

AUROVILLE NEWS

No:938

May 11th, 2002

AUROVILLE BASKETBALL CLUBS

(Affiliated to Pondicherry Basketball Association)

ALL INDIA INVITATION BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

For Men and Women from 30th May to 2nd June-2002

Dear Friends,

We, Auroville Basketball clubs will conduct an all India Basketball invitation tournament in the months of May-June 2002. This will be a major event in basketball in Auroville. We will be inviting teams from Pondicherry, Tami Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Chatishgarh and hopefully from Punjab as well. The teams invited to take part in this event will be having the best players in the country, both in the men and women sections, who have represented India in the international events abroad. Amongst the events of this magnitude and nature in basketball in our country, only this tournament boasts of having women teams participating side by side with men's. The program will last four days and we have tremendous task of having to transport, accommodate, feed and encourage the men and women participating by rewarding prizes to the best four teams. With the hope of you lightening our financial burden, we would like to thank you in advance for your generosity and help.

Auroville Basketball Clubs.

HOUSE OF MOTHER'S AGENDA

(Continuation and end of the Conversation of 13 March 1962)

You do understand?

Because it comes from very high - it's not from here, not at all; it was decided on high, and a long, LONG time ago. Before you came here, I was constantly feeling.... Besides, it hadn't been so long without Sri Aurobindo; when Sri Aurobindo was here I had nothing to say, and if I did speak it was almost by chance. That's all. What had to be said was said by him. And when he left and I began to read his books (which I hadn't read before), I told myself, "Well, what do you know! There was absolutely no need for me to say anything." And I had less and less desire to speak. The minute I met you, I began to get interested. "Ah," I thought, "collaboration! ... Something interesting can be done."

None of this is random chance. It's not that we're taking advantage of circumstances, not at all; it was DECREED.

All my life I have always, always felt I had something to say, but that there had to be another instrument to say it, to give it a kind of perfection of form I myself was unable to give. Because that's not my job. It's not my job.

What I can bring to the world are flashes - something that goes beyond, above and through everything that is presently manifested. But I don't have the patience for the concrete, fixed, material form. I could have been a scholar, I could have been a writer, just as I could have been a painter - and I have never had the patience for any of it. There was always "something" moving on too swiftly, too high and too far.

So I greatly appreciate beautiful written form. I love it. There were periods in my life when I read ever so much - I am quite a library! But it's not my job.

Of course not! You didn't come for that....

I like the form of your expression very, very much. It contains something deep, very supple and polished at the same time - like a lovely, finely chiseled statue. There is profound inspiration and a rhythm, a harmony, which I like very much. I really enjoyed reading your first book - the kind of enjoyment that comes from discovering beautiful forms, an original way of looking at things and expressing them. I appreciated it tremendously. Immediately, spontaneously, I ranked you as a true writer.

There you have it. I didn't think it was necessary to keep telling you all these things. But it's true.

Besides, you're totally wrong - it's not WHAT YOU ARE that makes you grumble; it's just the opposite: you see yourself that way BECAUSE you grumble!

There, enough scolding, let's get to work.

I have my pride, and I want the people who work with me to be content; this gives me more pleasure than anything. Of course, ideally.... But one is never truly satisfied, one will never be truly satisfied; one will always go from aspiration to aspiration. But as a base, one should at least feel a sense of purpose in life. You said the very thing that hurts the most!

(Mother gazes at Satprem for a long time)

Petit ...

HOUSE OF MOTHER'S AGENDA

(Suite et fin de l'Entretien du 13 mars 1962)

Tu comprends ?

C'est parce que ça vient de très haut. Ce n'est pas d'ici, ce n'est pas du tout d'ici : c'est quelque chose qui a été décidé de très haut et depuis TRÈS LONGTEMPS – très longtemps. Avant que tu ne sois là, j'avais tout le temps l'impression... D'ailleurs, ça n'a pas été longtemps sans Sri Aurobindo ; quand Sri Aurobindo était là, je n'avais rien à dire et si je disais quelque chose, c'était presque par hasard. C'est tout. Parce que c'était lui qui disait. Et quand il est parti et que j'ai commencé à lire ses livres, que je n'avais pas lus avant, je me suis dit : « Mais voilà ! Je n'avais absolument besoin de rien dire du tout ! » Et de moins en moins, j'avais envie de dire quelque chose. De la minute où je t'ai rencontré, ah ! j'ai commencé à être intéressée par cela, je me suis dit : « Tiens, collaboration, on peut faire quelque chose d'intéressant. »

Tout cela, ce n'est pas un hasard. Ce n'est pas que l'on profite des circonstances, ce n'est pas ça : c'était DÉCRÉTÉ.

J'avais toujours-toujours, toute ma vie, l'impression d'avoir quelque chose qui devait se dire, mais qu'il devait y avoir un autre instrument que moi pour le dire, pour lui donner une sorte de perfection de forme que j'étais incapable de donner moi-même. Parce que ce n'est pas mon métier. Ce n'est pas mon métier.

Ce que je peux apporter dans le monde, ce sont des éclairs – quelque chose qui va par-delà, au-delà et à travers tout ce qui est manifesté actuellement. Mais la forme concrète, fixe, matérielle, je n'en ai pas la patience. Je pourrais être un érudit, je pourrais être un écrivain, comme j'aurais pu être un peintre aussi – et tout ça, je n'en ai jamais eu la patience. C'était toujours 'quelque chose' qui s'en allait trop vite, trop haut et trop loin.

Alors j'apprécie, j'apprécie beaucoup la belle forme, j'aime beaucoup ça. Il y a des périodes de ma vie où j'ai lu tant et tant – je suis une bibliothèque ! Mais ce n'est pas mon métier.

Mais oui ! Mais ce n'est pas pour ça que tu es venue !

Et j'aime beaucoup la forme de ton expression, beaucoup. Ça a, à la fois, quelque chose de profond, de très souple et de ciselé – comme une jolie statuette bien ciselée. Il y a une inspiration profonde et ça a un rythme, une harmonie – j'aime beaucoup ça. Quand j'ai lu ton premier livre, ça m'a fait vraiment plaisir. Et plaisir comme cela : comme la découverte de jolies formes, d'une façon originale de regarder les choses et de les dire. J'ai beaucoup apprécié. Je t'ai mis tout de suite, spontanément, parmi les vrais écrivains.

Voilà. Tout ça, je ne passais pas mon temps à te le dire parce que je pensais que c'était inutile. Mais c'est vrai.

D'ailleurs, tu as tout à fait tort : ce n'est pas CE QUE TU ES qui te fait roger, mais c'est PARCE QUE tu roges que tu te vois comme cela ! C'est juste à l'envers.

Voilà. Maintenant j'ai assez grondé, travaillons.

J'ai mon amour-propre, je veux que les gens qui travaillent avec moi soient contents, c'est de toutes choses ce qui me fait le plus plaisir. L'idéal, n'est-ce pas... ça, on n'est jamais satisfait, on ne sera jamais satisfait – on ira toujours d'aspiration en aspiration. Mais une base, qu'on sente qu'on a une raison d'être. Ce que tu m'as dit est de toutes choses ce qui me vexe le plus !

(Mère regarde longtemps le disciple)

Petit...

PROJECT COORDINATION GROUP REPORT 2002

Members: Guy, Harini, Isha, Jaap, Joseba, Pascal, Sanjeev, Tine, Tineke.

A. FOUNDATION FOR WORLD EDUCATION (FWE)

FWE, an Auroville-friendly funding agency in USA, has been supporting Auroville projects and programmes since 1985. Due to falling stock markets in USA, FWE had to reduce its annual grant allocation for 2002 – 2003 from \$ 68,000 to **\$ 34,000 (approx. Rs 16.30 lakhs)** for which the Project Coordination Group submitted the following grant proposals:

1. Auroville Development Fund 2002-2003

Project Holder: Interim Development Council (IDC)
Objective: to carry out studies and surveys, and to provide seed funds for infrastructure development, water management and green work in the city area.

Budget: \$ 34,755

***Granted:* \$ 9,000 / Rs. 4.32 lakhs**

2. A Tamil Housing Fund

Project Holder: Auroville Housing Service & Tamil Housing Group

Objective: to create a specific fund for improving the housing conditions of Tamil Aurovilians.

Budget: \$ 171,600

***Granted:* \$ 5,500 / Rs. 2.64 lakhs**

3. Forest Enhancement Programme

Project Holder: Forest Group

Objective: to further develop the greenbelt as an indigenous bio-reserve.

Budget: \$ 11,702

***Granted:* \$ 5,000 / Rs. 2.40 lakhs**

4. High School

Project Holder: SAIIER

Objective: to build a wastewater treatment plant on the High School Campus next to Transition School.

Budget: \$ 14,043

***Granted:* \$ 5,000 / Rs. 2.40 lakhs**

5. Management Training & Development Program (see details in Section C)

Project Holder: Project Coordination Group

Objective: to support the annual adult education fund, which gives an opportunity to Aurovilians to attend workshops, seminars, training courses, etc. in India and abroad, provided the programme is related to their work in Auroville.

Granted: \$ 4,000 / Rs. 1.92 lakh

6. Books & Teaching Materials for AV Schools

Project Holder: Auroville School Board & SAIIER

Objective: to support Auroville schools with an annual grant for books and teaching materials.

Budget: \$ 5,500

Granted: \$ 3,500 / Rs. 1.68 lakh

7. Auroville Library

Project Holder: Auroville Library Team

Objective: to purchase books and reference material for the Auroville Library.

Budget: \$ 2,000

Granted: \$ 1,500 / Rs. 72,000

8. Auroville Music Library

Project Holder: Auroville Music Library Team

Objective: to purchase music and other audio material for the Auroville Music Library.

Budget: \$ 2,000

Granted: \$ 500 / Rs. 24,000

B. STICHTING DE ZAAIER

Stichting De Zaaier, an Auroville-friendly foundation in The Netherlands, has been supporting Auroville projects and programmes since 1987. The following grant proposals for a total request of **Euro 52.739 (approx. Rs 22.15 lakhs)** were accepted for funding in the financial year 2002 – 2003:

1. Asia Urbs Project: Innovative Urban Management

Project Holder: Auroville's Future

Objective: to create an Auroville Municipal Management Facility consisting of a building, equipment and human resources through which the activities of Auroville's present urban and regional

development services can be integrated and enhanced in a more effective way.

Budget: Euro 732.530

Granted: **Euro 9.090 / Rs. 3.82 lakhs**

2. Pour Tous 2

Project Holder: Pour Tous Team

Objective: to set up a new food distribution service in Auroville's city centre.

Budget: Euro 86.430

Granted: **Euro 9.090 / Rs. 3.82 lakhs**

3. Development Fund for New Forest Communities

Project Holder: Forest Group

Objective: to set up a new forest communities' development fund that will provide both grants and loans to Aurovilians undertaking reforestation work in order to cover some of the costs for basic infrastructure, such as water systems, storage rooms, and tools.

Budget: Euro 7.855

Granted: **Euro 7.275 / Rs. 3.05 lakhs**

4. Auroville Farms Investment Fund

Project Holder: Farm Group

Objective: to meet infrastructure investments of the Auroville farms.

Budget: Euro 379.870

Granted: **Euro 6.365 / Rs. 2.67 lakhs**

5. Auroville Language Learning Centre

Project Holder: Language Learning Centre Team

Objective: to further develop the language-learning laboratory in Auroville.

Budget: Euro 9.579

Granted: **Euro 9.579 / Rs. 4.02 lakhs**

6. Kitchen Garden Training Centre

Project Holder: Stephane & Poonam

Objective: to offer training in vegetable food production.

Budget: Euro 6.340

Granted: **Euro 6.340 / Rs. 2.66 lakhs**

7. Production & Use of Plant Oil for Combustion as a Substitute for Fossil Fuel (Diesel)

Project Holder: Manfred

Objective: to promote the production and use of renewable plant oil from the indigenous *pongamia pinnata* tree, thereby replacing the harmful, non-

renewable fossil diesel oil at a reasonable cost.

Budget: Euro 5.000 (2nd year)

Granted: **Euro 5.000 / Rs. 2.10 lakhs**

In addition, Stichting De Zaaier donated on its own initiative **Euro 144.940 (approx. Rs. 60.87 lakhs)** towards the following projects:

- Aurosoya: Euro 3.180 / Rs. 1.34 lakh
- Auroville Library: Euro 2.270 / Rs. 95,340
- Bindu's Scholarship: Euro 3.950 Rs. 1.66 lakh
- Centre for Urban Research: Euro 121.430 / Rs.51 lakhs
- KOFPU: Euro 2.270 / Rs. 95,340
- Social Research Centre: Euro 11.840 / Rs. 4.97 lakhs

This brings the total contribution from Stichting De Zaaier to Euro 197.679 (approx. Rs. 83 lakhs). Special mention should be made of the considerable grant of Rs. 51 lakhs towards the Centre for Urban Research (previously called Town Hall Annex). Through this generous donation Stichting De Zaaier became the largest donor to the Centre for Urban Research, thereby demonstrating again its commitment to support public community buildings in Auroville. The board members, of which Mia Berden and Henk Thomas are well known to many Aurovilians, confirmed herewith the importance Stichting de Zaaier gives to the development of Auroville as a collective. As expressed by both of them: "This is a gift for the whole community!"

C. MANAGEMENT TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT (MT&D) PROGRAM

Since 1988, the Foundation for World Education has been funding an educational programme offering training, research and other learning opportunities to Aurovilians. The following Aurovilians are participating this year in various educational programmes:

1. Adil (Aspiration)

Programme: Pottery Workshop (3 days)

Location: Mendocino Art Center, California, USA

Budget: Rs. 20,000

2. Alain C. (Samasti)

Programme: Project Cycle Management & Logical Framework Analysis (3 days)

Location: Brussels, Belgium

Budget: Rs. 35,000

3. Anita & Joss (Pitchandikulam) & Paul (Fertile)

Programme: Restore the Earth Conference (6 days)

Location: Findhorn, Scotland

Budget: Rs. 20,000

4. Dorothee (Certitude)*Programme:* Introduction to GIS (weekend)*Location:* Aurobrindavan, Auroville*Budget:* Rs. 1,000**5. Fabian (Auroville Building Centre)***Programme:* 3D Studio Max (4 weeks)*Location:* Auroville*Budget:* Rs. 5,000**6. Gerard & Surya (Sincerity)***Programme:* International Film Festival (10 days)*Location:* Kerala*Budget:* Rs. 7,500**7. Hans P. (Silence)***Programme:* Intersolar 2002 (3 days)*Location:* Freiburg, Germany*Budget:* Rs. 5,000**8. Hendrik (Simplicity)***Programme:* Production de Spiruline Artisanale (1 week)*Location:* France*Budget:* Rs. 12,000**9. Kalyani (Djaima)***Programme:* Kalaripayattu Final Steps (1 month)*Location:* Kerala*Budget:* Rs. 12,500**10. Mawite (Acceptance)***Programme:* Business Communication Skills (7 weeks)*Location:* New Delhi*Budget:* Rs. 13,000**11. Mita (Centre Field)***Programme:* (1) Visit to Institute CAREL (3 days) and (2) Research work with Mme Tomatis on language learning via sound frequencies (2 weeks)*Location:* (1) Royan, France (2) Carcassonne, France*Budget:* Rs. 40,000**12. Namah (Fraternity)***Programme:* Theory and Practice of Hatha Yoga and Yoga Nidra (1 month)*Location:* Bihar **Budget:** Rs. 7,000**13. Santhaseelan A. (Fraternity)***Programme:* Computer Education (3 months)*Location:* Pondicherry*Budget:* Rs. 12,000

Stephan , Isha and Janet have been circulating in the past month. This issue will be discussed at the next meeting when attendance will be higher.

Islan told the meeting that he would like to live on and take care of a forest plot adjacent to Minati , Ferile windmill and Revelation. He has spoken to Patrick(R) who is favourable to it. He hasn't spoken to Vijay and it was recommended he would do so and also would follow the usual process of submitting a site plan along with objectives for development and funding.

Renu reported on the unresolved attempt to form a new greengroup. Subsequently she continued on her own to contact Aurofuture , Patrick(R) and Regina. Regina is willing to do a survey on the greenbelt lands , regarding general vegetation and contour bunding . Furthermore she suggested to start networking with existing environmental groupings in India and abroad, to share research applications and learning opportunities. And what to think of greenbelt excursions for Aurofuture office staffmembers.

Jaap mentioned the twofold approach towards environmental issues. First there is the greengroup that has a mandate for greenbelt issues. Secondly there could be a subgroup that serves as an environmental-watchdog-group that could assess existing green assets with a mandate of preservation , concerning Auroville and its bioregion.

We shared our concerns on tendencies in Auroville to put ideas and ideals before common ecological sense. For example the trees of the MM-outergardens that would have to be cut in case of a decision for constructing a huge lake around MM. There we have more than 250 different species of trees, exotic and indigenous most of which are seeding trees and therefore valuable genetic source material. (apart from being a beautiful natural asset)

David informed us on the possible allocation of AV-land in Sidharta farm towards a village handicrafts project.

Rajendran , Velu , and Segar presented their proposal for a 4,5 acre plot in the northern greenbelt area. This area needs some coordination effort, it was felt and the local land stewards (when all have returned) together with the aspiring landstewards could meet first to share their ideas on land use and strategies for land purchase.

A piece of Verite and the ponyfarm are areas where we should make assessments to let the planners know the value of the green assets there.

Balan said that as of this month he would not need an AV maintenance since the project that was granted to him will support him for the next two years
Next meeting in Udoumbu.

Forestgroup meeting on 4-5-02 at the Ponyfarm

Present: Dirk (chair) , Jaap , Jaap E , Hans , Hans N , Glenn , Perumal , Rita , Sarah , Renu , Kannappan , Didier , Matri Prasad , David , Balan , Sydo (notes) , Islan , Sunny , Edzart

E-mails regarding the Greengroup Issue from Christo ,

I.D.C. Meeting Report 16.04.02

Present Joseba, Aurovici, Peter A., Jacques, Sonja (Secretary), Eugen (Consultant), Jill
 Observers: Steward, Anupama, Ulli, Theo

I.D.C. Meeting 19.04.02

Present: Peter, Eugen (Consultant), Joseba Jacques, Sonja (secretary), Dharmesh
 Guests: Mr. Alligretto, Sauro, Pashi, Jane, Lalit,

Multimedia Centre

A Multimedia Centre will be build close to the Town Hall annex to complete the services offered by the Town Hall with a generator / utility. Infrastructure will be shared. The Multimedia Centre will offer a large conference room and cafeteria for any events happening there and for the daily needs of those working there, a browsing centre. Auroville's Future graphic section will be there, too. The funding is covered by a grant from Gateway - 80 Lakhs for the building and 20 Lakhs for infrastructure.

Auroville Roads

The recent closing of some roads in Auroville has created some accidents (luckily not very serious). In spite of the warning in the News about the closing of the track from Sharnga / Samasti to Prayatna / Arati, and bushes / branches which were placed as obstacles to redirect traffic, someone was involved in an accident there. There have also been some incidents involving a lorry being stopped and then blocked by a big bund across the road without prior warning.

The IDC would like to remind everybody that roads cannot be open or closed without information given to the community at large, and without previous approval of the IDC. This means that the Road Service has to work in closer collaboration wit the IDC.

Red Earth Riding School and Brihaspati

Cataline from RERS approached the IDC to discuss moving to Brihaspati.

The FAMC was already involved and formed a subgroup from members of the Housing Service, the IDC and the Farm Group. The subgroup shall study the matter and find a solution.

The IDC has some objection to this - on the one hand because the IDC is the only body to take decisions on that land after members of the Brihaspati community left, but in principle there is not much objection to RERS and Pony Farm. It should be mentioned, however, that it will be difficult for the children to go to Brihaspati, because the location is out of the Green Belt and across the tar road. The Riding Schools have to organize buses to pick the children up at school and bring them back.

A pre-feasibility study should be made by RERS before any decision can be taken. Is farming viable there? If RERS goes there is the access road adequate for the traffic involved?

If the Pony Farm goes there, also is the infrastructure strong enough to support the three activities?

Is the environment adequate for the children to horse ride?

What are the relations with the village nearby?

Dharmesh mentioned that the FAMC subgroup will not take their decision right now.

The Farm Group is open to the possibility that RERS and Pony Farm will move together to Brihaspati, and RERS is open to move together with some Aurovilians who want to continue farming there.

It should be clearly mentioned, that there have to be some guidelines and rules to do farming at Brihaspati, as there is a slightly difficult situation to do this work there. Jayavel, one of the Aurovilians, wants to develop a nursery and do farming. The fact that he is from Edayanchavadi could smooth the situation between Edayanchavadi and Brihaspati / Auroville.

Mr. Alligretto, town planner of Venice

Mr. Alligretto visited Auroville for one week to collect as much information as possible to study Auroville planning and to make suggestions under the Asia Urbs program for a better development. On Friday the 19th of April he joined our meeting, so we and members of Aurofuture could discuss with him certain aspects of town planning. Mr. Alligretto showed us his point of view on town planning by explaining his way of working in Venice, Italy. He said that Auroville as a city and it's development are unusual, and that we should have a certain flexibility to handle situations. He gave us some helpful indications for a better overview of our present situation. He likes to see the vision of Auroville kept alive and accomplished one day.

Sukhavati

Marc approached the IDC to clarify the rumour about Sukhavati. He stated that a meeting will take place at Sukhavati for the information of the residents about future developments of Sukhavati by Jana. Jana, the architect of Sukhavati, told her neighbours in Madhuca, that she will present her plans about Sukhavati in this meeting. She stated that the IDC wants to build multi-story houses with high density only, which she is not willing to do. According to Marc, the members of Madhuca community got scared of the future development in this area. The IDC told Marc that no conclusions have been reached right now, about what Jana could present to the community. The last plan submitted by her was not accepted by the IDC, because the clearly stated conditions (prescribed

density and affordable buildings) have not been respected.

Questions have also been raised about the process of decision making used by Jana.

Marc will attend this meeting and ask all people to meet and speak also with the IDC.

Building Applications are waiting two weeks for feedback

Carsten, Auroshilpam closed to CSR, with access through CSR, workshop for electronics, with not more than 10 workers

Vinay, Kottakarai village (temple), little extension of his house for septic tank and toilet

ECONOMY TASK GROUP SHORT REPORT ON OUR DISCUSSIONS HELD IN MARCH AND APRIL 02

What We Are: During an FAMC meeting in January this year, a sub-group was formed to prepare the topic of maintaining Aurovilians for further discussion by the FAMC, and eventually for the community at large. It quickly became apparent that a thorough look at our economy as a whole would be needed to see how Aurovilians could be better taken care of. The conclusion of the sub-group was to request the FAMC to recommend the formation of a special task group to come up with a proposal(s) for another dynamism to energize our economy. This need was recognized and the Economy Task Group was created for a specific purpose: with the mandate to produce an action plan and to identify the agents that would bring about change. The aim is to have practical proposals that would be a translation of our wish to move towards a common vision. Discussions about how to go about this began in March. **(At the end of this report is reproduced the full request submitted to and approved by the FAMC.)**

Our Members: Divya, Donald, Gilles G., Jean-Yves, Joster, Marc, Naradi, Olivier, Otto, Pala, Priya, Stuart, Shwetaketu. Ulli. .

Extended Discussion Group: **Abha, Ananda, Carel, Christian, Claudine, Isha, Kathryn, Laura, Paul, Serge, Shivaya.**

Participation: We have two levels of participation – our regular meetings or a wider group who receives our weekly 'rough notes' and give feedback as appropriate. Any Aurovilian or Newcomer is welcome to participate; please contact Olivier who is the convener of the group. Phone: La Ferme 622212 or Olivier@auroville.org.in

Our Aims and Goals: In its first meeting the group considered what its aims and goals should be using as a guiding reference Sri Aurobindo's thoughts on the economy

of a Spiritualised society.

"The aim of its economics would be not to create a huge engine of production, whether of the competitive or the cooperative kind, but to give to men—not only to some but to all men each in his highest possible measure—the joy of work according to their own nature and free leisure to grow inwardly, as well as a simply rich and beautiful life for all". Sri Aurobindo Volume: 25 [CWSA] (The Human Cycle), Page: 257

This would require a redefinition of the roles of capital, labour, money etc as well as the relationship between them.

1. **Collecting Data:** From the beginning it was acknowledged that our knowledge of the reality of some aspects of the Auroville economy were neither up to date, nor comprehensive. Various suggestions were made as to what empirical data might usefully be obtained, on the basis of which it would be possible to formulate a new economic policy. Discussions focused on the following:
 - **Study of the community budget** to determine the current budget, functioning and future needs of all the services. This would include a discussion of the differences and similarities of what are presently called 'units' and 'services' and perhaps the taking on of a more appropriate naming system.
 - **Study of basic needs** by examining spending patterns of individual budgets. This is being carried out with circle participants willing to involve themselves in this study.
 - **Study of the level, adequacy and source of income of all Aurovilians.** Some considerable time was spent on the formulation of a questionnaire similar to that used in a previous economic study during the 1980's.
2. **Other sources of information examined included:**
 - **A presentation of the results of the survey of commercial units undertaken by Henk, Manuel Thomas, Harini and Stuart** was listened to and their database and analysis of the findings will be of considerable benefit to the ETG.
 - The ETG was invited to attend the **Central Fund Distribution meeting for April hosted by the Economy Group** to observe its monthly discussion and disbursement of income. It was during this meeting that the ETG became very aware of the Economy Group's wish to open to wider community participation and a restructuring which would enable the community to move closer to an economic functioning more in line with the ideals of Auroville.
3. **Other ideas raised were:**
 - To carry out an experiment of a **Gift Economy** where we move beyond salaries and maintenance

system to a gift economy based on free giving. This has been formulated in some detail and has been presented to the community for consideration. (See paper entitled "Who Wants a Gift Economy?" Published on the AV Net recently and in this week's issue, 11th May, of the AV News)

- To build a more open and transparent atmosphere with regard to the many realities of our economic functioning by making a **list of FAQ's**. (Frequently asked questions). This is being worked on and will be made accessible on the AVnet and in the AVnews. If you have any questions that you would like to see included please contact Naradi.

Throughout these discussions, and particularly in relation to the collection of information, it has become evident that without a clear definition of our aims and objectives the work could be rendered meaningless. We have therefore decided that we will spend some time focusing on our directions and ultimate goal.

Submitted by the Economy Task Group 2 May 2002

Addendum: Maintaining Aurovilians: Or, the Need for a New Kind (of) Economy

As proposed in a recent FAMC meeting, a sub-group was formed to meet once to prepare the topic of maintaining Aurovilians for further discussion by the FAMC.

During this one meeting of the sub-group, it quickly became apparent that a thorough look at our economy as a whole would be needed for Aurovilians to be taken care of well.

Early on we agreed that there is a need to:

- Identify the problems that exist
- Identify the persons or groups that are affected by the problems
- Try to find solutions

That we could look at:

- Which sections are under cared for
- How to provide for unfulfilled needs through our own goods and services
- How to utilize Auroville's capital to provide for the basic maintenance of all Aurovilians in kind, through investment in the development of supporting activities

It was expressed that a healthy economy would:

- Take care of everyone
- Honor all individuals and activities with attention
- Be one and whole, inclusive of diversity

We further agreed that we do not have the "right system" now because it does not engender a sense of gratitude for the way things come, the way they are distributed. It is of primary importance to find the way to create such an atmosphere and such a system.

The outcome of our meeting is a unanimously supported request to the FAMC to recommend the formation of a special task group to come up with a proposal(s) for another dynamism to energize our economy.

It is envisaged that this task group would be endorsed for a specific purpose and would be given:

- A certain time frame in which to work.
- The base of a common understanding as to the direction in which this new kind (of) economy would have to develop.
- The mandate to produce an action plan and to identify the agents that would bring about change.

The aim is to have practical proposals that would be a translation of what we aspire for: a line of action that moves towards a common vision.

In order to reach this aim the task group would need to have:

- A fully dedicated core group who would take responsibility to coordinate the various aspects of the task in hand
- A convener and the assistance of note taker-cum-secretary
- The support and collaboration of all working groups that form the FAMC as well as that of all other groups, activities, projects and individuals in Auroville
- A comprehensive approach while looking at generating funds, investments, provision of necessary goods and services, personal maintenance, as well as any and all other aspects of the Auroville Economy.

Should the FAMC agree to endorse this proposal, the next step would be to propose names of those who would be part of this endeavour.

The FAMC Sub-group on Maintaining Aurovilians, 18 January 2002

(Ane, Guy, Isha, Joster, Minh, Olivier, Pala, Vidya)

DISCLAIMER

THE AV NEWS EDITORS TAKE NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THIS PUBLICATION, WHICH ARE NOT NECESSARILY ALWAYS SHARED BY THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE.

From the Economy Group

The April Central Fund Distribution Meeting (income and expenditure chart printed elsewhere in this issue) was unusual in that the newly formed Economy Task Group had been invited to attend. For the benefit of our ten guests, the meeting opened by giving a brief history of the Central Fund and a general introduction to the workings of the Economy Group. The meeting then proceeded to take up regular topics all the while answering questions from Task Group members on policy, group dynamics, internal functioning and the need for more details and clarification. Among the several topics for discussion were budget requests from Abri Vehicle Repair Service, a preliminary look at the all school budget for 2002-2003, as well as the “alternatives to pesticides” environmental project which many of you may have heard about, or seen the table set up on the road, opposite to the Solar Kitchen. A look at what went on during this meeting is categorized under several headings.

The Service Sector

A letter was received from the Abri Vehicle Repair Service requesting an increase in the maintenance budget and for funds for investment. Discussion occurred on how this service is functioning and what image it has. There were two schools of thought on possible responses:

- 1) Centralize by integrating and combining this service with others in the area: solar, water and electric
- 2) Assist the team in organizing themselves differently; some essential data that could help them to prepare a budget would be to know:
 - a) How many people use the service per month and is there an increase in users?
 - b) What are the actual monthly running expenses? c) What is the income from other sources?

It was felt essential that this service keep a stock of spare parts that would save in resources such as time/petrol management. To begin with the figures of their income and expenditure need to be looked at in more detail.

If the Central Fund does not subsidize motorcycle repair, in affect, it promotes cycle usage. How to move beyond the “motorcycle” culture that has developed? With more than one thousand motorized two-wheelers and an additional number of three and four wheelers, Transportation is an issue the community may be forced to address in the near future.

Costs of Education in Auroville

The SAIIR representatives who had come to the meeting made it clear that education in Auroville is struggling financially. Gateway has been contributing support for the past 5 years in the hope that recurring expenses such as teachers’ maintenance could be found from other sources of income, including grants, so as to become self-sustainable. There is no clear indication that the budget for the upcoming school year can be fully met. It was suggested that as there is a team for raising funds for land, so there could be a team to explore possibilities specifically for finding support for education and educational research. Parents and other interested people could be approached to initiate and set up such

a fundraising body.

Good, free education is one of the attractions for Newcomers to Auroville but this is becoming increasingly difficult to continue. Parents of children in the elementary schools are asked to contribute what they can extra but this is not mandatory. There could be more parental involvement and awareness about the current crisis in the schools.

In the next two years a new elementary school will have to be organized as Transition is full and Deepanam is expected to quickly reach maximum capacity. In addition, the “baby boom” of 2000-2001 is pushing crèches and the Kindergarten to the limit. A project for a Teacher’s Training Hostel is in the pipeline.

The internal Auroville Economy is not strong enough to financially support our dream of an educational society where all forms of research, experimentation and self-autonomous education are encouraged so as to build up the ideal of the *Learning Society*. Also, some forms of alternative education have a high teacher to pupil ratio that is necessarily more expensive than conventional exam based systems.

New Initiatives

Recognition was given to the significant amount of energy and interest gathered around the “alternatives to pesticides” environmental project focused by Njal and Rita. Their dedication is much appreciated.

Income to the Central Fund

One important piece of information was that although the total income to the Central Fund was more than a year ago, it was proportionally less for the particular time of year, mainly due to fewer guests. There has also been a decrease in regular contributions from several units. If this trend continues, it will be an even more difficult challenge to take care of all the needs in the months ahead.

An Innovative Configuration

The Economy Group has stated that it wants to ‘dissolve’ and clarified that it is important to connect with the larger community in another way as a step towards a decentralization of the structure of the Central Fund and that there is a need to look specifically at where decentralization could occur. The present group is overburdened with day-to-day concerns, with little time to visualize or experiment. An innovative configuration of different participants with fresh energy could stimulate creative processes.

The present and previous Economy Groups have been among the main focalizers for a number of seminars and workshops. For these as well as for the ongoing work to be both relevant and future oriented, there is a need for the direct, active participation of members from other groups such as the ABC, the Executive Council, the Board of Education, etc. The energy flows in a more constructive manner when the connections integrated. The Economy Group looks forward to the revitalization an overall new organization for Auroville could bring.

**C I N E M A - Bharat Nivas - AUDITORIUM
FRIDAY 17 MAY - 7.30 PM**

(Film show starting at 7.45 sharp)

BILLY ELLIOT

Directed by Stephen DALDRY - U.K. 2000

With: Jamie Bell, Gary Lewis, Julie Walters, Jamie Draven, Jean Heywood, Adam Cooper

Synopsis: Set in a coal-mining community in 1984 Northern England tells the story of a rather dreamy eleven years old kid who embarrasses his gruff father and older brother by abandoning his boxing lessons to join the next door ballet classes.... (Original English version - Duration: 1h.50" - 35mm film - Colour)

VENDREDI 17 MAI - 19h.30 (le film commence à 19h.45 précises)

BILLY ELLIOT

Réalisé par Stephen DALDRY - U.K. 2000

Synopsis: Dans une cité minière du nord de l'Angleterre, en 1984, Billy, un garçon de 11 ans embarrasse un brin son grand frère et son père - tous deux mineurs, en grève- lorsqu'ils apprennent que Billy déserte ses cours de boxe pour aller rejoindre le cours de danse classique voisin... (Version originale Anglaise - Couleur - 1h50')

... from Mother on Cinema ...

We invite you to read (or read again) in "Mother's Agenda", Volume 9, the conversation of 29 May 1968; and "On Education", 30 January 1970 and 25 February 1972...

Aurofilm

GERMAN VIDEO

**Wednesday, 15.May
Visitor's Center 8 pm**

Shine-Der Weg ins Licht (2000 , GB)

Geoffrey Rush, Armin Müller-Stahl, Noah Taylor, Lynn Redgrave

Die wahre Geschichte des Pianisten David Helfgott, der lange Zeit in psychiatrischen Kliniken verschwand, um schliesslich durch die Liebe einer Frau wieder den Weg auf die Bühne zu finden. Sensationell!

NO MORE PESTICIDES

1. A/C NO: 0648 FOR PESTICIDE VICTIMS IN KERALA has received **only Rs. 3292/-** so far. The victims are real people but absolutely incapable of helping themselves. Telling their story to the world has certainly helped to raise awareness about the horrible ill-effects of chemical pesticides. We appeal once more to the Auroville Community on their behalf. They need money for their daily sustenance, medical care as well as the court case. In June, we will send a first cheque (for whatever amount there will be collected on a/c 0648 as on 31.05.02) to Shri. Padre, who was instrumental in exposing the endosulfan tragedy in Kerala and who is now coordinating aid to the victims.

2. The banner "NEEM SPRAY TRAIL AREA" went missing between Saturday (4.5) to Sunday (5.5). PITY! Nevertheless, we will be present on the plot, in the late afternoons, for some more days/weeks, to continue giving information and receiving feedback. At other times, people can come to our house at Center Field.

3. Thanks to all of you who have supported this action

Rita and Njal

AMPHITHEATER

Thursday the 16th of May at 6 p.m. we will listen to

The Book of Fate Canto I

of Sunil's music with Mother reading the poem of Savitri.

Savitri has come on Earth to defeat Death thus allowing the advent of a New Creation based on Light, Love and Truth.

All are invited to share a wonderful moment together at the very center of our community.

The Auroville Health Centre staff will go on a tour, therefore the Health Centre will be closed for Doctors consultation on 23,24,25.May 2002.

AVHC-Team

Russian Pavilion Information

The working group of the Russian Pavilion meets regular on Sundays at 9 am at Centre for Further Learning. At present we are planning in details the work of the Pavilion. Everybody is invited. Russian language is the medium. With love RP group

Letter tp all the Taxi Services

To: 2nd May, 2002

New Creation Transport Service
MM Mother's Travels
Rajaram Taxi
Narayanswamy Taxi Service
SAIIR.
Dear Sir,

There have been complaints of speeding and reckless driving by taxis, cars, buses and delivery vehicles in Auroville. In view of these complaints, please instruct your drivers to abstain from speeding and reckless driving in the roads of Auroville. The Auroville Guards have been instructed to keep an eye on vehicles and file in complaints against vehicles that are driving irresponsibly. Also, please send us details of the make, registration number and colour of all the cars you have registered under your organisation.

Thanking you and expecting your co-operation,

Yoursincerely,

Ulli (For the Working Committee)

SAVITRI BHAVAN**SUMMER OPENING TIMINGS**

MONDAY - SATURDAY

9 - 12 AM

THE HUMAN CYCLE

KITTUREDDY

resumed his class on Sundays 5 - 6.30 pm

from Sunday the April 28th

SAVITRI STUDY CIRCLE

CONTINUES UNINTERRUPTED

SUNDAYS 10.30 - 12 AM

CULTIVATING CONCENTRATION

With Dr. Jai Singh

MONDAYS & FRIDAYS 5.30 - 6.30

**OTHER CLASSES WILL RESUME FROM
MIDJUNE**

**SOLAR PUMPING SUBSIDY SCHEME
2001- 2002**

Incredibly late this year, but in the **last minute** there is still a possibility for Aurovillians to order a Solar Pumping System (SPS) under the 2001-2002 (last financial year) central government subsidy scheme.

The **deadline is May 20th 2002**, so you have to act fast.

Cost of the systems on offer (full payment):

- 1800 W_p SPS with 2 HP centrifugal surface pump: Rs 1.15 Lakh.
- 900 W_p SPS with 1 HP centrifugal surface pump: Rs 65,000.

(Unfortunately there are **no SPS with submersible pumps** on offer this time).

We can offer a **Hire-Purchase** scheme to Aurovillians whereby the SPS can be paid off over a period of **24 months**.

For this HP scheme the costs will be as follows:

- 1800 W_p SPS with 2 HP centrifugal surface pump: Rs 1.30 Lakh.
- 900 W_p SPS with 1 HP centrifugal surface pump: Rs. 75,000/-

The centrifugal surface pumps have a total dynamic head of about 15 meters only.

The system is supplied with tracking support structures, cables and foundations. Installation and transportation costs will be extra at actuals.

A limited number of pumps will be allotted to us under this scheme. We are booking orders on a first-come-first-serve base.

Please note that in the new scheme solar pumps cannot be used for battery charging.

For any further information, please contact **Hemant** or **Jos van den Akker** at:

Auroville Renewable Energy (AuroRE)

CSR office, Auroshilpam, Auroville 605 101

Ph. 0413-622749 / 622168 / 622277

Fax 0413-622057

Email: aurore@auroville.org.in

Would you like to share a taxi with me to CHENNAI AIRPORT, on wednesday the 22ND of MAY, leaving at 1.30PM from Repos?

Bhaga (at 622328, or bhaga@auroville.org.in)

Dear Aurovilians, Newcomers and Friends,

As many of you know, in March 2000 the construction of phase one of a Secondary School Campus was begun. A library, computer lab and various science labs are the central facilities crucial for a further development of secondary education so these facilities were given a priority in this first phase.

The building is now coming close to the finishing stage. Right now the final grills are being put on the windows, and then we will be able to put the flooring. Those of you who saw the original plans will notice some changes and adaptation of space.

A core group of people has been meeting regularly to not only follow the construction of the campus, but also discuss the type of education we would like to offer the Aurovilian young people and share ideas on how to implement these ideas.

We would now like to share some of our ideas with you and we invite your feedback. We are also in the process of trying to find a name for the school; we will let you know when the right one comes.

If anyone would like any more information, or would like to visit the campus, please feel free to contact any one of us.

Love,

Chali, Anton, Sergei, Bunty, Lyle, Sanjeev, Mary

Aim

Inspired by Sri Aurobindo and the Mother, the overall vision of the Auroville High School is to develop educational environments in which Aurovilian students reach their own unique potential through a balanced development of body, mind, emotion, and spirit. Underlying this integral approach is the development of faculties that will allow our students to pursue the unfolding of their inner truth in harmony with the material world.

Interwoven with this endeavor toward individual development is a collective aspiration toward human unity. Toward this, we aim for our students to realize that we are one, and to appreciate and respect the truth behind our diverse cultural, ethnic, and individual heritage. Our deepest aspiration is to prepare our children and ourselves to live in a higher consciousness to manifest a truer and higher life on earth.

Objectives

- Provide a student-centered, integral education for Aurovilian youth between the ages of 14 and 20.
- Develop and offer educational programs that emphasize quality, practical skills, group dynamics, and awareness of all the planes of the being (physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual).
- Maintain the international character of AV.

- Uphold the ideals of Auroville as set forth in its charter.
- Encourage students to adopt a value-oriented approach to life in which they have an understanding of personal, community, and global responsibility.
- Teach students how to set and reach challenging goals.
- Encourage students to become self-motivated, self-aware, and self-controlled.
- Create opportunities for the continued growth of students.
- Expose students to new experiences and different approaches to learning and understanding.
- Provide educational programs that open a wide range of opportunities for students upon graduation.
- Conduct educational research related to values, integral development, and human unity.

Program

- The high school should offer a wide curriculum to meet individual aims and interests.
- Students should be required to take some introductory course on topics that they may not know.
- A minimum course load is required. Full-time students only will be accepted.
- General graduation requirements will be determined as the High School develops.
- The program should interface with the AV community through assistance with community projects or apprenticeships.
- A mentor program will be developed.
- An internal community will be established, possibly with shared school management.
- Increase students' responsibilities as they mature and progress.
- Offer the possibility to pass external exams, if students desire.

The program will be built around a core of required subject areas that will include:

- Mathematics □ English (language and literature)
- Languages (French, Tamil and others)
- Auroville Studies □ Sciences
- Social Sciences □ Physical Education
- Fine Arts □ Current events
- Computer studies □ Senior project

These required areas will be spread out through the 4-5 years that the student is studying, leaving ample time for electives.

Student Body

The Auroville High School will accept students from Aurovilian and Newcomer parents. As Auroville is an international community the high school will maintain an international character, bringing together students from different cultural and ethnic backgrounds in an atmosphere of protected freedom and harmony.

**ANNOUNCEMENT
OF THE NEXT GENERAL
MEETING**

May 14th, 5:00 p.m. SAWCHU BUILDING

The topics to discuss:
Follow up on the General Meeting of Sunday,
April 28th, 2002

**“Matrimandir and its Relation to the
City Center”**

Present in more detail the City Center Development Task Force, including Group Membership
Mandate of the CCDTF
Discussion on Sigrid's Amphitheatre Proposal
Update on Discussions between MMWT and WC
Feedback on Work proposed. Refer to reports
from Michael Bonke and Architects Team
as published in last week's News.
Everyone is Welcome!

SPACE FOR THE WORKING COMMITTEE

Dear Juergen,
Over the past few weeks you have been repeatedly requested by the B.N. Management Group and other parties to hand over the ex-AVNews space, occupied by your data entry team, to the Working Committee for their use.
The B.N. Group carefully examined the needs of both groups (the WC and the Data Entry Team) and have concluded that the disturbance which would be inflicted on the Data Entry Team would not jeopardise the excellent work being done by them, especially in view of the fact that the WC agreed to assist with all tasks required to effect a smooth move.
They have also concluded, that the WC is unable to function efficiently in the present space and that the ex-AVNews space is the only alternative available.
Kindly explain to the community at large on what grounds you refuse to comply with the request made by the B.N. Group, especially in view of the fact, that the WC will not be able to move to the Town Hall for another 6 to 9 months.
Regards
Ulli (for the WC)

Reply to this letter from Jurgen is in the supplement.

REQUEST FOR HELP

Dear friends,
As you know, I have been non-stop working in and for Auroville during the last thirty years. While the summer is for many an occasion to go away so as to avoid the heat, I also cannot bear the heat and the older one gets, the more difficult it is. However, I cannot afford to go to cooler regions and the heat has a bearing on my health.
As my office for the police-liaison and other such work is in my house, I work from my house in Acceptance. I am now obliged to install an air conditioner in my office so that I can work without hindrance and spare my health.
For this purpose, I need the relatively small amount of Rs 16.000 in order to install the a.c. system, to insulate the office room, and connect it. The air conditioning machine I have already.

I sincerely ask those who can afford it to give me a hand here. Thanks!

Paul Vincent

Dear battery-users,

we all know that the shelf life of a battery ends after four or five years. Today about 80 % of all batteries die of sulphurization. The lead sulphate in the battery has the tendency to form blocks of crystals. The intended large surface is gone, and the battery loses capacity, that is, the ability to function well. But there is one thing that manages to regenerate it: the Megapulser. Through high frequency tension impulses it transforms the lead sulphate crystals back in to their original amorphous, spongy structure. Raman from the Solar Service has tested a Megapulse over several months and has got a positive impression. In Petite Ferme, at Lianes and Rolfs place, a weak four year old battery, which could be used for only two hours at 2+20 W before being shut down by the charge controller, regained through the Megapulse more than 50 % of its capacity. We have no more problems with the old battery. The Megapulse when in use needs from 50 to 120 mA and can work for batteries connected parallel up to 240 A.H., 12V, with a cable of maximum 1 meter in length. A Megapulse costs Rs. 2550 and has a 5 year guarantee. It is made in Switzerland.
We would like to put in a new order, and ask all those interested to also buy one for themselves, or the unit or service they work for, to contact Rolf at Petite Ferme, Tel. 622347 or
e-mail: cosmic@auroville.org.in

For Sale: A bajaj 4stroke ph #622248, arabinda.

Dear Friends,

Penta Services offers web-hosting facilities as well as domain name registration and other Internet related services to the community. Although it is aimed especially at Auroville businesses, which plan or already are increasingly dealing through their web sites, individuals, who would like to create their own web pages, can equally obtain this opportunity.

The combination of publishing a web-site, under www.YOURNAME.COM (.ORG / .NET) and special promotion through the well known web pages of www.auroville-products.com has the immediate benefit of publishing your own web-pages and gain assured exposure. Several Auroville business units have shown their pages for a long time. Mantra, Shradhanjali, Aureka to name a few. Also units like Maroma, Inside India, Imagination and Auromode have utilized the space to increase visits to their web sites. The pages are well promoted and conceptualized to increase international exposure for Auroville businesses and help them to achieve an additional export share.

This is especially interesting for "smaller" units who have so far, due to cost considerations, not created their own web presence! The very competitive cost for hosting is 5000 Rs./year and a link to your pages on www.auroville-products.com is included. The cost for name registration is 1000 Rs./year. We offer also individualized design and development of your web pages at very competitive prices.

Improve your ranking.

Promoting your web pages is a very necessary and important step towards success of your efforts. (Promotion: trying to get your pages first (up) in a "search engine" or directory ranking and increase the number of page views by intentional visitors. We have developed a special promotion package and would be happy to assist you. Check either www.auroville-products.com/penta/promo.htm and read about our promotion features. Kindly contact us for some more details regarding our hosting and registration offer.

If you need additional information and for some more details regarding our hosting and registration offer, please do not hesitate to contact me. We will work out a specific solution, tailored to your needs.

Theo
penta Services.

GOOD AMMA SOUGHT

If you know of a good amma, preferably in the Kuilapalayam area and interested to do garden and cleaning work in the Aurelec compound, please let me know and/or get her to contact me for interview.

Thanks - Tim (phone at work/PRISMA 622296)

Laptop for sale

Acernote 350 - 8 MB ram, 486 DX-4
100 Mhz processor, DOS and Windows 95, 4.5 GB Hard Disk (brand new), floppy disk drive, 1 PCMCIA slot, touchpad mouse, no cdrom drive or soundcard, no modem. The battery does not also seem to be functioning, but the unit works fine on the external power adaptor. It would be suitable for office programs such as Word or Excel. In order to access the internet and e-mail, one would have to add an external serial-port modem which would cost from Rs 1000 for an old secondhand one to Rs 2500 for a new one....

This unit is NOT suitable for watching Video CD's or playing Audio. Although it has a sturdy build quality and should be workable for a few years at least, there is not much possibility to upgrade this unit or add any additional functionality beyond the modem/network interface. Any additional programs that might be loaded would have to either be loaded via floppy disks or by making a temporary network connection via serial or parallel port. The asking price reflects all these factors and I have calculated it to be fair to both buyer and seller.

I have very good PCMCIA modem-cum-network adaptor, brand new, for sale....its a 3COM unit, model 3CCFEM556B, gives 57.6K/V90 modem connectivity and 10/100 Fast Ethernet LAN connectivity, all in one tiny PCMCIA card...the unit is brand-new, in a protective crystal case, with manual, all drivers, and one phone connector and one LAN connector that can be plugged into the card simultaneously and used simultaneously. Cost new in the US is 90 dollars plus shipping....will sell for Rs 7500/-... Interested please call me on 678147 or email me at bricyn786@yahoo.com for further info or to purchase.

Brian, Aurobrindavan.

A beautiful white dog with a bright blue collar has been found in Quiet.

Who has a clue about the owner?
phone 622329/622646

House-sitting

I'm an Aurovilian since a year and am staying in a Newcomers house. The 2 year allotment as given by the Housing Service to stay in it, has expired and I would have to soon vacate it. So I am looking for house sitting for some 3- 6 months or longer. If anyone needs a house sitter, then you can contact me at vigyanagni@auroville.org.in.

Thanks, Agni

PETROL BULLET FOR SALE

MODEL : 2000

Please contact : Harish Ph: 622621 & 622002
email: harish@auroville.org.in

EXCHANGE BETWEEN WORKING COMMITTEE AND MATRIMANDIR

After the last General Meeting on the Peace Area issue, the following exchange took place between the Working Committee and the Matrimandir Workers' Team. We place it here for the community at large to be informed.

Working Committee

On May 2nd the Working Committee wrote to the Matrimandir Workers' Team:

Dear Members of the Matrimandir Workers Team,

As you are all aware, one of the high priority mandates given to the Working Committee is to facilitate an early completion of Matrimandir and its Gardens.

In order to progress this task we would like to request you to appoint a small group of people, say three or four, who could participate in the next round of discussions and who could speak on your behalf.

Kindly let us have your decision at the earliest.

Warm regards,
signed: Ulli, Kathryn, Aurovici, Frederick
For the Working Committee

On May 7th the following response was sent to the Working Committee by the Matrimandir Workers' Team:

Statement From the Matrimandir Workers' Team
In response to:

1. The Working Committee's report in the AV News of the 'minutes' of the General Meeting on Sunday 28th April
2. The WC letter of 2nd May to the Matrimandir Workers' Team

The Matrimandir Workers' Team, while welcoming the participation of all Aurovilians in the construction of the Matrimandir, questions the Interim Working Committee's self-given 'mandate' with regard to Matrimandir as declared in its letter dt. 2nd May.

The Working Committee is meant to represent ALL of Auroville and not just one group or point of view.

We have specific questions on the following:

- The publication in the AV news of an irresponsible and incorrect report, purporting to present what happened in the General Meeting of the 28th April.

- The W.C. is not meant to interfere in the day to day functioning of the Matrimandir Workers' Team or of any other Working Group. Decisions and discussions on all aspects of the Matrimandir Peace area, including work development, reallocation of labor, and financial allocations are taken in the regular meetings of the MM Team. This is an open forum where **all** are free to participate.

The current suggestion of the WC that the Matrimandir Workers' Team depute a small group which could speak and make decisions on its behalf stands **emphatically rejected**. The experience of the last few years has shown us that this approach leads to isolation of the small decision making group. This cycle is outdated, (not just for Matrimandir, but for Auroville) and **must not be repeated**.

- And finally, the appointment of a *City Centre Development Task Force* is an attempt to finalize the development of the Peace Area in a particular controversial direction, and to take away from the working group on site the organization of the work. The Working Committee should not support such a partisan move.

The Matrimandir Workers' Team wishes to clarify its statement of 28th April, by reiterating its view of the development of the Peace Area:

- The already existing trees that have been planted over the last 28 years in the Matrimandir Outer Gardens/Park(280 no's) WILL NOT BE CUT.
- The gardens have to be done in the Japanese way, as indicated by Mother, with sufficient numbers of plants and trees to enable them to represent the various spiritual qualities described by Her. Work can begin on this basis immediately.

- A sample section of the Lake between the Outer Gardens/Park and the oval can be implemented as soon as possible.
- Contouring and planting of the remaining Outer Gardens/Park area up to the 300 meters radius can begin during the next season.

From the Matrimandir Workers' Team.

INFORMATION SERVICE

Due to members leaving for holidays or work out of Auroville, we need urgently, for the next two months, some help to sell leaflets, brochures and books and to answer basic questions on Matrimandir and Auroville. Attendance needed: 5 to 6 afternoons a week, for 4 hours. Maintenance may be provided. Please contact Alain G.”

We have just found some Newcomer to take up this work. If it is still possible, I shall be glad if this announcement is removed.

With thanks, alain G.

News From Connection

In the month of May connections will be open on Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning from 9 till 12 and on appointment.

Connection Team, ph - 623 440.

Last School is looking for the Next term, a Math's – Physics teacher. If you are interested, please phone either Jean(Dana), Deepti or Jean-Yves.

Sharing a Taxi to Madras Airport? for B.A flight 8 am. 19th of May Sunday(leaving AV 2 am). Please phone :622 985 Madhuca.

Sweet corn is available at Por Tous from Auro-orachard.

Delirious muse

Once a lovely lady had
A vision -a city&her soul
Where the bright,dull,the good and bad
Would live for love,a diviner goal.

She shut her eyes and broadly drew
With harmonious meaningful lines
Flower petals of magnificent hue
And power-soul for center that shines
“In silence”,she to her children said,
“concentrate,meditate,contemplate this dream-
-vision of mine from childhood i've had
That Srimoyee,aurodidi Mauna and Tim

(tho'adults'll live like lass an' lad)
In harmony,unity,goodwill an' love,
Not claw each other o'er sex an' name,
Live for god's sake,but live above
All to love.THIS to teach I came.”

Then calling closer the architect
She instructed in mystic sense
The meaning,the symbol,the very fact
Of the park with trees and trees dense !!
Living spires of tall guard trees
Making sacred the secret glade
Cushion'd in silence where spirit sees
Her own image in matter made.

(to continue if red-tape allows)

Charudatta.

Dear Community,

The Auroville housing service is open to applications for a care taker of Igor's house in Auromodele. If you are interested, please come to the housing service in the mornings before the 25.5.02. Wednesday and Saturday closed.

Auradha
(Housing Service)

To Everyone,

I am looking for someone interested in a house exchange. I live in a apartment in Courage.

Contact Aurodha, Phone - 623 663.

Parasites in Paradise

“Big fleas have little fleas upon their back to bite 'em, And little fleas have lesser fleas and so, ad infinitum” (Jonathan Swift, 1667-1745).

In Auroville, parasites are common. Everybody hear the voice of the brain fever bird. It is a hawk-cuckoo Cuckulus varius. This bird lays its eggs in nests of babblers Turdoides. No doubt, the Lord created brain fever bird and babbler in Edem before creation of Adam and Eva. In paradise, the parasitic plants grew of course, like Viscum album in Auroville, from family Loranthaceae (the Mother's name of V.album is sign of spirit).

Some parasites are useful in fighting against the pests. In the World practice, Telenomus and Trichogramma are known as natural pesticides. They are very small wasps but these insects will be effective against cashew pests in Auroville bioregion.

An application of biomethod requires a good knowledge. This method isn't for ignorant people. For example there is a phenomenon of hyper-parasitism when one parasite attacks other parasite, like in swift's lines. A real master of biomethod is a wise general of winged army.

Boris.

Video in English, Vistor's Centre

Saturday 11.5.2002, 8pm

“The Music Teacher”

with Jose Vandem/Tine Koussel

Dir. Gerard Corbian

In French with English subtitles.

Saturday 18.5.2002 8pm

“Of Mice and Men”

with John Malkovic, Gary Sivise

1992/ 1h 50'.

Any one interested in sharing a Taxi to Madras Airport on the 20th of May (Monday), please phone : 622 615.

Erratum

In the last Para of the text “The issue is ourselves” published in the last AV news, one should read “Humility” instead of “Humanity”.

The similarity between the two worlds is (still) a coincidence. Thanks, Jivatman.

To,
The Residents' Assembly
Auroville.

Dear Each And Everyone At Resident's Assembly,
This is the last time I try to reach you. With hope that there is an echo that crosses the silent barriers of time encrusted 'knowledge' based on the cynicism of 'adult realism'.

Let me share with you two dreams I actually had, and are recurring, one good and one bad.

First the bad. I am in a strange place, neither house nor open space. I call out for someone. There is only the ghoulish echo of my own voice distorted through an amorphous white blob that surrounds me, surrounds this space and even when I rub my eyes I cannot see clearly. I feel very strange and lost. Suddenly I begin to see little black things in this white blob that keeps obscuring my clarity, my vision, my way.

Then I realise this is representative of the 'human society' without the respect for the individual...

Now for a dream I saw with my own open eyes. There is an urn in the middle of the centre of a gathering that has hundreds of white and pink lotus. It is a powerful antidote to the nightmare, I suddenly realise. This is the living metaphor of what Auroville is in my dream that echoes the Mother's dream. The central golden vessel of divinity representing each human soul here, past, present and future, for Auroville the Eternal to be manifested across the centuries contains hundreds of lotuses and yet the whole ...feels like one lotus.

I call upon each of you to answer me.

Let us come together in the spirit of discovery through what we call 'Seminars' to understand us.

Understanding through our heart, mind and soul guided by Sri Aurobindo. Each and every one of us sharing this understanding in a common language, the universe of meaning.

Let us come together and open our eyes to the true Reality, to recognise us. Seeing our selves in the light of the Mother and Sri Aurobindo. Each and every one of us seeing the Dream together. Let us come together and open our listening to the one Heart beating within us, to hear us. Hearing us through the echoes to the Mother and Sri Aurobindo. Each and every one of us listening to our true inner voice. Let us come together and open our being to the Spirit Of Auroville. Being as One in the Spirit Of Auroville with the Mother and Sri Aurobindo. Each and every one of us complete and clear in a true recognition of the self.

Let us not be fooled any more by jargon, polemic, rhetoric, pretentious false speech. Let us speak as One in the voice of that One in the Mother and Sri Aurobindo. Each and every one finding that true voice, not suppressed, not afraid to speak. You and me we must meet. Now is the moment. Carpe Diem! Seize the Moment!

You have to find the true expression so that the organisation becomes a nourishing system, a system of Self-Governance, rather than a destructive monstrous system like the one we left behind, coming to build the city

of Auroville.

"...The primal law and purpose of the individual life is to seek its own self-development. Consciously or half-consciously or with an obscure unconscious groping it strives always and rightly strives at self-formulation,—to find itself, to discover within itself the law and power of its own being and to fulfil it. This aim in it is fundamental, right, inevitable because, even after all qualifications have been made and caveats entered, the individual is not merely the ephemeral physical creature, a form of mind and body that aggregates and dissolves, but a being, a living power of the eternal Truth, a self-manifesting spirit. In the same way the primal law and purpose of a society, community or nation is to seek its own self-fulfilment; it strives rightly to find itself, to become aware within itself of the law and power of its own being and to fulfil it as perfectly as possible, to realise all its potentialities, to live its own self-revealing life. The reason is the same; for this too is a being, a living power of the eternal Truth, a self-manifestation of the cosmic Spirit, and it is there to express and fulfil in its own way and to the degree of its capacities the special truth and power and meaning of the cosmic Spirit that is within it. The nation or society, like the individual, has a body, an organic life, a moral and aesthetic temperament, a developing mind and a soul behind all these signs and powers for the sake of which they exist. One may say even that, like the individual, it essentially is a soul rather than has one; it is a group-soul that, once having attained to a separate distinctness, must become more and more self-conscious and find itself more and more fully as it develops its corporate action and mentality and its organic self-expressive life.." Volume: 25 [CWSA] (The Human Cycle), Page: 35

Let us all do it! Now!

Sincerely,
Dr. Beena.

The Onion and the Divine Smile - a timeless tale

Namas was a special friend of mine, and I cherish the numerous chats we had together — at times deep, at times humorous, always delightful. One of my fondest recollection is of the account he once gave me of his first encounter with Mother. How he felt like an onion under her intent and piercing gaze, layer after layer flying off. Until She reached the core; and then, this unique, overwhelming smile of Divine Love....and recognition. Illuminating the whole space.

Well Namas, I assume that right now you are all core and no layers!

See you again, to tell me all about it and Her smile.

My love stays with you, wherever you be.

Adhara