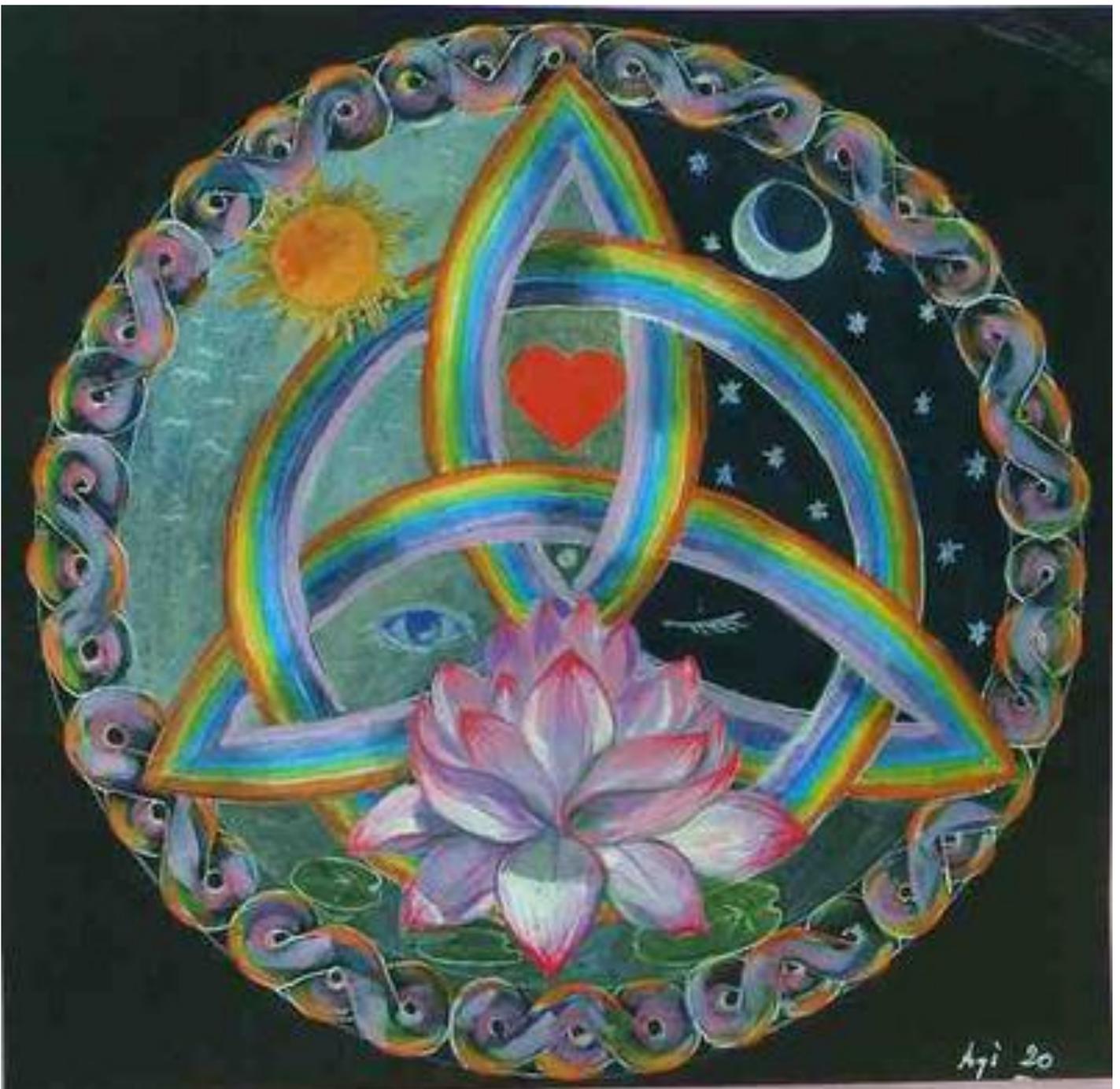


News and Notes

#869

A weekly bulletin for residents of Auroville

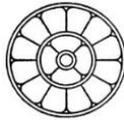
8th May 2021



Day and Night
(acrylic on paper)

Agnes Fabricius

HOUSE OF MOTHER'S AGENDA



(continued from last week)

*The guardians of felicity will open
The golden door.
That is our home and that the secret hope
Our heart explore.
To bring those heavens down upon the earth
We all descend,
And fragments of it in the human birth*

*We can command...
Seek Him upon the earth...
For thou art He, O King. Only the night
Is on thy soul
By thy own will. Remove it and recover
The serene whole
Thou art indeed...*

And this twenty-two-year-old heart kept growing and exploring – listening to the voices of the future. Then in 1900, at the turn of the century, when that Materialism bloated its monster chest, the revelation became more complete:

*It comes at last, the day foreseen of old,
What John in Patmos saw, what Shelley dreamed...
The Iron Age is ended. Only now
The last fierce spasm of the dying past
Shall shake the nations, and when that has passed,
Earth washed of ills shall raise a fairer brow.
...for the Iron Age
Prepares the Age of Gold. What we call sin,
Is but man's leavings as from deep within...
He leaves behind the ill with strife and pain,*

*Because it clings and constantly returns,
And in the fire of suffering fiercely burns
More sweetness to deserve, more strength to gain.
He rises to the good with Titan wings:
And this the reason of his high unease,
Because he came from the infinities
To build immortality with mortal things;
The body with increasing soul to fill,
Extend Heaven's claim upon the toiling earth
And climb from death to a diviner birth*

That was the beginning. And this young Sri Aurobindo, who was twenty-eight in 1900, set about in search of the way, the "magic leverage", as Savitri says, and dug in his own body for fifty years to find the bottom of our abysses, the end of our night, the golden door on the other side of our death. For he had come to REALIZE what Sophocles dreamed in his heroes, ever destroyed and ever knocking at the door of Destiny until another cry broke forth.

But now, it is the Earth that must cry out.
Or die for good.

- Satprem, The Tragedy of the Earth - from Sophocles to Sri Aurobindo



When physical disorder comes, one must not be afraid;
one must not run away from it, must face it with courage, calmness, confidence,
with the certitude that illness is a falsehood and that if one turns entirely, in full confidence,
with a complete quietude to the divine grace, it will settle in these cells
as it establishes itself in the depths of the being,
and the cells themselves will share in the eternal Truth and Delight.



- The Mother

Tribute to Shri Manoj Das



**We would like offer our homage and reminiscences to Shri Manoj Das,
a senior sadhak at the Sri Aurobindo Ashram, who passed away on the 27th of April.**

Many of us knew Manoj Da through his various talks and personal contacts in Auroville. Manoj Da came to the Ashram in 1963 and since then was teaching at the Ashram School. Behind his calm and sweet presence was a great literary stalwart of modern India. He wrote in English and Odia short stories, articles and novels. In his home state Odisha, his writings became an instrument for many to get connected with the Mother and Sri Aurobindo. A household name there, he is considered a legend of Odia literature. He is also known as one of the greatest story tellers of modern India. Many awards and recognition came his way, including Padma Bhushan and Padma

Vibhushan, the highest civilian awards of India. Despite his great achievements he was a sadhak first and foremost. While telling stories he was a child talking to children. The connection was instant and the impact lasted, for many, a lifetime. Auroville held a special meaning for him which brought him regularly here to either give talks or meet friends.

Manoj Da always remained humble, always approachable, always smiling, always ready with a story with a deep message to connect to a higher consciousness. His presence will be deeply missed.

On behalf of all residents of Auroville we offer our homage to the great servitor of the Mother and Sri Aurobindo.

- The Working Committee (Anu, Arun, Chali, Hemant, Partha, Sauro, Srimoyi)

Coming Together



In the midst of rising suffering in humanity due to the ongoing pandemic, many of us feel to come together and call for the higher protection of the Force. Here in Auroville, too, we are facing an increase in new cases every day. We propose to **meet in our own safe environment at 5 PM every day for 5 to 10 minutes to invoke the Mother and Sri Aurobindo**. A call for healing and protection with a mantra, chant, prayer or silent meditation for Auroville, India and the World, a coming together to abandon fear and embrace strength.

Om Namo bhagavate Sri Aurobindaya namo



Covid Updates

Between the 27th-30th of April we saw **16 new positive cases** (including 2 children) in Auroville, bringing the current total to 31.

To give some perspective, since March 11th of this year, in a period of a little more than 6 weeks, we have had 43 positive cases (including the 16 new ones) while in all the months of the first wave we only had about 20 cases in total. Almost all the cases in the first wave were asymptomatic while most of the cases this time have symptoms to varying degrees. Out of the 43 cases in this wave, 5 have recovered to date and others are on the way to recovery. All cases have had medical consultations and several have required medical intervention by the Ambulance Team.

It is very important to note that most of the 39 positive cases have been infected through contact with another positive case within Auroville, with only a relatively small proportion having a travel history that could account for the infection. This observation makes the process and speed of contact tracing extremely important! **TRACK - TRACE - TREAT** is the only way to break the chain of the spread of Covid-19. And therefore "Contact Tracing" of a Covid-19 positive person should be carried out as soon as possible. We request everyone to cooperate fully and provide information that is as accurate as possible if you receive a call or an email from a volunteer from Santé Coordination Team who could be doing the contact tracing for a positive case. Having early knowledge of a high-risk contact and isolating oneself, particularly if experiencing symptoms, is essential.

Due to the drastically increased workload that is directly connected to this surge in cases, the strain on those who are managing all levels of the work is reaching a breaking point. **There is an urgent need for more people to help.** We ask anyone who can help with tasks such as making phone calls and sending out emails for contact tracing, helping with data entry, helping with delivery of instruments and other materials, etc, to please write to santecoordination@auroville.org.in.

With all of the above in mind, it is extremely important to **break the chain of the spread of Covid-19 in Auroville**. In order to do this the following **measures must be implemented for at least the next 10 days:**

- Minimize interactions/gatherings with others, even in private houses.
- Close all public buildings/spaces, inc. playgrounds & sports grounds where group sports and games are taking place.
- Units function at 50% capacity.
- Guesthouses not to take new guests during this time period, & moving from one guesthouse to another should be kept to a minimum.
- Construction sites to pause work.
- Work from home and have meetings online.
- Avoid travel unless absolutely necessary, including to Pondy.
- Essential services such as food/grocery outlets, eateries for delivery/takeaway only, financial services, health services, etc, will stay open while ensuring all precautions.
- Services such as Electrical, Telephone, Aurinoco will maintain a level of functioning required to address repairs and other urgent tasks.

Let us all take a conscious break from everything that we are doing currently, and at the same time collectively call for Her protection. Let's stand together to expel this virus from our community and our surroundings.

- The Working Committee and Santé Coordination Team

Revised instructions for construction sites in Covid times

Construction sites may function to continue urgent works that are ongoing at the site. All precautions of wearing masks, maintaining distance, especially during lunch and tea breaks, and provision of sanitizer or hand washing facilities at the entrance to the site need to be ensured, as well as SOP's for construction sites that can be found here. Anyone with symptoms should stay at home.

- The Working Committee

Basket Service details for people in quarantine

As many people ask, here we repeat the details to get basket service if you are in quarantine:

PTDC: Contact Person: Arul,
ptdcbasketservice@auroville.org.in

WApp: +91-9659626618,
<https://consciously.auroville.org.in>

PTPS: Contact Person: Kala, ptpservice@auroville.org.in,
0413- 2622152, <https://consciously.auroville.org.in>

HERS: Contact Person: Thulasi, hers@auroville.org.in,
+91-7598553406, <https://consciously.auroville.org.in>

There will be a permanent link to this info on top of the AuroNet page, in the blue area, so no need to search.

The **Auroville Eco Service** requests all those who have tested **Covid-positive and have symptoms**, NOT to put their waste in the common community barrels. We have been picking up waste in Services but not in communities. Please bear with us till further notice. Thank you. - Eco Service team

The Dashboard of the Pondicherry Government website gives official Covid statistics - # of tests, # of deaths, etc. <https://covid19dashboard.py.gov.in/>. -submitted by Sigrid

WORKING GROUP REPORTS

Community Members for the Housing Board - deadline extended

In accordance with the revised Housing Mandate (<https://auroville.org.in/article/84487>), there are now 5 community-at-large positions on the Housing Board which need to be filled.

We now invite qualified and interested candidates who would like to join the Housing Board to send in a statement of interest and a profile/CV of their qualifications and experience to avcouncil@auroville.org.in by **15th May 2021**.

Please reference the below criteria for membership of the Housing Board extracted from the mandate.

- The FAMC & the Auroville Council

Criteria for membership of the Housing Board

To be a member of the Housing Board, an individual must:

- Be listed on the register of residents for a minimum of five years. In circumstances it deems exceptional, the FAMC may waive this requirement, further to consultation with existing Housing Board members;
- Have a commitment to the Charter and ideals of Auroville;

- Be willing to dedicate their time to the work of the Housing Board in a spirit of goodwill, collaboration and transparency. This includes the ability to work together harmoniously with the other Housing Board and Housing Service members and an acceptance of the need to attend Board meetings regularly and declare any conflicts of interest that have the capacity to cast doubt on the integrity of the Housing Board's decision making;
- A concern for and willingness to work toward the improvement of Auroville's housing situation;
- Display competence in areas of work covered by this mandate;
- Not be subject to any past or current inquiries, investigations or censure that may affect the perception of the member's credibility or the Housing Board's reputation. Any such matters should be referred to the FAMC and the Working Committee for consideration;
- Not own any immovable property or have any undeclared proprietary interest within the Masterplan area of Auroville. This does not apply if the immovable property is family-owned as ancestral lands and the nominee's family members are not residents of Auroville.

AV Service Trust report about PTPS, April 2021

We want to inform you that the process to re-align PTPS to a real service continues. The last steps in this direction are as follows, beginning with the 15 February invitation from the Residents' Assembly Service for all those with the capacities and expertise, to be members of the executive team of PTPS, to respond to this invitation before 1 March. The RA Service sent several reminders.

This was followed by the publication of all the names of people who offered to serve in order to receive feedback from the community for a period of two weeks. The RA Service compiled all the names and all the feedback received and sent copies to the PTPS Transition team that had been constituted by the Service Trust. In total 38 people offered themselves to be part of the new executive team at PTPS. The Service Trust wants to express our appreciation to the RA Service for the excellent work made by them during this crucial period.

The Transition Team reviewed all the information collected, and organised a meeting with all the applicants in the Unity Pavilion on the 20th of April to present the scope of work and the spirit in which it should be done. An additional questionnaire was presented to the applicants in order to obtain more detailed information about each person.

This work will now be followed by personal interviews for in-depth conversations with the Transition Team for a selection of the applicants, in order to gain the maximum knowledge possible about the people who offered to serve. The aim is to select the most capable, integrated and harmonious team possible. As anybody can understand, the process to select from 38 individual applications to arrive at a good and harmonious team of 3 to 4 new executives is going to be a rather complicated exercise. We wish the best to the Transition team in this delicate task.

If everything follows the envisaged plan the Transition Team is expected to send the final list of 3 to 4 potential executives to the Service Trust around the middle of May. The Service Trust will review the recommendation of the Transition Team and if needed, will engage in a dialogue with them if any changes seem appropriate to the trustees. When the appointment of a new executive team is finalized by the Service Trust, as per the usual process of executive appointment, a Trust Resolution will be issued and it will be sent to the FAMC for final consideration and approval.

Auroville Service Trust
 Joseba, Anne, Ponnusamy, Amy, Prabhu, and Ulrich (TOS)

From the AVC: Selection results for the Design Evaluation Panel for Matrimandir

We are glad to let you all know that 5 Aurovilians have been selected to form the Design Evaluation Panel for Matrimandir. These individuals were chosen by the community ratings that were held from March 27th to April 10th.

Architecture: JACQUELINE
 Landscape: MARIE D.
 Engineering: ALOK M.
 Construction: TORKIL
 Community-at-Large: JYOTI KHARE

We thank the 105 Aurovilians who participated in the Selection process. We equally thank the RAS team for conducting the online process together with us. Our next step is to have a meeting with DEP and Matrimandir executives to chart out details of functioning.

Note: The Aurovillian experts who have stepped up for this process come with authenticity, peculiar to them. They have volunteered in several projects around Auroville with the goodwill to serve. We see qualities in all of the candidates qualities that have contributed in a distinctive way to improving the areas of their expertise. They have devoted themselves to sustained and selfless voluntary service and they have shown innovation or creativity in delivering lasting results. All are honored. This selection is only one of the few efficient and community-inclusive ways to create an effective team.

- In Service, Auroville Council and Matrimandir executives

City Services Contributions and Payments - April 2021

A more detailed report is available on the Auronet

Summary	Total
Buffer Opening Balance (BOB)	9,07,49,421
Monthly Contributions (Int. + Ext)	1,15,36,983
Total Contributions (OB+Monthly Inc)	10,22,86,404
Total Payments	1,83,88,135
CS Ending Balance (Includes BOB)	8,38,98,269
<i>Monthly loss/gain</i>	<i>-68,51,151</i>

Internal Contributions

Source	Total
Commercial Units	40,07,953
Services	55,72,256
Aurovilians, Newcomers, & Friends	19,56,775
Internal Total	1,15,36,983

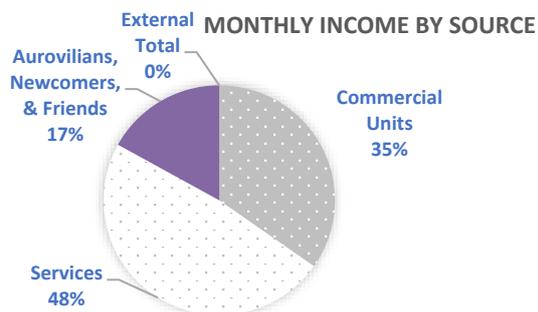
External Contributions

Government of India for SAIER	-
Government of India for Other	-
Other Contribution	-
Project Contributions	-
Foreign Contributions	-
External Total	-

City Services Payment

Heading	Total Payments
Education	3,839,849
Social Support	2,762,668
Children & Youth	1,867,806
Health	1,616,858
Organization	1,514,480
Forests	1,032,177
Village Education	1,002,445
Outreach	933,813
Culture & Sports	836,324
Prosperity Services	671,947
Security	567,001
Farms	544,776
Roads, Cycle Paths, & Transport	332,817
Land	296,364

Matrimandir	186,990
City Planning	150,724
Housing	117,443
Contingency	66,150
Utilities	30,923
Projects	16,579
Total	18,388,135



Contribution Details

Commercial Unit	Total in 33%	Total Contribution
Maroma	406,940	422,940
Eco Femme	222,555	222,555
Tanto	221,749	231,749
The Colors Of Nature	207,940	207,940
La Ferme Cheese	178,205	178,205
Svaram	174,290	174,290
Sound Wizard	143,880	147,380
Sumark	131,410	131,410
C3Stream Land Designs	130,943	130,943
Aurosoya	106,940	107,140
AV Bakery	93,855	93,855
Aureka	87,760	89,760
Varuna(To Commun: Rs.L 14)	82,600	132,600
Miniature	70,820	70,820
Aurospirul	60,410	61,410
Auromics	51,230	60,230
Hers	45,410	45,410
Catami/Dreamers Coffee	38,470	38,470
Mancala	38,470	38,470
AV Consulting	37,165	37,665
Auroville Energy Products	33,470	33,470
AV Online Store	27,760	27,760
Coffee Ideas	26,940	26,940
Kallialay Surf School	24,290	24,290
Cynergy	23,682	23,682
MG Ecoduties	23,470	23,470
EV Future	21,940	21,940
Aurorachana	20,940	22,940
AVA-Wasteless	20,820	20,820
Capability	20,410	20,410
Right Path Café (VC Café)	19,085	19,585
Painting Service	18,470	18,470
Magica	18,210	18,210
Aurinoco Systems	17,350	17,350
Earth Institute	17,350	17,350
Pitchandikulam Forest Consult	17,350	17,350
Tree Care	17,350	17,350
Aurodent	17,350	17,350
Gastronomica	17,350	17,350
Flame	16,940	17,940
Sciroy Pizza	16,940	16,940
Mereville Trust	16,940	16,940
New School Crafts	15,652	15,652
Auroville Papers	15,615	19,815
DUSTUDIO	13,880	13,880
Holistic	13,880	13,880

Commercial Unit	Total in 33%	Total Contribution
Naturellement	13,880	13,880
AFA-Aurora	13,880	13,880
M&M Cheese	13,880	13,880
Worktree	13,880	13,880
ASSA-Ilion	13,880	13,880
Avitra	13,410	26,410
Eco Pro	10,410	10,410
New Dawn Carpentry	10,410	10,410
Progress Landscape	10,410	10,910
Sunlit Future	10,410	10,410
Imago	10,410	10,410
AVA-Centre D'art	10,410	10,410
Tree House Community	10,410	10,410
VSB Computers	10,000	10,000
AAS-Mona	8,675	8,675
Abacus Accounting	8,470	9,470
Aqua Dyn Research	8,470	8,470
To be Two (Auromode)	8,470	8,470
Nala Builders	8,440	8,440
H & S Design	8,355	8,355
Arthena	6,940	6,940
Auroyali Production	6,940	6,940
CSR-AV Design Consultants	6,940	6,940
Cadd Studio	6,940	11,540
Comfort Design	6,940	6,940
Conscious Living	6,940	11,940
Deepam Candles	6,940	6,940
Eutecne	6,940	6,940
Boutique Visitors Center	6,940	6,940
La Terrace	6,940	31,940
Mahasaraswathi Constr.	6,940	6,940
Mandala Pottery	6,940	9,440
Mantra	6,940	6,940
AVA-Mia Studio	6,940	6,940
Mira Computers	6,940	6,940
Mitra Auroville	6,940	6,940
Omega	6,940	7,190
Pragati Construction	6,940	6,940
Tapasya Design Studio	6,940	6,940
Natura	6,940	6,940
Auro Lakshmi Construction	6,940	6,940
AVA-150 DPI	6,940	6,940
ASSA-Aire	6,940	6,940
ASSA-Alter Eco	6,940	6,940
AFA-Auro Amirtham	6,940	6,940
LEAD-Integral Learning Center	6,940	6,940
AVA-Kalya's Delight	6,940	6,940
ASSA-Naham Consulting	6,940	6,940
The Neem Tree	6,940	6,940
OK Upcycling Studio	6,940	6,940
Perceptive Eye	6,940	6,940
ASSA-Raman Constructions	6,940	6,940
School for sust. Managemant	6,940	6,940
ASSA-Studio One	6,940	6,940
Bamboo Center Auroville	6,940	6,940
Shradanjali	6,940	6,940
AVA-Spirit of Leadership	6,940	6,940
AFA-Masala Project	6,940	6,940
AVA-Procultura	6,940	6,940
Lumiere	6,940	6,940
Café 73	6,940	6,940
La Maison Boutique	6,470	6,470
Pottery Sipapu	5,205	5,205
Auromode Trust	5,000	5,000
Joy Postcards	3,770	3,770
AV ARTS-BHU Nausheen	3,558	3,558
Artisan Revolution	3,470	3,470
Atmarati Architects	3,470	3,470
Auroline	3,470	3,470
Aurore	3,470	3,470
AAS-Yatharth	3,470	3,470

Commercial Unit	Total in 33%	Total Contribution
AV Language Lab	3,470	3,470
Auroville Press Publishers	3,470	3,470
Auroville Printers	3,470	3,470
Roads in Construction	3,470	3,470
Auzolan	3,470	3,470
Bon	3,470	5,470
Discovery	3,470	3,470
Earth & Us	3,470	3,470
Ecoteco Pools	3,470	3,470
Freeland	3,470	3,470
Gecko!	3,470	3,470
Kottakarai Food Processing	3,470	3,470
Light Fish	3,470	3,470
Linea Dental	3,470	3,470
Mukti Accounting	3,470	3,470
New Creation Corner Frites	3,470	3,470
PAPUI AND SOMETHINGELSE	3,470	3,470
Path Architects & Planners	3,470	3,470
Pitchandikulam	3,470	3,470
Prakrit	3,470	3,470
Prisma	3,470	3,470
Sagarmatha	3,470	3,470
Sunshine Music	3,470	3,470
Upasana	3,470	3,470
White ant studio	3,470	3,470
Filaure	3,470	3,470
AVA-AF Deko	3,470	3,470
ASSA-Artomic	3,470	3,470
AVA-Aurosystemica	3,470	3,470
AVA-Blossoms	3,470	3,470
AVA-Brainfever Media Produc.	3,470	3,470
AFA-Essence of Nature	3,470	3,470
AVA-Flametree Web Software	3,470	3,470
AVA-Food Laboratory	3,470	3,470
AVA-Hemplanet	3,470	3,470
AVA-Inscapes	3,470	3,470
AFA-Joy Health Food	3,470	3,470
AFA-Natures Gift	3,470	3,470
AVA-Matrigold	3,470	3,470
ASSA-Rocking Bubbles	3,470	3,470
ASSA-Softnet	3,470	3,470
AFA-Solitude Lunch	3,470	3,470
ASSA-Swastika	3,470	3,470
AFA-Taste of Korea	3,470	3,470
AVA-Vikram Devatha	3,470	3,470
Functional Forms	3,470	3,470
Taboo	3,470	3,470
AVA-ATB with AMIR	3,470	3,470
Auro Bacio	3,470	3,470
AVA-Centre de Soins Naturelle	3,470	3,470
AVA-Happy Art Glass Studio	3,470	3,470
Iruita Dreams	3,470	3,470
AV ARTS-Melting Spot	3,470	3,470
AV ARTS-Medi Clown	3,470	3,470
AV ARTS-Nomad Art	3,470	3,470
LEAD-IPK Activities	3,470	3,470
Quantum Mech Training	3,470	3,470
AV ARTS-Valentina Beatriz	3,470	3,470
MO BETTA	3,470	3,470
AVA-Natraj	3,470	3,470
ASSA-Unitary	3,470	3,470
ASSA-Bhakti Mills	3,470	3,470
Eco Fare	3,470	3,470
ASSA-Nirami	3,470	3,470
AVA-Octo Studio	3,470	3,470
AVA-LuMa	3,470	3,470
Akriti Construction	3,000	3,000
Ganesh Bakery	3,000	3,000
ASSA-Selvam Multip.Team	3,000	3,000

Commercial Unit	Total in 33%	Total Contribution
AVARTS-Our Home	2,184	2,184
Unity Transport Service	2,000	2,000
Aurosarjan Trust	2,000	12,500
Bhojanam	1,735	1,735
AVA-Cocoon	1,735	1,735
AVA-Sarvam Computer	1,735	1,735
Stone Age Handicraft	1,000	1,000
AVA-Oceans	1,000	1,000
AVARTS-Compagnie S.D.F	15	15
Inside India	-	350
Boutique D` Av Pondy	-	500
Naturally Auroville	-	3,000
ASSA-Eternal	-	1,500
Total	3,838,353	4,007,953
Percent of Total	96%	100%

Service	Total in 20%	Total Contribution
Auromode GH	116,621	116,621
Center GH	93,137	96,937
Isai Ambalam GH	71,450	71,450
Serendipity	67,012	67,012
Arka GH	65,196	65,196
Afsanah GH	58,017	58,817
Gaia's Garden GH	52,425	52,425
New Creation GH	51,720	51,720
Samarpan GH	41,876	41,876
Swagatham GH	39,126	39,126
Sharnga GH	34,341	34,341
SAIIR-Mitra GH	20,436	20,436
Atithi Griha GH	20,306	20,306
SAIIR-Youth Camp GH	19,410	19,410
Tibetan Bodkhang	17,792	17,792
Aspiration GH	16,366	16,366
Samasti GH	14,334	14,334
Needam GH	11,960	11,960
Verite GH	10,410	10,410
Tanto Far Beach GH (Rs. 1.15 Lak)	6,940	6,940
EUU Moongate GH	6,940	6,940
FRM-Buddha Garden Coll.	5,630	5,630
EUU - Creativity GH	3,470	3,470
EUU - Douceur GH	3,470	3,470
EUU - Sonja & Umberto GH	3,470	3,470
Reve GH	2,220	2,220
Savitri Bhavan Hostel	1,735	1,735
International House	1,200	1,200
Discovery GH	500	500
Subtotal	857,510	862,110
Net Additional Guest Contribut	383,334	383,334
Total	1,240,844	1,245,444

Service	Total	Total Contribution
Financial Services	2,579,240	3,479,590
CS-Visitor Center Parking	210,337	210,337
AVAL-Sadhana Forest	161,550	161,550
Botanical Garden	60,725	60,725
CSR	31,230	31,230
Quiet Healing Centre	24,290	25,290
CS-Working Committee	20,820	20,820
Birth Center	13,880	13,880
Visitor Center	8,675	8,675
AV Arts Service	8,079	8,079
Electrical Services	6,940	6,940
ABC	6,940	6,940
SAIIR - Foreign	6,940	6,940
Citadine	6,940	6,940
Korean Pavillion	6,940	6,940
Thamarai	5,205	5,205
Telephone Service	3,470	3,470
AWS/Water supply	3,470	3,470
New Era Secondary School	3,470	3,470
Sewa	3,470	3,470
La Piscine	3,470	3,470
Red Earth Riding School	3,470	3,470
SAIIR-Supportive Learning	3,470	3,470
Pour Tous Distribution	3,470	3,470
Anntara	3,470	3,470
FRM-Aurogreen Farm	3,470	3,470
FRM-Solitude Farm	3,470	3,470
FRM-Ayarpadi	1,735	1,735
Roads Service Collection	-	197,840
Solar Kitchen	-	28,986
Total	3,198,636	4,326,812

Individual Contributions Details

Source	Total	Total Contribution
School Participation	256,175	256,175
Aurovilian	1,484,435	1,484,435
Newcomer	33,000	33,000
Friends of AV	183,165	183,165
Total	1,956,775	1,956,775

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Guest Registration Service in Town Hall will be **open ONLY in the mornings from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm for the month of May.**

No Gas Bottle Home Delivery for now

This is to inform you that our delivery man is in Nepal and I (Velu) am in quarantine until 10th of May, therefore we are not able to deliver gas bottles for now. Please organize your own gas bottle pickup from Gas Service. Thanks for your cooperation.

Attention Auroville Cashew Growers:

Siddhartha Farm is open to buy Auroville cashews again.
FMI: siddhartha.farm@auroville.org.in or 94888 66332

Dreamers Cafe closed for the next 2 weeks ...

... due to some repairs and VC being closed to visitors. You can still get coffee, cakes, bread & croissants at Marc's cafe in Kulilapalayam. Thank you for your understanding.

LOST AND FOUND

Found - Bike keys, near the Dana/Transformation sign on Thurs 29th April. Two quite new looking keys. Call/whatsapp 7094342407 or email m.b.tildesley@gmail.com.

OBITUARY



Werner Stoff

In the afternoon of Monday, May 3rd, Aurovilian Werner Stoff left his body at the age of 81 in his Prayatna home after a struggle with cancer. Some of his friends were with him.

Werner was a German architect, a Freemason and had lived for a while in Bali, married to a Balinese woman. Later the couple moved to Germany. After the death of his wife, Werner came in 2001 to Auroville and became Aurovilian three years later. By that time he was a renowned architect of 1970's residential villas with a high 'James Bond'-content, and office buildings with a design language 'without corners'. He was also the designer of the iconic Stoff Nagel candlestick holder in the 1960s.



In Auroville he is known for his daring project of transforming the community Prayatna into one of the most densely populated communities of the city, with plans agreed on by Roger Anger for up to 250 people. It would be a 'Gesamtkunstwerk' or "total concept where the inhabitants agreed to live in the architectural art work in exchange for interactions with the designer in order to fashion their living space according to their needs, but always in line with the overall design language and style of the total project.



Werner was a reclusive person and very strictly living according to his project's principles. As it was not easy to find people who were willing to adhere to the concept, eventually only the main building consisting of an office-cum-demo space, as well as 2 spaces for the homeopathic clinic and ~12 living spaces were built in Prayatna in his 'no corners'-design language.

At the same time, Werner also designed abstract sculptures, many new objects for his AuroDesign unit as well as various structures around Auroville, such as housing in Aranya, a temple in Jawadhi hills, a Kallallipattu, design for the new Svaram campus and the cremation space at Auroville's cremation grounds near Adventure, where his remains were cremated in the afternoon of 6 May.

Thank you, Werner, for your high vision of how Auroville could be. May you rest in beauty and peace. OM-

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

From Auroville Vehicle Service

Given the increasing traffic in & around Auroville, we advise everyone to drive carefully & consciously. We remind everyone, **particularly parents & the school boards, not to allow those below the age of 18** to drive any motorbike or scooter. Parents are responsible in case an underage person is involved in an accident. This is punishable with a minimum of 3 mos. prison & a cash fine according to the court judgement.

We also remind everyone not to drive without a valid Indian driving license. The penalty for doing so, esp. in case of an accident, is very heavy & complicated to resolve with the third party, as some Aurovilians have experienced in the past. Driving with a non-Indian national license will not help in India at the time of accident. Only a valid Indian driving license is considered legal.

INSURANCE - We undertake the following insurances for Aurovilians, Newcomers, workers & friends of Auroville:

- **Motor Insurance** - for 2-wheelers, electric vehicles, private cars, commercial vehicles)
- **Health Insurance** - for all ages
- **Travel Insurance** - for international travel
- **Personal Accident Insurance**
- **Home Insurance**

For more info on these insurance policies, see <https://auroville.org.in/article/84752>

The annual premiums for your insurance policies should be paid on time to avoid lapse of the policy, to avoid inspection of the bike for motor insurances and avoid medical check-up for health insurances. No claims for accident compensation can be made in case of lapsed policies. *Note: Do not pay the insurance in your name while the vehicle is not registered under your name. If the name in the registration certificate and in the insurance are not the same, you cannot claim compensation.*

If you are going to be temporarily outside of Auroville, at the time your insurance expires, please bring the papers to us in advance to renew it, so we can do it while you are out of station

Note: Please check motor insurance when you rent a vehicle from the rental shop. If you get into an accident driving a vehicle without valid insurance, you cannot make a claim with your overseas medical insurance.

Auroville Vehicle Service, Town Hall: Mon - Sat, 9 am - 12.30 pm & 2.30 - 4.30 pm. avvehicle@auroville.org.in 0413 262 3302; WhatsApp 94430 74825

VC Cafeteria Take-away & Delivery Menu & Service

We would like to inform you that VC Cafeteria is providing:

- take-away for breakfast, lunch and dinner
- delivery for both lunch and dinner

Delivery service is Rs. 40 in the RZ, Rs. 70 beyond the RZ, and is available within Auroville only. You can find our take-away/delivery menu with updated prices (for Aurovilians, Newcomers and registered Volunteers only) on AuroNet. If you would like to have **updates of special offers and daily menu items, please join our WhatsApp group** by contacting us via WhatsApp 8903963137 or landline 2622248.

We hope this service will be helpful to all, and especially to those who are self-isolating at this time.

~ With care and in service, your VC Cafeteria Team

HEALTH



Immune Booster Drink

We are happy to inform the community that you can now get an immune booster drink called *Jamu*. It has anti-inflammatory, anti-carcinogenic, liver-rejuvenating, immune-boosting & blood purifying properties. Available in plain, jaggery & honey flavors, it can be consumed cold or warm. Drink up to 2 bottles/week, especially

if you feel you need a boost, but don't over-consume. Each bottle includes a label with the recipe, so you can make it at home for your families.

- PTDC members: Available at PTDC every Thursday.
- OTHERS: Pickup at Arka. WA order +91 94454 10443, send your name/order by Monday evening latest. Bring your own bottle(s) for pickup on Thurs., 9-12:00AM. Contribution expected; details at pickup/contact.

Thank you for supporting Arka, and for helping us spread the wellness. -Arka Team

Reminder re: Survey on Health in Auroville

A brief note to remind the 230 + practitioners and healers of Auroville, & the centers who host their practices, that a survey is in their email box, awaiting them to take the time to fill it.

The survey covers all aspects of the practices, including wishes, expectations and reservations from all practitioners, in order to enhance the quality of the work. The survey also tackles possible connections between health and other fields of activity in Av.

Depending on the replies, the possible next steps of this work will be:

- Organizing and presenting the data on Health to the community (No personal data will be shared to the community without one's consent. The report will be at an aggregated level.)
- Creating a web-page on Health in Auroville, under the www.auroville.org.in
- Creating a directory of all practitioners in Auroville
- Launching another survey for the users, to collect their expectations and/or concerns regarding Health
- Improving both safety and quality for patients and clients.

Many thanks, Dan - dan@auroville.org.in

MATRIMANDIR



The Matrimandir Chamber AND the Park of Unity are closed for the time being. We MAY open again on 11th May, depending on the current situation.

~*~*~

NO Meditation at sunset with Savitri on Thursday in the Amphitheatre.

WORK OPPORTUNITIES

Auroville Language Lab is seeking a Tamil teacher

Is Tamil your mother tongue? Are you equally at home (reading, writing, and speaking) in both Tamil and English, and maybe in another language (like French or Hindi) as well? Do you love languages? Do you like meeting people and getting to know them? Do you have excellent computer skills? Do you feel sad when you see non-Tamil speakers speaking only rudimentary Tamil even after many years of living in Auroville? Would you like to work as part of a team (and not on your own/lonely) to help the Language Lab develop a program to help non-Tamil speakers to learn Tamil? If so, please contact us! We are looking for the right person to join our team for Tamil.

We also need some volunteers for specific tasks: Do you have some time to provide a BIG help for our team with a few tasks?

1. We are looking for someone who loves trees to complete the work of identifying all the trees we have planted at the Lab (the botanical name, Mother's Name and the Tamil Name are needed) and entering them precisely onto our Site Map. This work was started by a volunteer in 2017 but we have planted a lot since then!
2. This info needs to be entered into a CADD program once it is complete. That can be done by another volunteer in person or online.
3. We are looking for an internet research fiend! Someone who has a flair for and absolutely loves researching different topics on the Internet. This person has to be ultra-organised and responsive. There are some specific topics we need, some of which are urgent.

Please contact us via email. admin@aurovillelanguage.org.

HR Initiative is a service that helps individual Aurovilians and Newcomers who are looking for suitable work to find it, and to help Auroville units and services who are looking to fill positions to find the right individuals to step in.

Electromechanical Engineer - You have knowledge in electromechanics & hands-on experience in repairs (building infrastructures, water/electrical/AC systems). You will repair (hands-on) medical equipment, plan repair works, write instructions for the use and maintenance of the equipment. You will make sure that all the equipment is in good working condition for smooth functioning of the unit. Part-time; maintenance provided.

Digital Communication & Community Manager You will develop social media tools as per our new brand communication charter (Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, etc.); edit our blog online and organize our video & photo library. You will participate in defining the e-strategy for the launch of the new product/brand internationally, implement this strategy online to boost our sales & presence online, and generate traffic on the website (SEO, etc.). You will also implement & follow up on online direct marketing tools and on our CRM development. You have excellent communication skills in English (written and spoken), French would be a plus; previous experience in the communication field, esp. editing & writing is a plus. Digital skills: ability to use Pack Office tools and graphic design tools with a social media mindset. You are able to work with the IT development team. You have good creative skills, are autonomous, rigorous and have a solution-finder spirit. Full time; maintenance as per experience.

Other positions (please inquire about details):

- o Volunteers for Auro Orchard
- o Volunteer for a Marketing Position
- o Management, Promotion and Fundraising
- o Program Management (volunteer)
- o Senior PHP developer
- o Administrative position

Please contact us for more info or if you are interested in any of these work opportunities or if you are looking for something else. Find us at hriauroville.org or hr_hub@auroville.org.in.

LOOKING FOR

A place to stay: Carmen, Aurovillian, seeks a quiet, peaceful place. If you know of something, contact me at 85310 17772.

Housesitting: Hrishi, a volunteer working w/ Recycle (upcycle) and The Divine Flowers & The Mother's Flower Garden projects, is looking for housesitting. He is an artist w/ skills in handiwork like carpentry, handmade paper craft, cooking, etc. He is a pre-Newcomer (in process) and a resident of Auroville. If anyone can offer him a place, is happy to look after your pets and home well. Contact Rabi 89033 63122, or Hrishi 70116 07985.

Work - Vijaylakshmi, who recently completed her M.Com., is looking for work. She has basic typing & Computer Science skills. If interested: hufreesh@auroville.org.in or 262 3504.

A second-hand keyboard (electric piano), either free or against a contribution, Maiia 9360876928. Thanks!

AVAILABLE

Houseworker - Selvarani, a hardworking, honest woman, is looking for half day work in the afternoons. If interested please email: hufreesh@auroville.org.in or call 262 3504

Pots - Beautiful terracotta pots in various sizes are available at the AV Botanical Gardens. The small ones are ideal for seeds & ground plants, the medium or large size can be used for your balcony or garden where you can even use them for a small tree. Come take a walk in the gardens, and enjoy discovering new spots of beauty.

Organic sun-dried bananas from 9 Palms - Available at Coffee Break, Kulapalayam Main Rd. You can also place an order through: WApp: 76399 99317 / coffeebreak@auroville.org.in.

Voices Notes



Our programs are reduced due to the closure of the radio studio. Av Radio team hope you stay well and safe. Stay tuned!

[Here](#) you can listen to the stream channel (24/7).
[Here](#) you can see on-air schedules.

Last published podcasts:

[Lunaria - ep.14 "Bagalamukhi and Bhairavi"](#) (Women's health)
[Suryamayi's PhD on Auroville - chapt.3 "Contextualising Auroville: The Intentional Community Phenomenon"](#) (Research)
[Happiness, Love and Laughter - ep.101 "Knowing Love"](#) (Wellness)

[Audible Weed Walk - ep.39 "Let's talk Covid"](#) (Food education)
[What do you know - ep. 10 "Soul of Sustainability?"](#) (Yoga & philosophy)

[Happiness, Love and Laughter - ep.100 "Our 6 Superpower Integral Powers: Memory" \(part 1\)](#) (Wellness)

....and more! on www.aurovillerradio.org

For more information write to radio@auroville.org.in

Peace and Love

Miracle

Mira calls
Her children
To come home.

Mira creates
An Auroville
And calls it
A miracle.

Breathe
The air of Auroville
A living miracle



Miracle (Air of Auroville)

Memecylon Tinctorium (Ironwood)
Marvellous, strange, unexpected.

- Anandi Z.

Long-term changes that are required to stop this pandemic and prevent future pandemics

The pandemic has its grips on us again in some way or another, whether we believe in it or not. Covid is not the first pandemic that has struck us. As long as we keep conditions suitable for pandemics to grow, we are at risk as a species. Masks and vaccines may have questionable and short term efficacy in containing the pandemic. We need to think of much more long term solutions, that may initially sound difficult because they imply a lifestyle change for humanity.

The Covid-19 pandemic has shown us that we are all connected. If one patient does not isolate, it's more likely to spread. We all breathe the same air, drink the same water, and live on the same land. There have been several hotspots for Covid - places where the virus multiplies faster than others, and these should naturally be minimized.

Covid may have begun in a **wet market** - animals kept in confinement in large numbers are stressed. They are likely to get diseases, and if the disease-causing organism jumps species, we are likely to get it. In order to control Covid-19, China had initially ordered the closure of all wet markets, and governments all over the world have closed them temporarily at one time or another.

Factory farms, again where stressed animals are kept in close confinement, have been hotspots for pandemics like bird flu and swine flu. **Mink on fur farms** also got and spread Covid-19. **Slaughterhouses** are focal points as well, and **meat packers** all over the world have faced challenges since Covid-19 has spread more here than in other industries. On the positive side, more and more plant-based alternatives to meat and dairy are available that can save both human and animal lives.

Zoos, too, have seen the spread of Covid-19 amongst animals - animals in captivity are naturally stressed and have lower

immunity. The very necessity of zoos is questionable considering the ethics of keeping any animal in captivity.

Habitats for wild animals have been decreasing due to **deforestation and development**. As wild animals come closer to human habitat, there are more chances of diseases jumping from animals to humans. It is well known that **climate change**, a result of **environmental degradation**, is a cause of pandemics and is a greater threat to our species than this particular pandemic.

Densely populated areas have had more trouble containing the spread of the pandemic. As a species we do have an obligation to control our population for a future to be possible for everyone. More and more couples choose to be child-free not just to reduce **population density** but also since they recognise that the future remains uncertain with pandemics and climate change.

Dr Michael Greger, American physician, author, and speaker on public health issues, has been warning against pandemics for over a decade now. Watch also this video: 'Pandemics History & Prevention' https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7_ppXSABYLY.

- Dr Nandita Shah

Sunlit Path

Sri Aurobindo received a classical Western-education in England, studying e.g. Latin and Greek languages. In Latin there is an expression: "sol omnibus lucet" - "the sun shines for everybody". But in India the sun is hotter than in England. Many Englishmen used the sun-helmet in India, but not in their home-land. His Holiness, the Dalai Lama, was born in cool Tibet. He visited Auroville in 1973 and 1993. He said in 1993: "Twenty years ago it was difficult to find the shadows in the city, but now this problem has disappeared."

The name of the sun in Greek is 'Helios'. Biologists use the special terms: *heliotropism*, *producent*, *consumer*. The producers (plants) have positive heliotropism: they are moved mainly by the sun. Consumers (animals) often have negative heliotropism: termites, owls, bats etc. prefer the darkness. What about people? They like the sun in England, but often hide from it in India.

Aurovilians use five of The Mother's names for different kinds of the sunflowers (scientific name - *Helianthus*); one of them is 'Consciousness turned towards the Supramental Light'. The Mother commented: "It thirsts for Truth and will find its satisfaction only in the Truth". In Latin, sunflower is "flos solis". In Italy there is a popular love-song, "O sole mio" - "O my sun"!

Aurovilians have good friends in the Findhorn-community in Scotland. Now in Auroville there is a Scottish book 'Plant Folklore'. There is some funny information in the book: one local name for the sap of 'sun-spurge' (*Euphorbia*) is 'mad woman's milk'. It is used for curing skin. The Mother gave three names for different kinds of *Euphorbia*, one of them is 'Concentration'.

For some years I lived in Aspiration community at the same time as Auroculture. She explained to me that The Mother didn't give the spiritual names to flowers, but received these names from the plants themselves. There is an old tradition that uses the terminology of flower language: every kind of flower has a special significance. But The Mother spoke with the flowers in Her special spiritual language.

There is a famous Latin expression: "lux ex oriente" - Light from the East. Of course, we see sunrise not in the West, but in the East. The Mother arrived in India twice, the second time from Japan. She liked that country so much, especially Japanese children. They have nice names - Shigeko (luxuriant child), Hanako (flower child). I also like the Indian name 'Surya' - sun.

- Boris

**AUROVILLE
FILM
FESTIVAL 22**

Calling Aurovilians, Newcomers, volunteers, school students, residents of Pondy & the bioregion:

Have you made a film after January 2019? Submit it for screening in one of the 3 Auroville

categories at the following link: <https://filmfestival.auroville.org/submissions-2022/>. aurovillefilmfestival@auroville.org.in

CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

Family Constellation Workshop w/ Moghan scheduled for Sat. 15th May is **postponed** until COVID situation allows.

3 Session Stress Management w/ JV Fri- Sun, 7th- 9th May, 6:15 - 7:15 PM

Modern life has led to unprecedented levels of stress and anxiety, with the pandemic further adding to this. Unmanaged stress impairs your productivity, health & wellbeing. Managing stress thus enables you to be more effective in the moment, even in difficult situations/circumstances. This is a non-religious primer on stress management with emphasis on 'how to', with the fusion of scientific research and ancient wisdom of Yoga.

Friday: Science of stress and first-aid for stress
Saturday: Relieving stress and prevention of stress
Sunday: Building resilience

In the spirit of Auroville, this event is open and free to all. Please join on time and mute your microphones muted except when you want to ask a question. As the topics are interrelated, it is best to attend all the three sessions.

You can join using Google Meet on your computer/laptop (Chrome browser reqd.) or Android or Apple smartphone. Click to join: <https://meet.google.com/hut-enpc-bwg>

JV Avadhanulu has been facilitating workshops and retreats in Auroville since 2008. Read more about him [here](#).

Lab & Tomatis Closure



The Language Lab & Tomatis will be closed till **Sunday 9th May**, as a precautionary measure, given the rising Covid cases in Auroville. We hope to re-open on May 10th, but be sure to call & confirm.

❖ **Our New Video!** - raises the topic of the need to construct sustainable buildings which use less energy. It also outlines all the Auroville and non-Auroville knowledge we brought together in our building. Have a look!. (27 mins).

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DEXGZ6YM5IQ>

Important information about News & Notes

Hard deadline for submissions or cancellations: Tuesday 5pm FOR THE ISSUE to be published that SATURDAY (though the digital version generally goes out on Thursday)

The contents of News & Notes are a reflection of the growth process of this community towards its ideals of harmony, goodwill, discipline and truth. Editing of submissions, mainly for reasons of space and clarity, is done according to an established policy. **How to submit material:** Material (no pdf files, please) may be sent (in English only) to: newsandnotes@auroville.org.in.

Please do NOT send submissions and inquiries as a "Reply" to the digital subscription mail. There is NO guarantee that anyone will see communications sent this way!

Please try your best to send your announcements, reports, film schedules whenever they are ready. Please do your best to submit copy that is ready for printing (i.e. Word shows you typos, extra spaces, punctuation errors, etc - don't make us do all the work!).

Articles for the Notes section should ideally be no longer than 500 words.

Visiting hours: Hit or Miss. Please don't come on Tuesday or Wed AM. Call first or email for appointment.

Disclaimer: The views expressed on these pages are those of their respective authors or work groups and do not represent the position of the editors or of the community as a whole. The editors cannot be held accountable for any alleged misinformation given or offense taken. In case of any dispute, the Auroville Council may be consulted and publishing of disputed material suspended.

News & Notes, Media Centre, Town Hall: 0413-262-2133