



AUROVILLE

A DREAM IN PROGRESS

2010 REFLECTIONS IN ORISSA

Date: 2nd February 2010 from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Venue: MAYFAIR LAGOON HOTEL
Jaydev Vihar
Bhubaneswar 751 013 . India

UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF

GAJAPATI MAHARAJA, SRI DIBYASINGHA DEB

CONFERENCE

AUROVILLE'S PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
ENVIRONMENT

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS

AN EDUCATION FOR THE FUTURE

AUROVILLE ENTERPRISE AND SOCIAL OUTREACH

PROGRAMME

3.00 – 3.30 p.m. **REGISTRATION**

3.30 – 3.45 p.m. **OPENING CEREMONY**

3.45 – 4.00 p.m. ***Rudraksh, an Odissi dance group directed by
Guru Bichitrananda Swain***

4.00 – 4.30 p.m. **GENERAL PRESENTATION ON AUROVILLE**
Deepti Tewari

The purpose of Auroville is to realise human unity– in diversity. Today Auroville is recognized as the first and only internationally endorsed ongoing experiment in human unity and transformation of consciousness. It is also concerned with sustainable living and the future cultural, environmental, social and spiritual needs of mankind.



“Auroville wants to be a universal town where men and women of all countries are able to live in peace and progressive harmony above all creeds, all politics and all nationalities. The purpose of Auroville is to realise human unity.”

Auroville was founded in 1968 on the teachings of India’s great spiritual master, Sri Aurobindo, by his spiritual companion, the Mother. It is located in South India in the state of Tamil Nadu, a few kilometres inland from the Coromandel Coast, approximately 160 kms south of Chennai (previously Madras) and 10 kms north of the town of Puducherry (formerly Pondicherry).

“Auroville International” (AVI) is a worldwide network set up with the aim of supporting the Auroville International Township in India. Founded in 1983, Auroville International today has member associations and liaison groups in 24 countries around the world.

AVI has chosen Bhubaneswar for this first presentation of Auroville in India. Orissa, known as the soul of India, is a distinctively cultured and historical land where the refined arts and crafts are as beautiful as its age old heritage.

4.30 – 5.00 p.m.

AUROVILLE'S PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT: A FIELD OF APPLIED RESEARCH

Luigi Zanzi

The presentation will consist of three main parts: past, present and future.

Past: This part will highlight the Mother's vision of a universal township, its mission, aims and objectives.

Describing the genesis of the Galaxy urban concept, it will give some insight into the innovative approach of Auroville's urban-rural planning.

Present: The recent completion of Matrimandir and its radiating beauty are energizing and accelerating the construction of the city. Based on the approved Master Plan, a Sustainable Regional Development Plan, inclusive of the surrounding villages, is being elaborated in collaboration with local, state and central authorities.

The eco-friendly parameters of the Auroville Master Plan as well as its socio-economic fabric, will make development a unique field of applied research.

Future: In order to build an experimental city like Auroville we should take advantage of all



5.00 – 5.30 p.m.

ENVIRONMENT

Joss Brooks

This presentation traces the greening of Auroville from the days when it was a dusty treeless plateau to the present lush forest garden. Highlighting the work of Auroville in villages of Tamil Nadu, it shows how the Auroville greenwork has spread out into the surrounding bioregion and how the experiences and technology are helping to solve some of the problems of rural India. Auroville's experimental work has been taken further afield into the center of Chennai where a 60-acre degraded wetland has been transformed into an environmental education center for the city.

5.30 – 6.00 p.m.

TEA BREAK

6.00 – 6.30 p.m.

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS

Toine van Megen

This presentation will begin with data to support the proposition that sustainable energy is the only way to go forward. An overview will be given of various renewable energy sources and systems and how they can be applied. These will include: wind energy, solar photovoltaic, solar heat, biomass, hybrid solutions, green and zero-emission buildings. The presentation will also cover the subjects of energy planning and energy saving, and deal with the question of sustainability and change of consciousness.

6.30 – 7.00 p.m.

AN EDUCATION FOR THE FUTURE

Deepti Tewari

Auroville's Charter envisions Auroville as a "place of unending education, constant progress and a youth that never ages". What are the contents of an education that aims at progress and a growth of consciousness that can shelter an eternal youthfulness? What are the elements of a society whose basis is to be an education



that never ends? An exploration of the spirit of Auroville's educational aspiration and its material expression.

7.00 – 7.15 p.m.

NINAD: *Orchestration of different percussion instruments composed and directed by Guru Shree Dhaneswar Swain*

7.15 – 7.45 p.m.

AUROVILLE ENTERPRISE AND SOCIAL OUTREACH

Uma Prajapati

Auroville is a global village that is concerned with trends and technology as well as the growth of consciousness.

Village outreach. Auroville's development is inextricably intertwined with the surrounding villages. There are 13 villages in the immediate area of Auroville, comprising about 40,000 people, and a total of 40 villages in the bioregional area.

Auroville runs many programs in the field of education, health, social justice, women's empowerment, livelihood, microfinance, and preservation of local culture.

Entrepreneurs. Several Aurovilians have ventured into the creation of craft-based business units for economic development of Auroville and the bioregion. Since there were hardly any traditional craft skills available in the region, one of the first major tasks was to provide creative skills to the vast pool of human resource surrounding Auroville. Auroville has now nearly 100 small-scale industries involved in producing a wide range of high quality hand-crafted products. People from the bioregion, after receiving training and inspiration from Auroville, are now creating their own business units and successfully launching their own products.

Upasana, design and social responsibility. Upasana is a business unit of Auroville that has been a pioneer in the field of design and its application to social development. Three of its most notable projects are Tsunamika, Small Steps, and Varanasi Weavers.

www.tsunamika.org www.smallsteps.in

www.varanasiweavers.org



7.45 – 8.00 p.m.

CONCLUSION AND CLOSING CEREMONY

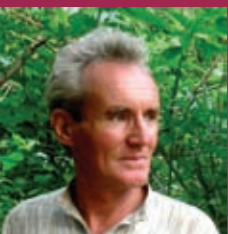


Deepti Tewari came to stay in Auroville in 1975. She has been involved in education and research into its forms since 1985. She was also the researcher/editor of the Matrimandir Journals, which were published from 1997-2004. deepti@auroville.org.in

Luigi Zanzi is a developer, fundraiser and networker of Italian origin, who has been part of the Auroville adventure for thirty years. He came to India in 1975 and lived for three years at the Sri Aurobindo's Ashram in Puducherry. He started the development of Transformation habitat in the Cultural Zone of Auroville. For several years he took care of the Matrimandir Nursery building landscaped gardens and doing research into the spiritual significance of flowers as given by Mother. Between 1990 and 2007, he coordinated Auroville's Future, the Planning Office of Auroville, under the guidance of Roger Anger, Auroville's Chief Architect. Today as a member of L'Avenir d'Auroville, the Planning and Development Research Organization of Auroville, he is promoting the development of Auroville as a place for a living embodiment of an actual human unity. luigi@auroville.org.in



Joss Brooks grew up in the Australian State of Tasmania. He came to Auroville in 1970 to participate in the pioneering work of the newborn community. In 1973 he established the community of Pitchandikulam, which is dedicated to restoring the eroded 60 acres of the Auroville Green Belt to its former green cover. Now it is a vibrant forest with more than



600 species of plants, many having medicinal value. In association with the Foundation for Revitalization of Local Health Traditions (FRLHT), he developed the medicinal plant conservation park at Pitchandikulam. joss@auroville.org.in

Toine van Megen lived and worked in Auroville for a good part of his life. In Auroville he participated in a number of projects and activities including the Matrimandir and the Auroville Electrical Service, which he established and managed for a number of years. He was also a member of the team that build Auroville's 36 kW solar plant near the Matrimandir and was a founder-member of Auroville's Renewable Energy Group. Toine was active in the management of wind energy businesses for over 12 years and presently devotes his time to a variety of activities in Auroville including township infrastructure development and business and project management consultancy services. tvm@auroville.org.in



Uma Prajapati is a fashion designer by profession. She has lived in Auroville since 1996. She is the founder of Upasana, a design studio in Auroville, which was launched in 1997 (www.upasana.in). Through Upasana she brings the rich tradition of Indian textiles to Auroville and through Auroville to the world. Over the years the focus of Upasana moved to the field of socially responsible design. umahaimavati@auroville.org.in



Auroville Charter

1. Auroville belongs to nobody in particular. Auroville belongs to humanity as a whole. But to live in Auroville, one must be a willing servitor of the Divine Consciousness.
2. Auroville will be the place of an unending education, of constant progress, and a youth that never ages.
3. Auroville wants to be the bridge between the past and the future. Taking advantage of all discoveries from without and from within, Auroville will boldly spring towards future realisations.
4. Auroville will be a site of material and spiritual researches for a living embodiment of an actual Human Unity.

Earth needs a place where men can live away from all national rivalries, social conventions, self-contradictory moralities and contending religions; a place where human beings, freed from all slavery to the past, can devote themselves wholly to the discovery and practice of the Divine Consciousness that is seeking to manifest. Auroville wants to be this place and offers itself to all who aspire to live the truth of tomorrow.

The Mother

“The indwelling deity who presides over the destiny of the race has raised in man’s mind and heart the idea, the hope of a new order which will replace the old unsatisfactory order and substitute for it conditions of the world’s life which will in the end have a reasonable chance of establishing permanent peace and well-being. This would for the first time turn into an assured fact the ideal of human unity.”

Sri Aurobindo

For more information, please write to Ms Mauna, Auroville Universal Township, General Information, Town Hall, Administrative Area, 605101 AUROVILLE, Tamil Nadu
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