



Friends of Dalijoda

A Newsletter of Sri Aurobindo Shreekshestra

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I know that mighty gods are friends of earth. - Sri Aurobindo

July 19, 1914

O LORD, Thou art the omnipotent Master of Thy own manifestation; grant to these instruments that they may escape from frames too narrow, from limits too fixed and mediocre. All the riches of human possibility are needed to translate even one atom of Thy infinite Force. . . .

Open the doors that are closed, make the sealed fountains spring forth, that the floods of Thy eloquence and Thy beauty may overspread the world. Let there be amplitude and majesty, nobility and grace, charm and grandeur, variety and strength: for it is the will of the Lord to manifest.

O my sweet Master, Thou art the sovereign Ruler of our destinies; Thou art the omnipotent Master of Thy own manifestation.

Thine is all this world, Thine all these creatures and all these atoms. Transfigure them, illumine.

(CWM1/206)

The Mother

Letters from Babaji Maharaj

Start with making tooth powder, incense sticks, phenyl, soap etc. in small quantities. You can increase quantities later. Stop buying paddy. This year, convert few acres of jungle for paddy cultivation, keep the produce from this separately and sell as rice.

Undertake digging of wells and ponds and prepare plan to start weaving.

13 Jan 1980

There should not be any problem in the feeding of cows and bullocks. Please inform after checking about it personally. The feeds for cattle & calves should be of good quality. Inform everyone not to beat them.

29 Jan 1980

Dam will be good for agriculture. It will also be good if Adivasi women learn sewing. Other plans, digging well etc. are quite right. But plant cashew nut trees this year.

4 Feb 1980

Do each work as it should be done. Instead of buying paddy and selling it, it will be better if we spend once in cultivating; it will be useful in prosperity for sadhaks. Expenses towards paddy cultivation every year will be from that harvest. Rest of paddy cultivation can be sold and the income can be used towards expenses of the Ashram. You can do the rest of the work as required. The Mother's Blessings for all sadhak brothers. Definitely plant cashew

trees during the rainy season this year. Cover with *sialia* thorns so that jackals cannot eat them. Paddy must have been harvested. Share the accounts for this year. How much did the seeds cost? How much paddy was harvested? How many sadhaks worked in paddy cultivation?

14 Feb 1980

Starting a rice huller will be very good. We cannot be slow in this work.

5 Mar 1980

Glad to know that the work at Shreekshetra is going on well. It is very good that the rice huller has started. What steps have you taken towards setting up a weaving loom?

10 Mar 1980

Try to find ways to be protected from elephant menace. You will find a way. Do we need to do thorny hedge like *Siju*, *deulia siju* or thorny bamboos? How much will it cost to plant hundred cashew trees? Please write about the cost for 500 cashew trees including thorny hedge and definitely plan to plant them this year. Please write and arrange for the plants.

20 May 1980

That is a center for sadhana (yogic practice). Whoever takes up sadhana, their objective is to achieve the goal. They must adhere to the rules of the Ashram with an attitude of sadhana and follow the direction of the authority. They can stay with permission; none should be allowed to stay in Ashram without permission.

12 June 1980

Everything, each being, in the gross or subtle worlds are guided by rules and discipline. Wherever there are rules and discipline, there everything is organised. Even sun, moon, stars are guided by a rule and discipline.

Rules are of two types. Outer rules to organise and arrange external things effectively; rules of inner invisible forces to control internal subtle elements.

If we do not follow external disciplines like regular and appropriate eating and sleeping then we will fall ill, and there will be different types of diseases in our body. People suffer when they become too irregular. We will suffer from different types of hardships, worries, despondency, and disappointments. We need to follow outer rules as long as we are not controlled by our soul within. If we do not follow outer discipline then we cannot enter within and discover the inner rules. That is why, it is absolutely necessary to follow discipline in ordinary life as well as spiritual life. If rules are not followed in the family, the family is bound to break apart. Diseases occur due to disharmony in the body.

Following rules is indispensable for spiritual organisations. We go away from spiritual path when we do not follow the rules. By doing that, we invite worry, despondency, disappointment, depression, violence, hatred, jealousy, and quarrel. It leads to suffering of self, giving suffering to others, pollute the Ashram atmosphere and oppose The Mother and Sri Aurobindo. It means, to offer ourselves to the same dark forces who we wanted to get rid of and came to ashram leaving our home, family, parents.

By doing this, we lose the opportunity to serve our parents as our dharma in ordinary life and go away from the path to realise the Divine as well. We belong neither here nor there. It is like doing suicide.

We have left our home and parents to realize the Divine. This is the duty of a Sadhak and aim of our lives. We have got all kinds of favourable opportunities by the Grace of the Mother. If we misuse the opportunities then, as per *Goswami Tulasidas*, we should regret by hitting our head and blaming the time, karma and the God.

*So paratra dukkha pawai sira dhuni dhuni pachhitai
Kaalahi, karmahi, iswarahi mithya dosha lagai*

For a Sadhak, it is absolutely essential to follow the rules that are prescribed in the ashram. Do as directed by the Manager, to buy or sell anything in ashram. To do it without his [manager's] approval is absolutely wrong. We should follow every rule of the Ashram; do all our work sincerely as a service and offering to the Mother. Dereliction of duty means deceiving ourselves and create obstacles in our sadhana. Not following the discipline damages the institution but more harm occurs in the life of sadhana. It gives opportunity to more adverse situations. Every sadhak in ashram should firmly and sincerely follow the discipline.

17 June 1980



Happenings and Road Ahead

Activities

- **47th Anniversary of installation of sacred Relics of Sri Aurobindo and 19th Foundation Day of Sri Aurobindo University** was observed on **4th April 2025** with participation of people from all over Odisha. Dr Alok Pandey from Sri Aurobindo Ashram, Pondicherry was the Chief Guest for the event along with Prof. Prafulla Kumar Mishra (ex-VC) and Sri Prasad Tripathy, Secretary, New Life Education Trust as guest speakers. Dr Shyama Kanungo, Managing Trustee presided over the meeting conducted in the Sri Aurobindo University Hall.
- **22nd Annual Sri Aurobindo Health Squad (SAHS) training** program was held jointly with **Sri Aurobindo Study Circle Organisers Training camp** from **4th to 13th May 2025** at the Sri Aurobindo University campus. 24 participants attended these programs which had many joint sessions. Key sessions in the event include, sessions on Dasa Karmadhara by respective organisers, organising study circles in different panchayats of Odisha, School Health benefits and mechanism of SUMAN volunteer program, Acupressure & Oral health care sessions. Integrated school health program for students of Sri Aurobindo Purnaga Shiksyakendra, Dalijoda, were

conducted with SAHS trainees doing the health checkup while the members of Sri Aurobindo Mahila Pathachakra (Women Study Circle) of Matrubhaban along with the rest of the trainees took sessions for the Guardians of the school children. In the end *Lokasahitya* books were distributed to the guardians and they were encouraged to hold Sri Aurobindo Study Circles in their homes.

- The **52nd Foundation Day of Sri Aurobindo Srikshetra** was observed on **30th June 2025** with march-past, Vande Mataram by sadhaks and school students, meditation at the Relics Centre followed by meeting at the school hall. Sri Binod Kumar Das, Director SIT, was the Chief Guest.
- In September, Suman volunteer training was given to two school teachers at Tangi PHC.

Other Updates:

- From July regular 'Ma' Namajapa programmes are being held on the 30th of each month from 6am to 6pm to pray for the progress of Sri Aurobindo Srikshetra. Anyone interested to participate in the Namajapa can reach out to the given contacts.
- A paver laid road to the Exhibition Hall of Sri Aurobindo University has been constructed
- A wild tusker broke the boundary solar fencing twice and ate away paddy after breaking the paddy granary door. A new solar fencing has been erected.
- A re-modelled house for Jagannath Bhai, in charge of Agriculture department, has been constructed.

- It was decided to improve the activities of Sribhandar Store by increasing investments to sell Sri Aurobindo Ashram products. Divyashakti Chhatua, powdered millets, pure turmeric powder, *peda* of Dairy farm, organic rice, Dalijoda Ananda Jhuna-Gogula incense sticks sold from Sribhandar are gaining popularity.
- Proposals for construction of an open-air-auditorium (to facilitate hosting of different programs which could not be organised due to lack of adequate meeting space), a 'Senior 'Sadhak's home-cum-Old age home' as well as the Trust Office, a permanent concrete wall around the Ashram perimeter and a concrete path way to Matrupanata have been accepted in the recent trust meeting. Locations for the new buildings and auditorium have also been accepted by all. Anyone willing to contribute financially or through their expertise towards these constructions can reach out to the given contacts.



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