford University Press from 1971-1980. Among his editorial projects were the late volumes of the Handbook of Birds of India and Pakistan by Salim Ali, the renowned ornithologist and natural historian. Their friendship inspired Navroz's developing passion for environmental conservation.

During the 1970s, with Shyam Chainani and others, Navroz became a founding member of the Bombay Environmental Action Group (BEAG). For decades, through speaking, writing, and legal advocacy, he worked with BEAG to impact policy and effect change. At his death, he remained Honorable Secretary. In 1980, Navroz moved to Pondicherry to start his own business, Southend Typographics, and in Dec 1983, he joined the Auroville community. He developed a grant-funded project to enhance water and crop management for small farmers in the Palani Hills watershed. He played an integral role in the Palani Hills Conservation Council and was instrumental in legal battles to protect the region, including the landmark victory over Pleasant Stay Hotel in 1995. During the 1990s, Navroz worked with the global organization Greenpeace, helping to pursue legal action against the companies responsible for the gas leak disaster in Bhopal. In Kodaikanal, Navroz was instrumental in exposing mercury contamination and seeking justice for affected workers.

In Auroville, he was known as a "fearless soldier" for environmental justice. Navroz was a member of the team that worked on the Auroville master plan. Based on his extensive experience in environmental issues, he focused on the co-development area (now called "outside the Master Plan") and the Auroville Greenbelt. Navroz showed that "Planning" and "Natural Growth" in designing a Master Plan are not contradictory but complementary approaches. In 1999, he became a member of the official representative team for the Master Plan. In 2022, after the destruction of the Youth Center and Bliss forest, he was one of the two Aurovilians who petitioned the National Green Tribunal Southern Bench to preserve Auroville's forests and green spaces, uphold participatory planning and stressing the need for obtaining environmental clearance for the Master Plan area. Navroz was also an artist. In recent times, he has been instrumental in starting the Ecology Action Lab at Aurobrindavan, an innovative citizen science initiative in Auroville. Navroz will be remembered for his fearlessness, kindness, passion, his generosity, his concern for others, his capacity to articulate issues.

For his surviving family, his wife Susan, his sons Nishq and Rik, his grandchildren Zoe and Zorion, and for his friends, his indelible spirit remains. Navroz's remains were cremated on December 26th at the Auroville cremation grounds.







## IN REMEMBRANCE

### Farewell Aurovilians

- Tatiana Tolochkova
- Franca Crocetti
- Sylvia Zimmerman
- Shakuntala N. Patel
- Subramaniam M.
- Josette Tardivel
- Lorraine Freeman
- Martin Zbinden
- M. Velmurugan
- Krishna
- Tia Pleiman
- Mahalingam
- Etsuko Shimabukuro
- Goupi
- Gajendran
- Kratu
- Lakshmanan
- Bindu Mohanty
- Yuval
- Marry Kroon
- Soham
- J.Jayaraman
- Shastri
- Jean-Luc Buro (Bureau)
- Victor Plotnikov
- Karuna Periyarswamy
- Richard Pierre Pérez
- Navroz Kersasp Mody
- Marco Feira

## Remembering those that passed in 2024

### Farewell Friends of Auroville

- Dominique Giraud
- Christel Quévrex
- Eveline Preibsch
- John Mandeem
- Aswathaman Chandrasekar
- Prateek
- Agia Ram Lamba
- Kuppammal
- Danielle de Diesbach
- Vaishali
- Aurienne Fator
- Maggi Lidchi-Grassi
- Bhabu (Bhabani Prosad Lahori)
- Jonathan Lucksted



## DEHASHAKTI NEW YEAR TOURNAMENT - 2025

COME FOR THE GAMES, STAY FOR THE AV SPIRIT!!!

Dear Auroville Community,

We are excited to announce the first ever **Dehashakti New Year Tournament** and everyone is warmly invited! Teams will be competing for Futsal, Basketball, Volleyball, Long Jump and Sprint 60 mtrs.

**Dehashakti New Year's Tournament, Saturday 4th January 2025!**

The Mother said this about **A Good Sportsman** -

- IS COURTEOUS

...**On the field** he does not jeer at errors; he does not cheer at the opponent's defeat; he treats them as guests, not enemies.

- IS MODEST

...**On the field** he works for the good of the team rather than for individual honour; he will even sacrifice his own prestige for his team; he is a gracious winner.

- IS GENEROUS

...**On the field** he applauds the good play of his opponents.

- IS GAME

...**On the field** he plays hard; he fights though he may be already defeated; he accepts adverse decisions; he is a good loser.

- IS OBEDIENT

...**On the field** he observes the rules of the games.



- IS FAIR

...**On the field** he competes in a clean, hard-fought but friendly way; he helps an injured opponent.

We invite everyone to come and embody this spirit as spectators. Cheer and uphold the spirit of an excellent sport, a good player, a fair game!

It is by example that we will inspire the next generation of Aurovillians.

- Date: **Saturday 4th January 2025**
- Time: **2:30 - 6:30pm**
- Venue: **Dehashakti.**



Dehashakti and AVPEB Teams

## **NOTICE FROM SERENDIPITY GUEST HOUSE** NEW GATE LOCATION



We want to inform the community that we are in the process of shifting our gate location.

As the Crown road is passing through the campus, we are shifting the gate further down the road. The "old gate" will be fully closed and the only entrance will be through the new gate only.

Please drive carefully.

Warmly,  
Serendipity Team

## **MATRIMANDIR**



### **MATRIMANDIR ACCESS INFORMATION**

Dear All,

Please note that the Matrimandir Access team has made some small changes to the Access Policy.

- Firstly all Pass Holders and Aurovillians bringing guests will have to sign into a register at the Office Gate.
- Secondly Aurovillians can bring their close family members to the Gardens 4:30pm to 6:30pm daily as long as they inform before 11am on the day of the proposed visit to [mmconcentration@auroville.org.in](mailto:mmconcentration@auroville.org.in).
- Thirdly, all guest houses and home stays please note: Guests only holding Aurocards, who wish to attend the Savitri Readings in the Amphitheatre on Thursday evenings will have to book one or two days in advance at [mmconcentration@auroville.org.in](mailto:mmconcentration@auroville.org.in).
- The Matrimandir Access team also wishes to remind all Aurovillians acting as guides for visitors or guests that your guests can not be treated as friends and brought to the Park of Unity at any time. All Tours and guided individuals and parties should be taken to the Viewing Point.
- The Matrimandir Access team also wishes to remind anyone running workshops and camps that visits to Matrimandir or the Park of Unity are not to be included in the itinerary. All group visits should be to the Viewing Point only. Individuals attending these events who wish to concentrate in the Inner Chamber are welcome to make a booking in the normal way at [auroville.org](http://auroville.org).

### **Access to the Park of Unity**

The Park of Unity:

- The Matrimandir, the Petals, the Lotus Pond and the Banyan Tree are areas of SILENCE.
- The Park of Unity is open to Aurovilians and registered Newcomers daily, 6am-7:30pm.
- Aurovilians may bring close family and friends to the Gardens daily, 9am-3:30pm.
- Aurovilians wishing to bring close family to the Gardens at any other time should inform [mmconcentration@auroville.org.in](mailto:mmconcentration@auroville.org.in) before 11am on the day of the proposed visit.
- Savi registered 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, registered Newcomers, Volunteers, Pass holders and Guests. Guests should bring their Aurocards.
- Savitri Readings on Thursday evenings: Guests holding only Aurocards wishing to attend should book at [mmconcentration@auroville.org.in](mailto:mmconcentration@auroville.org.in) one or two days in advance.

### **Access to the Inner Chamber of the Matrimandir**

The Matrimandir is a place for silent individual concentration. The Inner Chamber is open to Aurovilians and registered Newcomers:

- Monday-Saturday: 6-8am, 4:30-7:30pm. Sunday: 6am-12pm, 4:30-7:30pm.
- The Inner Chamber is open to SAVI registered Volunteers: Wednesday-Monday, 8-8:40am. Arrival at 7:45am at the Office Gate.
- The Inner Chamber is open to Aurovilians wishing to accompany a maximum of 5 close family members 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: 8-8:35am. Arrival at 7:45am at the Office Gate.
- The Inner Chamber, the Petals and the Gardens are open to the Children of Auroville and the Outreach Schools: Tuesday 9-11am.
- 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 8-8:30am.

The Petals of the Matrimandir

- The Petals are open to Aurovilians, registered Newcomers and Pass holders:
- Daily 7-8am, 5-6pm.

### **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, 9am-5:30pm.

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, or to go to the website: [auroville.org](http://auroville.org)
- 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.

## COMMUNITY SHARING

### AUROVILLE STORIES : 1968 - 2068



What is your most powerful memory or hopeful vision related to Auroville?

From **mid-January through February** (and perhaps beyond), let's come together to create short visual stories from our past or future that we can share in the MMC and online in order to

1. inspire us and the world,
2. help bridge our internal divisions,
3. flesh out roadmaps and destinations of our collective journey, and
4. have a lot of fun!

Please complete this registration form at <https://bit.ly/AurovilleStories> (or by scanning the QR code above) to learn more and express your interest.

Contact Daniel Greenberg at [daniel@ic.org](mailto:daniel@ic.org) or on WhatsApp, Telegram, or Signal at +1 978-394-1711 if you have thoughts or questions. Thanks!

### MISSING PUPPY- FROM ATITHI GRIHA GUESTHOUSE



Hi. I am offering a reward for anyone who knows the whereabouts of this puppy that has disappeared from Atithi Griha guesthouse. The puppy went missing anytime **after the morning of Wednesday the 11th of December.**

Someone must know something of what happened to this puppy and where it is. The reward I am offering is INR 8000.

Please come forward with information as I am looking to adopt this puppy.

Please note it is very frightened of people but it will not bite. It is only about 8 weeks old. I am no longer in Auroville but can make arrangements to pick up the puppy when found.

Please reach me by email at [judy Mojo@hotmail.com](mailto:judy Mojo@hotmail.com) or phone message on WhatsApp - 1 604 518-3523

Judy

## RESIDENTS SPEAK

### ONCE UPON A TIME, BUT NOT ANYMORE: THROUGH THE THROES OF A HOSTILE TAKEOVER

*Before: Era of curiosity*

Question: Where are you from?

Answer: I am from Manitha Orumaiyin Nagaram.

Question: But it's so small, how can it be called a city?

Answer: Some like to call it Manitha Orumaiyin Palayam, because it's a work in progress.

Question: Aren't we all?

*Now: Times of hostility*

Assumption: Go back to your country.

Response: Idhu than en veedu.

...

Starting with its unique vision and philosophy, Auroville is considered a gem of India. For 50+ years, it was a place for spiritual growth, collective living, and sustainable development. Yeah, but that was before the plot twist.

Designed to promote human unity, it is a hub for global cooperation, hosting residents from over 60 countries who work together to create a harmonious and progressive community, making it a symbol of India's openness and commitment to universal values. Ah, those were the days...



Known for its ecological initiatives, Auroville has transformed barren land into lush forests and promotes sustainable practices in farming, energy, and architecture, serving as a model for eco-conscious development. But that's ancient history now.

Home to numerous research centres focusing on renewable energy, organic agriculture, and alternative education, these

initiatives contribute to India's reputation as a leader in innovative and sustainable practices. That was before everything changed.

Through its values and contributions, Auroville represents the spirit of innovation, inclusivity, and harmony, blending tradition with modern aspirations. Well, that was a different era.

...

So, what now? With its cement roads and power-hungry administrators, what does Auroville still offer that's truly different, unique, and enticing?

Many are leaving. The majority are non-native Indians, either driven away by the infamous visa issues or, perhaps, choosing to face an all-too-familiar totalitarian system in a country where (at least) visa threats are no longer wielded as an ever-present sword. Quite an appealing image for an international community... The direct consequence? Residents are departing, and new applications are few and far between.



The phrase “between a rock and a hard place” probably finds its roots in situations like this one. Authoritarian regimes, state control, and rising jingoism are growing trends across the globe. Where can one turn? How can we save these safe havens?

Surviving a hostile takeover is a test of resilience and adaptability. May Auroville evolve, proving its relevance in a changing world and emerging stronger. If not, it may be time to reconsider the slogan, the narrative, even the website—because this version of Auroville no longer boasts the wonders that once made it the shining beacon of hope for its community.

At its core, Auroville’s existence offers India spiritual, social, environmental, and economic benefits, reinforcing its role as a symbol of progress, unity, and sustainability. It is more than just a community—it’s a living testament to what is possible in a more harmonious future, not just for India, but for the world.

## **SUSPECTED ILLEGAL SMUGGLING OF MATRIMANDIR SOIL OUTSIDE AUROVILLE**

I would like to bring certain shocking developments with regards to the soil excavated from Matrimandir to the knowledge of the community.



Please refer to the [google drive](#) showing suspected illegal interstate transport of Matrimandir soil from Auroville in Tamil Nadu to Sanjeevi Nagar in Pondicherry.

I have evidence to show that the Matrimandir Executives and Selvam working at Matrimandir are complicit in this exercise. I strongly request the community members to confront these people and protect Mother's resources from being stolen blatantly.

- Regards

Major. Arun Prakash Ambathy (Retd)

Please read the below email addressed to Dr. Jayanthi Ravi sent Tuesday 31st December ([read the original email here](#)).

---

Dear Dr. Jayanthi Ravi,

On 27 Dec 2024 - Friday at 11 am, I noticed two lorries ferrying soil from Auroville in Tamil Nadu to Sanjeevi Nagar in Pondicherry. On confronting the people loading and transporting the soil, they told me that one Mr. Selvam working in the Matrimandir had asked them to transport soil excavated from Matrimandir to be transported from Auroville in Tamil Nadu to Sanjeevi Nagar in Pondicherry.

I was bewildered by the statements made by the people transporting the soil. I decided to follow one particular truck which was still loading the soil from the loading point to the destination. To my utter shock I saw Auroville soil excavated from the Matrimandir was indeed being transported to Sanjeevi Nagar in Pondicherry.

**I have attached the photos and videos of the same in a google drive:**

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1PwmFb4ffv0F\\_ojc81Rqyc9wqs6wxHvx9?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1PwmFb4ffv0F_ojc81Rqyc9wqs6wxHvx9?usp=sharing)

## **Registration Numbers of the Lorries transporting soil from Auroville in Tamil Nadu to Sanjeevi Nagar in Pondicherry.**

- TN – 46 – A – 2578
- TN – 16 – H – 1230

I then asked ATDC member Mr. Govind if ATDC, appointed by the Governing Board, has given any permission to transport soil from Auroville in Tamil Nadu to Sanjeevi Nagar in Pondicherry?

He mentioned that he was not aware of any such permission or sanction. To verify my claims, he immediately sent Mr. Rajendran from ATDC to see if soil is being transported from Auroville in Tamil Nadu to Sanjeevi Nagar in Pondicherry. Mr. Ranjedran also witnessed the lorries ferrying soil from Auroville in Tamil Nadu to Sanjeevi Nagar in Pondicherry. Infact, when Mr. Ranjedran confronted the villagers supervising the unloading, they mentioned that the soil transport has the support of all five executives of Matrimandir.

In recent times, I have also noticed that multiple piles of soil from the Matrimandir excavations are suddenly going missing at a rapid pace. One can clearly observe JCB bucket marks on these soil piles indicating transportation of these soils. I also noticed that some of the plots where these soils are dumped do not belong to Auroville and belong to a private diamond company called Aditi Diamonds.

### **I request you to clarify the following:**

- If any permission or sanctions have been accorded to Mr. Selvam working in Matrimandir to transport soil excavated from Matrimandir (Tamil Nadu) to be transported to Pondicherry?
- If any permission or sanctions have been accorded to Matrimandir executives or any other individuals to transport soil from Auroville Lands to Non-Auroville Lands?
- In case such permissions have not been accorded by you, I request you to take immediate action to investigate this matter and take necessary actions against the people involved in illegal inter-state smuggling of soil from Auroville in Tamil Nadu to Sanjeevi Nagar in Pondicherry.

I further request you to immediately stop any further unauthorised excavation and transportation of soil from Auroville lands to non-Auroville lands.

Lastly, I request you to audit the total volume of soil excavated from the Matrimandir site thus far, and corroborate it with the total volume of soil stored in the various piles across Auroville and protect the existing piles of excavated soils dumped at various sites in Auroville.

Requesting early action please.

- Regards

Major. Arun Prakash Ambathy (Retd)

## **DESPITE THE HORROR OF DETAILS**

“One suddenly sees... It’s a certain region, there, a region in the earth atmosphere, vast and imperishable, where things take on a new importance, which sometimes belies appearances, and one sees a sort of great, immense current carrying circumstances and events along towards a goal... always the same goal, and through very unexpected paths. It becomes very vast, and despite the horror of details, as a whole it takes on a very smiling Rhythm....

Now I know, I remember, this whole experience came after I saw a book that was published quite recently in India, in English, which they entitled The Roll of Honour, and in which there is a photo and



a short biography of all those who died in the fight against the British, for India's freedom. There were photos everywhere, lots of them (some were only photos the police took after they had just been killed and were lying on the ground). And it all brought a certain atmosphere: the atmosphere of those disinterested goodwilled people who meet with a tragic fate. It had the same impression on me as the horrors of the Germans during the war over there. These things are obviously under the direct influence of certain adverse forces, but **we know that the adverse forces are, so to say, permitted to work—through the sense of horror, in fact—in order to hasten the awakening of consciousness.** So then, that experience, which was very strong and was very like the one I had when I saw the photographs of German atrocities in France, put me in contact with the vision of the human, terrestrial, modern error (it's modern: it began these last one thousand years and has become more and more acute in the last hundred years), with the aspiration to counterbalance that: How to do it?... What is to be done?... And the answer: **“That's why you have created Auroville.”**

...

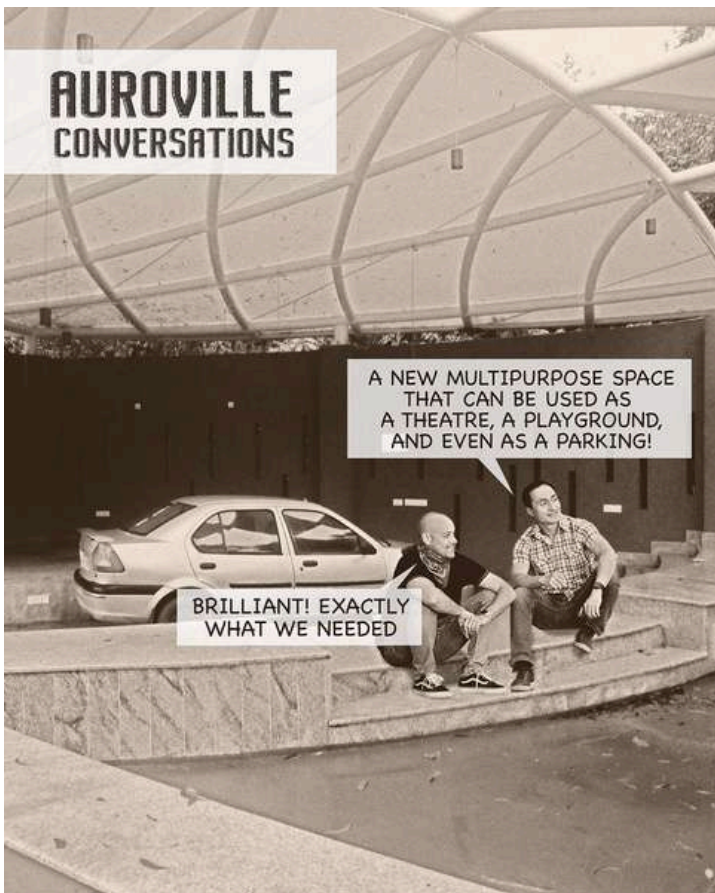
Zech, 2024.12.28

<https://zechjoya.blogspot.com/>



To continue reading, [click here](#), or scan QR code

## AUROVILLE CONVERSATIONS



*Submitted by an Aurovillian*



## FOOD FOR THOUGHT



<https://digitalsynopsis.com/design/truth-about-society-todays-world-illustrations/>

## FRENCH NEWS & NOTES

NOUVELLES D'AUROVILLE



Auro - Traductions

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



## INNER JOURNEY

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

Tuesday 7th January, 9 am - 12 noon

Focus: The Supermind

Led by Ashesh Joshi

Place: Mirabelle Education Centre, Auromodele

Ph/Whatsapp: 94891 47202 (Please register)

All are Welcome



### SAVITRI SATSANG WITH NARAD

EVERY TUESDAY, 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 Savitri Book One Canto Three.

**At Savitri Bhavan - Square Hall.**

### OM CHOIR

EVERY TUESDAY, 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

Meditations at sunset with SAVITRI,

**Every THURSDAY  
from 5:30 to 6:00pm**

*(weather permitting)*



Savitri, Sri Aurobindo's long mantric poem, read by Mother to Sunil's music are *on* weekly for everyone to concentrate, in this 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.

New: Guests with Aurocard wishing to attend must book at [mmconcentration@auroville.org.in](mailto:mmconcentration@auroville.org.in) one or two days in advance. Please bring your Aurocard with you.

Access by Office Gate for the Amphitheater only from 5:15pm. Thank you.

Velmurugan and the Access Team

## VIBRATIONAL SOUND BATH

SOUL NURTURING MEDITATIVE EXPERIENCE WITH THE ORIGINAL RUSSIAN SINGING BELLS

*These are sounds of the Beginning  
These are sounds that cradled the worlds*

Harmonious play of rich powerful tones and strongly resonating overtones invokes a profound state of inner peace, tranquility and self-healing, bringing deep physical and psychological relaxation.

**Open Group - Everyday 3:00 - 4:30pm**

At Mirabelle Education Center, Auromodele,  
Kuyilapalayam

Led by Vera (Instagram - [Vera.Auroville](https://www.instagram.com/Vera.Auroville)) and Ashesh Joshi

**Please register in advance**

Ph/WhatsApp: +91 94891 47202, +91 94862 47202

(Private sessions on request at other timings)

## 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)



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## ECO FEMME - OPEN HOUSE EVERY THURSDAY



### Looking for an Auroville experience?

Come and visit Eco Femme's open house  
**Thursday 10.30 - 11.30 am** to learn about menstrual  
health, cycle tracking and our social enterprise.

**Organic cloth pads, nappies and cups  
available at special rates.**



Monday to Friday 9 am to 5 pm  
Auroshilpam 605 101, Auroville

ecofemme.org



Revaluing menstruation... because Life depends on it!

Dear Friends,

Come join our Open House **every Thursday at 10:30am**. We hold these at our office in Auroshilpam, just behind Auromode.

We'll teach you about sustainable menstrual products and our not-for-profit programs, and you can pick up discounted cloth pads, cups and period panties!

See you soon!

The Eco Femme Team

## AUROVILLE MARATHON MONDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2025

Dear Community Members and Runners,

Warm greetings!

We are thrilled to announce that preparations for the 15th edition of the Auroville Marathon 2025 are in full swing.

This event has always been a celebration of togetherness, health, and the vibrant spirit of Auroville, and we look forward to another memorable year with all of you.

Mark your calendars!

### **Auroville Marathon: 16th February 2025**

- **Online Registration:** Opens on 9th December 2024 and closes on 25th January 2025.
- To register online, please visit: <https://www.aurovillemarathon.com/register/>
- **Manual Registration:** Available from 20th December 2024 to 25th January 2025.
- For manual registration, please visit Saracon between 10:00am to 12:00pm and 2:00pm to 4:00pm.

### **For Auroville Community Members and Residents of the Bioregion:**

The registration fee is waived, but a coupon is required to participate. To obtain a coupon, please send an email to



Auroville Marathon  
RUN FOR THE JOY OF RUNNING - 2025

[marathon@auroville.org.in](mailto:marathon@auroville.org.in) with your details, and we will provide the coupon via email. Alternatively, you can visit the Saracon Office during the specified times to collect it in person. Once you have the coupon, you can complete your registration for the Auroville Marathon 2025.

**For your information:** This year, we have added an option to purchase T-shirts for runners on the registration page. You can select your preferred T-shirt size while registering for the marathon. Please note that runner T-shirts are not included in the registration fee and need to be purchased separately.

Let us come together to celebrate the joy of running and the camaraderie that makes this event so special.

### "RUN FOR THE JOY OF RUNNING"

We eagerly await your participation and support to make this marathon another resounding success.

Warm regards,  
Prabhu & Marathon Team



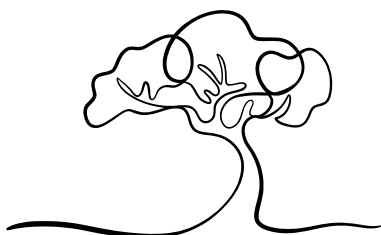
## SUPPORT NEEDED

### A MEMORIAL BENCH FOR JAYARAM

Jayaram's smile and wave continues to be remembered by many of us as we drive past the big Enterolobium tree he spent his days under near the Matrimandir. We hope to place here a bench in his memory, with his name in English and Tamil.



A special account has been made to collect funds for this: **251950**. The bench would cost approximately Rs.12,000. Please know that no funds have as yet been received for this endeavour, and we share this information in the hope it changes, without which we will be forced to accept this as a sign. Please donate, however small an amount.



## LOOKING FOR

### VOLUNTEERS FOR THE AUROVILLE POTTERS MARKET

The Auroville Potters Market needs assistance from volunteers for a few days.

- Sat 11th Jan - Tues 14th Jan
- Mon 20th Jan - Sat 28th Jan



To support this wonderful event, please email your name, contact number, and availability to [aurovillepottersmarket@gmail.com](mailto:aurovillepottersmarket@gmail.com)

### HOUSE SITTING



Dear AV friends,  
I will be coming to AV on the **20/1 till 13/2** and I am looking for a place to stay. I have been asked to clear my house in Sve Dame as the road would start soon. I am able to pay some contribution.  
Thank you. Peace. Orly  
+972534321692 / [omerguei@gmail.com](mailto:omerguei@gmail.com)

## SOMEONE TO FORMAT A BOOK

Looking for someone who can format a book from Word or PDF formats into a EPUB file to be readable with a KINDLE.

The book is written in French.

Please contact Cristo at 0413 2622356 and by email at [cjm@auroville.community](mailto:cjm@auroville.community)



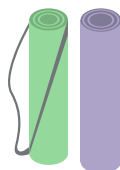
## YOGA MATS

Dear ALL,

Happy 2025, am looking for **2 THICK YOGA MATS**

(or something similar) for my spinal cord problem.

Shall give it back to you in the end of March.



...If you are leaving for a couple of months or have any spare and wish to share them, please contact. Thanking you very much in advance, with Love, Sunny.

Please WhatsApp +34685673777 or e-mail: [srimaa221@gmail.com](mailto:srimaa221@gmail.com)

## ACTIVITIES AT SERENDIPITY

### SERENDIPITY ACTIVITIES & THERAPIES

(Ex. Joy Community in front of Center GH)

Center Field, Auroville - 605101, TN, India

Landline: 0091 (0)413 - 3509950

Mobile/Whatsapp: +91 93856 23342

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

<https://serendipity.auroville.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/serendipityauroville>



### REGULAR CLASSES:

#### Qi Gong - with Lhamo

- **Monday - Wednesday and Friday 7 - 8:30am, drop in class**

Qigong can be described as a mind-body-spirit practice that improves one's mental and physical health by integrating posture, movement, breathing technique, self-massage, sound, and focused intent. Specifically, this form of gentle exercise is composed of movements that are repeated a number of times, often stretching the body, and building awareness of how the body moves through space. There are likely thousands of qi gong styles, schools, traditions, forms, and lineages, each with practical applications and different theories about Qi ("subtle breath" or "vital energy") and Gong ("skill cultivated through steady practice"). As Lhamo has a very extensive knowledge of many of them, she will explore different styles according to the students.

#### Hatha Yoga with Ramesh

- **Monday and Thursday from 5:30 - 6:30pm, and Saturday 7 - 8am, drop in class.**

Ramesh offers hatha yoga classes with some vinyasa flow and include pranayama, traditional sanskrit mantra chanting, and meditation. The style is gentle, adaptive and progressive where passive, gravity-assisted poses are mingled with dynamic vinyasa-style flow as needed. He places a lot of focus on breathing and body-mindfulness during the practice. It is ideal for beginners to intermediate-level practitioners. You will be exposed to authentic Sanskrit terms and their correct pronunciation. The practice will be rejuvenative and restorative. These specific classes will be on donation basis even for guests.

### **Traditional Sanskrit Mantras with Sonia**

- **Thursday from 9 - 10am (Drop in class); and Friday from 5 - 6pm (Regular Students only).**

In the recitation of Sanskrit Mantras the sound is very important and the specific pitches and strict rules of intonation and syllabic length should be learned according with the tradition of the great masters of the past, who figured out how to use the voice to calm the mind and attune the practitioner to the more subtle levels of the "sadhana" or spiritual path. Through the harmonic rhythm, repetition and participation in the singing, the mind reaches more clarity, concentration and tranquility.

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### **Book Reading Circle - "Be As You Are" by Sri Ramana Maharshi - with Debashish**

- **Wednesday from 6 - 7 pm**

The book beautifully explores the teaching of the sage of Arunachala. For him, the realization that "there is no reality other than the Self" was not merely a philosophical concept but a profound truth that shaped his life into one of boundless joy. And in time the world recognized the power of his grace. What was the essence of his wisdom that transformed countless lives and inspired generations of modern philosophers and spiritual teachers. Let's discover it together.

## **THERAPIES:**

### **Shiatsu Massage with Sara**

- **On appointment only ( Sara +91 94436 17308 )**

Shiatsu is a manipulative therapy developed in Japan and incorporating techniques of anma (Japanese traditional massage), acupressure, stretching, and Western massage in order to maintain physical and mental well being, treat disease, or alleviate discomfort. It involves the uses of kneading, pressing, soothing, tapping, and stretching techniques and is performed without oils through light, comfortable clothing.

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### **Cheek Acupuncture with Lhamo**

- **On appointment only (+91 84380 53127)**

Cheek acupuncture works on the principle that in the face there is a holographic miniaturization system covering the whole human body. Very small needles are used solely on the face of the patient, which is a mirror of the whole being. It uses a very interesting and immediate way to assess the changes in the body.

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### **Gua Sha (Chinese Detox Scrub) with Lhamo**

- **On appointment only (+91 84380 53127)**

This is one of China's oldest treatments. The practitioner uses a tool like a flat piece of jade to scrub the skin to help release blocks, stagnant blood, energy and restore a natural flow. When the toxins in the deep layers of the body reach the surface through scraping, they get more easily released from the body. This treatment is also suitable for healthy people to detoxify, to purify and improve the metabolism of the whole body.

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### **Facial Gua Sha (beauty treatment) with Lhamo**

- **On appointment only (+91 84380 53127)**

Facial Gua Sha reduces puffiness, lymphatic drainage, facial tension, helps tighten firm and lift skin, cooling, durable skin care. This treatment helps to detoxify, to purify and improve the metabolism as well.

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### **Modern Trance Healing - Hypnotherapy with Lhamo**

- **On appointment only (+91 84380 53127)**

In modern hypnosis, the emphasis is put on our own relationship to our own creative unconscious. There are many different aspects and parts in our outer and inner life. And there are parts that don't have a positive appearance. In Modern Trance Healing, we can turn them into positive possibilities and let them teach us how to discover their positive meaning.



# FACIAL GUA SHA WORKSHOP

## FACIAL GUA SHA WORKSHOP

(4 days)

WITH LHAMO

Tuesday &  
Wednesday

21st & 22nd ; and  
28th & 29th January  
4 to 5:30pm

Gua Sha is an ancient natural treatment popular in Chinese medicine to increase blood circulation, detox & stimulate the meridians for a better energy flow.

Through the workshop we will not only learn the correct way to use Gua Sha tool to stimulate meridians but also the connection between our facial features and our organs; our face is like a mirror of our organs conditions. The workshop will also include ancient belly techniques to balance spleen & liver.

Facial Gua Sha reduces puffiness, lymphatic drainage, facial tension, helps tighten firm and lift skin, cooling, durable skin care.

The participant need to have ones own Gua Sha tool.

Participants are required to attend all 4 days.

FOR MORE DETAILS ABOUT  
WORKSHOP AND TOOLS  
CONTACT: +91 9443617308

AT SERENDIPITY GUEST HOUSE



## WORKSHOPS

### FELDENKRAIS WORKSHOP ACTIVATING THE PELVIC FLOOR

5 - 6 JANUARY 2025

## Feldenkrais Activating the pelvic floor

LIMITED SPACES

5,6 JANUARY 2025  
2 AFTERNOONS  
FROM 1PM TO 4PM



AUROVILLE

WITH SIMONETTA ALESSANDRI  
30 YEARS OF TEACHING EXPERIENCE

INFO AND REGISTRATION:  
AUROVILLEARTWORLD@GMAIL.COM



The pelvic floor is essential to many vital bodily functions, working quietly to support, protect, open, close, and stabilize. It collaborates with other muscle groups to maintain posture, balance, and breathing while stabilizing the hips, spine, and abdominal organs. As part of an interconnected system, the pelvic floor's functionality is closely linked to movement quality, breathing, vocal expression, sexual health, and more. Despite its importance, this area often receives little attention, even though its proper functioning is crucial for maintaining overall psychophysical balance.

This workshop emphasizes developing awareness of the pelvic floor through experiential anatomy and somatic exploration using the Feldenkrais Method.

Participants will explore their pelvic floor muscles in various positions, connecting these movements to everyday activities. This newfound awareness will then be integrated into the dynamic functioning of the entire body, fostering balance and vitality.

- with Simonetta Alessandri
- 30 years of teaching experience
- 5th, 6th January 2025
- 2 afternoons from 1pm to 4pm.

INFO AND REGISTRATION:

- [aurovilleartworld@gmail.com](mailto:aurovilleartworld@gmail.com)
- limited spaces

## DISCOVERING INNER AWARENESS THROUGH CONTACT IMPROVISATION & FELDENKRAIS

7, 8, 9 JANUARY 2025

Presented by Simonetta — A Dance Artist and Somatic Educator

In the heart of Auroville, we invite teachers, educators, bodyworkers, and those passionate about movement and self-discovery to a workshop that explores the synergy between **Contact Improvisation** and the **Feldenkrais Method** within the framework of **Integral Yoga**. This workshop, facilitated by Simonetta, a seasoned dance artist with over 30 years of experience, offers a journey into movement as a pathway to consciousness, self-awareness, and a more profound connection with others.

7,8,9 January  
8:15 am to 11 / 1 pm to 4 pm

Auroville

*Intensive*

*Contact Improvisation & Feldenkrais*

open to beginners

*Simonetta Alessandri*  
Experienced teacher  
Over 30 years of teaching experience

info & registration  
aurovilleartworld@gmail.com

## What You'll Explore:

- **Contact Improvisation:** Through shared weight, balance, and spontaneous movement, participants will experience the art of “physical conversation” and explore relational dynamics. Exercises such as giving and receiving weight offer insights into how we “carry” others professionally and personally, mirroring the dynamics within teaching teams and student interactions.
- **The Feldenkrais Method:** This approach invites you to discover habitual movement patterns, gain freedom from unconscious tensions, and embrace a more fluid, adaptable body. Participants will be guided to identify and release patterns of tension, leading to a greater alignment of body and mind.

## Why This Workshop?

This experience combines movement and observation to foster a holistic connection between mind, body, emotions, and spirit. Integral Yoga teaches that each aspect of our being plays a role in evolving our consciousness. By bringing these dimensions into harmony, we aim to align with our inner guidance, creating a space of authenticity and acceptance.

In this workshop, participants will explore awareness through movement, ATM Feldenkrais, and beginner exercises from Contact Improvisation. They will discover how movement can channel their inner landscape, unveil patterns, foster self-awareness, and re-pattern sequences of movements—liberating movements. This approach resonates with Integral Yoga, where every inner potential is nurtured, and our journey toward consciousness creates a harmonious environment that supports collective growth.

## Connecting to Integral Yoga and Integral Education

This workshop encourages us to cultivate presence within ourselves and with our family, community, colleagues, and students. As we gain self-knowledge and bodily awareness, we contribute to a nurturing environment where we feel connected to our inner guidance. Integral Education fosters autonomy and authenticity. It emphasizes that as teachers become more conscious of their physical and emotional patterns, they can inspire trust and mutual respect in their students, creating a space of growth and unity in diversity. We encourage Teachers in Auroville to join us.

Simonetta is an Italian dance artist and a somatic educator based in London. She applies the Feldenkrais Method in dance and movement training and performance making. She teaches at Trinity Laban, Goldsmiths University, and London Contemporary Dance School.

Her work is based on more than 30 years of dancing, teaching, and choreography. Her choreography has been for dance companies, student pieces, large-scale opera, improvised performances, site-specific, and movement direction for theatre.

She has taught for over 20 years in Italy and kept Contact Improvisation alive in Roma for 10 years with her classes and jams. She was one of the few dance practitioners in Italy who began working with Contact Improvisation in the 90's. She has been a guest teacher in Germany, Colombia, the UK, Norway, Israel, France, Switzerland, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Poland, and Taiwan.

She obtained her Post Graduate Diploma at London Contemporary Dance School; she is a qualified teacher of the Feldenkrais Method and holds the Teacher Certificate from the Royal Academy of Dance. She is a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy. She is one of the founders of CI@Goldsmiths, an association of dance artists dedicated to promoting and disseminating Contact Improvisation in London and the UK.

- Simonetta is With experienced teacher Simonetta Alessandri. Over 30 years of teaching experience.
- **Open to beginners.**
- **7th, 8th, 9th January. 8:45am to 11am / 1pm to 4pm.**
- Info & registration - [aurovilleartworld@gmail.com](mailto:aurovilleartworld@gmail.com)

## **AWARENESS THROUGH THE BODY - ATB**

SATURDAY 11 JANUARY 2025

### **ATB - Awareness Through the Body**

Intro & exploration with Honor & Vega



**Saturday 11 January 2025 - 9.30am - 12.30pm**

advance registration required:

[dancingtree.smile@gmail.com](mailto:dancingtree.smile@gmail.com)

whatsapp: 9159856148

**Dancing Tree, under Hospitality Trust, Auroville**

All are welcome for an introductory exploration of Awareness Through the Body (ATB). This practice, developed in Auroville, aims to build self-awareness and self-regulation, increasingly allowing us to lead from our innermost psychic center.

We use a variety of introspective and interactive, dynamic and still exercises gently leading us to a deeper space of awareness.

**Saturday 11 January 2025 (9:30am - 12:30pm)**

Advance registration required at using the [google form](#)

Contact: [dancingtree.smile@gmail.com](mailto:dancingtree.smile@gmail.com) or whatsapp: 91598 56148

## **CULTURAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **PHOTO CIRCLE**

FRIDAY 3 JANUARY 2025



Photo Circle meets again on **FRIDAY 3rd JANUARY 2025 at 5pm** in the **Centre d'Art multimedia room, at Citadines.**

The Photo circle brings together Auroville's photographers. We share our own work, we show the work of global photographers we admire, discuss the history of photography, and share techniques.

Anyone can bring and screen a small selection of images. You are all welcome.

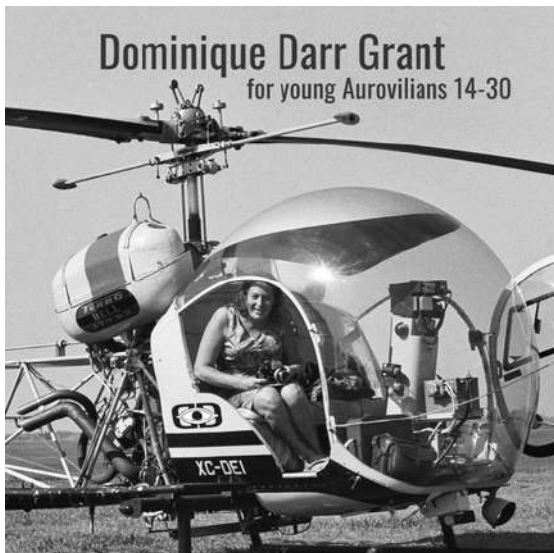
## DOMINIQUE DARR GRANT

FOR YOUNG AUROVILIANS 14-30

Dear Friends,

we are happy to launch Dominique Darr's Grant first edition.

Through the Dominique Darr Grant, Centre d'Art wishes to encourage artistic expression of the Auroville youth and showcase their talent. The DD Grant is intended to support young artists in the production of an exhibition to be held at the Centre d'Art in August 2025. Photography and video will be the main mediums in tribute to Dominique Darr's profession and passion.



- Grant Info: Funding for an exhibition at Centre d'Art in August 2025
- Eligibility: Open to **Aurovilians from 14 to 30 years old**
- Categories: **Video/Photo**
- 2025 edition theme: The sun, the moon and the truth - Three things cannot be long hidden. (Gautama Buddha).

### Timeline

- 1 March 2025: Preliminary project submission deadline
- 15 March 2025: Announcement of the laureates
- 15 July 2025: Final production deadline
- 15 August 2025: Collective exhibition

Please send an email to [centredart@auroville.org.in](mailto:centredart@auroville.org.in) if you wish to have more information.

## SINGING CIRCLE

SATURDAY 4 JANUARY, CREATIVITY



## MUSIC - BEGINNINGS

SATURDAY 4 JANUARY 2025, CRIPA

# BEGINNINGS

An Evening of Original Music

Featuring:

**Matt** Piano  
**Shanks** Guitar  
**Rolf** Bass  
**Raul** Drums

CRIPA  
January 4<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 pm

## PAVILLON DE FRANCE AND CENTRE D'ART PRESENT - THE EPIC STORIES OF HAIRSTYLES... THROUGH ART!

MONDAYS 6, 13, 20 JANUARY 2025, CENTRE D'ART

LE PAVILLON DE FRANCE  
ET LE CENTRE D'ART  
PRÉSENTENT

CONFÉRENCES  
HISTOIRE DE L'ART

L'ÉPOPÉE DES CHEVEUX À TRAVERS L'ART  
PAR NATHALIE SCHMITT, CONFÉRENCIÈRE DES MUSÉES NATIONAUX

CYCLE DE 3 CONFÉRENCES  
CONF 1: 06/01 - 17H  
CONF 2: 13/01 - 17H  
CONF 3: 20/01 - 17H

AU CENTRE D'ART

AUROVILLE - CITADINES

In this unique series of three conferences, embark on a captivating journey through a virtual museum, unveiling famous paintings, iconic sculptures, literary texts, and timeless myths—all connected by one theme... hairstyles !

Bringing together exceptional guests for the first time, these sessions promise a unique immersion blending charm, symbolism, and identity:

Mary Magdalene will reveal how hair became a symbol of allure and seduction...Samson and Delilah will revive the tales of magical powers linked to hair...A Dominican monk and Che Guevara will debate the cultural and identity impact of hairstyles through the ages... Marie Antoinette, in a burst of extravagance, will unveil the art of wigs as symbols of power and style...A few Indian deities will enrich this exploration with their spiritual and mythological symbolism.



These conferences invite you to view art through a unique and original lens, with hairstyles as the central motif traversing eras, cultures, and styles.

Presented in **French** by Nathalie Schmitt, lecturer for the National Museums in France at Centre d'Art, Citadines.

## JOIN US FOR PÉTANQUE AT THE FRENCH PAVILION!

EVERY SUNDAY, FRENCH PAVILION,



THE FRENCH PAVILLON PRESENTS

LE PAVILLON DE FRANCE PRESENTE

SUNDAY  
**PÉTANQUE !**


Every Sunday, from 4pm to 5.30pm

Open to all levels !!!

Come and share a friendly moment !

Loc : FRENCH PAVILION (Opp Visitor Center)

Discover **Pétanque**, a classic French game of skill and strategy, played by tossing steel balls close to a small wooden ball (*cochonnet*). Open to all levels, it's perfect for socializing and having fun. Also a good opportunity to practice your French ;)

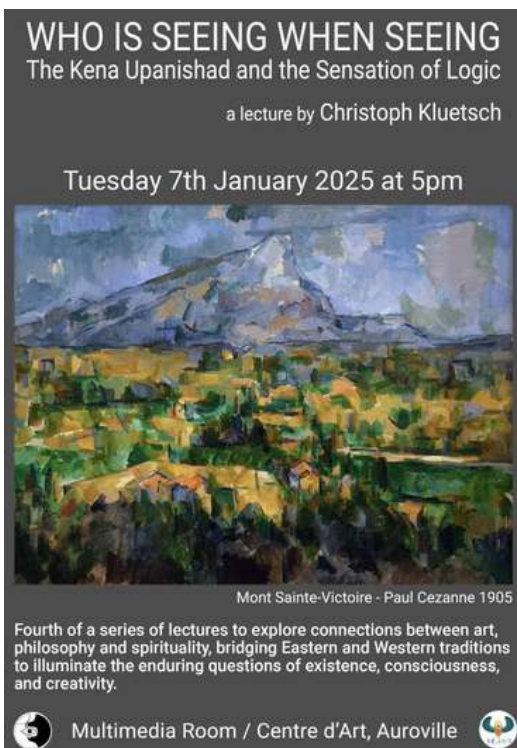
 **Every Sunday, 4pm – 5:30pm**

 **French Pavilion, opposite the Visitor Center**

Come share a friendly moment and connect with others in a relaxed, welcoming atmosphere!

## WHO IS SEEING WHEN SEEING: THE KENA UPANISHAD AND THE SENSATION OF LOGIC

TUESDAY 7 JANUARY 2025





WHO IS SEEING WHEN SEEING  
The Kena Upanishad and the Sensation of Logic

a lecture by Christoph Kluetsch

Tuesday 7th January 2025 at 5pm

Mont Sainte-Victoire - Paul Cezanne 1905

Fourth of a series of lectures to explore connections between art, philosophy and spirituality, bridging Eastern and Western traditions to illuminate the enduring questions of existence, consciousness, and creativity.

 Multimedia Room / Centre d'Art, Auroville 

Who in our consciousness experiences sensations? How are sensations synthesized? How do matter, vibration, consciousness, and self connect? And how can we share sensations through art? Aurobindo introduced the uncommon notion of intermixture at a central point in his interpretation of the Kena Upanishad. This concept invites deeper speculation about the power of art and provides a profound tool to understand postmodern theories like Gilles Deleuze's provocative reinterpretation of the notions of concept, percept, and affect. The Logic of Sensation (Deleuze) is an analysis of the forces in modern painting as an encounter. It will become clear that Aurobindo's interpretation of the Kena Upanishad as a key text of the Vedanta can hold space for one of the most profound rhizomatic postmodern thinkers.

On a deeper level, I want to explore how Aurobindo's idea that sensations can 'operate without bodily organs' relates to Deleuze's notion of body without organs (BwO). Both philosophers point at the forces of consciousness on a plane of immanence.

**Tue Jan 7th 2025, 5pm Multimedia Room at Centre D'Art**

## FOOD

### MARC'S CAFE - EVERY TUESDAY

#### SPECIAL BREAKFAST AT MARC'S

Greetings from Marc's Café!

Join us every **Tuesday from 8:00 - 12:00 pm** for a special breakfast at Marc's.

Celebrate the Auroville spirit and connect with the community **over a cup of coffee, dosai, and freshly baked croissants.**

Exclusive Offer: Enjoy a 50% discount on the mentioned items for all Aurovillians, Newcomers, and SAVI Volunteers.

See you soon!

Marc's Team



### FOOD FOREST TOUR - EVERY SUNDAY

## FOOD FOREST TOUR

WITH VEGAN ICE CREAMS GREEN SMOOTHIES and more...



**EVERY SUNDAY from 9:30 to 11:30**  
(for groups of min 4 people any other weekday is possible)

Come for a morning experience in my permaculture garden, learn about organic farming and get inspired to grow your own food.

We are going to explore the wide diversity of edible plants that grow around us and harvest fruits, greens, herbs and flowers.

After the tour we are going to create delicious and nourishing

#### VEGAN ICE CREAMS

with lots of flavourful toppings from the garden and our homemade produce.

La Ferme Community (5min from AV Bakery)  
Sign up and info [www.myfoodforest.in](http://www.myfoodforest.in)  
whats app text Sarah 9047421044

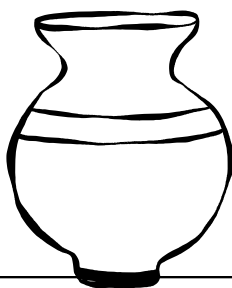
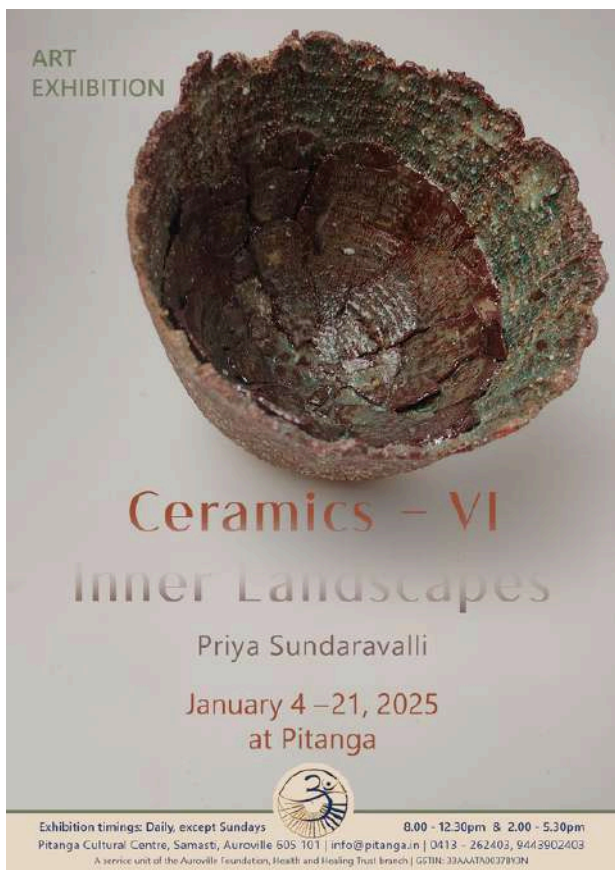




## ART EXHIBITIONS

### CERAMICS VI - INNER LANDSCAPES BY PRIYA

4 - 21 JANUARY 2025, PITANGA



## POETRY



### Like Anxious Moths

Like anxious moths  
That sense the light  
We batter nervously  
Against the top  
Of our own minds  
Until half mad  
We crack the straight laid tiles of thought...  
And lift in flight  
To gain the other side  
And immolate ourselves:  
Delight, delight.


**Maggi Lidchi-Grassi (1930 - 2024)**  
from her book "Seeds"




## **The God Who Waits Within**

July 14, 2013

Man moves as if a shadow of himself  
Trekking along a grey forbidding shore,  
Wanting to search, unable to recall  
The distant haunting memory, the key  
Once known in other worlds and ancient times.  
Pacing unaware of sky and sea,  
Lost in thought and wandering alone,  
Hoping, almost in prayer, to reach again  
The summits seen, the vision briefly glimpsed  
Of one who is the bearer of the Light,  
One who speaks directly to the soul.  
If one can still see beauty, feel delight  
In passing wayside blossoms, hear the song  
Perched atop a tree, a songster's prayer,  
Perhaps man may survive, the world transform  
And manifest the God who waits within.

 *Narad*



**I thought I was  
Playing with the child  
Accompanying her to grow**

**Somewhere along the way  
It dawned on me —  
She was playing with me  
Accompany me to finally grow**

**A reversal?  
The Reality?**

*Anandi Z*

# FOR THE BOOKWORMS

## BOOK LAUNCH -

### THE NECTAR WITHIN THE NECTAR

WEDNESDAY 8 JANUARY 2025, TIBETAN PAVILION



On January 8th 2025, at 5 pm in the Tibetan Pavilion there will be a book launch. Alan Vickers, a pioneer Aurovilian who Mother named 'Vikas', has put together some of his poems and writings in "*The Nectar within the Nectar: Poems, Thought and a Life Inspired by Sri Aurobindo and The Mother*". The proceeds will go to Acres of Auroville for purchase of Auroville land.

The book launch will be accompanied by readings from the book. All are warmly welcome to attend the event.

## AUROVILLE LIBRARY

### BOOK READING - MÉMOIRE D'UN AUTRE MONDE

SATURDAY 11 JANUARY 2025, AUROVILLE LIBRARY

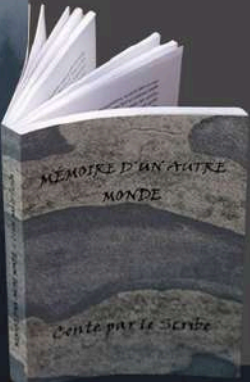
## Book Reading at the Auroville Library

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### Mémoire d'un autre Monde

in french  
Read by Cristo

**Saturday,  
January, 11th 2025  
at 5:30pm**



«Ta venue nous confirme que cet univers en est arrivé au moment où l'Esprit submergé dans l'Inconscience s'est enfin libéré et habite maintenant, dévoilé, la forme des choses. Nous n'intervenons pas dans le développement des peuples, leur évolution doit suivre leur schéma propre, mais nous ne sommes pas simplement des voyeurs. Nous avons une mission, celle d'instruire ceux qui comme toi sont prêts à passer de l'autre côté du miroir sans avoir à traverser la mort du corps physique.»

## READING CIRCLES

MONDAYS, TUESDAYS, AND THURSDAYS

Current book reading circles at the Auroville Library :

- 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)

# CINEMA



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

*Reminder:*

There will be **No film screening on Friday 3rd January 2025.**

*Happy New Year!!!*

**Friday 10th January 2025 at 8:00 pm**

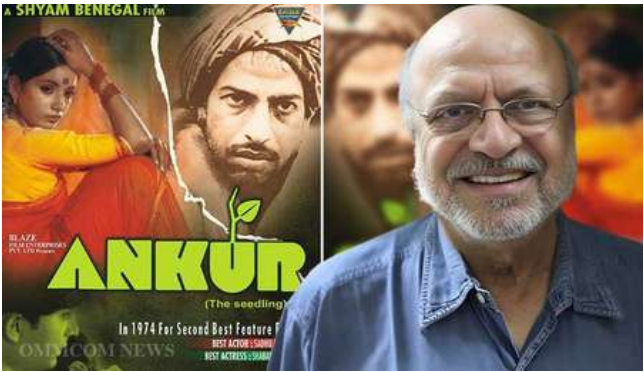
**Special screening!**

In memory of the legendary Indian filmmaker **“Shyam Benegal”** who passed away recently, Aurofilm pays tribute to his great contribution to the seventh art, screening one of his first feature films.

**“ANKUR” (THE SEEDLING)**

*Directed by Shyam Benegal, India, 1974*

*Cast: Shabana Azmi, Sadhu Meher, Anant Nag...*



*Synopsis:* In a small village in an Andhra Pradesh still marked by feudalism, Lakshmi lives a poor lifestyle along with her husband, Kishtaya, a deaf-mute with a penchant for the bottle. Both work for a wealthy landlord. The landlord's son, Surya, having to stop his studies, returns home to look after the estate as well as to formalize his pre-arranged marriage to the young Saroj. When Kishtaya is punished for a petty theft and absconds from the place, Lakshmi is left alone to fend for herself... Shyam Benegal creates a sublime and provocative examination of hypocrisy, economic disparity, and the social status of women in *Ankur*. The film was highly acclaimed and went on to win 43 prizes including the Golden Bear at the 24th Berlin Film Festival. It also happens to be the debut feature film of Shyam Benegal, introducing the actors Anant Nag and Shabana Azmi.

*Original Hyderabad (from Andhra Pradesh) version with English subtitles - Duration: 2h.18'.*

**Note: Contributions are  
very welcome!  
Aurofilm Collection  
Acc. No. 252658**



# Cinema Paradiso

Multimedia Center (MMC) Auditorium

Film program : 6 January - 12 January 2025

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.

With so many years of thinking, watching, and selecting films, Marco had many favorites. This isn't an exclusive selection, but in this new year, a new journey, we dedicate this week to films we remember Marco loved.

## **INDIAN – MONDAY 6 JANUARY, 8:00 PM:**

### **• BIOSCOPEWALA**

India, 2017, Writer-Dir. Deb Medhekar w/ Danny Denzongpa, Geetanjali Thapa, Adil Hussain, and others, Drama, 91mins, Hindi w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR (PG-13)

After an Afghan immigrant, Rehmat Khan, dies in a plane crash, his old bioscope finds its way to Minnie, a filmmaker. As she delves into his past, she unravels the touching bond between her late father and Rehmat, rediscovering forgotten memories. Inspired by Tagore's famous Kabuliwala, this journey reveals the power of storytelling and nostalgia, bridging cultural and generational gaps.

## **POTPOURRI – TUESDAY 7 JANUARY, 8:00 PM:**

### **• HAROLD AND MAUD**

USA, 1971, Dir. Hal Ashby w/ Ruth Gordon, Bud Cort, Vivian Pickles, and others, Quirky Comedy, 91mins, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: PG

Harold Chasen, a young man obsessed with death, stages fake suicides and attends strangers' funerals, much to his wealthy mother's frustration. At a funeral, he meets Maude, an almost 80-year-old who loves life and pursues experiences over possessions. Through their unique friendship, Maude teaches Harold to truly live, and he falls in love with her, learning profound lessons about life and death.

## **SELECTION – WEDNESDAY 8 JANUARY, 8:00 PM:**

### **• BEASTS OF THE SOUTHERN WILD**

USA, 2012, Writer-Dir. Benh Zeitlin w/ Quvenzhané Wallis, Dwight Henry, Levy Easterly, and others, Supernatural-Fantasy-Adventure, 93mins, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: PG-13

Six-year-old Hushpuppy lives in a ramshackle bayou community with her hot-tempered father, Wink. Facing his fading health and environmental challenges, she embarks on a journey of courage and love. As ancient aurochs are unleashed by melting icecaps, Hushpuppy learns to navigate her world with resilience and hope.

## **INTERESTING – THURSDAY 9 JANUARY, 8:00 PM:**

### **• SÉRAPHINE (SERAPHINE)**

France-Belgium, 2008, Writer-Dir. Martin Provost w/ Yolande Moreau, Ulrich Tukur, Anne Bennent, and others, Biography-Drama, 125mins, French-German-Latin w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR (PG-13)

SérAPHINE Louis, a humble housemaid in early 20th century France, discovers her extraordinary talent for painting. Despite facing severe mental struggles, her vibrant and mystical works captivate art critic Wilhelm Uhde, who becomes her patron. This film portrays the poignant journey of an artist whose brilliance and turmoil are inseparably intertwined.



**INTERNATIONAL – SATURDAY 11 JANUARY, 8:00 PM:**

• **LA CHIMERA**

Italy-France-Switzerland-Turkey, 2023, Writer-Dir. Alice Rohrwacher w/ Josh O'Connor, Carol Duarte, Vincenzo Nemolato, and others, Period-Drama-Romance, 130mins, Italian-English-French-Portuguese-German w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR (R)

After being released from jail, English archaeologist Arthur reconnects with his old crew of grave-robbers in Italy. Together, they loot Etruscan tombs, but Arthur's journey to retrieve a mysterious artifact becomes a deeper quest for meaning and redemption.

**CHILDREN'S MATINÉE – SUNDAY 12 JANUARY, 4:00 PM:**

• **THE MITCHELLS VS THE MACHINES**

USA-HongKong-Canada, 2021, Writer-Dir. Michael Rianda & Jeff Rowe w/ Abbi Jacobson, Danny McBride, Maya Rudolph, and others, ComputerAnimation-RoadTrip, 114mins, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: PG

A quirky, dysfunctional family's road trip is upended when they find themselves in the middle of the robot apocalypse and suddenly become humanity's unlikeliest last hope.

**DAVID LEAN FILM FESTIVAL @ CINÉ-CLUB**

**CINÉ-CLUB SUNDAY 12 JANUARY, 8:00 PM:**

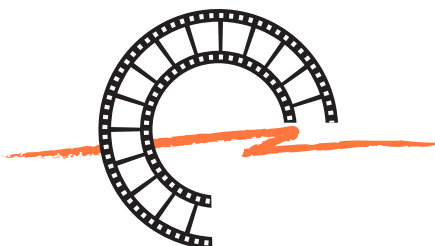
• **GREAT EXPECTATIONS**

UK, 1946, Dir. David lean w/ John Mills, Valerie Hobson and others, Drama – Adventure, 118 mins, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: R. In this Charles Dickens adaptation, Orphan Pip discovers through lawyer Mr. Jaggers that a mysterious benefactor wishes to ensure that he becomes a gentleman. Reunited with his childhood patron, Miss Havisham, and his first love, the beautiful but emotionally cold Estella, he discovers that the elderly spinster has gone mad from having been left at the altar as a young woman, and has made her charge into a warped, unfeeling heartbreaker.

**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

## ESSENTIAL SERVICES

### AUROVILLE'S FINANCIAL SERVICES (FS)

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

### ELECTRICAL SERVICE (AVES)

- **Timings:** Monday to Saturday, 8am - 4:30pm
- **Phone:** 0413 2622132/ 94888 68747 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)

### WATER SERVICE

- Monitors water lines and supply within AV, undertakes water-related jobs.
- **Timings:** Monday to Saturday, 8am - 12pm and 2pm - 4:30pm
- **Phone:** 0413 2622877, 89035 53246
- **Email:** [avwaterservice@auroville.org.in](mailto:avwaterservice@auroville.org.in)

### ECO SERVICE (WASTE COLLECTION/MANAGEMENT)

- **Timings:** Monday to Saturday, 8:30am - 12:30pm, and 1:30pm - 4:30pm
- **Phone:** 94435 35172
- **Email:** [ecoservice@auroville.org.in](mailto:ecoservice@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

#### **Children's Storytime! All ages welcome!**

- Every **Saturday** between 10am - 11am.







### **Helping Others:**

*Our prime purpose in this life is to help others. And if you can't help them, at least don't hurt them.*

*Dalai Lama*

## 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 83006 43963 Philippe G. or call 99528 12843 N. Murugan.

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



## OTHER 'SERVICES'

### HIVE COWORKING SPACE

OPEN HOUSE - EVERY FRIDAY

20% discount  
for Aurovillians,  
Newcomers, and  
Volunteers on  
subscription plans!!



NEED A PLACE TO WORK?

OPEN  
HOUSE

HIVE  
COWORKING

FREE ON EVERY FRIDAY

More Info : +91 90 42 75 95 40 | [www.auromode.in](http://www.auromode.in)

Are you looking to work, study, create or simply connect with like-minded professionals in a serene place? Step into Hive and experience the Cosy workspace with super-fast Internet, Coffee - **All for FREE** on our Open House.

- Venue: Hive, Auromode
- Time: **9 am - 5 pm**
- Visit us at [www.auromode.in/hive-coworking](http://www.auromode.in/hive-coworking) for more details on our plans and facilities.
- For inquiries: [auromodehive@auroville.org.in](mailto:auromodehive@auroville.org.in) / +91 70921 97375 (WA) / +91 90427 59540 (WA) or drop by.

All are Welcome!!



# HEALTH

## SANTÉ SERVICES IN JANUARY 2025



### 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) 262 2803 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> Tuesday / Wednesday / Friday	<b>Integrative Psychotherapy with Juan Andres:</b> Monday to Friday
<b>Acupuncture with Andres:</b> Monday to Friday	<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>Midwifery &amp; GYN Care with Paula:</b> Monday & Wednesday	<b>Adaptive Therapy (all ages) with Asita:</b> Wednesday & Saturday
<b>Bio-Well Assessment (Evaluation of your well-being) with Helena – email <a href="mailto:adminsante@auroville.org.in">adminsante@auroville.org.in</a></b>	<b>Soundbed Session with Sandhya / Thilagam:</b> 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.**

## 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)



## DENTAL CLINIC - KUILAPALAYAM

- **Timings:** Monday to Saturday, 9am - 5pm daily
- **Phone:** 0413 2622007/ 2622265
- **Email:** [aurodentalcentre@auroville.org.in](mailto:aurodentalcentre@auroville.org.in)

## 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 family and friends to the Gardens  
Daily: 9.00 AM to 12.00 PM
- Volunteers and Pass holders 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

**Awaiting update on trip prices/monthly schemes!**

**Thank you for your patience.**


**EMERGENCY NUMBERS**

**Ambulance (24/7):**

Auroville 94422 24680	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 89038 36246
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**Mental Health 24/7 Support:**

Vandrevala Foundation +91 99996 66555

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