

Auroville

NEWS & NOTES

No 1057 - A weekly bulletin for residents of Auroville

9 January 2025

RA EDITION

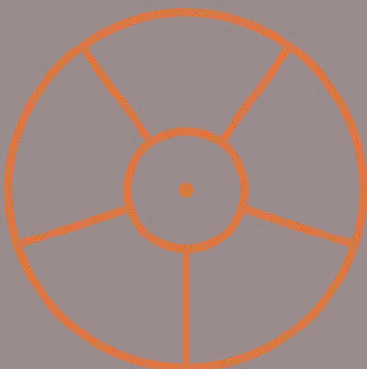


PONDERING

Ideals are truths that have not yet effected themselves for man, the realities of a higher plane of existence which have yet to fulfil themselves on this lower plane of life and matter, our present field of operation. To the pragmatial intellect which takes its stand upon the ever-changing present, ideals are not truths, not realities, they are at most potentialities of future truth and only become real when they are visible in the external fact as work of force accomplished.

On Ideals, The Supramental Manifestation

<https://motherandsriaurobindo.in/Sri-Aurobindo/books/sabcl/the-supramental-manifestation/#on-ideals>



THE MOTHER ON AUROVILLE



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CONCEPTION AND BIRTH : NEW CONSCIOUSNESS

Page 28

What political organisation do you want for Auroville?

An amusing definition occurs to me: a divine anarchy. But the world will not understand. Men must become conscious of their psychic being and organise themselves spontaneously, without fixed rules and laws—that is the ideal.

For this one must be in contact with one's psychic being, one must be guided by it and the ego's authority and influence must disappear

+28.12.1972

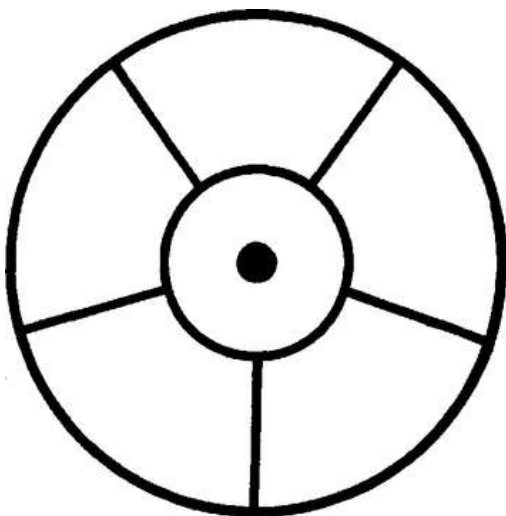
*

Auroville wants to be a new creation expressing a new Consciousness in a new way and according to new methods.

18.8.1969*

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Auroville's Symbol



The Mother had made a sketch of the new symbol of Auroville on 16.8.71 and seen and approved the above drawing. She gave the following explanation of its meaning:

"The dot at the centre represents Unity, the Supreme; the inner circle represents the creation, the conception of the City; the petals represent the power of expression, realisation."

*The city the earth
needs.*

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Auroville Charter

1. Auroville belongs to nobody in particular. Auroville belongs to humanity as a whole. But to live in Auroville one must be the willing servitor of the Divine Consciousness.
2. Auroville will be the place of an unending education, of constant progress, and a youth that never ages.
3. Auroville wants to be the bridge between the past and the future. Taking advantage of all discoveries from without and from within, Auroville will boldly spring towards future realisations.
4. Auroville will be a site of material and spiritual researches for a living embodiment of an actual Human Unity.

28.2.1968*

*

Greetings from Auroville to all men of good will.

Are invited to Auroville all those who thirst for progress and aspire to a higher and truer life.

28.2.1968*



Flame of Aspiration

A flame that illumines but does not burn - The Mother

Acer L.spp., Aceraceae.

Maple

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

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

Thank you for your continued support!

In community,
The RA Community Edition News & Notes Team

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FROM THE ENTRY SERVICE

NO ANNOUNCEMENT THIS WEEK

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



FROM L'AVENIR D'AUROVILLE

RA-TDC: LETTER REGARDING GROSS NEGLIGENCE IN URBAN PLANNING IN AUROVILLE

Dear Residents,

On January 5th, a [letter](#) was sent to high government officials addressing critical concerns about ongoing developments in the Auroville project area. These issues highlight significant lapses in planning, compliance, and transparency, posing risks to the ecological, social, and legal integrity of our community.

Key concerns include:

- 1. Contracting Issues:** The contract with the CPWD for 11 radials lacks formal approval from planning authorities and the Residents' Assembly, violating the Auroville Foundation Act. Financial transparency is also absent, with no clarity on funding sources or expenditure.
- 2. Environmental and Safety Risks:** Projects such as the Matrimandir Lake and Vikas Radial have proceeded without Detailed Development Plans (DDPs) or Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs), causing environmental damage, safety hazards, and community disruption. Unauthorised actions, including tree cutting, further threaten Auroville's sustainability.
- 3. Lack of Community Involvement:** These developments continue despite strong objections from the Residents' Assembly. The absence of participatory processes undermines Auroville's collaborative values.

We once again urge authorities to halt all ongoing and planned projects until these issues are resolved. Transparency, accountability, and community participation are essential for Auroville's sustainable development.

Thank you for your attention and commitment to Auroville's shared vision.

All related documents, reports and letters can be found [here](#).

In Service,

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



OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2025 REPORT



Dear Residents,

As we humbly welcome the New Year, we'd like to share with you a reflection on the topics we discussed in the last quarter of 2024. This report also highlights the latest trends, challenges, and future prospects for Auroville, offering a vision for how we can move forward together as a community.

Please feel free to visit us or email if you have any questions. Our Open House hours are from 10am to 11pm on Thursday at the Council Room in Town Hall. You can also reach us by email at avcouncil@auroville.services.

Auroville's Vision and Challenges

Auroville is one big family, and we are building it in a unique way. From how we make decisions to how we learn and create, every action is an opportunity to practice living in unity. Human unity is not just a practice we can adopt once the city is built, nor is it following the dictates of a few, but an essential part of how we build Auroville together. The Council continues to believe that the true spirit of Auroville lies in nurturing self-discipline and inner responsibility, rather than imposing external restrictions.

However, the emphasis on material aspects of city-building has overshadowed the importance of empathy, eroding organically grown trust within our community. To restore this trust, we must reintegrate empathy into our processes, ensuring that every brick laid is not just for a building but for the heart of our collective spirit.

Gratitude

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all who have tirelessly served in working groups, particularly those affected by recent organizational changes, and those who continue to contribute to Auroville's forests, farms, and community initiatives, often with limited or no financial support. We also thank those who are supporting us from afar with their consistent encouragement. We are also grateful to all the Council Room watchers for their perseverance.

The Council Room has been a space of resilience and unity, maintained through the dedication of our community. For the past two years, it has been under 24/7 constant watch, a testament to the strength and commitment of those who have kept the inner fire of truth burning.

RAS Mandate

We thank the community for their active participation in providing feedback on the new RAS mandate. Your input has been carefully incorporated into the draft, which will be presented at the second Resident Assembly Meeting tentatively scheduled for mid-January. We look forward to even greater participation in the final stages of the process for its approval by the community.

RAS Membership

We acknowledge the resignation of Franclin from the Residents Assembly (RAS) due to personal reasons. The current RAS team includes Tatiana, Peter, Vignesh, and Avinash as a new resource person. The RAS plays a vital role in community representation, and we encourage all residents to participate in upcoming processes and consider nominations for future selections.

Selection Process

The Council has initiated discussions with the RAS and working groups to prepare for the selection where new members of the working groups will be chosen. A tentative timeline is being established for the coming months.

Matrimandir Lake

The latest incident of the failure of the lego wall has been extensively reported from different perspectives. Reports: [by MM team](#) and [RA WCom note](#). The Council continues to call for greater collaboration with the community to ensure that the work on the lake is done in a safe and environmentally sensitive manner taking into account the valuable inputs already presented to the Matrimandir team.

Residence Criteria and New Rules

The recent announcement of the new criteria, issued without the RA's approval and implemented through a standing order signed by Dr. Seethraman, is clearly against the principles and ideals upheld by the AV community. The AV Council appeals to the AVFO and GB members to actively engage and communicate with the residents of Auroville before making such significant decisions.

The Council is committed to backing initiatives that resonate with the community's shared vision and values. We are willing to support efforts that align with these ideals and are sincerely executed in a spirit of collaboration and mutual respect.

Wood Sale After Cyclones

Allowing communities to sell wood cleared after cyclones ensures a fair distribution of wealth and resources to all residents. This practice, as done previously, would provide funds for essential communities maintenance and repairs. If allowed, these transactions could be managed properly through established processes, including the issuance of bills, ensuring transparency and accountability. Banning the sale of cyclone-cleared wood without providing an alternative plan is both irresponsible and contrary to the community's interests, especially since these communities receive no financial support from the current administration, relying solely on the monthly contributions of their residents for financial sustainability.

GB-BCC Half-maintenance Contribution

The introduction of retroactive half-maintenance contribution guidelines by the Budget Coordination Committee (GB-BCC) in October 2024 has caused significant financial distress for many residents. This enforcement disregards past waivers and informal agreements, directly contradicting Auroville's ethos of truth and selfless service.

It is important to note that the current BCC was not selected according to its RA approved mandate. Additionally, there's been an increase in the employment of non-Aurovilians by various GB Working Groups, which we feel undermines the unique spirit of Auroville.

The Auroville Council strongly condemns any retroactive policy as unethical and contrary to principles of natural justice. We request that new financial guidelines be applied only prospectively, honoring past agreements.

Afsaneh Guesthouse

In August, the Council wrote to the GB-FAMC (see below) requesting to adhere to due process, yet the GB-FAMC, along with the GH trustees, have been persistently pressuring the current management team to hand over the keys to a new team. This pressure continues despite the requests to follow the valid documentation and follow the due process, to which we never got a response.

"Dear Chandresh, Torkil, Geeta and Margarita,

We hear with concern that the management of Afsaneh Guest House is being changed at the present time. This is surprising since, as we understand it, the present management team of Auradha, Rosy and Enrica has been highly successful in managing the guest house, increasing its turnover and improving the

infrastructure and it would seem that their work has been appreciated by their guests. Indeed, it is of concern that Auradha has not been reappointed as an executive and Enrica and Rosy appointed as additional executives despite their repeated requests and with no valid reasons being given for not doing so.

We are concerned that their success has not been fully appreciated by the trustees, nor by the GB appointed FAMC themselves, and that there has now been a decision made by you to replace them with new executives. We have observed that in recent times there have been a number of such replacements of executives in various Auroville units without adequate explanations being given to the executives themselves, nor to those directly affected, and without subsequent improvements in the units being apparent.

As the Auroville Council, responsible for ensuring that decisions are made in a fair and open way in our community groups, we would like to encourage you to please ensure that in this case the decisions regarding the management of the Guest House are made in a fair, transparent manner, that proper process is followed at every stage and that the decision is in the best interests of the organisation concerned and the community as a whole.

Sincerely,

Auroville Council

Ashwini, Lucas, Martin, Ramesh, Rju, Samrat, Sathiya"

When an Aurovillian is asked to leave a Workplace - Guidelines

The Auroville Council, together with previous FAMC members, worked on guidelines for units and trusts to use when there are difficulties with individuals in the workplace that may lead to their dismissal.

We shared these [guidelines](#) with the community in order to gather feedback. The feedback is being considered by the Auroville Council and integrated as needed, after which it may be issued as guidance.

Council Room Fire

On November 9th, at approximately 2:00 am, a small fire broke out in the electrical panel of the Council room while the room watcher was asleep. The smoke woke him, prompting him to quickly use a fire extinguisher to put out the fire. Although the electrical panel was significantly damaged, the surrounding area only suffered smoke damage. The power was then shut off.

The next day, a safe temporary electrical connection was established from outside the room to maintain essential services like lighting and power, with a warning against using high-energy devices such as the kettle. Information about this setup was shared with all room watchers.

The ACUR team was called to start repairs, and AVES sent an engineer, but he was sent away by an ACUR executive following instructions from the GB-FAMC. To ensure safety and functionality, a qualified electrician was called to make a safe temporary connection, which later led to a full repair of the electrical system.

However, a member of the GB-FAMC cut this temporary connection, though a permanent fix was quickly implemented allowing the room to remain in use. Simultaneously, the AC unit broke down due to a faulty fan blade, which was subsequently repaired by an external contractor.

The electrician determined that the fire was caused by a malfunctioning fan controller, contradicting an earlier suggestion by a GB-FAMC member that it was due to an overload from misuse of power.

Thanks are due to the room watcher for his prompt action in extinguishing the fire, potentially preventing a larger disaster,

especially since the night watchman was not aware of the fire extinguisher's location. The cooperation from those involved in the repairs is also appreciated. However, there is significant concern regarding the GB-FAMC's refusal to permit repairs, which could have compromised the safety of the building and hindered the operations of official working groups.

The Auroville Council
 Lucas, Martin, Ramesh, Rju, Samrat, Sathiya



FO GROUPS NEWS

(not selected by due Residents Assembly process)

FROM THE FO N&N 1060

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

COMMUNITY NEWS



OBITUARY

JEAN-MARIE PASSED AWAY



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

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.

Jean-Marie was cremated on Sunday January 5th at the Auroville Cremation Ground.

~ OM ~



IN MEMORIAM: MARCO FEIRA

Marco Feira passed away in his house in Sharnga community on 26 December 2024 at the age of 75. He had been suffering from pancreatic cancer.



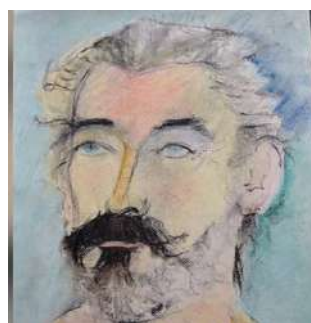
Marco joined Auroville almost 30 years ago. His was a full and varied life, initially shaped by his love for the arts, later by his love for the spiritual.

While growing up in Turin, Italy, he started painting and joined the Arte Povera movement, using everyday materials to create a new pictorial language. In the late 1960s he travelled to Afghanistan, Pakistan and India where he fell in love with the arts and antiques. His focus expanded and he became one of the first Italian dealers in Asiatic art and antiquities, running, by the end of the 1970s, a business with more than 20 employees.

India touched him in other ways as well. He started studying Indian philosophy and the Vedas, with his first book being one by Sri Aurobindo which, he said later, he hadn't understood at all. Together with his wife Liliana, Marco discovered Auroville. After visiting Auroville for many years, they joined in 1997. Here Marco and Liliana started the fashion and jewellery unit Miniature – a name chosen as a living reminder to keep the production small.

Marco will be particularly remembered for his role in stimulating the arts in Auroville. Together with four other Aurovilians, he started the AV Art Service in 2010, aiming at supporting and developing the arts in Auroville. He stressed the importance of art for Auroville and was inspired by what the Mother had said about art:

Art is nothing less in its fundamental truth than the aspect of beauty of the Divine manifestation. ... like a Yogi an artist goes into deep contemplation to await and receive his inspiration. To create something truly beautiful, he has first to see it within, to realise it as a whole in his inner consciousness; only when so found, seen, held within, can he execute it outwardly; he creates according to this greater inner vision. This too is a kind of yogic discipline, for by it he enters into intimate communion with the inner worlds.



Self portrait.

He was one of the founder editors of the occasionally-published magazine called MAGzAV, which focused on questions around what the new culture of Auroville was, how art could contribute to the building of the city, and how Auroville artists could foreground critical aspects of the budding values of the community.

Marco also curated many art shows, amongst which was the exhibition Transformation that was part of The Auroville Festival – City for Transformation at the India International Center, New Delhi, in September 2012. The exhibition, which showed works of Auroville artists, was a great success and led Marco to dream about an Museum of Modern Art in Auroville, which would host art that spoke directly to the viewer, who should experience 'something' and ask questions so deep that answers would have to be found at the spiritual level.

Cinema was another art form Marco loved. He brought to life the Cinema Paradiso in Auroville's Multimedia Centre, showing films from different parts of the world, and he started the bi-annual Auroville Film Festival, a platform for movies made by people from Auroville and elsewhere. The experience led to exchange

programmes with film festivals in other parts of the world and to the decision to make film making part of the curriculum of some of Auroville's schools.

His focus on art was supported by his focus on Tai Chi Chuan. Marco had spent a year in a Zen monastery in Italy learning breathing techniques, concentration and meditation, which became part of his daily routine. In Auroville he studied Tai Chi Chuan as taught by The School of the Inner Way of Vlady Stevanovitch. He studied this form intensively and became a teacher himself, ultimately training between 20 and 40 people a year for more than 20 years.

Marco's remains were buried on 27 December at the Auroville Burial Grounds with many attending. Auroville salutes a wonderful man whose artistic insights, touch and initiatives will have a lasting impact on the city to come. Our warmest condolences go out to Liliana, Ambra, Alessio, Igor, Ramon, Diego.

OM



REMEMBERING MARCO

A great friend of late Giorgio Molinari, Milan's photographer and an Aurovilian, Marco also experimented with photography. He displayed an exhibition with pics from a baroque church and common life, a theatre of the absurd. Marco had mounted it on elegant satinated aluminium frames; he wished to donate them to Pitanga but, aerially moving by the wind, they indented the walls and this was the end of the adventure, alas.

A joyous occasion was an exhibition in Chennai to celebrate the (50?) years of the Italian Chamber of Commerce. Sauro had invited us Italian photographers: Giorgio, Marco, Pino and myself; it was interesting to see how different were our photographs, though we hailed from the same country. Next to us was a hall with war and slums photographs; I forgot the celebration and merged instead into the world's tragedy evoked by a Chennai photographer. How distant from what we Aurovilians, hosted in a super deluxe hotel with banquets hall and delicious food, presented! Inverting responsibilities? It was surreal.

Marco was a fine cinema critic and his choices showed the impassionate social commitment that characterised our Italian generation. Today, hardly anything of this remains.

Paulette



FROM AUROVILLE LIBRARY

PONGAL CLOSURE

Dear Community,

The Auroville Library will be closed on **Wed 15th and Thurs 16th Jan** for Pongal.

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 or on WhatsApp, Telegram, or Signal at +1 978-394-1711 if you have thoughts or questions. Thanks!

OFFERING

Offering a range of sessions as a gift to the AV community, from whom I always receive SO much.

These range from living slowly, travelling the world, discovering a dustbin free life- befriending the body- relationship repair and more.

All are listed in this google doc with my contact info <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1jFoGVktpwKjZB-QywyF39BOn5t359475Z5bqbBNVfqU/edit?tab=t.0>

Thank you for reading and accepting these gifts.

Love, Deepa

stigmatad@gmail.com

@nomadicdeepa / <https://www.facebook.com/deepaaaaaaaaa>



AUROVILLE DOG SHELTER

Serenity House Opens!

A New Home of Hope for Our Dogs



After months of dedicated effort, we are happy to announce the opening of the newly renovated *Serenity House*! Once a run-down, cage-like structure, this transformed space now provides a safe and beautiful home for 30 to 40 of our beloved dogs.

The building features six dormitories, each with access to its own spacious “Hope Garden.” Auroville’s Youth Centre and Youth Link helped us to build beautifully designed dog houses, which will be placed in each garden. One of them, filled with soft white beach sand, is for our paraplegic and paralyzed dogs to prevent injuries from hard or rocky surfaces.

This upgrade significantly enhances the well-being of our dogs and frees up vital space for rescue animals —victims of accidents and abuse who need urgent help.

Help Us Grow the Gardens of Hope!



To complete this transformation, we need your help! We envision lush, green spaces filled with trees and plants that provide shade and beauty. We warmly invite the Auroville Community to contribute by donating tree saplings, bushes, flowering plants, creepers, or any other vegetation to help turn Serenity House and its gardens of Hope into a verdant paradise for our furry friends.

We’ll be celebrating this incredible milestone with an *Opening Day Party* soon, and everyone is welcome to visit, enjoy the company of our dogs, and see the changes firsthand.



If you’d like to donate plants or saplings, please contact Arthur through WhatsApp Chat at 81222 25266.

Thank you for supporting this journey of hope and healing!

RESIDENTS SPEAK

GG MADSEC!



Sincerely, bravo – you’ve truly outdone yourself:

To prevent shady money routing, place the greediest men closest to the piggy bank.

Assign the bitterest individuals to positions of power.

Entrust the most jealous with the authority to impose limits on others.

Ensure that only the most avid travellers have the power to grant permission to leave AV.

Put the most chauvinistic forward to represent this international community.

Appoint the most self-righteous to oversee public morals.

Entrust the most disinterested with the power to enforce enthusiasm.

Give the most opportunistic the authority to allocate resources.

Task the most cowardly with making bold decisions.

Place the most naïve in control of national security.

Put the most apathetic in charge of innovation.

And, of course, place the most violent men at the helm of diplomacy.

GG Jayloris Ravbridge, end of the line.

OPEN LETTER TO ANURADHA MAJUMDAR LEGRAND

Dear Anu,

You may be surprised that I call you “dear,” but I am addressing this open letter to Anu’s soul, which is truly dear to me—as is every soul embodied on this little planet.

That said, I must express my surprise at a recent development. During the Special Talk on Good Practices at Auroville, held in Gujarat on January 3, 2025, you introduced yourself as “at present a member of the Working Committee.”

This came as a surprise for several reasons. First, your term as a member of the Working Committee officially ended on January 2024. Second, a few months ago, you announced your resignation from the committee, which itself seemed unusual since your term had already concluded.

Given these facts, I am puzzled as to why you publicly presented yourself as still holding this position. Could there be a valid reason I am unaware of? Was there a new selection process that reappointed you for another term? Or is there another meaningful explanation?

Additionally, I am curious about the continued signing of communications from the so-called committee by other former members—Srimoyi, Partha, and Arun—whose terms also ended alongside yours.

You have often spoken about the importance of realigning Auroville with its original purpose and ideals, including building the City at the Service of Truth. So, what is the Truth behind your statement?

In that spirit, I hope you will clarify the reasoning behind your statement, as it places you de facto as a representative of all of us. Transparency and integrity are essential to fostering trust and ensuring alignment with Auroville’s founding principles.

I trust you will agree that our actions and communications must reflect these values. Thank you for taking the time to address this matter. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,
Olivier

(NOT JUST) WORD PLAY

When I tune in to non-verbal vibes and exchanges, poetic and playful words also reveal their “worlds”, their innate sacredness, as if reminding me that I cannot simply disregard and discard languages as man-made, artificial, superficial. If the Divine is indeed in everything, every ONE, every BODY, all languages must have the Sacred encoded in them.

Some time last year, when “Divine, Dive in” revealed itself to me, it was so simple and significant that I started designing it.



To be continued...

Anandi Zhang



PROGRESSING TOWARDS THE SUPRAMENTAL VICTORY

Here is just one of the Mother's Visions of Auroville from 64 years ago:

"It was the idea of an ideal city, the nucleus of a small ideal country, having only superficial and extremely limited contacts with the old world. One would already have to conceive (it's possible) of a Power sufficient to be at once a protection against aggression or bad will (this would not be the most difficult protection to provide) and a protection (which can just barely be imagined) against infiltration and admixture.... From the social or organizational standpoint, these problems are not difficult, nor from the standpoint of inner life; the problem is the relationship with what is not Supramentalised—preventing infiltration or admixture, keeping the nucleus from falling back into an inferior creation during the transitional period. ...

I am constantly seeing images! Not images, living things—like answers to questions. A magnificent peacock was taking shape (it's the symbol of victory here in India) and its tail opened out, and on it a construction appeared, like this construction of an ideal place..."

<https://incarnateword.in/agenda/02/july-18-1961>

Fast-forward to the present Circa 2025...

Go out and about in the emerging City of Dawn and the surrounding districts and explore, engage... feel the swirling energies of seeming contradictory yet complementary progress. The ever-hastening Renaissance of Mother India is pushing Auroville to fully awaken to its raison d'être.

"A protection against infiltration and admixture..."

We altogether continue on, with the Supreme Divine Mother MahaShakti orchestrating the development of Her City of Dawn, amongst other very interesting goings-on. Matrimandir as Her Temple magnificently stands beside the central Banyan Tree as the Golden Beacon beckoning all receptives towards the Divine Manifestation of the new apex species the Supramental being.

For the curious non-initiates and confused:

Sri Aurobindo and the Mother as Avatars always reveal for a specific reason and purpose.



Zech, 2024.12.28

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

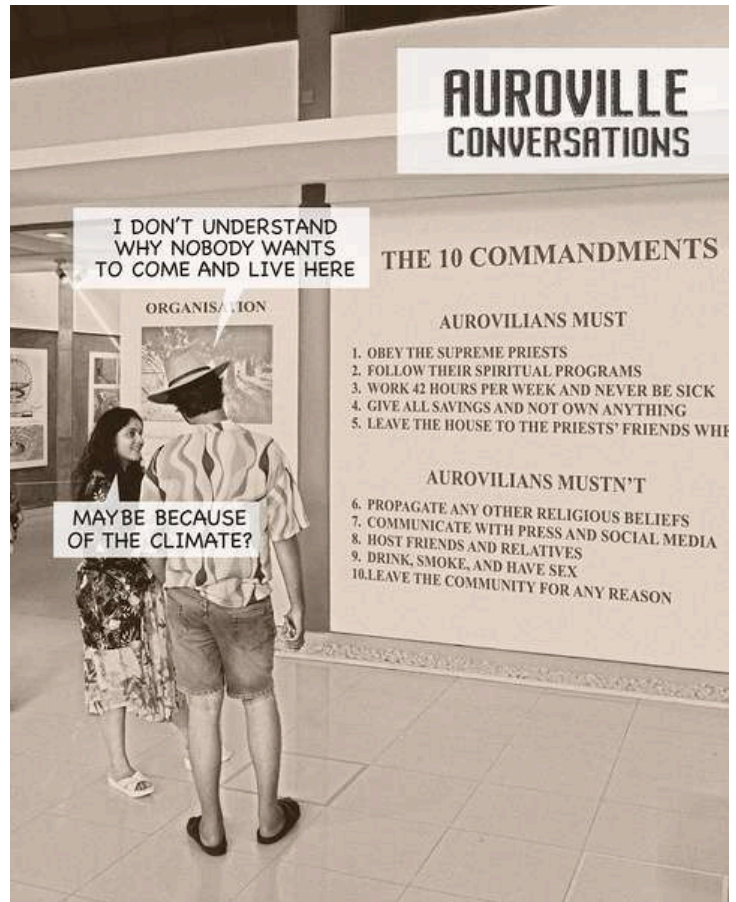
To continue reading, [click here](#), or scan QR code

FOOD FOR THOUGHT



<https://www.multiwood.in/blog/cutting-down-trees-threat-nature>

AUROVILLE CONVERSATIONS



Submitted by an Aurovillian

Disclaimer: This is a photomontage, and the text displayed is not really written on the wall.

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 14th January, 9 am - 12 noon
Focus: **Self-Mastery**

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 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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

AV ULTIMATE FRISBEE - SOUTHEAST REGIONALS

11 - 12 JANUARY, GAIA FIELD

Dear Auroville Community,

Auroville Ultimate Frisbee is excited to announce that we will be hosting the

Southeast Regionals, a key event in India's National Championship Series! 🏆

This is a single-gender tournament which will bring together both men's and women's teams from the Southeast. Come cheer on the players, enjoy the energy, and witness teams battling it out for glory in their respective categories! 🏆



When: Sat 11th & Sun 12th January

Where: Gaia Field

Do reach out to us with any questions:

[@rhino.ultimate](https://www.instagram.com/rhino.ultimate)

Warmly,

The Auroville Women's
Ultimate Frisbee Team (Rhinos)

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 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



DOCTOR AND THE TEAM FROM MEN-TSEE-KHANG

JANUARY 2025, TIBETAN PAVILION

Greetings to you all for the year 2025! May you all have a great year with a better health, wiser and a wonderful year.

This is to let you know that for the month of January 2025, Doctor and the team from Men-tsee-khang based in Chennai are visiting us on

- **Wednesday 15th** - 2pm to 5:30pm
- **Thursday 16th** - full day from 8:30am to 1pm, 2pm to 5:30pm
- **Friday 17th** - 8:30am to 1pm.

To get your appointment kindly call 0413 2622401 or send a WhatsApp message to 84890 67332.

The consultations are held at **Pavilion Of Tibetan Culture International zone Auroville.**

You can also find Herbal products produced by Mentseekhang based in Dharamsala.

You are always welcome to visit us during our visiting hours AND Wishing you ALL a very HAPPY NEW YEAR.

You can find us in International zone Auroville.

You can reach out to us via calling us 0413 2622401

ECO FEMME - OPEN HOUSE

EVERY THURSDAY

eco femme

ORGANIC TEXTILES
GOTS
Organically certified

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

LOOKING FOR

AUROVILLE INTERNATIONAL POTTERS MARKET

24 - 26 JANUARY

The Auroville Potters Market are looking for:

1. Volunteers for Mon 20th - Sat 28th Jan
2. Old newspapers for packing.



Please contact 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

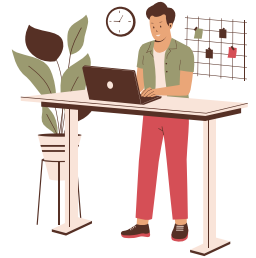
+972534321692 / omerguei@gmail.com

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



TAXI SHARING

MONDAY 3 FEBRUARY



To stay ECO FRIENDLY am very willing to share a taxi from **Auroville to Chennai airport on Monday 3rd February 2025.**

Departure from Auroville Town Hall at 10:00pm (22:00).

Please contact via WhatsApp +34685673777 or email: srimaa221@gmail.com. Sunny

ECO FEMME IS LOOKING FOR OFFICE SPACE & STORAGE ROOM

Eco Femme is seeking new office space with the following specifications:

- Office area: 150 sq. m
- Storage room: 80 sq. m

Please feel free to contact us at 94871 79556 for more information.

Thank you!



VARIOUS ITEMS!

Looking for:

- nail brush preferably with a steel / wooden base
- stainless steel or ceramic base frying pan
- acoustic guitar
- books on death and dying.

Thank you for reading and offering.

Love, Deepa.

stigmatad@gmail.com

AVAILABLE

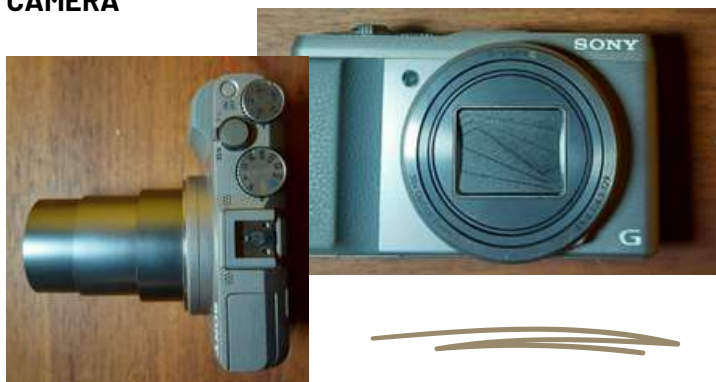
D-LINK 10/100 FAST ETHERNET SWITCH TO GIVE AWAY



3 HARD DRIVES TO GIVE AWAY



THE SONY CYBER-SHOT DSC-HX50V TRAVEL-ZOOM CAMERA



The Sony Cyber-shot DSC-HX50V travel-zoom camera is the World's smallest and lightest camera with a 30x zoom lens. Offering a focal range of 24-720mm, a 20.4 megapixel back-illuminated Exmor R CMOS sensor, Wi-Fi connectivity, and built-in GPS tracking, the HX50V also has 50p Full HD video recording with stereo sound and HDMI output and 3D Sweep Panoramas and 3D Still Images.

Original price: Rs 25,000, **selling price: Rs 5,000.**

LENOVO TABLET M10 (3RD GEN), 10.1 INCH (25.65 CM)



Lenovo Tablet M10 (3rd Gen), 10.1 Inch (25.65 Cm), Wuxga IPS Display 1920x1200, 100% Srgb, 4 GB Ram, 64 GB ROM, additional 128 GB MicroSD card, Android version 12, including cover for protection.

Original price: Rs 26,000, **selling price: Rs 8,000**

For these tech items, please contact aurodaniel@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

<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.

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.

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.

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.

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.


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

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
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 or Whatsapp: 91598 56148

CULTURAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

AUROVILLE RADIO



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

Last published podcasts:

- [Une série hebdomadaire de lectures par Gangalakshmi – Ep.476 \(Integral Yoga\)](#)
- [Marlenka's Weekly Offering – Ep.125 \(Literature\)](#)
- [Seeking Our Inner Being Group Discussion, Ep. 1 \(French, Part 4\) \(Spirituality\)](#)
- [Une série hebdomadaire de lectures par Gangalakshmi – Ep.475 \(Integral Yoga\)](#)
- [Soul Tracks Christmas Caper! \(Music\)](#)

...and more! on www.aurovillerradiotv.org.
For more information write to radio@auroville.org.in

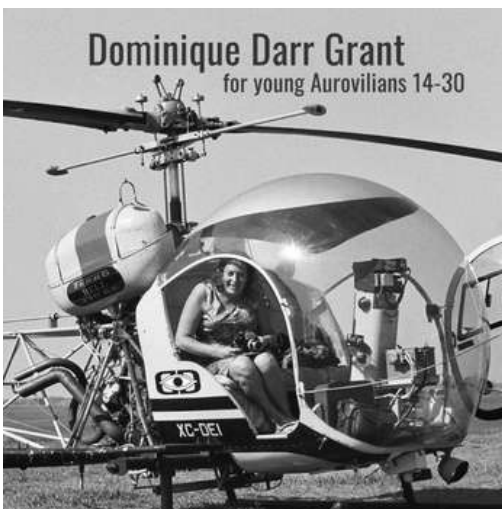
Regards,
Sai Priya
For Auroville RadioTV

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 if you wish to have more information.

JOIN US FOR PÉTANQUE AT THE FRENCH PAVILION!

EVERY SUNDAY, FRENCH PAVILION,



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!

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 Aurovilians, 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)

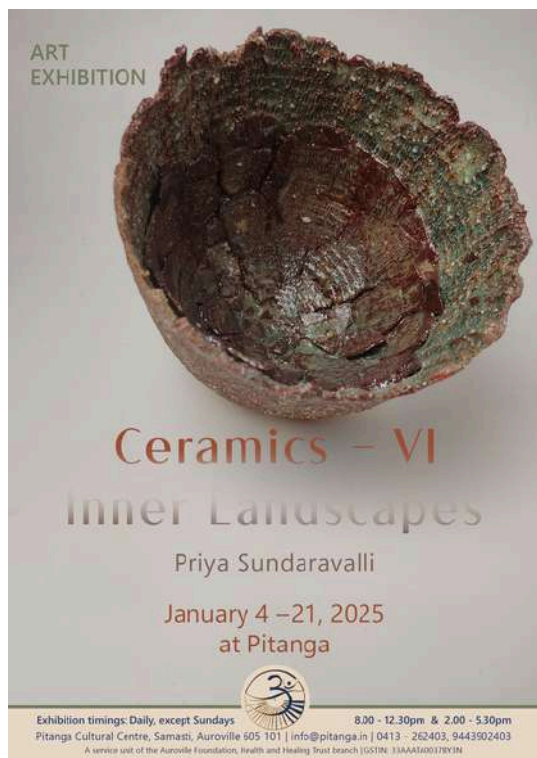
Sign up and info www.myfoodforest.in

whatsapp text Sarah 9047421044

ART EXHIBITIONS

CERAMICS - VI - INNER LANDSCAPES BY PRIYA

4 - 21 JANUARY 2025, PITANGA



- Opening on **Friday 17 January at 4:30pm**
- **17 - 29 January 2025**
- Tue - Fri 2pm - 5:30pm
- Sat 10am - 12:30pm, 2pm - 5:30pm

POETRY

The Body of Mother India

Jan. 18, 2011

From my balcony this much I see,
 A tiny temple with its priest enshrined.
 The Pongal celebration has begun.
 On the street the ladies bent in half
 With mathematical accuracy design
 Kolams of exquisite form with ease,
 Colourful and transient they last
 But a day or two brightening this world
 So strewn with refuse that it hurts to see
 The body of Mother India so abused.
 Perhaps a time will come and consciousness
 Grown aware of the sacredness of earth
 Will spur the soul and beauty manifest,
 A higher man descend, a guardian
 Who shall reclaim the world for the Divine.

Narad

BHUMILUCIS BY AURODEVA

OPENING ON FRIDAY 17 JANUARY, CENTRE D'ART



Bhumilucis or "Land of Light", is a collaborative art project created by Auroville's school youth. Using only Auroville earth & flora, nearly 100 students aged 4 to 14, from Transition and Deepanam school, have come together to craft a series of participatory art installations and earth-paintings with the help of curator Aurodeva.

The young artists, divided into groups, were tasked with a variety of responsibilities such as foraging and painting, or crafting our earth-based pigment: "Mud-Goo". Individual groups then merged their efforts to the larger body of work, together creating *Bhumilucis*.

The project is a dialogue between the students and their home – a celebration of talent, unison, and belonging.

*Pongal – The harvest festival celebrated in South India similar to Thanksgiving.

**Kolam – In Sri Aurobindo's words in *Savitri*, "A transient painting on a holiday's floor."



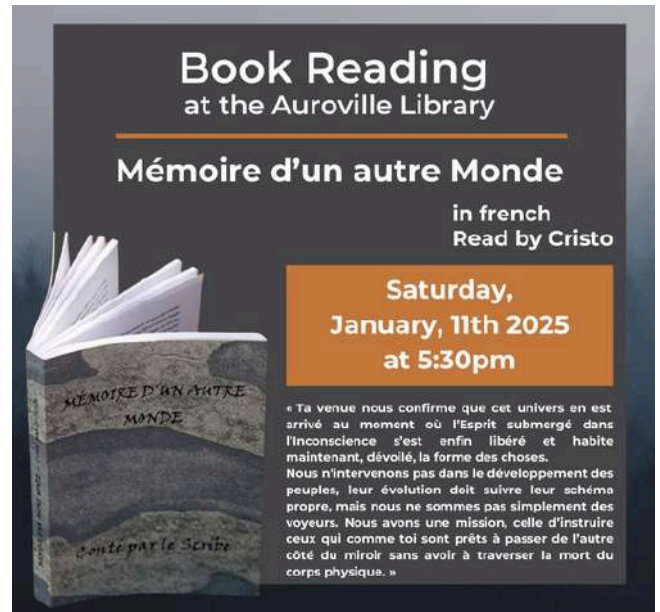
BOOK READING - MÉMOIRE D'UN AUTRE MONDE
 SATURDAY 11 JANUARY 2025, AUROVILLE LIBRARY

Dimmed by dark clouds

The sun
 Depresses not
 Despises not
 Dies not

With a shining smile
 It dyes the clouds
 In splendid colours
 Knowing for sure
 The dense darkness
 Will be blown away
 By the breath of wind
 Or disperse by itself
 When Nature changes
 To another mood

Anandi Z



**BOOK READING CIRCLE:
 NONVIOLENT COMMUNICATION**

EVERY MONDAY STARTING 13 JANUARY, YOUTH SPACE



Join Our Book Reading Circle: "Nonviolent Communication"

Every Monday, Starting January 13th, we invite you to a book reading circle at the Youth Space (find us on Google Maps). We'll be reading and discussing "Nonviolent Communication" by Marshall Rosenberg, and we're excited to share this journey with you! This book has the potential to really shift the way we communicate.

About the Book

"Nonviolent Communication" offers a fresh perspective on how to express yourself honestly and respectfully. By using four simple yet powerful components - observations, feelings, needs, and requests - you can learn to communicate more effectively and build stronger relationships. This book is all about creating a more empathetic and compassionate way of interacting with others, and it's packed with practical tips and real-life examples to help you get started. Whether you want to improve your personal or professional relationships, this book has something to offer.

Details:

- **When:** Every Monday, starting January 13th
- **Where:** Youth Space (check Google Maps for location)
- **Time:** 5pm - 6:30pm
- **Who:** Open to all interested in improving their communication skills
- **Contact:** +33673540830 on WhatsApp, or email monicayouthlink@gmail.com for questions

Join us for a fun and thought-provoking discussion, and take the first step towards more effective and compassionate communication.

We're looking forward to meeting you and exploring this important topic together!

Warmly,
 YouthLink Team

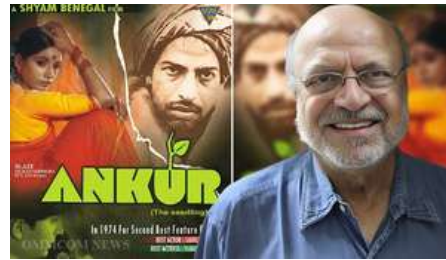


AUROFILM presents at **MULTI MEDIA CENTRE AUDITORIUM (MMC, Town Hall)**

Reminder: Friday 10th January at 8:00pm, 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.

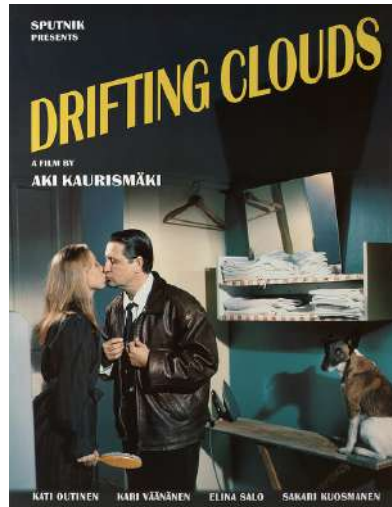
Original Hyderabad (from Andhra Pradesh) version with English subtitles - Duration: 2h.18'.

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

Friday 17th January at 8:00pm

“Drifting Clouds” (Original title: Kauas pilvet karkaavat)

Directed by Aki Kaurismäki, Finland, 1996
With: Kati Outinen, Kari Väänänen, Elina Salo, Sakari Kuosmanen



Synopsis: Tram driver Lauri loses his job. Shortly later, the restaurant where his wife Ilona works as a head waitress is closed. Too proud to receive money from the social welfare system, they strive to find new jobs. But they are completely unlucky and clumsy, one disaster is followed by the next... One of the most beautiful films by filmmaker Aki Kaurismäki, a tireless storyteller of the working class condition, with

devastating humor, legendary drunkenness, and infinite humanity! The film is the first in Kaurismäki's Finland trilogy, the other two films being *The Man Without a Past* and *Lights in the Dusk*.

Original Finnish version with English subtitles. Duration: 1h37'



AUROVILLE LIBRARY

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)

THEME OF THE MONTH

Every month, we choose a topic and set up a display of books from our collection.

This month's theme is KOLAM / கோலம்

Please come by to check out our selection!



If you have any suggestions for a theme, let us know!



Cinema Paradiso

Multimedia Center (MMC) Auditorium

Film program: 13 January - 19 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.

INDIAN – MONDAY 13 JANUARY, 8:00 PM:

• KOTTUKAALI (THE ADAMANT GIRL)

India, 2024, P.S. Vinothraj w/ Soori, Anna Ben, Nirosha, and others, Drama, 100mins, Tamil w/ English subtitles, Rated: R
From the maker of Koozhangal (Pebbles) comes a story of a young woman Meena's love for a man - Pandi from a lower caste. It sparks conflict with her family, who believe she is possessed. The story explores her struggle against societal prejudices, with her family attempting to cast out her perceived "spell" of forbidden love. On a journey to an exorcist, accompanied by her betrothed, the trip unveils tensions between tradition and personal freedom, exposing her silent rebellion. A rooster, tied to a stone, but managing to break free for a moment, is like a powerful symbol of Meena's limited life. *It is not action packed. It is a film to watch, observe, and reflect upon.*

POTPOURRI – TUESDAY 14 JANUARY, 8:00 PM:

• TOUKI BOUKI

Senegal, 1973, Writer-Dir. Djibril Diop Mambéty w/ Magaye Niang, Myriam Niang, Christoph Colomb, and others, Drama, 85mins, Wolof-Arabic-French w/ English subtitles, Rated NR (G)
Mory, a cowherd who rides a motorcycle mounted with a cow's skull, and Anta, a university student, have met in Dakar, Senegal's capital. Alienated and disaffected with Senegal and Africa, they long to go to Paris and work up different con schemes to raise the money. Mory steals clothing and money from a wealthy gay man who had brought him home, and he and Anta book passage on a ship to France.

SELECTION – WEDNESDAY 15 JANUARY, 8:00 PM:

• THE MOST RELUCTANT CONVERT

USA, 2021, Dir. Norman Stone w/ Max McLean, Nicholas Ralph, Eddie Ray Martin, and others, Biography-Drama, 73mins, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR (PG)
C.S. Lewis' journey from atheist to believer begins with his turbulent childhood. After losing his mother and becoming estranged from his father, Lewis deems existence bleak. His tutelage under atheist William T. Kirkpatrick and experiences in The Great War solidify his materialist views. However, friendships with J.R.R. Tolkien and Hugo Dyson challenge him to consider Christianity, forcing a choice between materialism and faith.

SPECIAL SCREENING – THURSDAY 16 JANUARY, 8:00 PM:

• PLANET A

S.Korea-Taiwan-Bulgaria-UK, 2022, Dir. Haru Lev, Experimental-Documentary, 74mins, Korean-English-Japanese w/ English subtitles, Rated: PG-13
This film is an omnibus of 15 music videos created for liberation for all, involving 35 musicians and 15 performers/artists. The original soundtrack, released first by Korean-based musicians, addresses worldwide issues such as animal massacres, speciesism, excessive capitalism, and climate change. *This screening has been made possible by the director, visiting Auroville, and Kyonghyon Lee. There will be a brief Q&A with the director after the screening.*

INTERNATIONAL – SATURDAY 18 JANUARY, 8:00 PM:

• VERMIGLIO

Italy-France-Belgium, 2024, Writer-Dir. Maura delperio w/ Tommaso Ragno, Roberta Rovelli, Martina Scrinzi, and others, Drama-History, 119 mins, Italian w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR (R)
In a remote Alpine village during World War II, a deserting soldier disrupts a local family's life by falling in love with the eldest daughter, Lucia. Drawn from the director's own family history. Their unexpected romance transforms the family's life, set against a breathtaking landscape that captures the transition from a traditional way of life to a new era, revealing intimate human stories of love, survival, and personal transformation. *A must watch!*

CHILDREN'S MATINÉE – SUNDAY 19 JANUARY, 4:00 PM:

• SNOWFLAKE, THE WHITE GORILLA

Spain-Canada-USA-France, 2011, Dir. Andrés G. Schaer & Raja Gosnell w/ Claudia Abate, Joan Sullà, Pere Ponce, and others, Fantasy-Comedy, Catalan-English w/ English subtitles, Rated: G
Snowflake, the only white gorilla in the world, is the zoo's main attraction. While children adore her, other gorillas—Petunia, Elvis, and Anvil—shun her for being different. With the help of Jenga, the eccentric red panda, Snowflake embarks on a secret mission to escape the zoo and find a circus witch who can make her a "normal" gorilla. Will she find the cure, or learn that being true to yourself is more important than fitting in? Trivia: There really was an albino gorilla named Snowflake!

DAVID LEAN FILM FESTIVAL @ CINÉ-CLUB

CINÉ-CLUB SUNDAY 19 JANUARY, 8:00 PM:

• OLIVER TWIST

UK, 1948, Dir. David lean, w/ Alec Guinness, John Howard Davies, and others, Drama – Adventure, 116 mins, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: R.
Oliver, an orphan, flees to London and encounters the Artful Dodger, who introduces him to Fagin's gang of young pickpockets. During a theft, Oliver is mistakenly blamed and arrested. Mr. Brownlow, the victim, takes pity on the boy, sensing a mysterious connection to Oliver's past.

Rating codes we often use are from Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA): G= General Audiences, PG= Parental guidance suggested, PG-13= Parents strongly cautioned, R= Restricted (equivalent to Indian rating: A i.e., for Adults), NR= Film Not Rated, Rating awaited.

To organize a seminar/program at MMC kindly email us at mmcauditorium@auroville.org.in. Our projector is crawling towards the end of its life, 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

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

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

GAS BOTTLE SERVICE

- **Timings:** Monday to Saturday, 9am - 1pm and 2pm - 4pm
- **Phone:** 0413 2622452
- **Email:** 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

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

POUR TOUS DISTRIBUTION CENTRE (PTDC)

- **Timings:** Monday to Saturday, 9am - 5:30pm
- **Phone:** 0413 2622746/ 2622796
- **Email:** 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 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

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 for more details on our plans and facilities.
- For inquiries: auromodehive@auroville.org.in / +91 70921 97375 (WA) / +91 90427 59540 (WA) or drop by.

All are Welcome!!



HEALTH

SANTÉ SERVICES IN JANUARY 2025

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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.

Doctor Consultation with Dr.Senthil & Dr.Pavan: Monday to Saturday	Nurse Care - Thilagam, Ezhil, Archana & Sandhya: Daily: no appointment needed
Ayurveda with Dr. Be: Tuesday / Wednesday / Friday	Integrative Psychotherapy with Juan Andres: Monday to Friday
Acupuncture with Andres: Monday to Friday	Homeopathy with Michael: Monday / Wednesday / Saturday
Physiotherapy & Massage with Galina: Monday to Friday	Physiotherapy with Arun: Monday to Saturday (except Friday)
Midwifery & GYN Care with Paula: Monday & Wednesday	Adaptive Therapy (all ages) with Asita: Wednesday & Saturday
Bio-Well Assessment (Evaluation of your well-being) with Helena – email adminsante@auroville.org.in	Soundbed Session with Sandhya / Thilagam: Monday to Saturday

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

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

HEALTH CENTER - KUILAPALAYAM

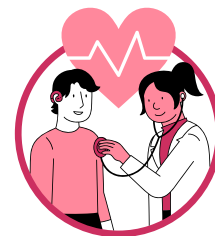
Contact: (0413)-3509942 / 3509943

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

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 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.

TO BE UPDATED!

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:
 - 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:
 - 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.

ACCESSIBLE AUROVILLE PUBLIC BUS			
 avbus@auroville.org.in / +91 94430 74825			
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