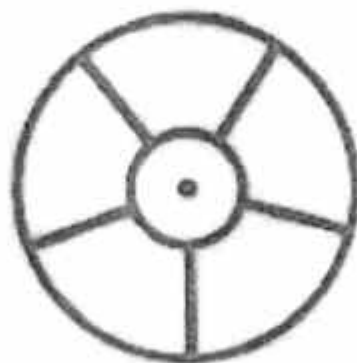


68th Meeting of the Governing Board

DATE : 05-12-2024

TIME : 11.30 AM

VENUE : Auroville Foundation



Minutes of the meeting

**Auroville Foundation,
Auroville**

AUROVILLE FOUNDATION, AUROVILLE

Minutes of the 68th Governing Board meeting held on 05.12.2024 at Auroville Foundation, Auroville

The following members were present in the meeting:

1.	Hon'ble Shri R. N. Ravi Governor of Tamil Nadu	Chairperson
2.	Shri. K. Kailashnathan Hon'ble Lt. Governor of Puducherry	Member
3.	Prof. Goutam Ghosal	Member
4.	Dr. Nirima Oza	Member
5.	Prof. R. S. Sarraju	Member
6.	Shri Aravindan Neelakandan	Member
7.	Dr. Jayanti S. Ravi, IAS, Addl. Chief Secretary, Govt. of Gujarat	Secretary, AVF
8.	Dr. G. Seetharaman, Professor, IIT, Trichy	OSD, AVF

The following Officers of Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, New Delhi were present online during the meeting:

- Ms. Madhu Bala Soni, Under Secretary (UNESCO)
- Shri. Sameer Bakshi, SO (UU/IFC)
- Shri D.C. Goel, Spl. DG, CPWD (Retd.) was a Special Invitee to the meeting.
- Prof. Nandana G Basappa, Governing Board member did not attend the meeting.

Dr. Jayanti S. Ravi, Secretary, Auroville Foundation welcomed the Chairperson and the Members to the 68th meeting of the Governing Board.

Hon'ble Shri R. N. Ravi, Governor of Tamil Nadu and Chairperson, Governing Board, Auroville Foundation delivered the opening remarks.

In the opening remarks he warmly welcomed Shri. K. Kailashnathan, Hon'ble Lt. Governor of Puducherry as a Member of the GB, Auroville Foundation.

The chairperson gave a brief recap of the road travelled by the current GB which was formed in the year 2021. He lamented that over a period the Auroville has tended towards an antithesis of its core objectives. Instead of a place for sadhaks and devotees of Sri Aurobindo and The Mother, it became a refuge for some persons with vested interests. The current GB with deep sense of their responsibility took initiatives to try and bring Auroville back to its intended mission. The task in hand was two-fold. One the physical manifestation of Auroville according to the dream of its founder, the Mother, and the other its spiritual evolution. There was the Master Plan of the Auroville before the GB and the GB deliberated into why it was not implemented even after many decades. On scrutiny of minutes of the earlier GB meetings it was transpired that from time to time the GBs exhorted the Aurovilians to work towards implementation of the Master Plan in meetings after meetings. The Chairperson observed that he himself had met more than half of the Aurovilians either collectively or individually both at the Auroville and at Chennai. The Mother formulated the Master Plan as per the dreams of Sri Aurobindo described in his Life Divine. Persons with vested interests started interpreting The Mother after her departure, according to their whims. The current GB started implementing the Master Plan, however, it was met with obstructions in various forms including litigations. The challenges were met legally and the GB proceeded with determination towards fulfilling the dreams of The Mother, the implementation of the Master Plan. The Chairperson and the GB Members continued meeting the Aurovilians individually and collectively to take their opinion as forging a consensus seeking their co-operation in the manifestation of the Auroville in the best possible manner. During the course, the GB also realized that there are a few loopholes and ambiguities in the Acts, Rules and Regulations which were being exploited by the vested interests. The GB is making efforts to remove the shortcomings in the Act and Rules. He also stated that the earlier GBs used to meet once or twice a year, however, when the current GB took charge, it was began meeting at least once a quarter so as to remain grounded here in Auroville. The GB has been taking everyone on board viz. International Advisory Committee and the Residents as far as possible. However, a minority of the Aurovilians choose their own path and create series of obstructions.

Thereafter, the Chairperson requested the Secretary to add begin the proceedings. The Secretary in her brief remarks stated that Shri Aurobindo gave us back the Secrets of Vedas to have abundance, prosperity, beauty, aesthetics all of which can be achieved while living in this world yet do it with consciousness and the City was meant for that purpose. While formulating the Master Plan, The Mother gave a complete blueprint and did not leave anything to the imagination of others. The City has been conceived in such a way that it could be assembled as a jigsaw puzzle. In the year 1968, the Mother wanted that the city should be completed within 10 years, however, even after 57 years, the city has not yet taken a definite shape. The Mother planned the city for a population of 50,000 people, however, now it has only less than 2000 persons which is akin to a village panchayat in India. She thanked the current GB for its unwavering support and assured that soon the City will have a definite footprint viz. the crown road, radial roads and the outer ring road etc. She briefly mentioned about the framing of Admission and Termination Regulations for induction of new Aurovilians, Working Committee Regulations to streamline the formation of the Working Committee etc. She also mentioned about the efforts made by the Foundation in centralization of Accounts of all the nearly 800 units of the Auroville through a common ERP solution.

After the opening remarks by the Chairperson and the Secretary, the Agenda Items were taken up for discussion. The following were the decisions taken in this meeting:

Item No. 68.01	Confirmation of minutes of the 67th meeting of the Governing Board held on 31st May 2024
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The minutes of the 67th Meeting of the Governing Board held on 31st May 2024 were circulated to all the Members. No comments have been received from the Members. The Governing Board resolved to confirm the minutes of the 67th meeting.

Item No. 68.02	Action taken on important decisions taken by the present Governing Board
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The Governing Board has taken on record the action taken/current status on important decisions of the previous meeting of the Governing Board.

Item No. 67.12	Creation of three posts of DS to facilitate the appointment of Officers to handle Administration, Accounts, and Security matters	The GB apprised that the number of applications received for the said posts is very minimum. Further, the Board has taken note of the extension of time up to 22.01.2025 for receiving applications. The Board decided to constitute a committee of following GB members with Secretary AVF as Member Secretary of the committee to screen the applications received and conduct the selection process. 1. Prof. R. S. Sarraju, Member 2. Prof. Goutam Ghosal, Member 3. Shri. Aravindan Neelakandan, Member 4. Secretary, AVF The committee shall thereafter submit its recommendations on appointments to GB for their formal approval.
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Item No. 68.03	Secretary's Report
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The Secretary presented a report to the Governing Board on the important activities, initiatives and achievements since the last GB meeting. The Board noted the important activities since the last meeting of the GB.

Reporting Items

Item No. 68.04	Minutes of the 41st Finance Committee meeting
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The GB was apprised that the 41st meeting of the Finance Committee was held just before the GB meeting. The Finance Committee considered the proposals, and it recommended the proposals for consideration of the GB.

Item No. 68.05	Status of court cases, pending issues and Auroville Regulations
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The Board has noted the details of the court cases pending in different courts and their status.

Item No. 68.06	Important decisions taken by the Working Committee, FAMC and ATDC
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The Board has noted the important decisions taken by the Working Committee, FAMC and ATDC. Other points related to these bodies have been presented and discussed separately in the meeting.

Item No. 68.07	Sale of cut trees through tender process
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The GB approved depositing the surplus amount on account of sale of cut wood to the Government after adjusting expenditure incurred in cutting of the trees. The GB was apprised that during the tree cutting drive, transplantation was carried out to the extent possible. It was also apprised that compensatory tree plantation has been carried out as per the norms.

Item No. 68.08	Annual Report & Accounts of the Auroville Foundation for the year 2023-24
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The GB duly approved the annual accounts audited by the CAG and annual report. The GB advised that the Foundation should provide appropriate and satisfactory replies to all the queries raised by the Audit. The GB was apprised that final Separate Audit Report (SAR) is awaited from the CAG and once it is received the Annual Report along with the Annual Accounts for the year 2023-24 (both in English and Hindi) would be submitted to the Government for placing before the Parliament.

Item No. 68.09	Case studies by IIT Kharagpur, IIM Ahmedabad and IIM Mumbai
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Secretary added that in addition to IIT Kharagpur; and IIM Mumbai; IIM Ahmedabad and National Law School, Bengaluru have also been engaged to undertake case studies. A discussion in this regard was held with the team of IIT Kharagpur in the month of November 2024. A team from IIM, Mumbai also visited the Auroville in the same month. The reports by these institutions will be available by February 2025.

It was clarified that these institutions approached Auroville to document the current point of inflexion in the manifestation of the city of Dawn, Auroville. It was also noted that these would document the origin and vision of the Auroville, what happened during the past more than 55 years and the initiatives of the current GB in re-invigorating the efforts to realize the City.

The GB noted the information.

Item No. 68.10	Communication / representation regarding land exchange by the Auroville Foundation
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The GB was apprised that the Ministry of Education, New Delhi has forwarded complaints regarding land exchanges and other matters relating to the Auroville Foundation and another regarding the DOG Shelter. The Foundation has furnished appropriate replies to the Ministry.

The GB noted the information.

Approval Items

Item No. 68.11	TDS Refund
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The GB has approved the proposal of returning the principal amount of income tax refund to the units concerned and retaining the interest amount in the Secretary's Account of the Auroville Foundation. It was clarified that Secretary's Account is also audited by the CAG.

Item No. 68.12	Land erosion in SriMa Community of Auroville
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There is huge sea erosion threatening SriMa Community of the Auroville and there is an urgent need to protect it from further sea erosion. The PWD engineers from state government also understood the severity of the situation and started to dump the stone boulders. However, the fishermen from the neighboring villages started violent protest against dumping the stones fearing it will cause erosion in their village which compelled the PWD to stop the dumping of boulders.

Further, GB was apprised that the Auroville Foundation has approached the National Center for Coastal Research (NCCR) for scientific solutions, as they successfully restored the Pondy Beach and now their involvement in developing the Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) for restoring the entire coastline of Puducherry. NCCR, Chennai, is an attached office of the Ministry of Earth Sciences.

- (i) The proposal received from NCCR is roughly Rs. 2/- crore which, according to them, can be integrated with the larger Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) of Puducherry.
- (ii) Auroville Foundation had also obtained another proposal from TechFab, a private firm, for a Gabian wall for an estimated budget of roughly Rs. 4.5 cr. Several meetings have been held with them to assess both proposals and integrate the best suited into the SMP.

The GB was also informed that the Auroville has requested Govt. of Puducherry for incorporating one of the above proposals as part of the larger Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) currently under preparation, as it is mandatory that any proposal for the Pondicherry shoreline be included in the Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) of Puducherry before being implemented.

The GB accorded in-principle approval for the work.

Item No. 68.13	Approval for legal fee payment to Counsels engaged by the Foundation
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The GB approved the payment of legal fees of Rs.28,65,811/- to the counsels for the period from 1st June 2024 to 30th November 2024.

Item No. 68.14	Approval to purchase Air Conditioner and Sprinkler System for Unity Pavilion
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The GB noted that various activities are held at the Unity Pavilion throughout the year and there is a functional need for ACs and the Sprinkler System. The GB was apprised that the equipment will be procured through GeM portal. The GB approved the proposal.

Item No. 68.15	Budget Proposals for the year 2024-25
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The GB approved the budget proposals for the FY 2024-25.

AUROVILLE FOUNDATION BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2024-25					
Sl. No.	Particulars	Amount in Crores.			
		Salary OH-36	General OH – 31	Capital OH – 35	Total in INR
1	Funds and Assets Management Committee (FAMC)		0.51		0.51
2	Working Committee		0.24		0.24
3	Sri Aurobindo International Institute of Educational Research (SAHER)		1.65	0.16	1.81
4	Auroville Town Development Council (ATDC)		1.93		1.93
5	Auroville Foundation Secretariat	3.00	3.40	49.05	55.45
	Allocated Budget Total	3.00	6.00	49.21	58.21

Item No. 68.16	Approval for identifying an agency to expedite felling of trees and selling timber / firewood
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The GB was apprised that CPWD is not inclined to undertake the work. However, the Horticulture Wing of CPWD are ready to mark the trees which can be cut and which are to be protected. For speedy execution of work involving cutting of a number of trees it was proposed to engage an agency through a tendering process in terms of GFR. It was also submitted to the GB that cutting of small number of trees may be undertaken directly by the Auroville Foundation to ensure speedy completion of infrastructure works such as laying of roads etc.

The GB considered the proposal and approved.

Item No. 68.17	Integral Skills Development Centre (Vocational Training)
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The GB accorded its in-principle approval for the proposed Centre for imparting various skills to the Aurovilians and to outsiders.

Item No. 68.18	Auroville Media Policy 2024
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The GB approved the Media Policy of the Auroville Foundation.

Item No. 68.19	Amendments proposed to AVF Act & Rules
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The GB discussed the need for amendment to the Auroville Foundation Act and Rules to remove the anomalies in them which are misused by a section of the Auroville community to stall the realization of the City and growth of the Auroville.

GB approved the proposed amendments for further submission to the Ministry for their appropriate action for processing amendments to the Act and the Rules.

Item No. 68.20	Monitoring and Overview Committee under section 16 of the Act
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The GB agreed to defer the proposal.

Item No. 68.21	Income Tax exemptions U/S 35(1)(ii) & (iii)
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The GB noted the exemptions granted to the Auroville Foundation by the Income Tax Department under Section 35(1) (ii) and (iii) of the Income Tax Act. The GB was apprised that it was possible only because of the active involvement of the Ministry of Finance, GoI.

LAND MATTERS

Item No. 68.22	Allocation of site for Dog Shelter
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The proposal was discussed briefly. The GB decided that the Dog Shelter will continue at the present location with the existing facilities. Infrastructure facilities proposed for the Dog Shelter will be submitted to the GB in its next meeting once funds are allocated by the Ministry for the purpose.

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

Item No. 68.23	Status of infrastructure projects under CPWD and others
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The GB noted the current status of the infrastructure projects executed by the CPWD inter-alia including the Crown Road and Radial Roads. The GB was also informed that a portion of the Crown Road is being laid by the Auroville residents, with donations and sponsorship, as per the Master plan.

Item No. 68.24	Approval for joint collaboration with Sri Aurobindo Ashram devotees for the execution of various projects
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The GB approved the proposal for collaboration between the Auroville Foundation and the Sri Aurobindo Ashram devotees for the execution of various projects.

During the course of discussions, Shri Aravindan Neelakantan, GB Member stated that the book shop at the Information Centre is in fact a general book shop with all kinds of books.

He suggested that in collaboration with the Ashram the book shop at the Information Centre may be improved to have more books on Sri Aurobindo and The Mother.

The GB agreed with the suggestion and requested the Secretary to take it forward.

Item No. 68.25	Recommendation to form a Committee to look into the various reports/ audits
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After detailed deliberations, the GB decided that instead of forming a committee, retired officials from All India Services, Central Government Departments and Institutions, Revenue Department, Police Department, CAG etc., may be engaged on honorarium basis to assist the administration of the Foundation to look into specific allegations brought out in the various complaints such as the Madan Gopal Committee, Audit Report of the O/o. Principal Controller of Accounts, MoE, and Forensic Audits, as well as such similar audits that are to be taken up, as required for ensuring compliances and to take them to logical conclusions.

Item No. 68.26	Sector Plans including detailed infrastructure planning: expansion of Planning Group
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The GB noted that detailed plans are to be prepared for Sector Plans and Infrastructure Plans for the various Zones. A team of experts will be engaged on contractual basis for a period of one year for preparing the various plan documents.

The GB approved the proposal and the expenditure for 12 months of Rs. 52,50,000/-.

Item No. 68.27	Approval for installation of solar systems at Auroville
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The GB approved the proposal. The GB, however, suggested to explore the possibility of getting the work of installation of solar panels through the vendors empaneled by the Govt. of Tamil Nadu who may be able to handle all the associated works involved with the project.

Item No. 68.28	Substation - change of scope and estimate
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The GB was apprised that in terms of Master Plan, the Transformers and HT Panels are to be housed indoor. Solar Panel will also be installed on the roof of the infrastructure. Accordingly, the CPWD submitted fresh revised estimates. The GB considered and approved the proposal.

Item No. 68.29	Staff Quarters Project - Revised Preliminary Estimate
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The GB was apprised that the earlier proposal submitted by the CPWD was only for the building. However, it is proposed to construct Quarters fully furnished with social infrastructure and solar panel installation.

Further earlier estimates were based on old rates. Accordingly, the CPWD furnished revised estimates for 28 Staff Quarters up to Type VI. CPWD will furnish separate estimates for construction of staff quarters for Type VII and Type VIII which will be submitted to the GB in the next meeting.

The GB considered the proposal and accorded them in-principle approval for construction of 28 staff quarters as per the proposal and further directed to resubmit the revised estimate with full scope of 30 quarters including type VII and VIII.

GB expressed hope that, the construction of 28 staff quarters will now start without any further delay.

Item No. 68.30	Auroville Public Space Service
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The GB approved in-principle the proposal for formation of the Auroville Public Space Service for maintenance of public services such as Water, Electricity, Road and Green areas. The Service will function under the control of the Secretary Auroville Foundation. The expenditure on account of these services will be met through Government grants for which a proposal will be submitted in the next meeting of the GB.

Item No. 68.31	Auroville Communication Service
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After the detailed deliberations, the GB directed that Auronico shall be subsumed in Auroville telephone service (AVTS).

While according in principle approval to the proposal submitted before the GB for Rs.19.8/- crore, the GB also suggested to explore alternative funding through BharatNet Project. GB advised to engage service of retired BSNL officer to execute the said work.

Item No. 68.32	Auroville Consulting – UNEP Project
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The GB was apprised that the UNEP project will be undertaken by the Auroville Consulting, a unit of the Auroville. The project is to provide technical assistance to designated state and city agencies and for capacity building. The duration of the project is 3-years from the month of January 2025 and has a total budget of USD 400,000. There is no financial or other liability on the part of the Auroville. The GB considered and approved the proposal.

ESTABLISHMENT MATTERS

Item No. 68.33	Appointment of Chartered Accountants for audit of Auroville Foundation Trust/ Units for the Financial Year 2024-25
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The GB advised that the accounts should be finalized and the statutory Audit by the CAG should be got completed in a timely manner. The GB approved the appointment of new audit firms for the Financial Year 2024-25.

Item No. 68.34	Approval for annual increment to contractual staff
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The GB approved grant of annual increment to the contractual staff w.e.f. July 2024 as proposed by the Foundation at various slab rates. The GB was apprised of the financial outgo on account of the proposed increment.

Item No. 68.35	Approval for Honorary Consultants & extension of contract and other staff
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The GB approved the proposal for extension of tenure of contractual consultants/ staff. The GB also approved the engagement of Shri. DC Goel, Spl. DG, CPWD (Retd.) as a Consultant on honorary basis.

The GB also approved the engagement of Shri. V. Srinivasaragavan, earlier Consultant in the Auroville Foundation on part time basis w.e.f. 1.4.2024 for drafting important and confidential communications on a nominal honorarium of Rs.10,000/- per month.

The GB was apprised that for administrative reasons the following Consultants engaged on contractual basis were relieved of their duties:

	Name of the Consultant	Date of relieving
(i)	Shri T.K. Ponnambalam, Spl. Officer (Revenue)	29.05.2024
(ii)	Dr. B. Ramakichenin, @ Balagandhi, OSD (PR)	24.07.2024
(iii)	Shri AV Mathi, Chief Security Officer	30.09.2024

Item No. 68.36	Approval for TANGEDCO – audit arrear amount & earnest money deposit for H.T. Service Connection No. 86 – 250 KVA additional load
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TANGEDCO – audit arrear amount

The GB was apprised that TANGEDCO now charges electricity tariff from all educational institutions including Higher Educational Institutions on commercial basis. Accordingly, the arrear amount from the year 2019 onwards totaling Rs. 89/- Lakhs will have to be paid. The GB was apprised that the arrear claim by the TANGEDCO was objected to by the Auroville Foundation through its letters and meetings with the TANGEDCO officials. However, they did not agree to our objection and insisted on payment at par with other educational institutions.

In addition, the said amount will be collected from individual units and other consumers from Auroville by the Auroville Electricity Service.

EMD for H.T. Service Connection No. 86 – 250 KVA additional load

The GB also noted that there is a requirement for an additional load of 250 KVA for the Auroville at an estimated cost of Rs.16/- Lakh which is a one-time payment to the TANGEDCO.

The GB considered and approved the said proposals.

Item No. 68.37	Formation of ATSC - 250 Newcomers waiting + non-compliance
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The GB noted that in view of the pending court case relating to Regulations, it is not possible to induct new Residents. However, about 250 Newcomers are waiting for a long time to become Residents.

It is proposed to extend facilities as available to Residents to the Newcomers. At the same time, among these Newcomers, there are a few who are found to have violated the criteria to be a Resident or of the established guidelines and regulations of the Auroville such as blocking development activities and engaging in outside business activities in violation of VISA conditions etc.

The GB approved the nomination of the following Residents for the (a) the Admissions & Terminations Registry; and (b) the Admissions and Terminations Scrutinizing Committee who already gave their willingness to vet the process.

The GB selected the following Residents based on consultations with Members of FAMC, the Working Committee and the working groups, who have given a panel of names for the ATSC and ATR from the Residents.

Members for ATSC	Members for ATR
• Antim • Egle • Rama Narayan Patro • Muriel GHION • Member from AVF/ GB	• Joel Van Lierde • William Antony Raj • Ravindra

Item No. 68.38	Formation of a Donation Channeling Committee
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The GB noted that a Donation Channeling Committee was formed (Agenda No.65.20) as under for proper receipt and spending of donations received by the Auroville from India and abroad: -

- i. Secretary, AVF
- ii. Any two among Dr. Nirima Oza, Shri Goutam Ghosal, and Prof. R.S. Sarraju, GB Members
- iii. An Officer of the Secretary's Office nominated by the Secretary

It was informed that Dr. G. Seetharaman, OSD, AVF will be Officer nominated by the Secretary, AVF to the said Committee.

Item No. 68.39	Proposal For Establishing Auroville Foundation Liaison Office In Delhi
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The GB has already approved for setting up of a Liaison Office at New Delhi. The Auroville Foundation has now identified a space at Sri Ramayan Vidyapeeth, 15 Institutional Area, Lodhi Road, Near Sai Baba Temple, New Delhi – 110 003.

This site is strategically located in Central Delhi, ensuring optimal connectivity and close proximity to government offices and ministries. This proximity is expected to significantly facilitate our administrative, coordination, and engagement efforts with relevant authorities and allied Institutions such as Sri Aurobindo Ashram.

The Ramayan Vidyapeeth Trust has agreed to provide the Office space with essential amenities, including electricity, basic housekeeping services, furniture etc. @ Rs.50,000/- per month. The facility has a conference hall with a seating capacity of up to 100 people, suitable for meetings, workshops, and events.

The GB was informed that one/two of the existing staff of the Foundation who are willing to shift to Delhi will be posted to manage the Office at New Delhi.

The GB approved the proposal.

Item No. 68.40	Approval for engagement of the following— • A retired Superintendent of Police as Chief Security Officer • Engagement of a retiring employee on contractual basis
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The GB approved engagement of two retired Police Officers one for handling VISA related matters and the other for security/law & order and liasoning with the local police authorities; and engagement of a retired employee of the Auroville Foundation on contractual basis for an initial period of one year. It was apprised that payment to them will be as per Gol norms i.e. last pay drawn (-) pension plus appropriate transport allowance.

Item No. 68.41	Transfer of deficit amount from Gol grant to CPF & CAG Audit fees paid
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The GB approved the proposal for transfer of deficit amount from Gol grant to CPF & CAG audit fees for three years i.e. 2019-20, 2021-22 and 2022-23.

Item No.68.42	Due diligence procedure for land exchange
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The GB deliberated the issue at length. The issue of acquiring land from private landowners who owns land in the City and in the Green Belt area of Auroville in exchange of Auroville's outlying land has been raised by several individuals in the recent past.

The repeated allegations levelled by these individuals have created a perception that the current process of land exchange followed by the Auroville has resulted in a huge loss to the Auroville.

The GB felt that there is a need to address this perception in credible and transparent manner.

The GB therefore decided to form a one-member Committee by a retired High Court Judge to look into the allegations and furnish a report to the GB.

The GB approved the following Terms of Reference to the one-member Committee—

- (i) To record the process of land acquisition followed by the Auroville Foundation since the year 1991 and how the process undergone changes over a period of time;
- (ii) Whether the existing process of land acquisition is adequate i.e. whether it complies with the requirements of the Master Plan, Govt. Orders issued by the Govt. of Tamil Nadu and the Govt. of India;
- (iii) Whether the existing checks and balances in the process is adequate to ensure objectivity;
- (iv) If the extant process has shortcomings modifications suggested for future land acquisitions; and,
- (v) Suggestions to quicken the process of land acquisitions;
- (vi) Whether the processes of acquiring land over all these years resulted in any loss to the Auroville Foundation.

The Committee may co-opt experts from the relevant fields such as Revenue Department, Land Registration Department, Police Department etc. as may be required to assist in preparation of its report.

The Chairperson of the Committee shall be paid an honorarium as per the Gol norms. The Chairperson shall also be entitled for vehicle facility in connection with the work. Co-opted experts shall be paid an honorarium as per the Gol norms, which is inclusive of transportation charges.

The Committee shall furnish its report to the Chairperson, Governing Board within a period of three months from the date of its formation.

The Auroville Foundation shall provide necessary secretarial assistance to the Committee.

REGULATIONS & COMPLIANCE MATTERS

Item No. 68.43	Auroville Foundation: Trusts, Units and Activities, Regulations, 2024
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The GB approved the draft Regulations. The GB was informed that the draft will be forwarded to the Ministry for their further consideration and approval.

Item No. 68.44	Relocation & Double Assets - Action Taken
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The GB appreciated the efforts taken by the Auroville Foundation to ensure that the Residents occupying double assets are vacated. The GB advised that due process may be followed in getting the defaulters vacated.

Item No. 68.45	Individual City Service Contributions - Pending Dues
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The GB noted the huge default in payment towards monthly contribution by several Aurovilians. The GB advised the Foundation to initiate appropriate action through FAMC to get the dues collected.

Item No. 68.46	Residents on business visa/ residents doing business outside Auroville
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The GB approved following action against the Aurovilians holding business visa-

- The Residents holding business visas, or doing business outside, will be directed to furnish written explanation on their visa status to the Foundation Office and if they wish to continue to hold a business visa and conduct business outside they will be taken out of the RoR and will have to re-apply when they wish to join Auroville.
- If the said Resident wishes to continue as a Resident and change visa status to comply with the Auroville Residence Criteria, or close down his outside business activities, they will be given 6 months' time to regularize the same during which time their names are suspended from the RoR.

Item No. 68.47	International talents aka Maia Global Talents - action taken
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The GB advised to initiate appropriate action against the Maia Global Talents if it continues to post distasteful/offensive content on social media.

Item No. 68.48	AUROMODE - Encroachment on the Poramboke
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The GB advised calling for explanation from the ATDC Executives during the relevant point of time who were responsible for grant of permission to AUROMODE which was encroaching a poramboke land which caused avoidable litigation to the Foundation.

ITEM 68.44 TO 68.48 (DECISION OF THE BOARD)

The Board takes note of all issues of non-compliance, violations and irregularities in Auroville. In exercise of its powers under Section 11(3) of the Auroville Foundation Act, of general superintendence, direction and management of all affairs of Auroville, and in exercise of its power to discharge all functions of the Foundation defined in Section 10(3), the Board hereby empowers the OSD, Prof. G. Seetharaman, of the Auroville Foundation, to take all necessary steps and measures to address these and issue necessary directions and orders to the Residents to ensure compliance. The OSD would do this under the overall supervision of the Secretary, Auroville Foundation.

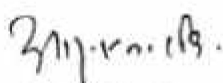
The Board further notes that some of these violations are of a very serious nature, including violence, withholding of Auroville assets, building without authorization, visa violation, owing land in the Master Plan area of Auroville and many others, which need to be taken suo-moto cognizance of and acted upon, giving due opportunity for the violating Residents to offer evidence to the contrary and / or correct course, following all principles of natural justice.

This is especially important as a course-correction in Auroville so that Auroville may develop further without the shadows of the unsavory past dogging its move into the future, with its current Residents in alignment with its aims and ideals, to be an example to the Residents of the future who are waiting to join Auroville and participate in manifesting this City of the Future.

Item No. 68.49	Any other item – with the approval of the Chair
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//APPROVED//


(Dr. Jayanti S. Ravi)
Secretary
Auroville Foundation


(R. N. Ravi)
Governor of Tamil Nadu &
Chairperson, Auroville Foundation