

SRI AUROBINDO ASHRAM TRUST

Pondicherry – 605002, India (+91-413-2233628)

20.04.2021

Update

Medical Situation

- 1) Pondicherry is experiencing an intense second wave of COVID-19 infections. Currently there are more than 4000 active cases in the town, with new cases in excess of 500 per day.
- 2) In the last ten days, **22 persons** connected to the Ashram have tested positive for COVID-19 and are undergoing treatment. Their close contacts have been identified and they have been asked to remain in quarantine.
- 3) Department in-charges should ensure that all the medical protocols are being strictly implemented in their Departments. Domestic workers/employees coming into Ashram premises must also wear a mask at all times.
- 4) It is reiterated that all must take responsibility and follow the simple medical protocols:
 - *wear a mask to cover the nose and mouth*
 - *ensure proper ventilation of spaces shared with others (keep windows open and fans running; reduce time spent in AC environments)*
 - *limit duration of interaction with others in closed spaces*
 - *maintain adequate distance from others*
 - *wash hands with soap frequently*
 - *avoid going to public places such as markets*
 - *strictly avoid social gatherings and functions*

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Vaccination

- 5) The Government is encouraging all those eligible (currently 45 years of age and above) to get themselves voluntarily vaccinated against COVID-19. The current wave is seen to be far more infectious. Vaccination for all persons above 18 years of age is also expected to be open from 1st May 2021.
- 6) What the vaccines are stated to achieve is to provide the body with mechanisms to cope with the infection, and prevent or reduce the impact and severity of the illness as also the need for COVID-19 related hospitalisation.
- 7) Ashramites who would like assistance with the vaccination process may contact the Ashram Dispensary.
- 8) The vaccines do not provide complete immunity from COVID-19. Therefore, even if an individual has completed taking both doses of the vaccine, all regular protocols must continue to be observed at all times.

Quarantine Policy Update

- 9) Ashramites are advised not to travel outside Pondicherry unless it is essential.
- 10) Any returning Ashramite/Volunteer who has stayed outside Pondicherry for more than 1 night should not come to their place of work for 14 days. They need not be in quarantine, however, they should keep to themselves and strictly not socialise or involve themselves in any group activities during this period.

Meditation

- 11) The evening collective meditations in the Playground and the Ashram courtyard are suspended until further notice.

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SAICE

- 12) All sections of SAICE (Kindergarten to Higher Course) will remain closed for physical classes until further notice.
- 13) Online classes will continue as usual.
- 14) Parents / guardians who intend to take their child outside Pondicherry should inform the School Office (Dheera: +91-413-2233645).

Visitors & Guest Houses


- 15) All Ashram guest houses will be closed to visitors until further notice.
- 16) Dining Room will remain closed to visitors until further notice.
- 17) The School for Perfect Eyesight will be closed until further notice.

Bureau Central Phone Number & Email ***(Information centre for visitors & guests)***

+91-413-2233604
bureaucentral@sriaurobindoashram.org

Ashram Helpline Numbers ***(For Ashramites, Volunteers, etc.)***

95972-92595 95971-92595


MANOJ DAS GUPTA
Managing Trustee
SRI AUROBINDO ASHRAM TRUST
PONDICHERRY