

Auroville News

No:961

October 19th, 2002

Dear Fellow Aurovilians:

The Residents Assembly has ratified the Experiment as a means of solving conflict in the community. At the Working Committee/Support Group meeting of 16th October, those present noted that consensus had not been achieved on any proposals put forward at the past two Residents Assembly meetings to resolve the Matrimandir dispute.

Consequently the Working Committee is calling for a meeting on Monday, 28th October at 5:00 at SAWCHU at which a Task-Oriented Residents Assembly (TORA) will be set up to actively investigate the issues. All Aurovilians who would like to be involved in this TORA are requested to attend.

As a reminder: members of a TORA commit themselves to follow the whole process through, however long it may take to reach resolution. At the first meeting of the TORA, those who have different points of view will present them as clearly as possible, preferably in writing beforehand. Individuals who cannot attend the meeting because they have other commitments will have the possibility to send their view in writing. Oral statements may be tape-recorded and transcribed. These statements will be available to all those who are willing to study the problem.

The TORA may constitute one or more study-groups to study the various aspects of the issue, which may be constituted on the advice of the conflicting parties or independently of them or both.

The basic understanding will be that all study groups will do their work expeditiously and will discuss among themselves relevant issues with utmost efforts to bridge the gaps between the different approaches and arrive at agreement.

The Working Committee and its Secretariat, or another group empowered by the Residents' Assembly, will ensure that due process is followed throughout the various rounds.

The Working Committee and the Support Group

HOUSE OF MOTHER'S AGENDA

Ô Savitri, je suis ton âme secrète.
Je suis descendu dans le monde humain
Et par l'OEil qui ne dort jamais j'ai regardé le mouvement
Et la noire contrariété du destin de la terre
Et la bataille des Puissances sombres et claires.
Je fais route sur les chemins du danger et du chagrin de la terre
Et j'aide les infortunés et sauve les condamnés.
Aux forts j'apporte le prix de leur fermeté,
Aux faibles j'apporte l'armure de ma force ;
Aux hommes de désir j'apporte leur joie convoitée ;
Je suis le sort qui justifie le grand et le sage
Par la consécration des applaudissements de la foule,
Puis je les écrase sous le talon de fer du Destin.
Mes oreilles se penchent vers le cri de l'opprimé,
Je renverse le trône des rois tyrans :
Le cri des vies proscrites et pourchassées me vient
Leur supplique contre un monde sans pitié,
La voix de l'abandonné et du désolé
Et du prisonnier seul dans la cellule de son donjon.
Les hommes saluent ma venue comme la force du Tout-Puissant
Ou louent avec des larmes de gratitude sa Grâce sauveuse.
Je frappe le Titan qui chevauche le monde
Et tue l'ogre dans sa tanière tachée de sang.
Je suis Dourga, la déesse des fiers et des forts,
Je suis Lakshmi, la reine du beau et fortuné ;
Je porte la face de Kâli quand je tue,
J'écrase le cadavre des hordes de démons.
Je suis chargée par Dieu de faire son puissant travail,
Sans me soucier, je sers sa volonté qui m'a envoyée
Indifférente aux périls et aux conséquences terrestres.
Je ne raisonne pas avec des vertus et des péchés,
J'exécute seulement l'acte qu'il a mis dans mon cœur.
Je ne crains pas les reproches ni la colère des Cieux,
Je ne fléchis pas sous les assauts sanglants de l'Enfer ;
Je dompte l'opposition des dieux
Foule aux pieds un million de gobelins et leurs obstacles.
Je guide l'homme sur le sentier Divin
Et le protège du Loup rouge et du Serpent.
Je mets dans sa main mortelle mon glaive céleste
Et pose sur sa poitrine le plastron des dieux.
Je brise l'ignorante fierté du mental humain
Et conduis la pensée à la vaste Vérité ;
Je déchire l'étroite réussite de la vie des hommes
Et oblige ses yeux chagrinés à regarder le soleil
Afin qu'il puisse mourir à la terre et vivre dans son âme.
Je sais le but, je connais la route secrète :
J'ai étudié la carte des mondes invisibles,
Je suis le chef de la bataille, l'étoile du voyage.

HOUSE OF MOTHER'S AGENDA

"O Savitri, I am thy secret soul.
I have come down into the human world
And the movement watched by an unsleeping Eye
And the dark contrariety of earth's fate
And the battle of the bright and sombre Powers.
I stand upon earth's paths of danger and grief
And help the unfortunate and save the doomed.
To the strong I bring the guerdon of their strength,
To the weak I bring the armour of my force;
To men who long I carry their coveted joy:
I am fortune justifying the great and wise
By the sanction of the plaudits of the crowd,
Then trampling them with the armed heel of fate.
My ear is leaned to the cry of the oppressed,
I topple down the thrones of tyrant kings:
A cry comes from proscribed and hunted lives
Appealing to me against a pitiless world,
A voice of the forsaken and desolate
And the lone prisoner in his dungeon cell.
Men hail in my coming the Almighty's force
Or praise with thankful tears his saviour Grace.
I smite the Titan who bestrides the world
And slay the ogre in his blood-stained den.
I am Durga, goddess of the proud and strong,
And Lakshmi, queen of the fair and fortunate;
I wear the face of Kali when I kill,
I trample the corpses of the demon hordes.
I am charged by God to do his mighty work,
Uncaring I serve his will who sent me forth,
Reckless of peril and earthly consequence.
I reason not of virtue and of sin
But do the deed he has put into my heart.
I fear not for the angry frown of Heaven,
I flinch not from the red assault of Hell;
I crush the opposition of the gods,
Tread down a million goblin obstacles.
I guide man to the path of the Divine
And guard him from the red Wolf and the Snake.
I set in his mortal hand my heavenly sword
And put on him the breastplate of the gods.
I break the ignorant pride of human mind
And lead the thought to the wideness of the Truth;
I rend man's narrow and successful life
And force his sorrowful eyes to gaze at the sun
That he may die to earth and live in his soul.
I know the goal, I know the secret route;
I have studied the map of the invisible worlds;
I am the battle's head, the journey's star.

FROM THE ENTRY GROUP

The Entry Group requests your feedback (two weeks) on the following announcements:

Aurovilian:

- ♥ ♥ **Anandamurti** teaches in Transition School. Lives in Transition Staff Quarters

Newcomers:

- ♥ ♥ **Rishi Kapoor** works in AV Renewable Energy. Lives in Petite Ferme. Contact Person: Otto
- ♥ ♥ **Dirk Poot (Rik)** works and lives in Success Forest. Contact Person: Juergen from Quiet
- ♥ ♥ **Ramesh Kumar** works in AV Transport Service. Lives in Promesse. Contact Person: Isha

Students:

- ♥ **Tobia** (13) and **Teresa** (10) children of Pierangela (Certitude). They attend Transition School
- ♥ **Jorne** (7) son of Kaapi (Vikas) attends Transition School

Erratum!

- ♥ The Contact Person for Isak Helman (Quiet) is Yvon....(not Kansha as previously announced)

- ♥ The Contact person for Andre Samuel is Jivatman...(not Jean-Francois as previously announced)

IDC Meeting 08.10.2002

Present: Jacques, Joseba, Eugen (consultant), Stuart, Peter A.

Secretary: Sonja

Absent: Jill, Dharmesh, Sydo, and Aurovici

Observer: Ulf

Pour Tous II

Roger has explained to Suhasini the concept of the crown road in detail. She has developed a new concept for Pour Tous II. The IDC has called the Planning Group to review the project with us. During the discussion few points were raised, they will be communicated to Suhasini but in principle the project received the okay from everybody present.

FAMC

Joseba will replace Dharmesh as representative of IDC to FAMC.

Reve III

IDC is planning the third phase of Reve. It will consist of a main building divided in family apartments, rooms

for couples and rooms for singles. It will include spaces for community services. Eugen is studying the different options and will prepare an estimate.

IDC Meeting Report 11.10.02

Present: Jacques, Joseba, Stuart, Eugen, Jill

Secretary: Sonja

Absent: Dharmesh, Peter A.

Guests: Susmita, Kosha, Anandamurthi, Emma Shivani, Eric,

Reve II

The future occupants of Reve II were invited to talk about the present situation of Reve II. After the original project holders left and the Housing Group representative resigned, the future residents needed some clarification and reassurance that the project will be finalized. The main problem the presented was that the original contract had promised to some private roof access or a private garden, for which the clients had to pay extra money. Dominic and Inge had included these options in the contract without informing the IDC, who disagree totally with this approach of providing private spaces in a community-based project.. A new contract will be written and proposed to the clients, keeping, wherever possible, the current price and trying to include the costs of electrical cable in the budget which had been forgotten by the architect when doing the estimate. We shall meet the representatives from Reve II again in three weeks.

Surrender

IDC received a letter from Venkat, Uma and Vijaya to build in Surrender. The budget available quite low and the feeling is that it will not fit the area, as the architecture quality should match the existing the existing one. The cost of the infrastructure is quite high also and will eat up most of their budget. IDC recommend that they look at another place like Maitreye where the budget is matching.

Meeting Report from Forest Group

Regarding the meeting report of Forest Group in the Intranet that Outer Ring Road crossing Dana, Meadow, Minati and Revelation is unacceptable and that we should not prevent Island to develop his project. We feel that even if the road is unacceptable to Forest and Green Group now, the duty of IDC is to preserve the space for the future or at least until the traffic study shows us if Yes or No this road is needed. In the case of Island we do not prevent him to plant or bund the area but understanding that the road may pass through one day, no permanent trees should be planted, that he should

build in Minati itself and not an isolated house the road not having been located, two solutions are there, and the planned house is on one of the possibilities. Third point: we would like to remind the people of Minati and Revelation that an agreement was made, when Claudine, Island and Sergio got the permission to take up the existing house of Minati, that no further development will happen there until the lands behind are purchased. If you consider that development is now possible the IDC would like to start again thinking about staff quarter for the Cultural Zone there as agreed at that time.

Building Applications

Two Building Applications are waiting two weeks for feedback.

Kindergarten; one caretaker house and two rooms for visiting teacher.

Paul Vincent; Acceptance one room extension

AVI MEETING IN FRANCE, JUNE 2003

Dear Friends,

While there will first be an AVI meeting in February 02 in Auroville, AVI France will host the AVI annual Assembly meeting which is to take place in France in mid-June 2003. The meeting place is arranged in Chateau de Meridon at Chevreuse, 35 kms away from Paris, half an hour drive by car. Chateau de Meridon is a charming and quiet place situated in a park. City dwellers may find it a welcome change to the hectic pace in the concrete jungle.

Dates and programme

The timing is from Tuesday 10th of June, afternoon, when people will start arriving, to Saturday 14th noon. The AVI board will meet before the general assembly starts, i.e. on Monday 9th. After lunch on Saturday people will depart.

The programme is yet to be worked out, but a craftsman's university and to Chateau de Versailles is envisioned on the 12th of June.

AVI France writes:

On 12th afternoon we will visit the 'Fondation Coubertin'. This is a place for the development of

the rural 'Compagnonage', a craftsman's university. I would like to share with you the messages of its founders:

"We wish to enable young men to lead a life of quality in which everything becomes a search for perfection. We want to bring to them the very best ways and means by which they may be enabled to develop their personality, as much from a cultural, moral and spiritual point of view as from their craft itself. That is why I attach so much importance to the setting, to the quality of life and to daily contacts. 'Yeast in the dough', they will then bear a new witness in the world."

Yvonne de Coubertin

This will be an important meeting, where many ideas and proposals resulting from the AVI meeting held in Auroville in February the same year, can be communicated, worked out and possibly further implemented.

We are looking forward to your participation, feedback and suggestions. Please email Tine avi@auroville.org.in and Satyakam and Devasmita <devasmita@wanadoo.fr> for more details and your registration.

with Love,
Tine

RESIDENTS ASSEMBLY ON HOW TO COMPLETE THE MATRIMANDIR - OCTOBER 14, 2002

Present: About 120 people

Chairpersons: Jill and Alan

Notes: Janet (the meeting was also tape-recorded)

The chairpersons invited Mauna to read from Sri Aurobindo's booklet "The Mother" on the qualities of Mahasaraswati, as the day was Saraswathi Puja Day. She explained that it was not possible to hear the recording of this made by the Mother because the quality of the tape was not good enough. (Please see the section which begins with "Mahasaraswati is the Mother's Power of Work and her spirit of perfection and order." in Chapter VI)

The chairpersons then summarized the proposal of the last meeting and went on to explain the process that the WC and Support Group have been engaged in since this time.

Two weeks ago a proposal was made by the RA about creating

a Completion Team and then meeting in two weeks, in order to see further how to proceed. At that meeting people were invited to volunteer for the Completion Team and to give feedback regarding the proposal.

Two members of the Support Group, Jaya and Alain B. gave a summary of the process undergone by the Working Committee and Support Group since that time, which is summarized on the front page of the last AV News.

They explained that after the last meeting some of them had a deep sense of déjà vu. Aurovilians have been in deep conflict before and if we are not able to manage conflict in a different way, we end up in a divisive situation. So we need to meet together and meet the groups involved to see if we can find a solution, because Mother said it is ALWAYS possible to go above and find something, although it is not necessarily easy. So the WC/SG met all day on Sunday and again several more times. They spoke of the Aurelec situation, which was divisive and painful and full of deep mistrust. Because of this mutual mistrust it was not possible to find a common ground where we all could relate. So now we want to change our way and to study and understand and move with the Experiment. Some of the members went to the MWT and others met Roger and his friends. And both sides remained firm in their positions, which means that the way to go beyond the present situation is not clear. "At the silent gathering at the Banyan Tree I felt the only way to solve problem is through love and brotherhood". It seems we have two paths to choose from. Neither is easy. One way will involve a lot of fighting and wounds, which we will carry into the future and it will affect future generations, in the way that young people today are scarred by the events of '76, even though many of them were not even born then. The other path is also difficult. It is the belief that we can move together. The supramental consciousness holds unity and diversity at the same time. It is the only path that builds onwards and upwards and it is also in the spirit of Saraswathi, and the text we just heard.

A member of the Working Committee gave a report on names they have received for the Completion Team. Most of these people did not volunteer for Core Group. Toine is able to help with communication and from February can work on a part-time basis. Anupama is able to help with the completion of the building and to facilitate communication between the architect and the others but does not want to attend too many meetings or be on the Core Group. Gilles G has offered to be part of a small group with Toine, Ulli B and Michael T to liaise and report regularly to the RA.

In addition Soham has offered to coordinate the Nursery, Paulette can look after the Archives and Jaap, a relatively recent member of the community is willing to help with administration or finishing. A Newcomer who is a lawyer offered to help with mediation. Then there were five letters proposing various people for various tasks.

It was pointed out that Cristo had offered his services a month ago and Sigrid and Bernard B. said they had sent a message to WC, which had never been received. Sigrid offered to take up work in Amphitheatre and to get the sound system

functioning and Bernard B is willing to work everyday for half a day under someone who would guide him. Jean P. is willing to be site engineer and has done this for last six years in consultation with Piero. Another person added that there was a list made one year ago with the WC of people willing to work.

There followed a lot of back and forth about whether we had a Core Team or a Completion Team and what actually was meant by the proposal of the last meeting. Then somebody said that the energy of the last RA did not make her feel good at all. It felt like a coup and was unAurovilian. What we need most in whoever goes into this team is a willingness to collaborate. This quality is not to be found in either the MWT or Roger's Group. In the new team we must see if there is a willingness to collaborate because if there is not, it's a disqualification for the job.

Then one Matrimandir worker spoke about his difficulties trying to collaborate with the exMCG and someone whose name had been proposed for the Core Team spoke of his dilemma. On the one hand no one should be removed. However this would mean that the Core Team would be added to the existing team, and the Core Team has something to do which is in conflict with the wishes of the existing team. A large part of the dispute is centred around the lakes and gardens, as the structure is largely done. What is expected of the Completion Team if it does not address these problems?

Ulli reported that on Saturday he had met with Michael T and Gilles G to try and see what the work of the Completion Team means. They reflected on the meetings of the Working Committee and Support Group and their resolve to enter into a different space, and in the light of this to see what is possible. They felt that the conflicts around the lake, garden and outer garden can be worked upon. We need a small group of competent people who will relate with a TORA to find agreements on those disputes, which are blocking every move. Someone else said the issue about the Completion Team is closed as it was put in the news after the last RA and 50 people did not raise an objection. Also the issue brought by 160 people was about finishing the structure and not about the lake and gardens.

A member of the IDC said he supported the Core Team to complete Matrimandir because the present group is not abiding by the same process as the other groups, that is having their mandate and membership reviewed by the RA every 2 or 3 years. The pending tasks, the lake and gardens need another kind of reflection. The MM Group are working in isolation and not related to the whole.

Several more points followed:

- The community is mature enough to decide for itself and should give the new group a strong support and a time limit.
- In the last meeting I heard a significant objection to the proposal. People were saying we cannot have a coup. The feedback is that the proposal is not acceptable.
- It is a spiritual law that we cannot fight darkness. We must

bring the light so the darkness goes away. If we have faith and trust, negativity will disappear.

-The decision we take now is very important. It's about whether we will take the path of war or find another way. When we take decisions we must know what we are doing.

-Mother may not say the same thing today about Roger that she said 30 years ago.

Proposal: At the last meeting the mood was such that we started rethinking, do we really want to go this way. So I propose to give the parties one last chance to sit together. Gilles, Michael, Ulli, Jean P and Roger communicate with the exMCG and those closest to them and think of this one paragraph about Mahasaraswathi presiding over the details of execution and the relationship between the various parts. Then trust that Mother will be present in that meeting and then this has a beautiful and real chance.

Several people responded by saying all of this had been tried before and failed.

Proposal: Let's vote that all Matrimandir money be routed through Auroville Fund.

Proposal: What we tried last year did not work, so now propose that the WC asks the MWT to step down but invites them to collaborate with the new people who will be in charge.

Further Comments:

-I refuse the idea of a two-party war. That is not the base of the issue. No one is questioning the hard work and aspiration of the present team. What's in question is their lack of transparency and openness, and the fact that they don't recognize the people who come to meetings.

-I am part of the three proposed for the Core Team. We do not want a takeover. Our attempt must be to build unity. In the present situation people don't have the space to work properly. They are all my brothers on every side and if someone asks me if I would rather lose my right or left arm, I say I don't want to lose either of my arms. Let us see who are the people who can provide the space for everyone to work together in harmony. The exMCG have to admit that they haven't provided that space.

-Before 1989 decisions at Matrimandir were taken by the Workers' Team. Soon after the MMCG was formed there was division and things started to go wrong. It was necessary to reach a point where the MMCG structure was dissolved. That happened last year. Now we have to work a bit further. There is an opening there. I have been feeling it for a year. Saraswathi has patience. She is the final perfection where everything fits. I don't believe bad is there and good is here. Both are in all of us. We must include and forgive. They don't come to meetings because the last time they came, they were cut off and pointed at. We have to create a safe space here first, if we want them to come. They are willing to talk about issues. We must take a position for justice, fairness and love. In all the people there are beautiful and difficult aspects. We cannot put all the blame in one direction and we cannot cut off part of the Matrimandir.

Problems will recur again and again if we don't try to integrate. We are here for human unity and we must accept each other as we are. Mother has said people do not understand, when there is no harmony then She can't enter. It is like barrier, which keeps Her out.

-We fail the main purpose of Matrimandir if we build in hatred. Each person who comes here represents an impossibility. That is the wonder of it. Let us not go on like this. If one group loses, we lose utterly and thoroughly. We have spent one year speaking, when we could have been going there and cleaning clamps or sweeping the amphitheatre or anything.

Proposal: Let all the people who have put in time and dedication sit and work things out, including Roger, Piero, Adhara. The problems lie with people, and are in our own human nature. If the US, Russia and Cuba are talking about what happened in 1962 with the Bay of Pigs, surely we in Auroville can do it too.

-Let Roger go back and do his work in a non-political way.

-Ideals are hard to reach but guidelines are for now. If we refuse the work of harmonization, we refuse practical guidelines or dharma. We cannot go above guidelines about harmonization and collaboration. They are our constitutional law. Only because we have them, can we progress together. The RA cannot eliminate this one fundamental guideline.

-A year ago we used words. Today we use words, which I don't understand. Mother said "No words, acts." Through working together harmony comes. Michael, Toine and Ulli want to come when everything is ready, like in a 5 star hotel. But they should come now.

-The only way to gather all people of Auroville is around certain truths. Roger is the architect that is responsible for the design. The MCG has chosen Paolo T, which is in contradiction to the central guideline given by Mother. During the summer the WC and IDC prepared a proposal for the City Center Task Force, which was put down by the MWT. The last RA proposed a Completion Team and now it is put into question. The WC must call the people who have volunteered and approve their names and see with the Matrimandir Team how to integrate them.

-In the Matrimandir there are lot of tools and instruments moving from hand to hand over all these years, but finance and labour management hasn't changed for many years. The issue is about the right instruments in the right hands at the right moment.

Proposal: Shift the cheque book and labour management, but don't ask anyone to leave Matrimandir. Mother said more than once that there should be no exclusions but everything had to be in its right place.

-A change is needed but it has to come about in a way that involves no explosion at the end of the process.

Proposal: Let M,T & U, plus Alain B. create a space where dialogue can take place and nothing happens that would cause a serious explosion.

-Any proposal, which leads to harmonization is fine. The RA represents the body of Auroville and I would like it to remain a tool for the Mother to work on all of us. There must be more love in our meetings and they should not be coarse. They should instead be a facilitating space. There is the whole question of the US attacking Iraq. Auroville is about a new way for people to deal with each other. For those who would like to be more practical, this is the only practical way. Meetings and groups also have their egos, and always want to impose their decisions on this or that group. Things will work out but we must have patience. Roger's work includes the big responsibility of being able to dialogue not only with his own team but with those of different views.

Proposal: Purchasing and the overview of the different teams at Matrimandir should be done by a team of 4 or 5, instead of one person.

-All the pieces are in place. Mother has played in a humorous way. 160 people woke us up and now we have a team of professional, middle of the road functionaries. It is a team Roger can work with.

Proposal: Take the three mentioned and express confidence and trust in them and see what they can do. No coup, the way must be one of dialogue and there must be a time frame. Let them meet Roger and the MCG and define a way of working and bring the result back in two weeks.

At this point the facilitators asked for a show of hands on all of the proposals.

1. All financial activities of the Matrimandir must be routed through the Auroville Financial Service (Auroville Fund and Central Fund).

Most of the 101 people present in the room said "Yes" although the exact number was not recorded. Three people said "No" and 11 abstentions were recorded.

2. All people involved in key roles should meet and see how they can work together.

Most of the people in the room said "No" although the exact number was not recorded. 11 people said "Yes" and 20 abstentions were recorded."

3. While no person should be asked to leave Matrimandir, certain positions have been held by the same persons for too long and there needs to be a shift in the management of finance and labour.

63 persons said "Yes", 2 said "No" and 17 abstentions were recorded.

4. Four to five people should take responsibility for each work area.

16 people said "Yes", 3 said "No" and 50 abstentions were recorded.

5. A team comprised of Gilles G, Michael T and Ulli B are

empowered by the RA to speak with the ex-MCG and MWT about the need for change and to report back to Roger (who was present) and the RA within two weeks.

48 persons said "Yes", 9 said "No" and 14 abstentions were recorded.

6. The Working Committee should write to the Matrimandir Workers Team relieving them of their responsibilities and put a new Core Team in place.

42 persons said "Yes", 22 persons said "No" and 8 abstentions were recorded.

7. Get the MWT, Roger and Jean and others concerned together and give them two weeks to come up with a plan of how they will work together.

8 persons said "Yes", 21 said "No" and 31 abstentions were recorded.

FROM THE MEETING OF THE WORKING COMMITTEE AND SUPPORT GROUP ON OCTOBER 16

It was agreed that the proposals of the RA Meeting must be handled according to the process defined by the Experiment. This means that, as there was no consensus or consent on any of the proposals, a meeting will be called to set up one or more Task Oriented Residents Assemblies (TORA) to investigate the issues in depth.

The Selection of the Nominees for the Working Committee/Auroville Council

As agreed by the last meeting of the Resource Group, the selection of 50 nominees from the **Resident Assembly** (Aurovilians who are 18 years or over) will be held. As soon as feasible, the nominees will, in turn, choose among themselves the 15-member **Auroville Council**. The **Auroville Council** includes the seven-member **Working Committee**.

Considering the usual 2-week feed-back period after announcement, the selection is planned for Friday and Saturday, November 1st-2nd. The Selection Team of the Resource Group will do its best to make an honest and transparent selection process. We hope there will be a large participation of the **Resident Assembly**.

Selection Day and Time: Friday, November 1st, from 9:00am to 5:30pm and Saturday, November 2nd, from 9:00am to 3:00pm

Location: Friday, at Pour Tous; Saturday, at the Solar Kitchen.

Eligibility: Only members of the **Resident Assembly** as per the Master List (Aurovilians who are 18 years or over) are eligible to vote.

Voting method:

1. Each member of the **Resident Assembly** can choose up to 6 members of the **Resident Assembly**. As

much as possible, gender balance is to be respected. In order to assure that your choices are correctly tallied, try to write both the name and the community of your candidates. There will be a member of the Selection Team with an up-to-date copy of the Master List to help you. Please don't hesitate to ask if you are not sure.

2. Please write your choices on the ballot provided by the Selection Team. This can be done either in advance or at the voting place. It really would help to avoid crowding on Selection Day if you could come to the Solar Kitchen with your ballot already filled in. If you wish to fill in your ballot in advance, a blank ballot will be printed in the AVNews of 19/10 or can be obtained at the Connections office from Monday, 21/10 on.

3. This is a secret ballot, so you need not sign the ballot. However, handing over your ballot, you will first have to sign next to your name on the Master List. Then fold your ballot, and give it to the member of the Selection Team who will drop it into the Ballot Box.

4. Those **Resident Assembly** members who know that they will be TOS (out of station) on Selection Day, may write a ballot and place it in a sealed envelope. This envelope is then to be brought in person to the Connections office and signed across the seal. It will be kept there under lock until Selection Day.

5. Those **Resident Assembly** members who are already TOS will be notified, and they may present their ballots by fax. However, the fax must be signed by the member.

6. For those **Resident Assembly** members who are too ill to come to the Solar Kitchen on Selection Day, a member of the Selection Team will visit such members. The Aurovilian will seal his/her ballot in a sealed and signed envelope to be brought to the Ballot Box by the member of the Selection Team. Any conditions that require special consideration will be handled appropriately, case by case. Requests are to be made by contacting Connections the day before, or on Selection Day itself between 9-12.

Counting the Ballots

1. The Ballot Box will be opened by the Selection Team, and the ballots will then be read, tallied and the results recorded. The 50 **Resident Assembly** members receiving the most individual votes will be noted and declared. There may be the situation where several selected will have the same number of votes and cause the nominee list to exceed 50. If the number of nominees exceeding 50 is no more than half of a group with the same number of votes, the final selection could be more than 50. (Ex: $46 + 8 = 54$ is OK, while $48 + 8 = 56$ is not.)

2. Some members of the **Resident Assembly** may wish to witness the tally process. Those wishing to do

so may email madona@auroville.org.in by Friday, November 1st. Please note that since space will be limited, only a few witnesses can be accommodated in the Counting Room at any one time. The witnesses are to observe concentrated silence.

3. The administration of the selection process is to be carried out by the Selection Team which has been mandated by the Resource Group.

4. The names of those finally selected are to be published on Monday, November 4th in all the media available in Auroville: AVNet; bulletin boards; mass mail; and, of course, the next AVNews.

The Selection of the *Auroville Council*

1. Those nominated by the **Resident Assembly** will choose the **Working Committee/Auroville Council** at the earliest possible date. Although the Selection Team will make some suggestions as given below, the meeting of nominated members are to define their own procedures, and choose the seven members of the **Working Committee** as well as the other eight members of the *Auroville Council* from among themselves.

2. All those who have been nominated, even if they choose not to serve as members of either the **Working Committee** or the *Auroville Council*, may fully participate in the selection process.

3. The Selection Team are available to assist the procedures of the meeting. For example, Selection Team members could be the facilitators of the meeting, if asked to do so. A note taker will be provided. However, if any member of the Selection Team is chosen as a nominee, that member will no longer serve on the Selection Team.

Recommendations by the Resource Group

1. Considering those who the **Working Committee** must come in contact with as they perform their duties, the Selection Team recommends that at least one member of the new **Working Committee** possesses ability in Tamil. Ability in Hindi would also be desirable.

2. The Selection Team feels that the *Auroville Council* has the function of a "**Civic Task Force**". It is further recommended that diplomatic and legal skills also be present on the **Working Committee**. Other important qualities are the ability to liaise with governmental and international institutions and organizations as well as those of Auroville. The proven player who can build agreements and create harmonization would certainly be a valuable member.

The **Connections** office is in the SAWCHU Building. It is opened from Monday-Friday, 9am-12. On Selection Day, 4/11, it will be open from 9am-12. Telephone: 62 3440.



Auroville, 14 October, 2002
Maha Saraswathi day

Dear Friends,

We are happy to inform you that we have received the amount of Rs. 225.000/- that we had requested through the Development Scheme for purchasing the second Cine-Projector needed for the film projections in the Auditorium, has been granted this year. The new projector is coming within a very short while!

However, according to the final quotation we are short of around Rs. 45.00/- to cover all the expenses related to the purchasing and installation of this equipment.

This missing amount is due to the fact that this equipment has increased a lot within the time of our enquiries, and also due to the fact that the status of Pondicherry regarding Sales Taxes has drastically changed in between (from 2% to 12%!).

We would like to ask you if you, or your unit can help us in providing part of this amount (whatever, even small amounts added to other amounts will help!), for us to be able to match the amount at the earliest. If you can do so, please contact us. Many thanks in advance,

With love,
Surya and Gérard
for Aurofilm,
Aspiration, Auroville, 605101 T.N. - phone: 622 886
- e-mail: aurofilm@auroville.org.in

the ongoing exhibition of some recent artwork of Transition School, at the offices of the Financial Service, next to Pour Tous, has been extended and many more "stained glass" panels have been recently added. do check them out!

UN PRO
IMPRO

R
R

NO!
YES!



An evening of improvisations on piano, flute and voice

by Richard Bockelee

Venue: Pitanga

Date/ Time: Monday, 21/10/2002; 7.00 pm

Duration: approx. 2 hrs.

Pitanga Ph. 622561,
mail:pitanga@auroville.org.in

Accommodation for newcomers (a family of three) available in Auromodele from November next. Ph. 622 257

FRENCH CLASSES : ONE MONTH INTENSIVE COURSES

ALL (Auroville Language Lab) is happy to announce a new session of French classes, with CECILE, a French teacher who is a guest, who will offer intensive classes.

Starting Monday, 21 October at the Lab in Centre Field. Phone:622575/623661.

Beginners	:- 9.30 to 10.30	Monday
	9.30 to 10.30	Thursday
Intermediate	:- 3 to 4	Monday
	3 to 4	Thursday
Advanced	:- 4 to 5.30	Tuesday



These classes will be offered for 1 month only. Alors, hurry up!

Auroville Water Maintenance has started functioning . we now undertake all kinds of pump repairs, Generators, plumbing work and Windmills (All the old Activities). Av Water Maintenance is no longer a free service, but it is a self supportive service.

contact Ph No: 62-2899

Love Av Water Maintenance Team

ONE OF THE WORKERS IN OUR WORKSHOP IS IN **NEED OF A MOUNTAIN BICYCLE**. PLEASE CONTACT SHEETAL OR JOHANNES AT BOMMAIYUR TOY CARPENTRY at: office: 622608 handy:98423 61661 OR email: bommaiur@auroville.org.in

For sale:

- Mattress "Duroflex" King size 78x60x4" + 2 pillows, like new Rs 4,700

- Fridge "Whirlpool" 170 M, 10 months old, excellent condition Rs 7,000

Alain 622 628 / alainc@auroville.org.in

Cell phone(ericson)with charger and not even used 2 months. bought for 2700 rs and asking 2000rs. contact: krishna (sunbliss snack bar) Repos or balakrishnan@auroville.org.in

Thank you

Lottery

"A mean minded man thinks, this is mine, and that is his",

But to a generous man,

The whole world is one big family" (Panchatantra, was probably written about 200 BC by the great Hindu scholar Pandit Vishnu Sharma).

It seems the Panchatantra ("The Five Books") was written in Aspiration Community. Not long ago Adil organised a free lottery in Aspiration. He used the ceramic things which were made by Michael in Flame Pottery, Dana. It was a real festival for the community. Everybody won a fortune and received a ceramic miracle. The things were kaleidoscopically different, beautiful and practical. Now Flame Pottery and Michael have numerous friends in Aspiration.

We are going together to the Mother's ideals. According to the Panchatantra, "if you walk seven steps together with a man, you have become his friend" Another name of Panchatantra is "Nistishastra" which means "Book of Wise Conduct in Life".

-Boris

News From Quiet

Traditional Thai Massage- Advanced Course

Oct. 22 - 26

Participation is limited to individuals who have completed at least one beginners' course.

Those interested may contact the Quiet office: 622329 / 622646

"ENTRETIENS"

The Mother's "Playground Talks"

Every Tuesday at 5:00 pm

We listen to a series of recordings of the Mother's talks in the Ashram Playground to the young people of the School. These talks, in French, continued twice a week from 1951 to the end of 1958 and have been published in French as "Entretiens" and in English as "Questions and Answers". For these sessions, we provide the text of the talk in both French and English.

On the 22nd October, 2002, we shall play the recording of the 12th of November, 1958. This question is related to the subject from 'The Life Divine' pp.889-890.

A child asks the question:

"Sweet Mother, how can one find the right stage and turn of one's development?"

Aster, who as a girl was present when these talks were given, will be with us in this series where we would like to simulate learning from the Mother directly, through listening to the recordings, reading the prepared bi-lingual text, and sharing insights that might ensue.

We specially invite all young Aurovilians to come and study with us.

Duration of the programme : 45-50 minutes. Everyone is welcome.

FINANCIAL SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Since the beginning of October the Auroville Maintenance Fund is in a position to also sell foreign currencies, so if you are in need of Dollars, Euro or Swiss Francs please contact us at the Financial Service.

HOUSING HOUSING HOUSING HOUSING HOUSING HOUSING

Philippe will need a place to stay for a few month or more in january 2003. any proposition will be considered : capsule, room, flat, house sitting etc very good experience as care taker in Aspiration, Anusuya, Centerfield, Sharnga etc I can give some hours of work like gardening, supervising etc no problem...you can phone at 622 031 in the afternoon or pass at the night guard at the yukies every evening.

Thanking you in advance!

Philippe

For various reasons it is no longer possible for the Hairdressing Service to use the room previously made available by Auromode.

In Pitanga there is also no available space we were told. Valentina urgently needs a working place to continue this free service, used by over 300 Aurovilians, for 3 days weekly.

Please contact Jan 622220, decauram@auroville.org.in with any suggestion you may have.

Dear Guests , Friends of Auroville

In the Premises of Sangam Community (near Utility) one Guest House is available in a peaceful place. All the essential facilities are available. Long term Guests are most welcome.

For further information please contact
Meenakshi Ilaingargal - 622 770 , 622037
Babu Rajendran Sangamam - 623 026 , 622 132

FOR SALE

one small U.P.S for Computer
– one bed + one mattress 1. 90 m / 1.36m
If you are interested, Please Contact Varada @
623 277

HAPPENING THIS SUNDAY OCTOBER 20TH 11.30 am – 1.00pm

Come and try a delicious selection of dishes made with vegetables from Buddha Garden. Take the recipes home with you to cook.

Look around the garden, see the new developments and find out more about indigenous vegetables.

HOW TO GET THERE

Go down past the Visitors Centre to the black top road. Turn LEFT and carry on up the road until you come to a granite slab on your RIGHT pointing to Siddhartha Farm. Turn right and go along this path until you come to another small granite slab on your left pointing towards the left and to Buddha Garden. Bear left and you will come to sign 'Priya' which points the way to Buddha Garden through the gate on the right. Continue through the gate and along the path and keep going as far as the path takes you, past Siddhartha Farm and into Buddha Garden. Please park your vehicles in the parking place on your left just by the entrance to the garden.

For more information phone Priya 622940/653 after 10.30am or email priya@auroville.org.in This day is being organized by two volunteers Katrin and Iona.

Help beautify our collective space

Dear friends,

Aron, a young artist and Aurovilian, has been inspired to create a design for some panels to enhance the beauty of the SAWCHU building. In consultation with Anupama, the architect and other Aurovilians working with glass and metal, he has conceived of a design that uses semi-opaque frosted glass pieces inserted into metal panels to create a semi-enclosed effect in the hall. The design is very beautiful and will harmonise with the aesthetics of the space while allowing optimal ventilation. As this building is frequently used by most of us for many collective meetings and cultural events, we seek your support to enable this work to be done. A total of Rs 18,760 is required to complete 6 panels. Detailed design plans of the panels are available with Aron for anyone who would like to see what is envisioned.

We thank you in anticipation of your support of both Aron's work and beautifying our public space. A PT account has been created to receive donations PT250049

The Price of Health

(by: AVFG)

As Auroville farmers, we struggle with a year of heat and drought. Serious set-backs in harvests and the death of fruit trees (etc.) may well mean the closure of some of our farms. One way to support us, is to give priority to Auroville Farm products, without fertilizer chemicals, growth preparations and pesticides. We are talking about a growing list of scientific means, to make a tomato look good and an egg come faster. We cannot financially compete with outside producers, as long as we are not granted national and regional subsidies, such as a farmer gets in any other country in the world. In order to survive we will need more support, and a lot of it. But we hope you will look upon what we do as a community aspiration towards health, and favor our products.

As it is, the AVFG could not help but raise some of its food prices at the start of October. Most of these changes - for milk, fruit and beans - on average consist of one Rupee per unit (kilo or liter). The increase in prices of Pondicherry products is about 10% per year.

Still, regarding quality, you may prefer your milk un-skimmed and un-diluted. Besides, Auroville eggs come cheaper than healthy eggs (Rs. 3) from the village farmers, who like the yolk of their eggs to be yellow (rather than grey and tasting like cement). In fact, "Pondi Eggs" come from chemically fed, antibioticly dosed, caged chickens, reared at gigantic battery farms in Andhra Pradesh.

Dear Community!

We are happy to announce our beautiful baby girl "SNEHA" was born on 4th October!

Sonali&Partha

The thank you note papers for Dr Datta (of the Ashram Clinique) are still up in the Bakery and the Solar Kitchen. Please don't hesitate to send your good wishes!

For sale:

Enfield bullet 350 cc, 1996, 26000 km, good running condition, -- Rupees 26000,
Contact: Ncc kumar, or tel.623021

Accommodation / Capsules for volunteers

We are receiving a donation to build up accommodation for young people who come to do volunteer work for one year in Auroville.

Now we need to find places to erect some good capsules.

Needed infrastructure (bath/ toilet) could be funded if there is the possibility to put up more than one hut.

There is also a possibility to receive funds for more durable solutions.

Anyone who could offer some space in their community or project kindly let us know.

Please contact Shivaya, phone 622574, shivaya@auroville.org.in

Thanks!!

SALON DE MUSIQUE at PITANGA HALL

Saturdays, from 6 p.m. until 7.30 p.m. at Pitanga Hall, Samasti

Eugeen, composer/conductor from Amsterdam, will give short introductions in English (with piano, if needed) for better understanding the masterpieces of the "Western Classical Music" repertoire, alternating with some interesting contemporary pieces.

New Vintage: recent CD-publications of Gubaidulina, Messiaen, Schnittke, Glass, etc....

More info: Eugeen & Marijke, Arya 622.478
margeen@auroville.org.in

Next dates: Saturdays only in
October: 19th, 26th

MUSIC VIDEO

2 portraits of Galina Ustvolskaja (1919) and György Ligeti (1923)

contemporary Russian & Hungarian composers with rehearsals of works, interviews, commentary by conductor Reinbert de Leeuw in Dutch, duration: 1 hour each (Part of a series of 8 productions by VPRO-TV, Hilversum)

at Merriam Hill Center, Center Guest House
TUESDAY Oct 22nd, 8 p.m.

AMPHITHEATER

On Tuesday 22.10 at 5.30 p.m. there will be
Mother reading Savitri accompagnied by Sunil's Music
:

Book 2 The Traveller of the world

Canto 1 The World Stair

" A summary of the stages of the spirit,
Its copy of the cosmic hierarchies
Refashioned in our secret air of self
A subtle pattern of the universe. "
It is within, below, without, above."

On Thursday 24.10 at 5.30 p.m. we plan to put
"The Mother" by Sri Aurobindo read by Mother.

All are invited to share the oppourtunity to come
together in a spirit of listening and aspiration at the
very center.

Children of all ages are welcome too.

Only in case of heavy rains at 5 p.m. there will be no
music . The sound system gives a better quality then
some weeks ago, check it out ! Sigrid

**An exhibition will be opened at Bharat Nivas
Foyer on Monday 21st October** showing the
working progress of the recently held International
Forum of Young Architects on the International
Zone.

Feedback is invited and encouraged to allow an
interactive process which may be inspired
by the outcome so far.



Results of the last Pulse check.

**Do you think that one day Auroville will house
50,000 Aurovilians?**

Yes : 58% (49)

No : 37% (31)

I don't know : 5% (4)

Total number of votes: 84

Total number of comments: 26

The entire data is available in the AVnet Pulse archives.

The next question:

**Which concept do you prefer for the
Matrimandir's 12 gardens?**

Already there are 45 votes and 13 comments.

All are welcome!

Thank you,

Pulse team

LATEST NEWS FROM THE TRAVEL SHOP

Jet Airways has extended the validity of the special
advance purchase scheme till March 31, 2003 with
the following changes

1. BLACK - OUT period is from 16th Dec to 15th
Jan (passengers are not allowed to avail the APEX
fare during this period)

2. 21 days advance purchase, cancellation is 50%
of price

Below are some sample fares:

Chennai - Mumbai: Rs. 2845

Chennai - Delhi: Rs.3695

Chennai - kolkata; Rs. 3380

Indian Airlines scheme has also been extended
till March 31 2003.

From 1st November onwards the advance booking
period will be lowered to 15 days only. However
cancellation charges remain the same, date
change is restricted.

Air India offers discounted fares on the following
sectors for flights operating between 20:30 and
07:30.

Chennai - Mumbai = Rs.3470/-

Chennai - Delhi = Rs.6200/-

Chennai - Cochin = Rs.2760/-

There are no restrictions on date changes and no
advance booking is necessary.

**ALL THE ABOVE DISCOUNTED FARES ARE
FOR INDIANS AND RESIDENT PERMIT
HOLDERS ONLY.**

For more details contact the Travel Shop at 622078,
622604, 623030 between 09:00 and 17:00

email: travelshop@auroville.org.in

HEALTH FIRST

Classical homeopathy child care personal development

The Course on Classical homeopathy resumes from
next week on , the time for now is Tuesdays 2p.m.

Anybody still wishing to join please contact me at the
earliest !

The Kit for Mother's and Kids is getting ready !

32 remedies and a manual with it ! Check it out !

Consultation in English, French, German and Tamil

With Sigrid, healing practitioner, Heilpraktikerin

Timings for consultations every morning :

Mon, Wed. Fri 9 a.m. to 12.30 a.m.

Tue, Thu 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 a.m.

And on appointment at Health First, Prayatna ,
phone 623669 sigrid@auroville.org.in

All are welcome Sigrid