

AV News Summary

May 10th, 2003

AVNews Survey

A survey is being done to enable everyone to give their views about the AVNews and its future looks and contents. Feedback forms are still available at Solar Kitchen or AVNews office at Aurelec. You can fill one in online on the AVNet. The form can also be sent to you by email attachment. Please send your request to avnews@auroville.org.in . Deadline has been extended: feedback forms will be accepted up to Monday evening 6:00 pm. Thank you!

About the News

The old Auroville News will not appear for the time being. This news summary is a temporary replacement, until a new version of the News has been worked out. Short messages and announcements are welcome, longer items will have to be shortened. In the near future information will be given about where to obtain hard copies of meeting reports or how to be placed on mailing lists to receive soft copies of meeting reports. For the time being messages may be sent to the same email address avnews@auroville.org.in or given to the News office at Aurelec. Deadline is Wednesday noon.

Auroville Council Report and Working Committee Report, January-April 2003

(message repeated from May 3rd issue)

The AVC and WC reports of the work of the last four months are available on AVNet. Hard copies may be picked up at the Working Committee office, for those who have no email access. Anyone who would like to have these reports emailed to their e-address should send an emailed request to Valli at the Working Committee office: wcoffice@auroville.org.in, with subject 'WC/AVC Reports'. It has been noted that the community needs frequent regular reporting; monthly reports will be posted onto AVNet.

COMMUNITY MEETING

Wednesday May 14th, 5.15 pm @ SAWCHU

~ a forum for information and communication amongst ourselves ~

Agenda:

- ? Update on the final draft of the WC/AVC proposal regarding MM Core group
- ? The Economy & and Economy Task Groups will inform the community about the present state of affairs
- ? Update on Interim Development Council (IDC)
- ? Other topics from the floor

From the Interim Development Council (for full version please see AVnet)

Regular Members: Joseba, Jacques, Peter A., Jill. Consultant: Eugene. Secretary: Sonja. Notes: Shweta. Guests: Lalit, Pashi, Helmut

Announcement

The building formerly called the Town Hall will now be referred to as Auroville Centre for Urban Research (ACUR). It should be ready by the end of May. The tenants of the building will include the Financial Service, several Auroville groups and Auroville's Future.

Re-location of burial ground

Residents of Edyanchavadi are requesting to shift the current burial ground of Adventure to a more appropriate location. They are disturbed by the fumes from the cremation site. The burial ground near the Visitors Center should also move to the new location. IDC and Planning are studying the issue.

Grace community (final phase): building applications presented by Helmut. Financial and architectural details to be discussed with Lalit.

Update on Unity Pavilion

The building is taking shape with funds coming through for the equipment from CIRHU. The International Zone Group is going through a planning process with contributions from three different architects.

Water Campaign

The Water Campaign is continuing, with progress in Surrender and Bharat Nivas, and water quality testing by Manfred. A variety of points were identified which Auroville can work on to improve:

- The installation of water meters; a) household b) by well pump
- The installation of water treatment plants
- Not to use drinking water for garden irrigation
- To fairly share access to water (wells) with neighbours as water is a common resource
- To test water quality on a regular basis
- To avoid watering gardens between 10:00 in the morning and 3:00 in the afternoons.

In addition

- A dry garden landscaping service is being organized.
- A run-off catchment service was suggested.
- Contact people for 8 zones have been found.
- A Water Board is needed.

Franco's incense factory

The Industrial Zone Group gave several recommendations, which the Interim Development Group agreed to, adding some more points.

Building applications (feedback within two weeks please)

From Helmut, for Grace Phase III, 10 Units

From Nadaka, for house extension at Sharnga

From Andre, for a house at Annapurna

From Alan, for house extension at Samriddhi

From Christopher Gray for kitchen extension at Ami

From Telephone Service: New Landline Tariffs

With great publicity, BSNL has introduced new tariff plans for the regular landline connections. What appeared quite complex and confusing in the beginning can meanwhile be summarized in a comprehensive manner along with other recent changes:

There is a distinction now between **Rural** and **Urban** tariff. Most of Auroville falls into the first category, which is lucky because it is cheaper. The only communities excluded from this privilege are Aspiration and Auromodèle. It remains unclear whether bills will be issued uniformly for all connections on a monthly basis from now on. So far, this was the case only for those who had an average of more than 1,000 metered units per month.

At any rate, all information that is presently distributed is with reference to a one-month period.

Being classified as RURAL, your choices are very simple:

The **Economy package** gives better value to all those who use less than 550 metered units per month. Please check your recent bills to determine your average usage. Be sure to observe the entire amount of metered units (Gross Calls), irrespective of how many of them were free of charge or at reduced rates. If the bill you are looking at covers a 2-month period, divide this figure by 2.

The **Special tariff** will be advantageous for connections that usually accumulate more than 550 units per month.

In the URBAN category one more distinction comes into play:

Best package if average usage is

General:	below 550
Special:	between 550 and 1400
Super:	above 1400

Contrary to the impression created in the media, there is no compulsion to make changes under the pressure of a deadline. However, the changes made before the 15th of May are free of charge. After this date, a handling fee will become due, which might be in the vicinity of 30 Rupees.

What you save varies even within one and the same slab from 4 to 23 %, e.g. the Economy rate in the Rural category, up to 550 units/month. Once you leave this segment, though, you very soon start paying 23% more. Changing from one tariff to another is always possible starting with the following month. Please inform us in due time.

BSNL Pondicherry has provided information to us in a useful format, based on the conditions that actually apply for this particular circle. Therefore it is more concise than other publications on the web, which cover all conceivable situations. **These tables are available on our Intranet.**

Please inform the Telephone Service about your choice, if possible by email:
telephoneservice@auroville.org.in or else by calling us at 2622364 / 26622298.

How To Disable Your Stolen Cell Phone

- ? To check your Mobile phone's serial number, key in the following digits on your phone: *#06#
- ? A 15-digit code will appear on the screen. This number is unique to your handset. Write it down and keep it somewhere safe.
- ? Should your phone get stolen, you can phone your service provider and give them this code. They will then be able to block your handset, so even if the thief changes the Sim card your phone will be totally useless. You probably won't get your phone back, but at least you know that whoever stole it can't use/sell it either. If everybody did this, there would be no point in stealing mobile phones.

Last chance to book Solar Water Pumps

31st May 2003 is the deadline for booking your Solar Water Pumping System under the 2002-2003 Government of India subsidy programme.

The following solar pumping systems are still available:

- ? 900 W with surface/booster pump – Rs 65,000/-
- ? 1800 W with surface/booster pump – Rs 1,20,000/-
- ? 1800 W with submersible pump – Rs 1,65,000/-

For further details contact the AURORE team at CSR Office. Tel: 2622 749 / 168 / 277.

Email: aurore@auroville.org.in or have a look at the following website: www.auroville.com/aurore
(all relevant documents can be downloaded from the homepage). The AURORE team

Housesitters wanted

- ? Looking for a good housesitter for a beautiful house and garden, for the months of May till August/September. Contact Dorothee at 2622238 or <mailto:dorothee@auroville.org.in>
- ? Housesitter wanted for small house in GreenBelt, June 4 - August 4. Please call 2623019, or pass by Nilatangam (best time to come 4.30 pm)

Backpack wanted

Who is not escaping the heat this summer? ... and could lend me a medium-size backpack, please? It is difficult to get one of those in Pondi or anywhere else close by. I will return it for sure! Please contact Urvi at Karin's place in Discipline: 2622677

Dental Centre closed

The Auroville Dental Centre at Protection will be closed for one week, from 12/05/03 to 19/05/03, due to floor repairs. During that time, Dr. Sudhakar from the Health Centre Dental clinic will treat emergencies in Protection.

Change of telephone number

Alan and Annemarie have temporarily moved to another house in Samriddhi. Our telephone number for the coming three months: 2622817.

Summer programme at Kindergarten

This programme is for children of 3 to 7 years old. It will be open for 4 weeks on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, starting from Monday 19th of May, from 9 to 12 a.m. Children entering the crèche in July can come only with a parent.

Volunteers are needed to help for crafts, games, swimming pool, stories and so on. Please come to a preparatory meeting at Kindergarten Center Field on Wednesday 14th of May at 9.30 a.m.

Auroville Meeting in Germany (repeated from previous News)

There will be an Auroville meeting in the north of Germany, near Hamburg, from the evening of the 22nd till 25th May noon. There will be workshops, speeches, meditations, presentations, movies, music live events. Please see the program on AVnet or ask Tine, phone 26 23 033 tine@auroville.org.in and wjsr@gmx.net for info and registration. See you there! Tine

Play

"Flowers Aren't Enough" - A play written and performed by Naomi Ackerman, a visiting artist from Israel.

Date and time: Sunday, 11th May '03 at 7:00 PM

Place: Sri Aurobindo Auditorium, Bharat Nivas, Auroville

In collaboration with Prakriti Foundation & the Aseema Centre (Chennai), the Consulate General of Israel (Mumbai), Kala Khoj / Kalamitra, the Auditorium and Bharat Nivas group is happy to present this play to the Community of Auroville.

The presentation of the play is 60 minutes. A discussion with audience participation can take place if the spectators wish. All are welcome.

"Flowers Aren't Enough" is a monologue that tells the story of Michal, a young woman from an upper middle-class family who finds herself in an abusive relationship. We see her denial, guilt and despair and her sinking into darkness, until comes a turning point... and she decides to make a change!

Visitors Centre evening video

THE TRIAL OF LIFE - Nature Series by David Attenborough

There will be **No Monday Night Video** shows on May 12th + 19th, but we start again on May 26th. (Provided there is no other cultural event announced at the same time)

German Video

Mittwoch, 14.5, 20.00h

MURIEL'S WEDDING

Tragikomoedie, USA 1994, 100 min. mit Tony Collette

Das pummelige Mauerblümchen Muriel flüchtet mit ABBA-Musik in Traumwelten - und mit der Familienkasse auf eine Insel. Für ihre Rolle fütterte sich Tony Collette 22 Kilo an.

To Choir members and other interested singers:

On Saturday May 17th, from 4:00 – 6:00 pm at Pitanga, Merry will present her new choir composition, variations on a beautiful Gregorian melody. We have no schedule for rehearsing or performing this piece. Just come without any further obligation and see if you like it.

From Connections

Connections is looking for people who like to go jogging with Krishna. She goes jogging daily from 5.30 pm till 6.30 pm, now at the New Creation Sport Ground. If there are more people who join they can run through the Greenbelt. If you are interested then please contact her, phone: 2622605

As you know, Connections functions to help job seekers find the job providers of our Units. We serve Aurovilians, Newcomers and Long-term Guests as well as students who come to fulfill their service in Auroville. Now, we are opening a new page in the Intranet for Connections. There you can scroll yourself and find all the new jobs from the Units of Auroville. Not only that, you will find applications for both seekers and providers that you can fill in and send directly to us.

We are also putting up **Bulletin Boards** at the Solar Kitchen and at Pour Tous. In this way, Connections will give more chances for the Community to see what we have.

Finding Connections on AVNET:

Open **AVNET**

Click on **“Society”**

On **“Society Page”**, click on **“Connections”** hot link.

Or go to **“Bazaar”** and click on **“Connections”**.

You will find a beautiful flower.

On the Connections page you can do 3 things:

(a) Scroll down and see “Current Positions: so that you know what kind of jobs are available at present.

(b) Provider: Click on the sentence, “Click here to present job offers from your Unit/Project...” This will give you the application form to fill in if you need someone for a position. Then you can send the form to Connections. We will answer you the next day.

(c) Job Seeker: Click on the sentence, “Click here to go to the job application.” This will give you the application form to fill in if you are seeking a position. Then you can send the form to Connections. We will answer you the next day.

Love, the Connections Team

Bharat Nivas, SAWCHU Building

Tel: 2623 440; email: connections@auroville.org.in

Last minute note from AVCouncil

Today, Thursday 8th May, the AVCouncil decided to invite three new members onto the Council. The proposed members are:

- ? Ashatit (Fraternity)
- ? Naryanswamy (Douceur)
- ? Peter T (Adventure)

Feedback from the community is invited. Please send e-mails to avcouncil@auroville.org.in

Thank you.

David C

Acting Secretary, AVC

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