Pondicherry beach port around the time of the Mother’s final return on 24th April 1920

(As the Mother approached Pondicherry) I was on the boat at sea, not expecting anything…. when all of a sudden, abruptly, about two nautical miles from Pondicherry, the quality I may even say the physical quality of the atmosphere, of the air, changed so much that I knew we were entering the aura of Sri Aurobindo. It was a physical experience and I guarantee that whoever has a sufficiently awakened consciousness can feel the same thing.

The Mother

That she should come here and work with me for a common goal was, as it were, a divine dispensation…. She has helped and is helping to give a concrete form to my yoga. This would not have been possible without her co-operation.

One of the two great steps in this yoga is to take refuge in the Mother.

Sri Aurobindo

Dear friends and benefactors of Auroville’s bright future,
On this day, 102 years ago, the Mother returned to Pondicherry for a lasting stay and collaboration with Sri Aurobindo. The following lines from Savitri well express the meaning of that return.

“In a new act of the drama of the world
The united Two began a greater age.” (Savitri, Book five, Canto three)

The “greater age” referred to in the above lines is very much upon us. Auroville is meant to serve it, welcome it, be a precursor of it, and facilitate its coming. We may not palpably see “a greater age” with our external mind and outlook nor through our experiences of daily life and the world. Nevertheless, a process of deep and fundamental changes is at work.

**The Mother:** “One must have heroism to be a precursor: for, generally, men have faith only in what is already accomplished, evident, visible, and recognised even by the most sceptical.” (CWTM, Vol. 13, p.142)

We believe that the inspiring articles in this newsletter – the reminiscences of B (William Sullivan), the profile of Ellie, the completion of the Garden of the Unexpected in the Matrimandir Oval, the wealth of sharings on Sri Aurobindo’s vision for his 150th birth anniversary – reflect, no matter how small or even micro-scale they may seem to us, the workings of this coming “greater age”.

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**1. A4A FLIER – 24 APRIL 2022**

Auroville is the progressive creation of a place “where all human beings of goodwill who have a sincere aspiration could live freely as citizens of the world”. The Mother observed that “the earth is certainly not ready to realize such an ideal.” Yet, she said, “this dream is on the way of becoming a reality.” For what we do have is aspiration – individual and collective – with its power to overcome all opposition and difficulties.

Please click [here](#) for the A4A Flier in English, French and Tamil.
2. LFAU LETTER – 24th APRIL 2022

On this day, 102 years ago, a vastly significant event took place from the perspective of the creation of a new world, and a new India – the Mother’s permanent return to Pondicherry. A line from Savitri sums it up: “The united two begun a greater age.” The reference, of course, is to the collaboration between the Mother and Sri Aurobindo that followed her final arrival and went on for the next 30 years. Of course, from a deeper perspective, the collaboration between Sri Aurobindo and the Mother is beyond the limits of space and time.

Please click here for the LFAU letter in English, French and Tamil.
3. THREE NEW PLOTS OF MASTER PLAN LAND – ALL THANKS TO YOUR SOLIDARITY!

The year 2022 began with the good news of the purchase of 3 new plots of Master Plan land located in Auroville’s Greenbelt! Two of the new plots are located in the Pitchandikulam community nature reserve and one new plot is near Fertile – all three were purchased thanks to land donations. Warm appreciation for these happy events goes to the Land Board, the LFAU team, the many donors, and to the land owners who chose to sell their land to Auroville to support the flowering of the City of Dawn

Please click here for the article.

4. A GRATEFUL BEING – BY B (William Sullivan)

After discovering Sri Aurobindo, B (William Sullivan) settled in Auroville in 1974. One of its non-stop builders, he has worked on and collaborated in the creation of key elements in the Township’s development: Matrimandir Nursery, Matrimandir structure, Verité community, the Center for Scientific Research, development of the International Zone, and Zero Waste Auroville. With humor and insight, B takes us on a review of Auroville’s highs and lows. He says: “To live in Auroville, I knew I had to change, to change inside. I had to build Auroville as a state of consciousness in myself.” We thank B for all he has contributed over 48 years to the inner and outer Auroville!

Please click here to read B’s vibrant and, at times, humorous reminiscences.
5. THE SEEKER IS THE FINDER – BY ELLIE, A NEW AUROVILIAN FROM IRAN

Ellie from Teheran, Iran, first came to Auroville as a volunteer and became an Aurovilian in October 2021. She sums up her life’s theme and aspiration quoting an old Iranian saying “The seeker is the finder”. What Ellie most appreciates about Auroville is the diversity of opportunities and freedom for learning new things and personal growth. Chartered Accountant by profession, she brings her skills to two major Auroville service units. She says, “Auroville has become a dear and beautiful home to my heart.”

Please click here for Ellie’s interesting profile and life story.
6: SOLIDARITY FOR A4A’S LAND FUNDRAISING – GARDEN OF THE UNEXPECTED POSTCARDS & STICKERS

The Garden of the Unexpected was created for children as “a place of wonder and unexpected learnings”. It is spread over a 2-acre ensemble of 4 sections within the Matrimandir Oval Area aptly named Birth, Adolescence, Youthfulness, and Eternal Child. After 3 years, its construction by “The Unexpected Four” and the Matrimandir teams is almost finished. To contribute towards land purchase and create awareness about the GOU, a set of artwork postcards and stickers depicting the GOU’s flora and fauna was created by the Studio Naqshbandi under Aurovilian Mona Doctor-Pingel. Available at the Visitors Center Information Desk and at www.auroville.com, proceeds go to the A4A campaign for land purchase. We thank all those involved in this beautiful contribution and support for Auroville’s still-missing Master Plan land!

Please click here to know more.

7: THE 150th YEAR – HUMAN UNITY, INSPIRATION & RESOURCES

Auroville was founded as a forerunner for and experiment in creating human unity, with Sri Aurobindo’s teachings at its core. To celebrate the 150th anniversary of Sri Aurobindo’s birth, many scholars, disciples and exponents of his teachings are presenting various aspects of his vision and inspiration for the future, by way of webinars, new publications, special issues of
magazines and other innovative programmes. Here we provide glimpses into a few of these creative manifestations along with contact information.

The Aspiration:

an aspiration
vigilant, constant, unceasing —
the mind’s will,
the heart’s seeking,
the assent of the vital being,
the will to open and make plastic
the physical consciousness and nature;

Sri Aurobindo

8: INSPIRING QUOTES – 24 APRIL 2022

Sri Aurobindo and The Mother shared so many helpful perspectives on human life, our personal roles, and the attitudes needed for being and acting in the world. Here are seven quotations from their talks and writings that can be a useful compass as we move ahead in turbulent times. We again thank MirraBliss and integral.sadhana@gmail.com for these sharings. Please click here to read the seven quotes.

There are many ways to make your donation. Please click here to know the details and recent changes for both foreign and Indian donors. When you donate, kindly send us a mail at Ifau@auroville.org.in or write a letter or call us (see contacts below), informing us of your donation so we can better track and immediately respond to your solidarity!
In the 8th year of the A4A campaign, we thank all the many friends who are bringing their encouragement and solidarity for the City of Dawn, creating a dynamic space for the ideal of human unity to flourish and grow – a hope for us all!

Thank you for joining your hands of collaboration!

In solidarity and trust in Auroville’s bright future,

Aryadeep and Mandakini
For the Acres for Auroville team

www.land.auroville.org

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A4A info and land news on our website

LFAU (Lands for Auroville Unified), +91 413 2622657, Town Hall, Auroville, 605101, India
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