

NEWS & NOTES

No 1071 - A weekly bulletin for residents of Auroville

1 May 2025



PONDERING

Everyone is given his chance and the help is there for all—but for each the benefit is proportionate to his sincerity.

The Mother, The Divine Help, Words of the Mother II https://motherandsriaurobindo.in/The-Mother/books/words-of-the-mother-II/#the-divine-help



THE MOTHER ON AUROVILLE



First Edition 1977, Reprinted 1993, 1999

Sri Aurobindo Ashram Trust, Pondicherry, India.

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AUROVILLE IN ELABORATION

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So in this park, I saw the "Pavilion of Love". But I dislike this word, for man has turned it into something grotesque; I am speaking of the principle of Divine Love. But that has changed: it will be "The Pavilion of the Mother", but not this (Mother points to herself) —the Mother, the true Mother, the principle of the Mother. I say "Mother" because Sri Aurobindo used that word, otherwise I would have put something else, I would have put "creative principle" or "principle of realisation" or-I do not know.... It will be a small building, not a big one, with only a meditation room downstairs, but with columns and probably a circular shape. I say probably, because I am leaving that for Roger to decide. Upstairs, the first floor will be a room and the roof will be a covered terrace. You know the ancient Indo-Moghul miniatures, with palaces where there are terraces with small roofs supported by columns? You know those old miniatures? Hundreds of them have come into my hands.... But this pavilion is very, very beautiful, a small pavilion like this, with a roof on a terrace, and low walls with couches against them to sit on, to meditate in the open air in the evening, at night. And below, downstairs, at ground-level, a meditation room, simply something quite bare. There would probably be at the far end something which would be a living light, perhaps the symbol in living light, a constant light. Otherwise, a very peaceful, very silent place.

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Nearby, there would be a small dwelling, a small dwelling which would nevertheless have three floors, but not large-sized, and that would be the house of Huta, who would serve as a guardian. She would be the guardian of the pavilion. She wrote me a very nice letter but she did not understand all that, of course.

That is the centre.

All around, there is a circular road which separates the park from the rest of the town. There would probably be a gateway—in fact there must be one—in the park. A gateway with the guardian of the gate. The guardian of the gate is a new girl who has come from Africa, who wrote me a letter telling me that she wanted to be the guardian of Auroville in order to let only the

The city the earth news.

servants of Truth" enter (*laughing*). It is a very nice plan. So I shall probably put her there as guardian of the park, with a small house on the road at the entrance.

But the interesting thing is that around this central point, there are four big sections, like four big petals (*Mother draws*), but the corners of the petals are rounded and there are small intermediate zones—four big sections and four zones.... Naturally that is only in the air; on the ground, it will be an approximation.

We have four big sections: the cultural section, to the North, that is to say, towards Madras; to the East, the industrial section; to the South, the international section; and to the West, that is to say, towards the lake, the residential section.

To make myself clear: the residential section, where there will be the houses of the people who have already subscribed and of all the others who are coming in large number to have a plot in Auroville. That will be next to the lake.

The international section: we have already approached a certain number of ambassadors and countries for each one to have its pavilion—a pavilion from every country. It was an old idea. Some have already accepted, so it is on the way.



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.

RA NEWS & NOTES - A QUICK GUIDE



What We Publish

- · Working group announcements and reports
- · Residents' voices and personal sharings
- · Free cultural events open to all residents
- · Information from essential services
- · Content that strengthens community-building in Auroville

Working Groups & Foundation Office Content

- · All RA Working Group announcements will be included
- Links to Foundation Office content will be provided without duplication
- Direct submissions from Foundation Office groups will be included as regular content

What We No Longer Publish

- · Commercial activities and paid workshops
- · Non-community-focused events
- Content from "Activities & Events," "Food, Goods & Services," and "Classes, Workshops and Healing Arts" sections

Exceptions

We may consider including content that falls outside these guidelines if:

- · It is submitted exclusively to RA News & Notes
- · It has significant community benefit
- · It aligns with our service-oriented focus

Submission Guidelines

- Deadline: Tuesdays at 5pm
- Email: newsandnotes@auroville.services
- Content must be community-building focused:
 - Open and accessible to all community members
 - Not profit-oriented
 - · Contributing to collective growth or well-being
 - Promoting Auroville's ideals and values
- For further information, please <u>click here u</u> to view our complete FAQ document.
- For past issues or to subscribe, visit: <u>auroville.media/newsandnotes</u>

We thank you for your collaboration and understanding.

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)

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- 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:

- 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 <u>FORM</u> to submit your content.
- The mail ID to submit content is: newsandnotes@auroville.services
- To request a PRINTED COPY, send us your name and community to our email!

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

ES # 247 DATED: 14-04-2025

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

We thank you in advance.

The Admission Committee aka the Entry Board of the Residents Assembly, under section 19 of the Auroville Foundation Act

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

AUROVILIAN ANNOUNCED



 Sandhiya SARAVANAN (Indian) staying in Humanscapes and working at C3StreamLand



 Martina GOETTL (German) staying in Maitreyee and working at Marc's Cafe



 Praveen VELMURUGAN (Indian) staying in SAIIER Staff Quarters and working at Yuvabe



 Gustavo BARBACHANO (Mexican) staying in Aurodam and working at InLight



 Sergei NIKOLAEV (Russian) staying in Pitchandikulam and working at Pitchandikulam Forest

AUROVILIAN CONFIRMED

- Camille Candida LEON (US)
- Sandra BAUSER (French)
- · Ramanan MUTHUVEL (Indian)



ES # 248 DATED: 21-04-2025

AUROVILIAN ANNOUNCED



Nanthini MURUGAN (Indian) staying in Matrimandir caretaker house and working at Isai Ambalam School



• Dhesh M (Indian) staying in Terra Amata and working at Hive



Sagar NANDALAL (Indian) staying in Auromics staff quarters and working at Yuvabe



· Caroline GINDRE (French) staying in New Creation and working at Ilion

AUROVILIAN CONFIRMED

- Arun Prakash AMBATHY (Indian)
- Srinivasan ARUMUGAM (Indian)
- Siva RAJARAM (Indian)
- Elisabetta SALPETRE (Italian)

ES # 249 DATED: 28-04-2025

AUROVILIAN ANNOUNCED



Olga MERCHANTE (Spanish) staying in Surrender and working at Naturellement



• Kavitha VELMURUGAN (Indian) staying in SAIIER staff quarters and working at Isai Ambalam School



 Eliahu MAGEN (Israel) staying in Aspiration and working at Matrimandir



Shaily SHAH (Indian) staying in Maitreye and working at Nandanam Kindergarten



Pranav KUMAR (Indian) staying in Felicity and working at Prisma and Integral Harmony Farm

AUROVILIAN CONFIRMED

- Shabbar ALI (Indian)
- · Sandhya GANAPATHY (Indian)
- Neha GANDHI (Indian)
- Rajkumar DEVARAJ (Indian)
- Yuvana JAYABALASAMY (Indian)

NOTE:

- A Newcomer becomes an 'Aurovilian' once his/her name has been confirmed by The Admission Committee (aka the Entry Board) after following due process.
- The date of becoming 'Aurovilian' is the date of confirmation.
 An Aurovilian confirmed by the Entry Board is eligible to participate in all community decision-making processes.
- The formal administrative step of entering new residents into the Register of Residents (RoR), is done by the Secretary of the Auroville Foundation. For this, a B-Form is filled in and signed by the individual and a meeting with the Secretary is arranged by the Entry Secretariat. However, until such time as the court has made its ruling about Admission and Termination Regulations 2023, the meetings of Confirmed Aurovilians with the Secretary will be pending.

FROM THE WORKING COMMITTEE

LETTER TO GB RE MINUTES OF 68TH MEETING

Dear Community,

We are sharing with you here <u>a letter</u> that has been sent by us to the Governing Board, with the International Advisory Council in copy, regarding our deep concerns after reading the minutes of the 68th meeting of the Governing Board (<u>attached</u>), held in May of 2024.

In service,

Aravinda, Bharathy, Chali, Maël (TOS), Matthieu, Prashant, Valli The Working Committee of the Residents' Assembly



ATTENTION ASPIRING NEWCOMERS

Dear aspiring Newcomers and others,

We would like to make you aware that the entry process for Auroville is in the courts and has not yet received a final ruling.

However, as per the Auroville Foundation Act, Section 19 (a), the Residents' Assembly (RA) may: "allow the admission or cause the termination of persons in the register of residents..." and an Entry Board chosen by the RA has been functioning for many years. Additionally, a set of Regulations were created by the RA and approved by the Governing Board in 2020, under the AVF Act.

There are now groups of residents, calling themselves the "Admission and Termination Registry" and the "Admission and Termination Scrutinizing Committee", who have not been chosen by the RA. They are taking for themselves the admission and termination powers of the RA, with no delegation or approval from it.

We wish to remind all aspirants that the regulations under which these two groups are formed were stayed by the Madras High Court on 23 February 2024. These groups and their actions are illegal and clearly go against Auroville's ideals of human unity.

In addition, be aware your entry process and life in Auroville under the ATR / ATSC will be subject to "Residence Criteria" which were also created under the stayed Regulations, and include:

- Mandatory "Auroville Spiritual and Material Refresher program" (content undisclosed) created and run by many of the same people as the ATR / ATSC but under the group named "Human Resources Service" (HRS)
- Prior approval from the HRS for any trips, absences from Auroville of longer than 2 weeks
- Permission from the HRS to host people for more than 7 days, even family and friends, in the home you occupy
- Mandatory work up to 7 days a week (5 hours a day) as decided by the "Funds and Assets Management Committee" (GB FAMC)
- And more of such disturbing restrictions and control mechanisms.

Please also be aware that any admission process that is begun by these groups that are created under the stayed regulations may be subject to the final outcome of the case regarding the admissions process for Auroville, which is still in the courts.

We understand that these difficult times can be confusing, and we deplore that your aspiration to join Auroville is happening under these circumstances. None of our collective and individual aspirations should be threatened and used in such a way.

We still have faith that these challenging times will pass and Auroville will continue to grow and progress towards manifesting an actual human unity on all levels.

In service,

Aravinda, Bharathy, Chali, Maël (TOS), Matthieu, Prashant, Valli The Working Committee of the Residents' Assembly

The Working Committee of the Residents' Assembly, as per Section 20 of the Auroville Foundation Act



CLARIFICATION RE CIRCULAR BY AVFO ON 11TH APRIL, 2025

Dear Residents, Newcomers and Volunteers,

A Circular was sent out by the Auroville Foundation Office on the 11th of April 2025.

We see that once again the Foundation Office and the groups and individuals who are recognized by them are attempting to erode our sense of community and spirit of unity by sowing confusion and fear.

We wish to clarify some points of this circular:

1.So-called "unauthorized meetings": Community gatherings of residents are not breaking any laws and it is therefore not required to obtain any prior approval. It is fully within the rights of residents to hold meetings to share information and experiences. The fact that the Foundation Office and its appointed groups are trying to stop residents from gathering shows their insecurity in their forcefully assumed positions and in their continuing attempts to control people at all costs. The community getting together and being united is precisely what we must do. See you all at the next meeting!

2. The Working Committee and 'office bearers':

 The individuals mentioned in the circular as the 'Working Committee' (Anu, Arun, Joseba, Partha, Selvaraj, Srimoyi and Tine) have not been constituted by the Residents' Assembly (RA) as they claim and in fact Anu, Arun, Partha

- and Srimoyi were specifically dismissed by the RA in a
 Residents' Assembly decision of May 2022 (attached); Joseba,
 Selvaraj and Tine were co-opted by those dismissed. Claiming
 to have been selected by the RA while dismissing its decisions
 is an incomprehensible hypocrisy.
- According to Section 20 of the Auroville Foundation Act, the RA will determine the manner of choosing and the term of office of its Working Committee. Neither the Governing Board nor any employee or appointee of the Foundation office has any say in the selection, constitution or 'recognition' of the Working Committee.
- Even if (and it is a big IF) this group were the legitimate Working Committee
 - a. The term of office for which they were originally selected (before having been dismissed) expired in January 2024, more than a year ago.
 - b. Srimoyi resigned from the group on 21 March 2024 (which was later announced on Auronet) so she is therefore not just 'inactive'
 - c. **Anu also resigned** on 1 August 2024 and was announced on Auronet as a 'resource person' only.
- Therefore, these individuals are the ones impersonating 'office-bearers'. How can they call themselves the Working Committee of the Residents' Assembly when they have been dismissed by the body they are meant to represent or were not selected at all by that body, the RA?
- It is unclear which regulations of Auroville are being violated by the unnamed 'people who are impersonating office bearers'.
 This reference to unspecified regulations is continuing the pattern of threats being issued by the Foundation Office and its recognized groups.
- 3.Ruling of the Chief Justice (CJ) of the Madras High Court (MHC): The CJ of the MHC has stated that the RA as a statutory body must be allowed to carry out its functions as per Sections 18, 19 and 20 of the Auroville Foundation Act. (Reference modified interim stay order of September 4th, 2023.)
- 4.**Signatory:** There is no typed or printed name on this circular, only an illegible signature, so it is not clear who this 'OSD' is, even IF its contents were valid.

The use of fear and coercion threatens to paralyze and silence us all. This is exactly the intention of these actions. Let us not give in to fear, remember that we are a community, that we are there for each other and can reach out, offer support, share, and be joyful together in this wonderful adventure.

"Do not give way, hold tight. It is when everything seems lost that all is saved." - The Mother

With hope and faith,

Aravinda, Bharathy, Chali, Maël (TOS), Matthieu, Prashant, Valli The Working Committee selected by the Residents' Assembly





IMPORTANT UPDATE FROM THE MADRAS HIGH COURT

Dear Residents,

Yesterday, 29th April, evening, four cases concerning Auroville were suddenly listed in the Madras High Court before its closure for summer during the month of May.

- A case filed by a concerned member of the RA concerning the constitution of the Admission and Termination Scrutinizing Committee (ATSC) was basically accepted for debate and the lawyers of the Foundation Office were directed to submit their arguments within six weeks.
- Two cases concerning the Working Committee, our appeal to the ruling on the quo warranto case and the appeal by the AVFO on the stay of the regulations of the Governing Board regarding constitution of the Working Committee, have been postponed by the appeal bench until after summer break.
- One more case concerning the appeal by the AVFO on the interim stay to the 2024 Admission and Termination regulations was discussed and the Madras High Court decided to vacate the interim stay. The case is still alive but this decision means that the new regulations on entry and exit that were previously stayed are now applicable until a final or a different order comes from the Madras High Court. We are waiting for the written order of yesterday's hearing of the High Court before sharing further comments with the community.

We understand that these are confusing and insecure times, with contradicting information and orders but the road still goes on and we will hold on to our faith, inner strength and hope for a better future for Auroville, for our community.

With faith,

Aravinda, Bharathy, Chali, Maël (TOS), Matthieu, Prashant, Valli (Working Committee selected by the RA)



FROM L'AVENIR D'AUROVILLE

RA-TDC: LETTER REGARDING UNLAWFUL TREATMENT OF TREES

Dear Residents,

On April 9th, a <u>letter</u> was sent to high government officials, the Joint Committee, the GB and the IAC. It addresses concerns about the unlawful activities by the GB-appointed ATDC and the AVFO.

These include the illegal cutting of protected trees—Peepal and Red Sanders—without required permissions, and unauthorised excavation work for the Matrimandir Lake, resulting in vehicle and timber seizure by authorities. These actions violate environmental regulations, lack transparency, and disregard community consultation and legal mandates. We call for immediate corrective measures and compliance with national and local laws to protect Auroville's ecology, spirit, and lawful governance. Let development proceed with integrity, inclusivity, and sustainability.

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





FROM THE AUROVILLE COUNCIL

AVC REPORT JAN, FEB AND MARCH 2025

Report to the Community

Council Functioning & Challenges

The Council has been operating with only five members, and it has not been easy, given the presence of various parallel groups. Additionally, our official email address has been taken over by the GB FAMC since 2022, and despite multiple requests, we have not received a proper response. Our members have visited several times to the AVFO in this regard and either there is no one there or we are told to meet with the Secretary who has been absent.

Furthermore, the electrical connection to both the Council office desk and the RA meeting room has been disconnected again affecting the AC in the room. We have requested the ACUR management team to restore the connection, but as we understand, this approval has been refused by GB FAMC. Despite these difficulties, the Council has now managed to secure a safe connection for the AC and it is again fully functional.

The Council needs to repeat that despite claims to the contrary by the Foundation office and others, the Auroville Council is a fully approved working group with a mandate ratified by the Residents Assembly in 2004. The group has made numerous presentations to the Governing Board in past years, and until 2021, the legitimacy of the group was never questioned, either by the Governing Board or the Residents Assembly. The group has a clear mandate and has continued to be active, particularly in areas such as conflict resolution, creation and oversight of mandates and policies, and the protection of the principles of natural justice.

Community Connect

Our regular Community Connect meetings are currently paused but will resume soon. We encourage more residents to participate in these meetings, as they provide an important platform for voicing concerns, addressing issues, and offering suggestions for a smooth and collective way forward in our organization.

Resignations:

Samrat has stepped down from the Council from Jan 2025 as his term has come to end and he could not continue due to his other commitments in our community. We thank him for holding the community spirit in his heart and for serving the community during his term. We wish him all the best with his new endeavours.

Vignesh has resigned from the RAS as a member and has agreed to continue to serve as resource person for the RAS. We sincerely thank him for his contributions and wish him the very best in his new endeavors!

New RAS Mandate

An RAD was initiated by the Auroville Council in consultation with the RA Working Committee (RA WCom) to seek approval for the new mandate from the Residents assembly. This process took place from **October 4th to February 10th**, and we are happy to report that the new mandate has been approved.

A joint resolution has been passed by the RAS to formalize this process. The community participation, especially in providing feedback, has proved to be valuable, even essential, in the harmonious conclusion to this work.

We sincerely thank all residents for their active participation. It is essential for every member of our community to engage in shaping the organization of Auroville.

New Member in the RAS Team

Avinash, who has been serving as a resource person in the RAS team, has expressed his wish to join as a full member. The RAS team has welcomed his interest and has requested the Council to follow the process outlined in the new RAS mandate.

A separate announcement has been made to the community regarding this and feedback requested on the appointment. March 27th was the deadline for feedback, and there has been no negative feedback. The Council confirms Avinash as a member of RAS.

Silver Fund

It has been reported to us that the Silver Fund, a fund used to provide maintenances for Aurovilians aged over 70 years, has been refused for some of our senior Aurovilians, despite their genuine need. This is of great concern, as many rely on Auroville for their care and security in their later years, as they have no independent resources of their own. The Auroville Council wrote to the GB BCC expressing their concern and asking about the criteria for allocating the Silver Fund to senior Aurovilians, but received no reply. [link to letter].

Zoho

It is of great concern that changes in Financial Services are being imposed on the community with apparently no consultation with community members or prior introduction to Zoho from the FAMC, creating confusion and anxiety. It would appear that even those directly working in Financial Services have not been consulted, and the new system was presented as a fait accompli. Although we understand that training is being given to trustees and executives, we consider such top-down actions as not only contrary to the essence of Auroville's values of true collaboration, but are liable to encounter considerable issues due to lack of consultation with the community. Apart from this, the requirement to use external banking and accountancy services will surely have serious financial consequences for the Auroville economy as a whole, and appear to be a backward step in our aspirations towards a cashless society as the Mother envisioned.

We would emphasise that the Council's role (in collaboration with the RAS) is to facilitate the participation of the community in decisions made by working groups. The Auroville Council is always willing to consider the genuine approach from any group in assisting with such work.

Afsaneh GH

We have been informed by the Afsaneh management team about ongoing communications between them and the GB-FAMC. It is concerning to see that, despite the requests to the guest house trustees and GB FAMC for correct processes to be followed, pressure continues to be exerted on the GH team in various ways. We must reiterate the earlier email sent to them and the guest house trustees.

- 1.Proper process followed for dismissing or for appointing new executives. The GB-FAMC has been asked more than once, verbally and by email, to provide the required documents to show that due process as outlined in the CoC 2017, and with respect to principles of natural justice, has been followed.
- 2.A clear decision by the GB-FAMC outlining the event causing the removal of an executive (Section 9(d)) of the CoC.
- 3. A hearing must be given to those being dismissed to address any mismanagement leading to the decision (Section 9(d(v))) if this is what is being suggested by the GB-FAMC. "Before concluding that a Trust / Unit is mismanaged, the FAMC will give a fair hearing to the Trustees / Executives and thereafter shall submit its findings to the Trustees / Executives and the Working Committee"

4.A joint resolution by the FAMC and the Working Committee, signed by valid members of these two groups, is necessary (Sections 8(a) and 9(d)) to dismiss executives. In the case of the GB 'FAMC', created under Section 16 of the AVF Act, this would be the GB member appointed in the Office Order (Mr.Sanjog Kapoor); in the case of the 'Working Committee' this would be a resident duly selected by the RA as per Section 20 of the AVF Act. The GB FAMC Resolution #926, issued in August 2024, for changing executives, of which Auradha and ourselves came to know about in an indirect manner, was signed by two Aurovilian members of the GB-FAMC, and not by the required appointed member of the Governing Board.

Find the mails sent to the trustees here

Community Survey

It is proposed by the Council to carry out a community survey to learn more about the issues of most concern to community members and to understand better what motivates them. It is clear that a comparatively small percentage of members engage in community processes, although the number participating is more than it was before the present issues presented themselves. It is of concern to not only understand why many feel unable or unwilling to participate, but to understand their opinions on many issues of concern to the larger community.

A survey is therefore being prepared which will be circulated as widely as possible, with help available to complete, and will be completely anonymous, ensuring the widest possible participation.

A request for respectful behaviour.

It has come to our attention that aggressive, even threatening behaviour has been witnessed recently from individuals of authority in the community. We are aware that at times when there is much tension and fear in the community, tempers get strained, and words are spoken which do not reflect our aspirations as a community. However, we believe that it is especially important that those in authority act with restraint and goodwill, even though they may believe that those who they are addressing are wrong. This is surely the minimum expected of members of the community of Auroville. Threatening behaviour is unacceptable in any society, but especially in Auroville which aspires to manifest the Divine Consciousness.

The Auroville Council Lucas (TOS), Martin, Ramesh, Rju, Sathiya

THANK YOU NOTE REG THE RECENT ERAD

Dear Community,

We would like to thank everyone for their active participation in the recent emergency RAD which formally acknowledged RA entities as Section 19 Committees under the Auroville Foundation Act. The Auroville Council is one of these recognized groups and we would like to remind the community of our main functions and responsibilities as outlined in our RA approved mandate.

The main tasks outlined in the Council's mandate include:

- · Creation and oversight of group mandates
- · Protection of the principles of natural justice
- Support in conflict resolution, as per the CRC Policy 2015

The mandates and functional guidelines of the other approved groups will be shared with you shortly.

Kind regards, The Auroville Council Lucas (TOS), Martin, Ramesh, Rju, Sathiya



FO GROUPS NEWS

(not selected by due Residents' Assembly process)

FROM THE FO N&N 1076

Please click **HERE** to read the FO groups' news

COMMUNITY NEWS

OBITUARY

REMEMBERING WALTER

Walter (Walter Wagner) was born in Stuttgart, Germany, on 7.12.1950. He was the only child of two individuals whose lives were broken by the war. His childhood and youth were difficult and he wanted to throw away his life, but there was always a protecting hand over him. That he felt.

His chosen destiny was to work with plants. In 1970 he graduated as a landscape gardener, then studied in



Munich and 1975 he became a qualified engineer of landscape architecture and environmental preservation.

At the office where he was employed there was a photo of the Nebula (an earlier design by Roger Anger, which became the Galaxy later) attached to the cupboard. Walter was always feeling attracted to it, not knowing what it was. He had been introduced to the Integral Yoga early through his spiritual friend and guide Heinz Kappes (1893- 1988), a priest who emigrated to Jerusalem with his family in 1933 and stayed there for fourteen years, being a mediator between Arabs and Jews. In a second hand bookshop Heinz found Sri Aurobindo's "The Life Divine". After retiring, he went to Pondicherry, in 1959, and lived in the Ashram for one and a half years. The Mother gave him the task to translate Sri Aurobindo's works into the German language, which he did then in Stuttgart. Heinz was Walter's closest soul friend who taught him a lot.

His passion for photography made Walter travel through Ireland, Northern Ireland and America, doing landscape photography.

From 1981 to 1983 he ran a garden maintenance company in Stuttgart.

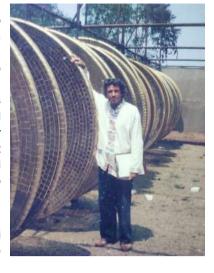
His thirst for light, for the sun, guided him to work as an assistant manager in Egypt from 1983 to 1985. There was a German on the farm who had lived in Auroville for some time. Walter became curious. In 1986 he came to stay in Auroville for several months, falling in love with the Matrimandir and the idea of a garden design based on the Mother's Symbol, and came back for good in 1987.

He was welcomed at Matrimandir and jumped full-heartedly into participation in the design of the Matrimandir gardens and the park. Over the years he loved his multiple tasks and was a deeply dedicated and hard worker.

In 2005 he got the chance to be part of an intense garden seminar in Kyoto, Japan. This experience left a deep impact on him.

Mahalakshmi, the Mother's aspect of Harmony and Beauty, became his inner aspiration. And remained it ever since. Mahasaraswati was the other aspect to which he felt always drawn. His love for perfection.

His favourite book from Sri Aurobindo was "The Mother".



End of May 2023 he had an accident from which he recovered well, but not fully.

Walter had an intense inner life with lots of beautiful spiritual experiences.

On the 17.4. early evening the Mother took him into Her arms while he was walking.

I translate here his message which he sent me the same day, at 2.53 pm:

'Our dear friend Heinz has made it clear to me that I will never be able to give back what good deeds other people do or did to me. I can only say "thank you".'

With deep gratitude,

Mechtild

A silent gathering for Walter took place at the Matrimandir Banyan Tree on Monday 21st April, and was buried at the Auroville Burial Ground on Tuesday 22nd April.





IN MEMORIAM ANDRÉ HABABOU



André Hababou, one of Auroville's early architects, arrived in Auroville in 1968, aged 26. On invitation of the Mother, at that time he started working with Roger Anger, Auroville's chief architect, and was his first draughtsman.

André was originally from Tunisia and spent the first 13 years of his life there. At the age of 14 he moved to France,

and attended the Ecole des Beaux Arts, where he studied Arts and Architecture. He became a painter, and worked in architectural offices.

Through a chance meeting with an artist in Marseille, gradually André's interest in spirituality was awakened. He began to read books by Indian spiritual masters, and eventually read The *Adventure of Consciousness*, which drew him, in 1968, to the Ashram in Pondicherry. A brochure on Auroville had just come out. On its first page, there was a picture of the Galaxy, the Charter, The Dream and a photo of Mother. When he saw this brochure, it was like a revelation, an immense joy. "But this is where I must live!"

After selling his paintings in order to be able to travel, and then came to India over land, on the "hippie trail" so to say, which caused some initial difficulties at the Ashram. But after his meeting with Mother, accompanied by Roger Anger, the difficulties were over. When he first came to the Auroville area, he was taken aback because he did not find even the beginnings of a city as he had been expecting after seeing the beautiful model in the brochure. He recollected that "I wasn't disappointed – I wasn't happy either – and I told myself that it was up to us to build the city; that we had to transform ourselves through doing it. It was a process that had meaning."

André began living in Auroville and working under the guidance of Roger Anger, and for the next 40 years, he helped create numerous private residences, apartment buildings and commercial



facilities. He is cited and published, most recently in the journal *Architecture + Design*.

His projects included among others the Centre for Research in Communication and Publication (CRCP) in Fraternity; Surrender community - a residential collective housing project; the Pavilion of Tibetan Culture in the International Zone; commercial units Shradhanjali & Auromode Atelier, both in the Industrial Zone; and the school at New Creation.



For André, expressing beauty and harmony, which is automatically linked with functionality, was his aspiration and the most important aspect of his architectural work in Auroville.

André passed away on the night of 17th to 18th April.

His burial took place at Auroville Burial Ground on Sunday, April 20th, the day he would have been 83.

Sources:

- https://auroville.org/page/andr%C3%A9-hababou-3404
- https://land.auroville.org/André-54-aurovillan-years/
- André Hababou Auroville Wiki

An autobiography by André Hababou (previously published in French) is now available in English at the Visitors Centre bookshop, under the title "From Tunis to Auroville, In search of truth".



TO ANDRÉ FROM ROGER

Roger Anger was a hard worker; he hated meetings and spent the time drawing caricatures, which Luigi deferentially picked up from the waste basket.

Andre' Hababou – 'Mephisto' – was a delicate artist painting on silk, a loyal helper and a bhakta too. As a tribute to both, Roger and Andre', in remembrance of the golden years.



Paulette

REMEMBERING BORIS

Boris (Boris Verjoutski), long- time Aurovilian and passionate Nature lover, passed away on Tuesday 22nd April in the late evening, at Marika Home, where he stayed for the past few years. He was 87.



Boris was born in Krasnoyarsk, a city in Siberia, Russia, on 9th June 1937.

He arrived in Auroville in September 1991 at the age of 54. He came to live in the Aspiration community, and remained there for the next 30 years. About his past life before coming to Auroville, he wrote, humorously, "For more than twenty years I worked legally in the Soviet Science Academy and I practiced, illegally, Yoga for fifteen years." Through Yoga, he realized that "Science is nothing compared to Yoga (...) Yoga gives joy, health, wisdom for all the people of the world. It is from God. Science on the other hand can be, at times, from the asuras."

He described what he saw when he arrived. "I saw a child in every Aurovilian. And now my vision hasn't changed. It is a city of very young people who created their own young world. This reality has a

great perspective. The physical and spiritual atmosphere of the city creates the constant youth of Aurovilians."

His observations of the natural world, and also of human behaviour, appeared very regularly, during many years, in short but often pithy pieces of writing in the weekly News and Notes. Boris's writing has its very own inimitable style. As an entomologist (i.e. a scientist who studies insects) he got plenty of opportunities to observe insect life, not in the least in his own thatched-roof home in Aspiration. In one of his pieces, he makes fun of Auroville's attempts at organisation and governance while talking about termites: "The Working Committee of Aurovilian Termites has decided that all the termites which are residents of the city must work round the clock, all year long, every day including all holidays and festivals, without any salary. The results are obvious. Now the Housing Group of Termites successfully competes with the Human Housing group. In reality, the Auroville land belongs almost equally to man and to insect, although the insects are less serious and do not celebrate Deepavali." (1998)

Lately, Boris seemed very concerned about how the accelerated city development is affecting the life of nature and humans in Auroville. "The planet is in a dangerous sickness. Our Kurukshetra battlefield for its healing is here...", he wrote.

Boris always seemed a happy soul, cycling through Auroville and more recently, walking with support of two long sticks. As one Auronet user put it, "Thank you, Boris, for the sunlit path you embodied

in your way, светлой тебе дороги!"





Boris's remains were buried at the Auroville Burial Grounds on Saturday 26th April, 2025.

BORIS

Boris represented the soul of his travailed nation at the Russian highest: mystic communism. He was like a of his species. with profound, yet enthusiasm and innocence of a child. A master, like Mahalingam, the Tamil mystic, another king. And so was French Georges (my Vikas neighbour).

Three mahatma lived among us, in Auroville, free from material needs, radiating the psychic



transformation. Just Being. We too can make it, if we drop anything else but That.

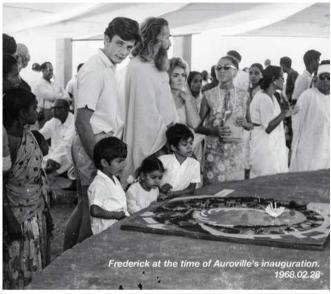
COMMUNITY SHARING

[**∲**URGENT APPEAL **∳**] REGARDING FREDERICK: DENIAL OF VISA EXTENSION AND REQUEST TO LEAVE INDIA - 24 APRIL 2025

INDIA - 24 APRIL 2025

Frederick came to Pondicherry and the Sri Aurobindo Ashram in 1960 for the first time and for good in 1966. He was among the first to be admitted as an Aurovilian by the Mother and worked closely with her on Auroville matters in its early years. He has continued to live in and give his life to her Dream for over 60 years.

Over those years he has been a friend to many in and around Auroville as well as across India and the world, and he has dedicated himself wholeheartedly to Auroville.



We are deeply dismayed that an 85 year old pioneering resident is now being prevented from completing his life in Auroville after having given everything that he has and is to this unique and special project of the Mother.

We humbly appeal to the relevant authorities to reconsider the denial of visa extension and request to leave India that has been issued to Frederick (Schulze-Buxloh) so that this child of the Mother is allowed to remain in India, which he calls the country of his soul.

Please sign the petition from this link: https://forms.gle/Cvq8TrgRSggveZbL9

Once the signatures are collected, we will send the petition results to the relevant officials. The names of the signatories will not be disclosed to the public.

Sincerely,

Concerned residents of Auroville

P.S. If you prefer to submit your signature via email, please send your name, your community name or city/country of residence, your response to the petition, and the title of the petition to: build.auroville.together@gmail.com

Read the Tamil translation
of the Appeal here



APPEAL UPDATE 1 - MONDAY 28 APRIL 2025

We have received more than 1,850 signatures within 3 days of launching the online petition. We have also circulated physical signing sheets which are yet to be counted.

Despite all efforts so far, Frederick received a notice on Friday, 25th March, that his appeal to stay in India on medical grounds has been denied, and he must upload a flight ticket within seven days.

If you have not yet signed the petition, please do so using the link.

Kindly help spread the word — the petition is open to Auroville residents and well-wishers. Signatures will not be disclosed publicly.

Let the respective authorities hear our call: allow one of Auroville's pioneers to remain in India!

APPEAL UPDATE 2 - WEDNESDAY 30 APRIL 2025

Dear Auroville community,

Our heartfelt thanks to everyone who has taken part in this collective appeal so far.

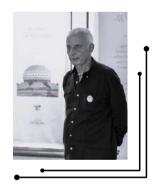
Over the past six days, we have already gathered over 2,480 online signatures from members of the Auroville community, across India and around the world in support of Frederick's urgent visa situation.

The physical signature sheets are still being counted. We aim to include a total of 3,000 signatures in the appeal letters, which will be sent to the relevant authorities shortly after verification.

If you haven't signed yet, please add your name using the link below and show your support for one of Auroville's longest pioneers: https://forms.gle/Cvq8TrgRSggveZbL9

In community,

Concerned Residents of Auroville



BE PART OF AUROVILLE RADIO TV'S CREATIVE JOURNEY

Dear Friends.

We are passionate about bringing fresh, engaging podcasts to you through Auroville Radio TV, our radio website and Youtube channel. Now, we invite you to be part of this creative journey!

Do you have an idea that could inspire, inform, or uplift our community? Share it with us!

If it aligns with our vision, we'll support you in shaping it into inspiring podcast.

Let's co-create something meaningful and extraordinary together! Send your ideas to radio@auroville.org.in.

Explore more on:

www.aurovilleradiotv.org www.youtube.com/@AurovilleRadioTV

Follow us for more updates!
Looking forward to hearing your ideas!



VOICE OF AUROVILLE PUBLICATION: TELL US WHAT YOU THINK - A OUICK SURVEY



Dear Aurovilians and Friends,

Since April 2023, the *Voice of Auroville* journal has been striving to provide factual updates and insightful articles about developments in our community. As we complete our second year of publication, we would like to hear directly from you—our readers—about what you think of our journal and how we might improve it.

(You can see all our previous editions here.)

Please share your opinion in this 2 minute survey. Your feedback will help us to improve the format and content to better meet your needs and interests.

Voice of Auroville Readership survey

Whether you read every issue or have only occasionally glanced at our publication, your input helps strengthen our community's communication channels during these challenging times.

Thank you for your continued support and engagement.

In community spirit,
The Voice of Auroville Team

AUROVILLE DOG SHELTER

OPEN LETTER: URGENT ACTION NEEDED TO

ADDRESS A SERIOUS RABIES OUTBREAK IN AUROVILLE

Dear Madame Secretary,

The Auroville Dog Shelter is compelled to bring to your urgent attention a recent and serious rabies outbreak in Auroville. Despite extensive vaccination efforts, including the administration of over 1,500 vaccinations following a one-time grant of Rs. 6 lakhs in emergency funding from AVI USA between August 2024 and January 2025, these measures have proven insufficient to adequately protect the residents, visitors, children, and guests of Auroville from the deadly threat of rabies.

Last week, a pet Dachshund, confirmed rabid by post-mortem brain biopsy conducted by specialized veterinarians from Mettupalayam College, attacked and bit more than 30 dogs in heavily frequented areas, including Crown, Solar Kitchen, Bharat Nivas, and the Visitors Centre. This incident caused widespread panic in Kottakarai and underscores the severity of the situation. The Department of Animal Husbandry has been notified again of this latest rabies case. Auroville had already been designated as a rabies outbreak zone last year. The Auroville Dog Shelter is receiving daily calls from concerned residents reporting suspected rabid dogs, which we cannot rescue due to the lack of quarantine facilities!

While a 1,000-dog-per-year sterilization project is underway, still, too many puppies are born and dumped within Auroville and present an ongoing risk, as these animals are potential carriers of the virus. To avert a potentially disastrous mass rabies outbreak that would endanger the lives of residents, visitors, and animals, we implore the Auroville Foundation to provide immediate and substantial funding to contain this grave threat.

The current facilities of the old and crumbling Auroville Dog Shelter are inadequate to cope with this severe crisis. The shelter lacks a

secure quarantine facility, **limiting its capacity to isolate more than one rabies-suspect animal at a time.** With a monthly BCC funding allocation of only Rs. 50,000, the shelter is just barely surviving and struggles to reach its monthly running costs of Rs. 3.5 lakhs. The shelter is only able to employ one veterinarian for half a day and lacks a dedicated emergency rescue and mobile vaccination team for Auroville. Furthermore, our stock of vaccines is nearly depleted, and we urgently require a supply of both canine and feline vaccinations to provide free vaccination services. A petition, signed by nearly 1,000 concerned residents and animal lovers, requesting increased monthly funding for the shelter, has been disregarded for many months. Additionally, the allocation of land, funding, and the granting of building permission for the new Auroville Dog Shelter have been delayed for over 1.5 years while the old shelter is disintegrating.

The Auroville Dog Shelter urgently calls upon the Auroville Foundation to acknowledge the potential danger and impending disaster facing Auroville in the coming weeks. We implore you to take immediate action by providing the necessary funds to combat this outbreak and safeguard the health and safety of all residents, visitors, guests, children, and animals.

Please act now so we can help!

In Service, Auroville Dog Shelter



AUROVILLE LIBRARY - SUMMER TIMINGS

MAY - JUNE 2025

Dear Community,

Please see below our adjusted opening hours for the months of May and June (Summer).

MORNINGS

- MONDAY SATURDAY
- 09:00am 12:30pm

AFTERNOONS

- TUESDAY, THURSDAY and SATURDAY
- 04:00pm 06:30pm



THE MOTHER'S SYMBOL IN MULTIPLE LANGUAGES



Available for reading and download: https://auroville.org/page/the-mother-s-symbol

Over the years, the Mother's symbol and Her Powers has been translated into 46 languages, including the four languages of Auroville, i.e. Tamil, French, Sanskrit and English, as well as indigenous languages

and those used across the world, including Afrikaans, Amharic, Arabic, Assamese, Bahasa Indonesia, Bulgarian, Chinese, Croatian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, Esperanto, German, Gujarati, Hebrew, Hindi, Hungarian, Italian, Japanese, Kannada, Korean, Lithuanian, Macedonian, Malayalam, Marathi, Nepali, Niugini Pisin, Norwegian, Odia, Persian, Polish, Portuguese, Punjabi, Romanian, Russian, Spanish, Swahili, Swedish, Telugu, Tibetan, Ukrainian, Urdu.

The longer file with quotes for each of Her Powers are currently available in seven languages: Chinese, English, French, Italian, Nepali, Spanish, Tamil.

Have it in your language?

If your language is not on the lists above, would you like to have it translated into your mother tongue and/or other language(s) of proficiency by volunteering yourself or recommending someone else?

Please write to Anandi Zhang at <u>symbol-in-translation@auroville.org.in</u>

Thank you.



RESIDENTS SPEAK

HYDERABAD: AUROVILLE CRIES WITH YOU

In Auroville we have cried.

We cried as the trees we planted and nourished got cut.

We cried at our cowardice as we watched one brave one chain herself to a tree.

We cried as we lay flowers on the stumps.

We cried as we watched our friends being deported.

We cried as thousands and thousands more trees got chopped.

We cried watching our land dug up to be plasticised.

We cried helplessly as the powerful tied our hands behind our backs.

We cried as heartless wallets trampled on the poor.

We cried as the dawn lit up the misdeeds of the night.

We have been tearfully praying for three years.

Hyderabad, we now cry with you.

THE GREAT GURU OF AUROZ - PART III

(previous episode in the last N&N)

Back on the Grey Slab Road, Dorothy reaches a crossing and almost gets run over by a speedy honking car. Startled and weary, she continues down the road and notices a long line of parked cars. Though it is meant to be a pedestrian avenue, the sheer width and design suggest it was never meant for walkers or cyclists—it belongs to the cars, whether moving or not.

As she nears the VIP quarters, she stumbles upon a chaotic WIP—a work-in-progress, or perhaps a work-in-perpetuity. "Pinterest Project number 3 perhaps?" At the centre of it all stand Sir Blueprint and Lady Layout, the project patron and his compliant concubine, dressed identically as always, as if cut from the same cloth. They move in sync, nodding in unison, their arms gesturing in perfect coordination.



Dorothy wrinkles her nose. The air is thick with the scent of compost—scattered directly onto the road. The cars have parked right on top of it, their wheels pressing the organic matter into the pavement. Their usual spots have been mulched into flower rows, a change that seems to have caught them off guard.

Beyond this first row of displaced mulch, Dorothy spots a jumble of materials: pipes stacked like fallen dominoes, AC units piled haphazardly, tables and chairs waiting for a purpose. Her gaze lingers on the AC units. "Another café, another air conditioner..."

She exhales, feeling the thick, humid air pressing against her skin. "Is this really the only way? Instead of shade from trees or a design that invites the breeze, they'll seal themselves inside, humming machines battling the heat they themselves sowed."



Her eyes drift to the Grey Slab Road, radiating warmth like an oven. "They mulch the parking, but they won't plant trees. They serve organic tea, but cool it with artificial air." She sighs. "The Living Room... but living how?"

Dorothy takes a deep breath and walks past, speechless—unsure whether she is walking through a construction site, a parking lot, or a garden in denial.

(next episode in a week!)

(NOT JUST) WORD PLAY

These ideas came, and I find them quite revealing and chewy. Hence the designs.

Past? Tense...

Present? Tense...

Future? Tense...

Now

Own

Won

Finally,

Rest in peace...



Anandi Z

THE SUPREME DIVINE MOTHER MAHASHAKTI

A dear friend asks, "I would like you to explain to me once more how the Mother, as Mahashakti for you, could challenge all the gods and goddesses of the creation to become the 'boss' in this active world.

You talked once about a cosmic work of surrender, it was so interesting."

My answer:

First of all, in essence, MahaShakti does not need to challenge the gods and goddesses, as She is the Supreme Divine Mother of ALL the cosmic beings, the Creatrix of the Cosmos Herself.

Of course most of the...

To read the full post, please click the link below:

https://zechjoya.blogspot.com/2025/04/the-supreme-divine-mother-mahashakti.html

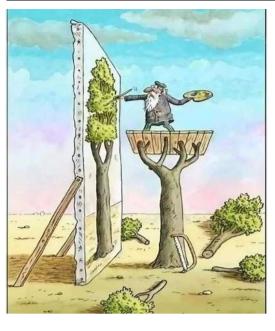
For readers of the printed version, please scan the QR Code to access the link or go to this blogsite to access the post of the same title: https://zechjoya.blogspot.com/

ॐ Zech



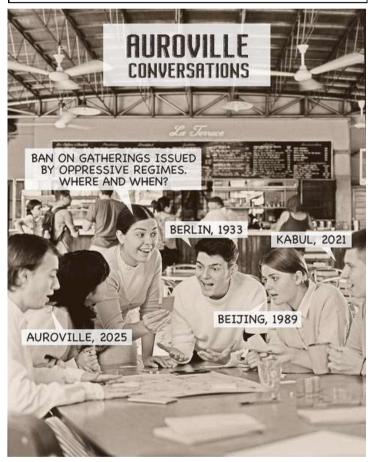


FOOD FOR THOUGHT





AUROVILLE CONVERSATIONS



Submitted by an Aurovilian

FRENCH NEWS & NOTES

NOUVELLES D'AUROVILLE

Auro – Traduction

Click <u>here</u> or scan the QR code to read the **French** News&Notes.





INNER JOURNEY

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

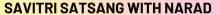
Tuesday 6th May, 9 am - 12 noon Focus: The Psychic Being

Led by Ashesh Joshi

Place: Mirabelle Education Centre, Auromodele

Ph/Whatsapp: 94891 47202 (Please register)

All are Welcome



SUMMER BREAK

SAVITRI at Savitri Bhavan will break for the heat of the summer months of May and June and will begin again the first day of July 2025 with Savitri Satsang and the OM Choir at 4:30pm and 5:30pm respectively.

In this deep exploration of Savitri we will study:

- The mantric basis of Savitri
- 2. The importance of iambic pentameter in epic poetry
- 3. The wealth of definitions in Savitri from Sri Aurobindo and Mother
- 4. Music and alliteration in Savitri
- 5. Words defined from the 'Lexicon of the Infinite Mind'
- 6. The Mother's Words on Savitri

We will begin at the beginning, again on 1st July, with Canto 4, 'The Secret Knowledge'.

All are welcome to join.

Narad

OM CHOIR WITH NARAD

EVERY TUESDAY OF REAK 5PM Please is SUMME in ON SUMME e aspiration, MAY + JUNE

No prior sing experience is required.

At Savitri Bhavan - Square Hall



AMPHITHEATRE - MATRIMANDIR

Meditations at sunset with SAVITRI,

Every THURSDAY from 6:00 to 6:30pm

(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.

<u>Reminder to all:</u> The Park of Unity is a place for silence, meditation and inner work and is to be used only as such. We request everyone: please do not use cameras, tablets, cell phones, etc. No photos.

Guests with Aurocard wishing to attend must book at https://bit.ly/savitri-reading one or two days in advance or the very day before 11am. Please bring your Aurocard with you.

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

Guests are requested to bring along their Aurocards. Last entry for guests at 6:00pm. Access limited for guests to the Amphitheatre Last exit for guests at 6:45pm.

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) and Ashesh Joshi

Please register in advance

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

(Private sessions on request at other timings)

VIPASSANA MEDITATION

Dear Meditators,

You are all very welcome to the monthly 1 day Vipassana meditation course for "old students" only (those who have completed at least one 10-day course as taught by SN Goenka).

Date: Sunday 4th May

• Timings: 8:30am to 3pm. Lunch will be served.

Venue: 1 Vibrance, Vikas Radial rd, Auroville, 605101.
 Please park on Vikas Radial road, next to the Vibrance garage.

Location: https://maps.app.goo.gl/oKpMZgyty344x11R9?g_st=ic Vibrance garage is opposite the Realization gate. But due to road construction please enter through the walking gate 5m before the garage. Park on the new road under construction. The apartment is directly behind the garage on the ground floor.

You can drop in for part time only at 8:30am. Please contact <u>vallari@gmail.com/WA</u> 97403 22447 by 9pm Friday, so that we have a head count for lunch.

Please keep your cell phone off for the duration of the course.

Metta

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RESEARCH PROJECT, "THE POTENTIAL OF KINDNESS"

Dear Auroville Community,

How might small acts of kindness transform our lives? We invite you to help us discover the answer by participating in our research project, "The Potential of Kindness."

Over the coming months we're organising events designed to explore how kindness activities



affect participants' wellbeing, social connections, and self-compassion. We hope to learn about what kindness means, how kindness varies across different cultures, and what obstacles might prevent us from giving and receiving kindness.

These events provide opportunities to contribute to meaningful research as well as the possibility of experiencing new perspectives on kindness.

- **Kindness Circles** Safe, welcoming spaces to share personal stories of giving and receiving kindness (available in both English and Tamil).
- Kindness Film Screening watch a film together on the theme of compassion.
- Random Acts of Kindness Week Participate in daily challenges to spread kindness.
- Loving-Kindness Meditation Join this meditation on compassion for yourself and others.

All events are open to Aurovilians and Newcomers. If you would like to participate in any of the above events (or perhaps host your own kindness event as part of our research) email helen@auroville.org.in or message on WA 70947 53054.

Let's explore the potential of kindness together.

Helen & Nikethana

AV MEN'S ULTIMATE FRISBEE - "NEXT GEN" 12-18 YEAR OLDS

MONDAY 5 MAY ONWARDS, GAIA FIELD

Hey Auroville,



The AV Men's Ultimate Frisbee team is starting: *NexGen*, an Opens (boys 12–18) ultimate frisbee team right here in town.

If you're into sports, love being active, or just want to try something different — come check it out, no experience needed.

· Date: Monday May 5th Onwards

Location: Gaia FieldTime: 5:00pm to 6:15pm

Just bring water, a pair of football/running shoes, (barefoot is fine if you don't have anything to start with) wear some clothes you can run in, and come ready to have fun and learn the game.

If you have any questions or confusion, feel free to call or WhatsApp me (Harsh Nisar) at +91 95439 90007.

If you want to join, send me a message so I can add you to the *Next Gen* group for more updates and info. :)

Come join us and be part of something exciting!

Yours sincerely, AV Ultimate



ECO FEMME - OPEN HOUSE

EVERY THURSDAY, AUROSHILPAM



ECOPRO: DISPOSABLE MENSTRUAL PADS BIODEGRADABLE & COMPOSTABLE

Dear Auroville Community, in particular women in the menstruating age,

As many of us are aware, the widely used disposable menstrual pads on the market contain some plastics which makes it difficult to dispose of used pads in an easy and ecologically sound way. Now a new product has become available, that is menstrual pads made exclusively of biological materials and hence biodegradable or compostable after use. So, as regards disposal, no need to incinerate with dubious emissions from burning plastics, and avoiding pollution from microplastics (when disposed of with other waste in landfills or discarded anywhere in open drains – which is not meant to be the case).

One of the brands is "Bliss". – We have asked a few women to test the pads in regard to reliability (of function) and comfort, and received only positive feedback. The pads are free from sanitizers or artificial fragrances and pose no risk to health.

Availability

Bliss Pads are available now at EcoPro, Aurosarjan complex. Please contact us at ecopro.sales@auroville.org.in, 0413-2622469 or 63855 14605.

Concerns regarding composting

In all community and household gardens where some structured and supervised composting of kitchen and garden waste is in operation, used pads can be integrated into it. Concerns about attracting dogs and rodents need to be dealt with in the same way as it applies to fresh kitchen or food waste. (Wild pigs are a separate issue – they plough through our gardens independent of composting activities.) Feel free to ask for guidance at EcoPro.

Regards, Sharmila / on behalf of EcoPro

THE INNER WAY SCHOOL AUROVILLE - TAI CHI

DAILY CLASSES

Daily classes of Tai Chi Chuan and Chi (Stevanovitch Method) are offered at 7.30am.

Drop ins are welcome.

More Info: taichi@auroville.org.in



MARC'S CAFE STORE NEWS!

We are happy to announce that Marc's Café is welcoming anyone who would like to work or study in a co-working space atmosphere to visit our 3rd floor rooftop with free Wifi.



- We will be open from 8am to 8pm, six (6) days a week.
- · We are closed on Wednesdays.

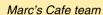






Also as a reminder

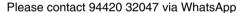
We have Aurovilian discount for AV, NC and registered SAVI volunteers and a 10% for Aurocard holders
Tuesday 50% discount for breakfast (only coffee, croissant and dosa)



AVAILABLE

AMMA

Good House Ama available from Half May onward for Tuesdays and Thursdays: 2 full days for work in the Center area.





LOOKING FOR

WORDPRESS LMS

Нı,

I am in the process of putting the courses that I was teaching in the Botanical Gardens, on different aspects of arboriculture, online and I am looking at purchasing a Wordpress LMS for this, as they would be self led courses. Is anyone else doing this or interested in co-purchasing an LMS? Currently looking at Tutor LMS. Buying several lifetime licences at once is considerably cheaper than buying a single one.

Let me know if you are interested or perhaps you have some ideas?

Thanks,

Island

Phone/whatsapp: +91 75981 03616

Email: island@treescapes.in

A HOST IN ANNECY, FRANCE

Dear Friends,

I live with my family in Auroville.

I'm visiting Annecy, France this year for the animation festival in the month of June from 7th to 14th.

I will be traveling to Annecy via Geneva.

I'm looking to connect with someone in Annecy who can extend their kindness and host me on those dates.

Gratefully,

Siddharth Maskeri - Mob/Whatsapp - +91 98192 89123

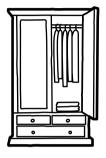
HOUSE-SITTING

Hi all!

I'm a volunteer at Maatram who works as a psychologist with students. I'm looking to house sit inside Auroville from **May to July**.

Please contact me at +91 88266 52878 if you'd like someone reliable to look after your place. I'm open to house sharing as well.

Udayan



SECOND HAND ALMIRAH

Dear friends,

I need a second hand almirah in good condition for free or at a reasonable price.

Contact me at AVsanto60@gmail.com
or 97519 07083

Thank you in advance, Santo

LOOKING FOR HOMES FOR TWO KITTENS



A beautiful ginger cat that was roaming around and kept on sitting in front of my door meowing, gave birth to 2 kittens, a male (ginger with a little white) and a female (3-colored brown, black, white)

The two sweet kittens are ready to be given away soon to animal loving children or adults. If someone misses a female ginger cat, please also contact me, via

SMS or WhatsApp, 94896 01312 or email shivaya@auroville.org.in Thank You!

AN ART STUDIO

I am Dom, looking for a studio to rent for my artistic practice.

The one I am renting now in Bharat Nivas is less and less usable because of



the flood of tourists all around, and the relative noise.

The space I'm looking for doesn't need to be in particularly good condition.

I am very silent and also I would like to have silence around.

I need water and electricity inside, and the minimum size should be 40 square meters.

If you hear of anything like that, please let me know.

Thank you. ade.jacques65@gmail.com

ECO FEMME IS LOOKING FOR OFFICE SPACE & STORAGE ROOM

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

Office area: 150 sq. mStorage room: 80 sq. m

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



SUPPORT NEEDED

NEED OF ANUSUYA FOREST COMMUNITY

Anusuya Forest is one of the few remaining communities that uses a windmill to pump water. We have 5 households and, since our water requirements have remained minimal, we still pump from the first aquifer.

During the cyclone in December, our windmill suffered major damage and we owe a large amount (87,834/-) to Aureka.

We would be very grateful for contributions towards this.

If you can help, please contact anusuyaforest@gmail.com.



I need someone who can fix some formulas in google locker studio. Is there someone who can help me with this?

Krishna, 98841 20010

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: <u>serendipityauroville@gmail.com</u> <u>https://serendipity.auroville.org</u>

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 5:30 - 6:30pm, and Saturday 7:30 -8:30am, 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 rejuvenating and restorative. These specific classes will be on donation basis, even for guests.

Tibetan Bowls - Sound Healing with Pratik

· Tuesday from 5 - 6:30pm, drop-in class

Tibetan singing bowls are crafted from a blend of metals, each carefully tuned to produce unique harmonic sounds. When played, these bowls generate vibrations that interact with the body's energy field, encouraging a meditative state and fostering

overall well-being. The practice is based on the principle that everything in the universe, including the human body, is in a state of vibration. Disruptions or imbalances in these vibrations can lead to stress, illness, and discomfort. By aligning the body's frequencies through sound, Tibetan bowl healing seeks to restore harmony and vitality.

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 realisation 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 recognised 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 (+91 94436 17308)

Shiatsu is a manipulative therapy developed in Japan, 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 miniaturisation 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.

ACTIVITIES AT JOI - ANITYA COMMUNITY

Journey to Inner Peace:

Holistic Healing Services at Anitya Community

Located in the peaceful environment of Auroville's

Center Field, the Joy of Impermanence—Anitya Community Project offers a variety of holistic services to support your body, mind, and spirit. Our experienced practitioners provide a range of practices to help you relax, heal, and grow, guiding you toward balance and well-beina.

- · Location: Anitya Community, Center Field, Auroville (500m after Center Guest House)
 - Bookings: For more information or to schedule a session, please contact the practitioners directly (preferably via WhatsApp messages)

Thai Yoga Bodywork with Andres

• Contact: +91 97516 07501

Combining elements of Summer ressure, and assisted stretching, Theirsed for Summer ressure, and assisted stretching, Theirsed for Summer ressure, and assisted stretching, and enhance flexibility. This therapeutic practice helps restore balance to your body and mind through gentle, rhythmic movements.

Ayurvedic Massage with Elene

A relaxing full-body ed for Summer revitalises pr Paused for summer revitalises pr melts away tension and ny rocusing on the head, back, stomach, and feet.

Integral Unfoldment Coaching with Dave

• Contact: +44 75641 19728

A transformative life coaching approach blending Internal Family Systems (IFS), Focusing, and the Diamond Approach to explore your inner world, integrate all parts of yourself, and unfolding your unique potential for personal transformation.

Shah-Lu-Ha-Ka Bodywork with Nikki

• Contact: +91 70947 16136

This unique bodywork technique blends different massage styles, energy healing, and intuitive touch to release physical and emotional blockages. Shah-Lu-Ha-Ka Bodywork is a deeply restorative experience that invites your body to heal from within.

Mindfulness Meditation with Helen

• Contact: +91 70947 53054

Join Helen for guided mindfulness meditation sessions designed to cultivate awareness, reduce stress, and enhance emotional resilience. Whether you're a beginner or an experienced meditator, these sessions provide a peaceful space to connect with your inner self. Regular drop-in session for all on Tuesdays at 7:15am (Maloka Hall).

Women Circles with Louise Rose

Contact: +91 73053 73562

Women Circles offer a sacred space for women to gather, share, and support each other in their journeys. Led by Louise, these circles provide a nurturing environment where women can explore their personal growth, creativity, and shared experiences. Every new moon and full moon.

Womb Blossoming with Louise Rose

• Contact: +91 73053 73562

A deep healing journey connecting the womb, heart, and throat through vocal activation and flower bodywork. This practice integrates sonic energy healing, affirmations, herbalism, and aromatherapy to awaken the body's innate wisdom and express your soul's story.

Whispering of the Flowers with Louise Rose

• Contact: +91 73053 73562

Flower medicine ceremonies and bodywork integrating naturopathy, somatic therapy, and sonic healing. Using flower essences, herbalism, and aromatherapy, these sessions support deep reconnection and balance.

AMA Massage with Angela

• Contact (whatsapp only): +33 750604028

A seated acupressure massage combining rhythmic thumb pressure, stretching, and percussions on specific energy points (tsubos). Promotes relaxation and revitalization. Duration: 20-30 min (clothed, on an AMA chair).

Swedish Oil Massage with Angela

• Contact (whatsapp only): +33 750604028

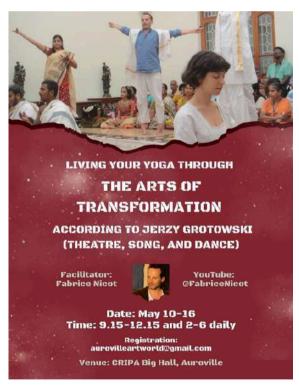
A deeply relaxing full-body massage that relieves pain, improves sleep, reduces stress and muscle tension, and boosts the immune system. Duration: 60 or 90 min.



WORKSHOPS

LIVING YOUR YOGA THROUGH THE ARTS OF TRANSFORMATION ACCORDING TO JERZY GROTOWSKI (THEATRE, SONG, AND DANCE)

10-16 MAY, CRIPA



(Body and vocal explorations based on songs, dances, and spiritual texts from around the world)

About the workshop:

The first part of the workshop will be devoted to exploring the musical and rhythmic foundations of texts from various spiritualities (Song of Songs, Gita-Govinda, Bhagavad Gita, etc.) as well as learning vibrational songs and dances from around the world (Latin Gregorian chants, Ukrainian and Georgian polyphonies, African and Afro-Caribbean songs, etc.).

Biographical narratives from the participants may be used, particularly for emotional exploration.

The second part will consist of physical and vocal training to release tension while strengthening the participant. They will explore their simple presence in space, holding themselves in an energetic physical body, listening and watching. They will achieve a balance between a position anchored within themselves and one entirely open to the outside world. In total availability, the trainee will then be able to offer their attention, their body, and their presence to the space, to the partners, and to the artistic materials that will "pass through" them. In the words of Jerzy Grotowski (Polish theatre director and teacher, 1933-1999), the text will "read" the trainee, the song will "sing" them, and the dance will "dance" them.

A collective "organic" action will be developed, composed of texts, vibrant songs, and movements.

The facilitator:

Fabrice Nicot is a director and teacher associated with the Grotowski Institute (Wroclaw, Poland). Holder of the French State Diploma of Theater Professor (D.E.), he teaches theater practice at the Cours Florent in Paris (professional cycle), at the University of Paris 8, at the Faculty of Arts of Strasbourg (France), and in conservatories. He is also teaching anthropology at the State University of Haiti.

A graduate as an actor of the E.N.S.A.T.T. (French State National School of Theater Arts and Techniques) and in theater studies from the University of Paris 3 Sorbonne - Nouvelle, actor, director, and Professor, Fabrice Nicot teaches and produces his performances in France and abroad.

As producer of international artistic events, he has co-founded and co-directed, among other things, the Iranian Springs for the municipality of Paris and the Iranian Center for Dramatic Arts, then the Andrei Tarkovsky Academy and Festival of Sacred Arts in cooperation with the Andrei Tarkovsky International Institute and Andrei Andreievitch Tarkovsky.

He has organized international educational exchanges for the CNSAD (The National State Drama School), the Cours Florent, and various universities. He has conducted fieldwork over several years as an anthropologist of the arts among artistic communities around the world (India, Africa, the Caribbean, Eastern Europe, etc.), publishing articles (in the journals Arts Sacrés, Le Monde des religions, Europe, Danse conservatoire, etc.) and organizing seminars.

Dates: 10-16 May

Venue: CRIPA Big Hall, Auroville
 Time: 9.15am-12.15pm and 2pm-6pm
 Registration: aurovilleartworld@gmail.com



CULTURAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

AGÜITA SAT 3 MAY CENTRE D'ART



We are so happy to welcome you to the premiere of our piece, Agüita!

This is a work that weaves together song and physical theatre, drawing on images from the lives of women — an invitation to play, to feel, and to heal together.

- · Saturday, May 3rd at 6pm
- · Centre d'Art

Performed by Shalini & Betina

AUROVILLE FILM FESTIVAL 2026 - SUBMISSIONS NOW OPEN

The 9th edition of the Auroville Film Festival opens submissions for the following categories:

- Films made by Aurovilians and residents of the bioregion (including Pondy)
- Films made about Auroville and the bioregion (including Pondy)
- Films made by school students (below 17yrs) in Auroville and the bioregion (including Pondy).

The last date to submit is **August 15th 2025**. Films made since May 2023 will be considered.

Link to submit: http://tiny.cc/avfilmfestival2026

Submissions to the international category of films that develop the theme of human unity may be made only through Film Freeway (https://filmfreeway.com/AurovilleFilmFestival). The last date to submit to this category is **July 31st 2025.**

For more details please contact filmfestival.auroville@gmail.com



LATEST EDITION OF VAASAL MAGAZINE



Dear Friends.

Vanakkam 🙏

We're excited to share with you the latest edition of Magazine. In this issue, we delve into the heart of Tamil Nadu, exploring the rich cultural tapestry and history of the ancient city of Tirunelveli.

Discover the city's iconic temples, and vibrant food scene, significant role in India's independence movement. Plus, we have spiritual insights, Tamil

language lessons, and much more!

fully experience the essence of Tirunelveli and all fascinating content Vaasal has to offer, please click on the link below to view the magazine:

https://heyzine.com/flip-book/f704d0561a.html

Enjoy the reading! Thank you.

Ilaignarkal Education Centre Team

JOIN US FOR PÉTANQUE - A CLASSIC FRENCH GAME!

EVERY SUNDAY, FRENCH PAVILION



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

Every Sunday, 4pm -5:30pm

📍 French Pavilion, opposite the Visitors' Center

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

F₀0D

FOOD FOREST TOUR - EVERY SUNDAY



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

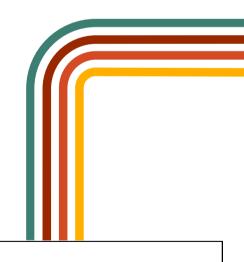
VEGAN ICE CREAMS





RIGHT PATH CAFE - SUMMER NEWS, VISITORS CENTRE





POETRY

String the instrument Clear your throat And sing!

Melodies travel.
People will stop and listen
Perhaps sing along
Perhaps sing their own songs.

Anandi Z



The Poem on Tomorrow

I'll have the kitchen manager speak to young midnight. A sudden poem rose, a shooting star.

High-speed, the roads that lead to Rome are huge. I've seen its huge glasses. Few will choice. My God stars over head, it's syphilis. What do you call the Pied Piper? Freewill choice. I don't like sandwiches.

Auroville
is no more;
you can't get that right.
You can't even see it.
Who counts their chickens before they hatch?
Who even understands time?
We live in a machine.
It's a prison house of weft,
the great big wonderful universe.

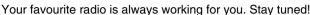
All our thoughts come from there, each and every one.
We can't get over ourselves.
We think time's all she wrote.
It's the joy we ride to despair, because we are cut off here from supernal air.

Everything is bigger than the universe. Auroville's existence's there, a supramental manifestation. People can't control it. People can't do it in. Are you countin' time? Look homeward angel.

A great big beautiful surprise will tear our earth dough and all the plots of men, and Earth harvest better Auroville's dream.
There put your effort.
The city's going there not here.
Go here also the whole black yard.
This way, the whole direction of this poem.

AUROVILLE RADIO

Dear Aurovilians,



Last published podcasts:

- Marlenka's weekly Offering Ep.135 (Literature)
- <u>Savitri Ep.7 : Introductory Comments in Tamil | சாவித்ரி</u> <u>காவியம் ஓர் அறிமுக விளக்கம் by Dhanalakshmi</u> (Spirituality)
- <u>Exploring Education in Arts, Animation and Film-making –</u>
 <u>Ep. 51 "Cinema Around the World"</u> (Arts & Culture)
- <u>Une série hebdomadaire de lectures par Gangalakshmi –</u>
 <u>Ep.490</u> (Integral Yoga)
- Marlenka's weekly Offering Ep. 134 (Literature)

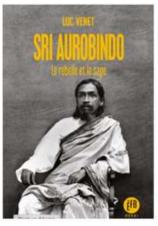
....and more! on www.aurovilleradiotv.org.
For more information write to radio@auroville.org.in

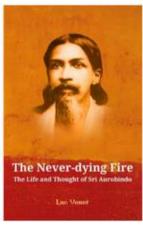
Peace and love

Regards, Sai Priya for Auroville RadioTV

FOR THE BOOKWORMS

THE NEVER-DYING FIRE, THE LIFE AND THOUGHT OF SRI AUROBINDO





This new biography of Sri Aurobindo by Luc Venet — "Sri Aurobindo Le Rebel et le Sage" was made available in Auroville, in September 2022, in its original French version.

Since few months an English version is available under the title: "The Never-Dying Fire, The Life and Thought of Sri Aurobindo". One can find it at the The white Seagull Visitors' Centre book shop (for 550 Rs).

Some Aurovilians have read it, they share their reviews:

- Bridget: "It was a great pleasure to read Luc Venet's book "The Never Dying Fire". I found it to be a beaulfully captivating exploration into Sri Aurobindo's life that attempts to understand and chart his spiritual development. It is set in the backdrop of a very interesting period of Indian history that helped me to consider the external elements that played at the time. It is a book that I did not want to put down and was inside me throughout the day as I read."
- Jasmin: "I love to read The Never-Dying Fire (I read the English version mainly but both version are such a gift). What a beautiful energy, what a joy to read page after page this beautiful work!! Each page is filled with such a beautiful consciousness, energy, vibration and excellence!!"

- Kripa: "This biography of Sri Aurobindo is a factual, very well documented and informative read, that allowed me to understand the spark that ignited the spirit of a free India. This book comes as an answer to those who want to know the history and what really happened in India that led to independence. I enjoyed the simplicity of the narration; it took me beyond the myth."
- Rakhal: "About his biography, Sri Aurobindo wrote: "I see that you have persisted in giving a biography is it really necessary or useful? The attempt is bound to be a failure, because neither you nor anyone else knows anything at all about my life: it has not been on the surface for man to see." Obviously Luc wanted to see under the surface and it looks like Sri Aurobindo helped him a bit; the reader is benefiting it: the marvelous presence of Sri Aurobindo break through."

AUROVILLE LIBRARY

READING CIRCLES

MONDAYS AND TUESDAYS

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)



JOIN OUR BOOK READING CIRCLE: "NONVIOLENT COMMUNICATION"

EVERY MONDAY, YOUTH SPACE

We invite you to a book reading circle every Monday at the Youth Space, in Center Field, Auroville (find us on Google Maps). We'll be reading and discussing the book "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. 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 can shift your perspective as you learn to communicate more effectively with others and yourself.

Details:

- When: Every Monday
- Where: Youth Space (check Google Maps for location)
- Time: 4:30pm 6:30pm
- Who: Open to all interested in improving their communication skills
- Contact: Monica on WhatsApp at +91 93634 55711, or email monicayouthlink@gmail.com for questions

CINEMA PARADISO PRESENTS:



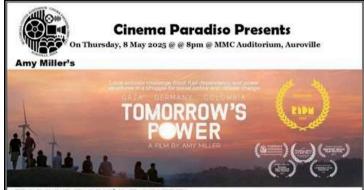


This film, scheduled to premiere in June 2025, from an award-winning director, is being offered as a "pre-screening" that is typically meant for viewing and discussing with a discerning audience before the film premiers. For this reason, we are unable to share any further details about the film.

A brief Q&A with the director and lead actor will follow the screening

The screening of this film has been made possible by the director and the entire film team. Since this is a pre-premiere screening, we cannot say much about the film but judging by the director's previous films this promises to be reflective and excellent!

DO NOT mis s this where you get to watch and reflect on a film before anyone else!



TOMORROW'S POWER

2017, Writer-Dir. Amy Miller, Documentary, 76mins, English w/ English subtitles,

Rated: NR (R) Across three regions--Colombia, Germany, and Gazacommunities are fighting back against Across three regions—Colombia, Germany, and Gaza—Communities are righting back again economic and environmental crises with resilience and ingenuity. In Colombia's war-torn Arauca province, where oil fuels conflict, locals defy the odds by building peace from the ground up. In Germany, activists take on powerful industries, pushing for a complete shift away from fossil fuels to renewable energy. Meanwhile, in Gaza, where power outages threaten lives daily, medical professionals turn to solar energy to keep hospitals running and save lives. These powerful stories reveal how ordinary people, in the face of immense challenges, take extraordinary steps to reclaim control over their futures, proving that change is possible—even in the most difficult circumstances. This documentary is a gripping testament to courage, hope, and resistance.

We extend our gratitude to the writer-director for offering this impactful film with us!





Multimedia Center (MMC) Auditorium

Film program : 5th - 11th May 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 5 MAY, 8:00 PM:

• SPECIAL PRE-PREMIERE SCREENING

India, 2025, 88 mins, Romantic-Drama w/ English subtitles, Rated NR (best to assume PG-13 / R)

This award-winning director's latest film, set to premiere in June 2025, is being offered as an exclusive pre-screening for a thoughtful and discerning audience. The screening is an opportunity to reflect on the film and provide meaningful feedback directly to the creators. While details about the film cannot be shared at this stage, judging by the director's past acclaimed work, it promises to be reflective and exceptional. A rare occasion made possible by the director and film team, the event includes a brief Q&A with the director and lead actor after the screening. Don't miss the chance to engage with a film before its official premiere!

POTPOURRI - TUESDAY 6 MAY, 8:00 PM:

MY LEFT FOOT

Ireland-UK, 1989, Writer-Dir. Jim Sheridan w/ Daniel Day-Lewis, Brenda Fricker, Alison Whelan, and others, Biography-Drama, 103mins, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: R

Christy Brown is born with cerebral palsy to a large, poor Irish family. His mother, Mrs. Brown, recognizes the intelligence and humanity in the lad everyone else regards as a vegetable. Eventually, Christy matures into a cantankerous artist who uses his dexterous left foot to write and paint.

SELECTION - WEDNESDAY 7 MAY, 8 PM:

TAXI DRIVER

USA, 1976, Dir. Martin Scorsese w/ Robert De Niro, Jodie Foster, Cybill Shepherd, and others, Crime-Drama, 94mins, English-Spanish w/ English subtitles, Rated: R

Travis Bickle, an insomniac ex-Marine and Vietnam veteran, navigates New York's grim streets as a night-shift taxi driver. Alienated and disillusioned, he fixates on Betsy, a campaign worker for Senator Palantine, seeing her as a beacon of hope. When events take a dark turn, Travis resolves to cleanse the city, spiraling into a dangerous quest for redemption.

SELECTION - THURSDAY 8 MAY, 8 PM:

• TOMORROW'S POWER

Canada, 2017, Writer-Dir. Amy Miller, Documentary, 76mins, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR (R)

This film explores three global communities confronting economic and environmental crises: grassroots peacebuilding in Colombia's conflict-stricken Arauca province, Germany's activist-led push for fossil-fuel divestment and renewable energy, and Gaza's use of solar power to counter life-threatening hospital blackouts. We extend our gratitude to the writer-director for offering this impactful film with us!

INTERNATIONAL - SATURDAY 10 MAY, 8 PM:

• PIGEN MED NÅLEN (THE GIRL WITH THE NEEDLE)

Denmak-Poland-Sweden-France-Belgium, 2024, Writer-Dir.Magnus von Horn w/ Vic Carmen Sonne, Trine Dyrholm, Besir Zeciri, and others, Drama-History, 123mins, Danish w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR (R)

Copenhagen 1919: A young worker finds herself unemployed and pregnant. She meets Dagmar, who runs an underground adoption agency. A strong connection grows but her world shatters when she stumbles on the shocking truth behind her work.

CHILDREN'S MATINEE - SUNDAY 11 MAY, 4 PM: ORION AND THE DARK

France-USA, 2024, Dir. Sean Charmatz w/ Jacob Tremblay, Paul Walter Hauser, Colin Hanks, and others, Animation-Comedy, 93mins, English w/ English subtitles, Rated: NR (PG)

Orion, a boy with a vivid imagination, embarks on a journey through the night, confronting his fears with the help of Dark, a mysterious giant. Along the way, he meets Hypatia, Light, and Insomnia, each reflecting parts of his fears and dreams. This magical tale explores courage, self-discovery, and the beauty of embracing the unknown.

CINÉ-CLUB SUNDAY 11 MAY, 8 PM:

HABLE CON ELLA (TALK TO HER)

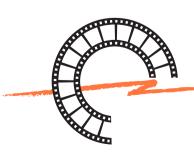
Spain, 2002, Dir. Pedro Almodovar, w/ Rosario Flores, Javier Cámara and Others, Drama-Romance, 112 mins, Spanish w/ English subtitles, Rated: R.

The is one of Almodóvar's most remarkable works. It compels you to reflect on your own moral views. The film is stunningly crafted, with each scene artistically framed to evoke a sense of traditional painting. The music, including the score and the songs, is exceptional, with Caetano Veloso's performance being a standout. The plot is not only engaging and intricate but also enlightening in unexpected ways.

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 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



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

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 - 5pm

Phone: 0413 2622746/ 2622796
Email: ptdc@auroville.org.in

POUR TOUS PURCHASING 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:

Tue, Thurs, & Sat: 4pm - 6.30pm

Children's Storytime! All ages welcome!

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





Do good for the love of good and not in hope of a reward. Be good for the joy of being good and

not for the gratefulness of others.

The Mother

HEALTH

SANTÉ SERVICES IN MAY 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.

Doctor Consultation with Dr. Gunashree & Dr. Sana: Monday to Saturday	Nurse Care - Thilagam, Ezhil, Archana & Sandhya: Daily: no appointment needed
Ayurveda with Dr. Berengere: Mon (classes*) / Tue / Wed / Fri	Integrative Psychotherapy with Juan Andres: Monday to Friday
Physiotherapy & Massage with Galina: Monday to Friday	Homeopathy with Michael: Monday / Wednesday / Saturday
Midwifery & GYN Care with Paula: Monday & Wednesday	Soundbed Session with Sandhya / Thilagam: Monday to Saturday

Bio-Well Assessment (Evaluation of your well-being) with Helena - inquiry email adminsante@auroville.org.in

*Ayurveda Classes:

2:00pm - basic principles of Ayurveda

3:30pm - reading of Ashtanga Hrudaya (one of the 3 main literature on Ayurveda)

In Santé, we value our patient's confidentiality and 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

NURSE SERVICES

My name is Madhi and I'm 27 years old. I was born and brought up in AV.

I have done my bachelor degree in B.SC (Nursing) and I have more than three years experienced as a Staff Nurse in hospital (one year in psychiatric ward, six months in ICU and six months in emergency) and giving care for elderly people in AV past 2 years.

Services:

- · Patient assessment and care plan.
- Medication administration.
- Vital signs monitoring.
- · Wound care.
- To provide blood and lab test.
- · Personal care assistance.
- · Patient education.
- Fall prevention strategies.
- Providing assistance with bathing, dressing, grooming, and toileting needs.
- Communication and collaboration with physicians.
- Documentation of medical reports.
- End-of-life care.

If you need any assistance please do contact below-mentioned email or contact number.

Contact: 95972 22826 (Madhi) call/WhatsApp E-mail Id: madhiazhagan014@gmail.com

TIME TO SUMMERNATE AYURVEDA HEALTHY TIPS



According to Ayurveda, the qualities of summer are hot, sharp, and penetrating. That's why our *pitta dosha* - the subtle fire that controls metabolism and transformation - can cause us to overheat. The sun saps the energy from the body, from the plants and the earth, increasing heat and dryness.

Pitta needs to be looked after to maintain a good energy, mental clarity, joyfulness, good digestion and blood circulation, a beautiful glow of the skin and a sound sleep.

When Pitta is out of balance it will give skin problems, hot flashes, exhaustion, indigestion or loose stool. Emotionally, excess Pitta manifests through irritation, short-temper, impatience, judgement/criticism, perfectionism...

Before Pitta reaches uncontrollable heights, remain cool, calm and pamper the liver:

<u>With the food:</u> As Agni (digestive fire) weakens, it is better to eat light, unctuous (slightly oily), cooling food such as salads and juices.

- Favorable taste: Bitter taste, Sweet taste (to take moderately in case of diabetes and high triglycerides). Salty taste should be taken reasonably.
- Drink water stored in earthen pot.
- Raw food/salads are taken at lunch mainly.
- Proteins: mungdal, chickpeas, beans, sprouts, nuts and seeds, non-veg: white meat, fish, seashell, dairies for breakfast or lunch, eggs.



- Cereals for energy: jasmine rice, barley, red rice, millet (fermented ragi).
- Vegetables: pumpkin, bittergourd, bottlegourd, snakegourd, ashgourd, cucumber (taken separately), salads, green leafy vegetables, broccoli, cabbage, celery, carrots, drumstick (moringa), zucchini, plantain.
- Fruits: amla, pomegranate, banana, ramphala, chiku, papaya, apple, grape, date, watermelon and melon (to be taken separately), coconut.
- Beverages: buttermilk, sweet lassi, coconut water, mint, lemongrass, cardamom, chamomile, nannari (sarsaparilla), amla juice, watermelon juice, vegetable juice, cucumber milk (blend ½ cup of peeled cucumber in 1 cup of milk cow or other veg milk with a pinch of sugar), electrolyte (1 lemon juice + 1tsp of sugar + 1 pinch salt in a glass of water).
- Lipids: ghee, olive or sunflower or coconut oil.
- Spices: cumin, coriander, black pepper, turmeric, fennel seeds, fresh aromatic herbs (dill, coriander, fennel, mint, parsley, saffron).



Avoid:

- Pungent and sour tastes (especially for people who are Pitta dominant).
- Pitta increasing items: chillies, fermented food (apart from idli and dosai), deep-fried, sour buttermilk or curd, red meat, alcohol (strong liquor, red wine), coffee ...
- Drinking beverages coming from the fridge or freezer during meals.
- Ice-cream at the end of a meal (best to be taken when the digestion is finished, around 4pm).

Routine to favour:

- Avoid direct sun contact specially between 11am and 4pm, and protect from the heat by keeping a humid towel/cap on the head.
- · A nap of half an hour after lunch is allowed.
- Body massage with coconut oil if there's no time every day to apply oil on the body, then massage ears, hands and feet + pour 4-5 drops of coconut oil on the fontanelle.
- Bath with cool water and apply a paste of sandalwood on the face, heart and lower abdomen (these are the 3 main parts that should remain fresh to maintain the coolness in the whole body); foot bath in the evening with vetiver roots, rose water or hibiscus flowers.
- Swimming, aquagym, any water activities. Qi-Gong, Tai Chi, light running: max 30 minutes early morning or late evening; walks in green environment, forest.
- Soft yoga, pranayama (Sheetali, Sheetakari, ida nadi inhalationleft nostril inhalation), meditation with Gayatri mantra.
- · Walk under the moonlight, full moon bath.
- Wear loose and comfortable cotton or linen clothes (white, blue, green, gray colours).
- Cooling jewellery: sandalwood beads, jade, pearl, amethyst crystals, moonstone, silver, aquamarine.
- To refresh the ambiance use lemon or orange peel, jasmine flowers, lavender, wet cloth hanging at the open window, vetiver curtains.

Cooling plants for the summer:

- Amalaki Amla: refrigerant and full of Vitamin C, rejuvenative
- Aloe vera: rejuvenates blood and tissues.
- Aegle Marmelos Bael fruit: make juice from the pulp and decoction with leaves, it calms body and mind. It is slightly laxative, do not take during pregnancy.
- Coriander: seeds soaked in water for urinary infections, kidney weakness.
- Red Hibiscus: leaves and flowers for shampoo and conditioner; flowers for herbal tea.
- Manduka parni Centella asiatica leaves: rejuvenative and tonic for brain and nerves.
- Pudina Mint leaves: herbal tea or dishes.
- Radha consciousness Clitoria Terneata flowers: herbal tea or juice.
- Sarsaparilla Nannari syrup: soothing and cooling.
- Shataavari Asparagus racemosus: cooling, calming Pitta, very good for Vata women to harmonize hormones.
- **Vetiver roots:** for bathing.
- Yashtimadhu Licorice: to refresh the body and to calm irritation, inflammation or ulcer in the digestive tract.

Wishing you a beautiful summer Be @ Santé Clinic

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 Aurovilla lewcomers IPDA Daily: 6.00 AM to 7.30 PM
- and friends to the Gardens Aurovilians may bring
- Daily: 9.00 AM to B Volunteers a require a pass to enter the Park of Unity. Timings 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 6.00 AM to 12.00 PM Sunday 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 at 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

Auroville units can bring their staff to the Inner Chamber with a prior booking at mmconcentration@auroville.org.in:

Tuesday 8.00 AM to 8.30 AM



ACCESSIBLE AUROVILLE PUBLIC BUS

avbus@auroville.org.in / +91 94430 74825

Auroville TO PONDIC	HERRY			
	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	

- Single Trip = ₹100 per person
- Monthy Scheme (Students + AV Workers) = ₹1200
- Monthly Scheme (Students + AV Workers) = (One Way) ₹850

Auroville Vehicle Service Town Hall, Auroville, 0413 2623302



Join our WhatsApp group of Auroville Bus to get regular updates:

https://chat.whatsapp.com/Lt43wBCBno1E6CTwoaUt2x

EMERGENCY NUMBERS



Ambulance (24/7):		
Auroville	PIMS	
94422 24680	0413 2656271	
Security (24/7):		
Auroville Police	Kottakuppam Police	Vanur Fire
Station	Station	Station
0413 2677318	0413 2236148	0413 2677368
Health:		
Health Center	Santé	Farewell
0413 3509942 &	0413 2622803	89038 36246
3509943	0413 2022003	09030 30240

Mental Health 24/7 Support:

Vandrevala Foundation +91 99996 66555

India Emergency Response Service (24/7): 108