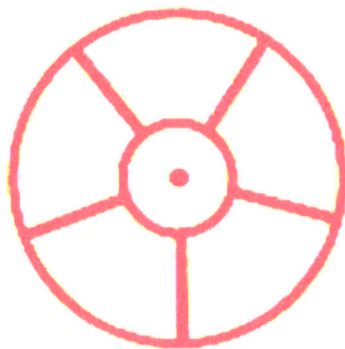


69th Meeting of the Governing Board

DATE : 08.07.2025

TIME : 11.00 AM

VENUE : Auroville Foundation



Minutes of the Meeting

AUROVILLE FOUNDATION

AUROVILLE

AUROVILLE FOUNDATION, AUROVILLE

Minutes of the 69th Governing Board meeting (hybrid mode) held on 08.07.2025 at Auroville Foundation, Auroville.

The following 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.	Dr. Nirima Oza	Member
4.	Prof. R. S. Sarraju	Member
5.	Ms. Madhu Bala Soni Under Secretary. Ministry of Education	Member
6.	Dr. Jayanti S. Ravi	Secretary, AVF
7.	Prof. G. Seetharaman	OSD, AVF

The following GB Members were present online during the meeting:

1. Prof. Goutam Ghosal
2. Shri. Aravindan Neelakandan

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 69th 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.

Then, the Agenda Items were taken up for discussion. The following were the decisions taken in this meeting:

ITEM NO. 69.01	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 68th GOVERNING BOARD MEETING HELD ON 05.12.2024
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The Minutes of the 68th Meeting of the Governing Board held on 05.12.2024 were circulated to all the members.

The Governing Board resolved to confirm the minutes of the 68th meeting.

ITEM NO. 69.02	ACTION TAKEN REPORT ON THE DECISIONS OF THE 68th MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD
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The Governing Board took note of the actions taken and initiatives undertaken in response to the key decisions made during its 68th meeting.

At this juncture, the Secretary, Auroville Foundation expressed her sincere gratitude to the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor and the Puducherry Public Works Department (PWD) for their valuable support in safeguarding the Auroville Foundation land, particularly the area occupied by the SriMa Community, from the ongoing threat of sea erosion.

ITEM NO. 69.03	SECRETARY'S REPORT ON EVENTS/ HAPPENINGS
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The Secretary of the Auroville Foundation presented a detailed report outlining the key activities and accomplishments since the previous Governing Board meeting.

A major focus of the discussion was the urgent need to develop a VIP road to ensure smooth and hassle-free access to Auroville. The Foundation also elaborated on ongoing extensive land acquisition and consolidation efforts to support the implementation of the Auroville Master Plan.

Appreciation was extended to the officers of Tamil Nadu such as Additional Chief Secretary of Tamil Nadu, the Director General of Police, the Villupuram District Collector, and the Additional Collector for their crucial support in facilitating land exchanges with the Tamil Nadu Government, as authorized by the relevant Government Order. This cooperation is vital for advancing the Master Plan.

Significant construction projects led by the Central Public Works Department (CPWD) were highlighted. Additionally, the Vision Centre of the Sri Aurobindo Ashram was acknowledged for its role in maintaining Arka, ensuring its availability during visits from delegates of other states.

A notable advancement in financial transparency was reported through a collaboration with ZOHO, which has enabled improved financial oversight mechanisms.

Updates were provided on several legal decisions pertaining to ongoing matters and new educational collaborations with various institutes across Gujarat and other regions.

The Foundation observed a gradual decline in the number of Right to Information (RTI) applications, indicating enhanced transparency, better information dissemination, and increased public trust. Visa-related issues were also addressed, with steps initiated to resolve pending concerns and prevent future delays.

Progress on regulatory matters was shared, emphasizing how newly introduced Regulations have streamlined decision-making and governance processes.

Lastly, the status of draft regulations on the Code of Conduct and the Green Belt was discussed. The Competent Authority informed the Board that these drafts have been submitted to the Ministry of Education and urged for expedited approvals to support improved organizational structuring and operational efficiency.

REPORTING ITEMS

ITEM NO. 69.04	MINUTES OF THE 41st FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
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The Minutes of the 41st Finance Committee Meeting were circulated to the Governing Board members, and no comment/observation has been received.

The Board resolved to confirm the Minutes of the 41st Finance Committee Meeting.

ITEM NO. 69.05	STATUS OF COURT CASES, PENDING ISSUES AND AVF REGULATIONS
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The Board noted the details of the court cases which are pending in different courts and their status.

ITEM NO. 69.06	REPORTS OF THE CURRENT WORKING COMMITTEE, FAMC AND ATDC
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The Working Groups of the Auroville Foundation viz. Working Committee (WC), Funds and Assets Management Committee (FAMC) and Auroville Town Development Council (ATDC) made brief presentations to the Board outlining their recent activities and key developments.

ITEM NO. 69.07	APPROVAL FOR LEGAL FEE PAYMENT TO COUNSELS ENGAGED BY THE FOUNDATION
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The Governing Board noted the payment of ₹1,07,39,119/- (Rupees One Crore Seven Lakhs Thirty-Nine Thousand One Hundred Nineteen only) incurred towards legal expenses by the Foundation for the period from 01.12.2024 to 31.03.2025 and accorded its approval for the same.

ITEM NO. 69.08	APPEAL AGAINST ORDERS ON GST LIABILITY ARISING ON KATTIDA KALAI TRUST, AUROVILLE
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The Governing Board noted the appeals filed before the GST Appellate Authority and the payment of ₹59.84/- lakh made as a pre-deposit towards GST.

ITEM NO. 69.09	ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS OF AUROVILLE FOUNDATION 2024-25
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The Governing Board noted that the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Auroville Foundation for the financial year 2023–24 have been laid on the table of both Houses of Parliament.

The Governing Board also approved the Annual Accounts submitted by the Foundation for the financial year 2024–25.

ITEM NO. 69.10	REQUEST FOR DEPLOYMENT OF CRPF
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The Governing Board approved the proposal to engage a small, dedicated unit of the Central Reserve Police Force—comprising 15 personnel deployed in three shifts of five officers each—for a period of five years, to ensure the uninterrupted progress of Auroville’s infrastructure development. The proposal had earlier been approved by the Governing Board through circulation on 24.04.2025.

The Board also took note of the status of the proposal and requested additional details and justifications.

ITEM NO. 69.11	IT AUDIT & CYBER SECURITY AUDIT
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The Governing Board noted the appointment of M/s P.K.F Sreedhar & Santhanam LLP as auditors of the Auroville Foundation Trust and its Units, to carry out the IT Audit and Cyber Security Audit of Auroville Financial Services.

ITEM NO. 69.12	APPOINTMENT OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT FIRMS FOR ACCOUNTING WORKS IN AUROVILLE
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The Governing Board noted the appointment of Chartered Accountant firms—M/s MSK Prasanna & Co., G. Natesan & Co., and J.K.H. Associates—to undertake the accounting work of all Auroville Trusts and their Units with effect from 01.04.2025.

This measure is intended to ensure the timely compilation of annual accounts, thereby facilitating the early completion of the audit by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) and the subsequent submission of the audited Annual Accounts and Annual Report to the Ministry within the stipulated timeline.

The Board also noted that this proposal had been previously approved through circulation.

ITEM NO. 69.13	AUROVILLE GLOBAL FELLOWSHIP - BIASED REPORT OF AN UNAUTHORIZED GROUP
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The Governing Board was apprised of a malicious report circulated by an entity operating under the name 'Auroville Global Fellowship', which has no affiliation with the Auroville Foundation. The Board noted with concern the unauthorized use of the name 'Auroville' and directed that a public clarification be issued on the Foundation's official website, clearly stating that the Auroville Foundation has no connection with this entity.

Furthermore, the Board emphasized that any misuse of Auroville's name by individuals or organizations with the intent to malign the Institution's reputation must be taken seriously. It recommended that such instances be thoroughly investigated, and legal action initiated wherever warranted.

The Auroville Foundation will investigate the matter and proceed with appropriate action after obtaining legal opinion.

APPROVAL ITEMS

ITEM NO. 69.14	BUDGET PROPOSALS FOR THE YEAR 2025-26
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The Governing Board noted the allocation of ₹60 crore by the Ministry to the Auroville Foundation for the financial year 2025–26 under various budget heads. In addition, the Board approved an additional fund requirement of ₹230 crore for various projects and units of Auroville for the same financial year

ITEM NO. 69.15	APPROVAL FOR STARTING OF SCHOOL AND HIGHER EDUCATION (UG & PG PROGRAMS UNDER MOE) UNDER SAIER
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The Governing Board approved the proposal to establish an Integral School and higher educational institutions offering programs in Arts, Commerce, Management, Science, and Technology under the Ministry of Education. These institutions are to be set up through funding from the Higher Education Financing Agency (HEFA).

The Board noted the current lack of higher education opportunities for the children of Aurovilians upon completion of higher secondary education and agreed that the proposed institutions should also be open to the public. The Auroville Foundation proposed an initial intake of 45 students per stream, along with the required academic and administrative staff to ensure smooth commencement.

The Board further nominated Prof. Sarraju, member of the Governing Board, to support the establishment of the higher education institutions, and Prof. Goutam Ghosal to support the initiation of the Integral School. The Board approved the launch of the schools and higher education institutions starting from the academic year 2026.

ITEM NO. 69.16	LINE OF PROGRESS FOR 380 PEOPLE - PROJECT APPROVAL - PROPOSAL FOR INCLUSION UNDER HEFA SCHEME
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The Governing Board noted that it had previously granted approval during its 63rd and 64th meetings for the construction of a 1000-bedded residential complex to provide accommodation for volunteers and newcomers. The Board has now approved the Foundation's revised proposal to implement the project in two phases, with funding support through a HEFA (Higher Education Financing Agency) loan.

Additionally, the Board approved the establishment of the 'Sri Aurobindo Integral Multiversity' to cater to approximately 1,000 students. This initiative, also to be funded through a HEFA loan, will include the development of academic buildings, sports facilities, student hostels, and residential accommodation for faculty.

ITEM NO. 69.17	SIGNING OF MOU BETWEEN IIT MADRAS AND AUROVILLE FOR SUSTAINABILITY CAMPUS
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The Governing Board was apprised of two Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) to be signed between the Auroville Foundation and IIT Madras. The first MoU pertains to the establishment of the 'Auroville Foundation – IIT Madras Sustainability Campus'. The second is a tripartite MoU among the Auroville Foundation, IIT Madras, and IITM Incubation Cell—a company registered under Section 8 of the Companies Act—as part of the collaborative initiative.

The Board was further informed that a clause requiring approval from the Ministry of Education (MoE) for the termination of the MoUs has been included, in order to strengthen and safeguard the collaboration.

It was also noted that the IIT Madras team visited the site at Annapurna, located outside the Green Belt area, and completed a topographical survey of 100 acres. Relevant land documents have been collected from the Foundation for further action.

ITEM NO. 69.18	APPROVAL OF MOU WITH INITIAL AUROGOLCONDE COMMITTEE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF AUROGOLCONDE
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The Governing Board was apprised of the proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) outlining a collaborative architectural and development project titled AuroGolconde. This initiative envisions the creation of a minimalist, climate-responsive residential building in Auroville, inspired by the original Golconde in Pondicherry—India’s first modernist building.

The project seeks to recreate Golconde’s spirit of quiet elegance, simplicity, and sustainable design through contemporary yet cost-effective methods. It is to be developed by the Planning Team of the Auroville Town Development Council (ATDC) in Sector 1 of Auroville’s Residential Zone.

The Board granted in-principle approval for the proposed collaboration. The formation of the project committee will rest with the Competent Authority of the Auroville Foundation.

ITEM NO. 69.19	APPROVAL OF 100 BEDDED PROJECT FOR VOLUNTEERS & NEWCOMERS - ‘SERVITEURS VOLONTAIRES’
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Serviteurs Volontaires – A Home for Volunteers in Auroville

The Governing Board was briefed on the project proposal for establishing **Serviteurs Volontaires**, a permanent facility intended to accommodate 100 volunteers. This initiative seeks to address the acute housing shortage faced by volunteers engaged in various services within Auroville. Importantly, the project will be executed without any financial liability to the Ministry of Education.

The Board accorded its approval to the proposal.

ITEM NO. 69.20	APPROVAL OF PARTNERSHIP PROJECT WITH NBCC OUTSIDE MASTER PLAN FOR HOUSING AND SHOPPING COMPLEX FOR AURO HITESHI
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The Governing Board noted the proposal to enter into a partnership with **NBCC (India) Limited**, a Public Sector Undertaking under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India, formerly known as National Buildings Construction Corporation.

The proposed collaboration aims to develop an economically viable project—primarily residential with integrated commercial facilities—located outside the Auroville Master Plan area on land owned by the Auroville Foundation. The project is intended to serve friends and well-wishers of Auroville, as well as devotees of The Mother and Sri Aurobindo.

It was noted that revenue generated from the sale of flats or through rental/lease of commercial spaces will be shared with the Auroville Foundation as per a profit-sharing model.

The Board recommended reviewing the existing agreement between NBCC and the Government of Kerala as a reference point while finalizing the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with NBCC. With this recommendation, the Board approved the proposal.

ITEM NO. 69.21	APPROVAL OF ANNUAL AUROVILLE LIT FESTIVAL
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The Governing Board deliberated on the proposed plan to conduct the Auroville Literature Festival on an annual basis. The primary aim of the festival is to explore and celebrate language, culture, knowledge, and their evolution, with a particular focus on the four official languages: English, French, Tamil, and Sanskrit.

The Board reviewed the proposal, including the approximate budgetary requirement of Rs. 50/- lakhs, and discussed the matter at length. Key areas of discussion included the objectives of the festival, its long-term impact, and the appropriate duration of the event.

After careful consideration, the Board approved the concept in principle and decided to constitute a committee to oversee the planning, organization, and smooth conduction of the festival every year.

The following members were nominated to the committee:

Dr. Jayanti S. Ravi	Chair-person
Prof. R. S. Sarraju	GB Member
Prof. Goutam Ghosal	
Shri Aravindan Neelakandan	
Ms. Jaya	Member, Aurovillian
Ms. Anu	
Dr. V. Sindhu, Assistant Professor, Department of English, IIIT Tiruchirappalli	External Member

LAND MATTERS

ITEM NO. 69.22	LAND PURCHASE AND EXCHANGE THROUGH NEGOTIATION
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The Governing Board was apprised that all 11 land exchange proposals have undergone pre-audit and pre-evaluation and involve land acquisition through exchange from private pattadars located within the Auroville Master Plan Area.

The Board was briefed in detail on the procedures followed in processing the land exchange proposals, including the due diligence measures undertaken to ensure transparency and compliance.

It was further informed that, in line with the suggestion of the members of the Governing Board, the appraisal of these proposals was carried out by a panel comprising three Government-approved evaluators.

After careful consideration, the Governing Board approved all 11 proposals as evaluated by the empanelled Government-approved evaluators.

ITEM NO. 69.23	PUTHURAI VILLAGE FARMERS REQUEST ACCESS THROUGH AVF LAND
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The Governing Board noted the request submitted by the farmers of Puthurai Village regarding the provision of a pathway for access.

The Board advised that additional inputs and clarity be provided following a detailed field visit to assess the ground realities and feasibility of the request.

ITEM NO. 69.24	SETTING UP AUROVILLE INTEGRAL INFORMATION CENTRES & A REVIEW OF THE EXISTING AUROVILLE INTERNATIONAL (AVI)
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The Governing Board was apprised of the proposal to establish Auroville Integral Information Centres with the objective of disseminating information about Auroville through various formats such as brochures, books, websites, presentations, exhibitions, camps, retreats, and other outreach events.

The Auroville Foundation (AVF) highlighted the urgent need for a comprehensive review of the functioning of existing Auroville Integral International Centres, many of which currently operate independently of the Auroville Foundation. This unregulated functioning has led to concerns at multiple regulatory levels, particularly about the channelling of donations and compliance with legal norms.

To address these issues, it was suggested that these centres should be brought into a formal association with the Foundation through the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The Board also discussed the draft guidelines prepared by the Foundation for the establishment and functioning of Auroville Integral Information Centres.

After due deliberation, the Governing Board approved the concept of establishing Auroville Integral Information Centres, with the understanding that further coordination and operational mechanisms will be put in place to ensure accountability and alignment with the objectives of the Auroville Foundation.

ITEM NO. 69.25	APPROVAL OF AHIMSA FARMS AN INTEGRATED AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IN AUROVILLE
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The Governing Board was apprised that AHIMSA (Association for Human Integrated Massive Social Action), a Non-Governmental Organization with over 44 years of experience in serving marginalized communities, has expressed interest in collaborating with Auroville to enhance the profitability and productivity of agricultural activities. AHIMSA has proposed to support the conversion and maximization of cultivable land within Auroville's land bank under mutually agreed terms.

The Board discussed the proposal in detail and emphasized the importance of utilizing not only the currently uncultivated lands but also improving the yield of existing farms through the adoption of good natural farming practices.

In this context, the Board approved the allocation of 10 hectares of land to AHIMSA for a period of three years. Future allocation of additional land will be considered based on the outcomes and impact of this initial collaboration.

Further, the Board recommended that Auroville explore potential collaborations with the **Nammalvar Ecological Foundation**, established by the renowned agricultural scientist, to enhance natural farming practices and overall yield. The Board also advised engaging with the Center for **Indian Knowledge Systems (CIKS) in Taramani**, which has longstanding associations with practitioners of natural and traditional agricultural systems.

The Governing Board approved the overall proposal with a view to initiating a significant breakthrough in agricultural development within Auroville.

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

ITEM NO.	STATUS OF PROJECTS UNDER CPWD
69.26	

The Governing Board reviewed the status of infrastructure projects being executed by the Central Public Works Department (CPWD), along with other ongoing projects associated with Auroville.

The Board noted the progress of these projects and emphasized the need for regular monitoring and timely execution to ensure alignment with the overall development objectives of the Auroville Master Plan.

ITEM NO. 69.27	STATUS OF PROJECTS UNDER ATDC
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The Governing Board noted the status of projects being undertaken by the Auroville Town Development Council (ATDC). To ensure effective oversight and to facilitate a comprehensive review, the Board decided to constitute a sub-group to examine in detail the projects initiated by the ATDC and provide recommendations for their streamlined execution and alignment with Auroville's development goals.

ITEM NO. 69.28	APPROVAL OF BUILDING FOR SECURITY SERVICES INCLUDING SAKSHI (MASTER CONTROL) ROOM AND MANPOWER
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The Governing Board approved the proposal for the construction of a new Security Block with a total built-up area of 300 square meters. The project is estimated to cost approximately Rs. 2/- crores, which includes provision for modern equipment and state-of-the-art security installations. The funding for this project will be sourced from government grants under the Financial Year 2025–26.

The new facility will be constructed adjacent to the existing Auroville Security Services building, located in the Southern Service Node. The Board took note that the current infrastructure is limited to a small shed, which is inadequate to meet the expanding requirements of a robust and responsive security system for Auroville.

The new building is expected to significantly strengthen the security infrastructure and operational capabilities of Auroville Security Services.

ESTABLISHMENT MATTERS

ITEM NO. 69.29	LIBELLOUS PUBLICATION BY <i>NEWS MINUTE</i> - ACTIONS PROPOSED
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The Governing Board deliberated on recent libellous articles and video publications released by The News Minute, a media outlet, which were perceived as defamatory towards the Auroville Foundation.

The Board expressed concern over the malicious nature of these reports and their potential to misrepresent the Foundation's work and ethos. Accordingly, the Board advised that legal action may be considered if the outlet continues to engage in repeated and targeted defamatory campaigns against the Auroville Foundation.

ITEM NO. 69.30	APPROVAL TO RENEW HONORARY AUROVILIANS STATUS
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The Governing Board approved the conferment of Honorary Aurovilian status to the following individuals in recognition of their support, contribution, and alignment with the ideals of Auroville:

1. Shri. Mangal Kothari
2. Shri. Basabjit Deshmukh
3. Shri. Thirumurthy
4. Ms. Anjali Jaipuriya

The Board also approved the renewal of Honorary Aurovilian recognition for individuals who had previously been granted this status.

Additionally, the Board discussed the importance of identifying a greater number of individuals whose work resonates with Auroville's vision, and proposed to gather them for a special event, such as a Conclave or Literature Festival, where they could share their experiences and insights with the broader Auroville community.

The Board accorded its approval for this initiative.

ITEM NO. 69.31	FORMATION OF APPELLATE COMMITTEE AS PER THE ADMISSIONS & TERMINATIONS REGULATIONS
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The Governing Board was apprised of the requirement to constitute an Appellate Committee in accordance with the relevant Regulations, to address appeals arising from the rejection of applications or the removal of individuals from the Volunteer List, Newcomer List, or the Aurovilian List/Register of Residents. Following a discussion with the Members, the Chairperson nominated the following individuals to serve on the Appellate Committee:

- Shri Aravindan Neelakandan
- Prof. Goutam Ghosal
- Prof. R.S. Sarraju

In addition, Dr. Nirima Oza was nominated to serve as an Invitee to the Committee. The Board took note of the nominations and accorded its approval for the formation of the Appellate Committee.

ITEM NO. 69.32	APPROVAL FOR AURO MITRA & AURO HITESHI STATUS - TERMS & CONDITIONS
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The Auroville Foundation (AVF) presented to the Governing Board the proposal for instituting two new statuses—"Auro Mitra" and "Auro Hiteshi"—as part of an initiative to expand and deepen engagement with individuals committed to the vision of Sri Aurobindo and The Mother.

- Auro Mitra: Envisioned as a circle of close friends and collaborators who actively accompany Auroville on its journey, this status is intended for individuals who demonstrate a deep and ongoing alignment with Auroville's ideals and ethos.
- Auro Hiteshi: Proposed as a replacement for the earlier "Friend of Auroville" category, this status offers a more streamlined and inclusive framework for individuals who wish to support and engage with Auroville's mission meaningfully—without necessarily relocating to Auroville.

The AVF also submitted a list of individuals identified (attached in annexure) as worthy recipients of these statuses, selected through a process of scrutiny and evaluation.

The Governing Board acknowledged the importance of these new categories in building a broader, values-aligned support network for Auroville and accorded approval for the creation of both “Auro Mitra” and “Auro Hiteshi” statuses, along with their respective terms and conditions of engagement.

ITEM NO. 69.33	APPROVAL OF AUROVILLE FOUNDATION (CODE OF CONDUCT OF BUSINESS UNITS) STANDING ORDER 2025 & CONSOLIDATION OF TRUSTS AND GST NUMBERS
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The Governing Board discussed the implications of the recent Supreme Court judgment dated 17 March 2025, which reaffirmed the authority of the Governing Board in all matters concerning the Auroville Foundation, including the power to issue Standing Orders governing its internal affairs.

Considering this judgment, the Board approved the issuance of the Auroville Foundation (Code of Conduct of Business Units) Standing Order 2025, including the consolidation of existing trusts and unification of GST registrations to streamline operations and ensure compliance with statutory requirements.

ITEM NO. 69.34	APPROVAL FOR STANDING ORDER ‘FRAMEWORK OF FUNCTIONING OF THE RESIDENTS’ ASSEMBLY 2025’
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The Governing Board took note that the OGC had, in 2022, proposed the need for establishing a regulatory framework to govern the functioning of the Residents’ Assembly. This proposal included the formulation of clear definitions and procedures pertaining to the conduct of meetings, decision-making processes, and other related aspects to ensure transparency, orderliness, and alignment with the objectives of the Auroville Foundation Act.

The Board acknowledged the importance of such a framework in enhancing the effectiveness and legitimacy of the Residents’ Assembly, while ensuring that its activities remain consistent with the overall governance structure of the Foundation.

The matter remains under consideration for appropriate follow-up and action.

ITEM NO. 69.35	CHILDREN OF AUROVILLE VERSUS GUEST CHILDREN OF AUROVILIANS
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The Governing Board was briefed on the distinction between Children of Auroville and Guest Children of Aurovilians based on the maintenance given and the education in schools inside or outside Auroville which is in wake of the two schools going to be established with the foundation of integral education. The schools inside majorly help the children to learn the Mother's way from the roots. The Board directed to provide detailed inputs and to discuss the issue the next meeting.

ITEM NO. 69.36	PROCEEDINGS AGAINST VOLUNTEERS, NEWCOMERS & RESIDENTS STATUS FOR THOSE NON-COMPLIANT WITH THE AUROVILLE RESIDENCE CRITERIA
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The Governing Board was apprised that some of the Residents have been continuously violating the provisions of the Auroville Admissions Criteria, Auroville Residence Criteria and the ideals of the Auroville. The Board approved the proceedings against the Volunteers, Newcomers & Residents for revoking their status in respect of non-compliant persons with the Auroville Residence Criteria.

ITEM NO. 69.37	APPROVAL OF POLICY REGARDING ASSETS OF DECEASED RESIDENTS
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The Boarded approved the proposed policy for handling assets which were under the use of deceased Newcomers/ Residents.

ITEM NO. 69.38	APPROVAL FOR ANNUAL INCREMENT TO CONTRACTUAL STAFF AND CONSULTANTS
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The Governing Board approved the extension of tenure and the grant of annual increments to contractual staff and consultants of the Auroville Foundation, effective from **July 2025**. The decision was made based on a review of individual performance and seniority.

ITEM NO. 69.39	EXTENSION OF SERVICES FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF OSDs
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The Governing Board approved the proposal for the extension of tenure for Dr. G. Seetharaman, Professor at IIIT Tiruchirappalli, and Dr. R. Dhanalakshmi, Associate Professor at IIIT Tiruchirappalli, to continue serving as Officers on Special Duty (OSDs) on an additional charge basis in the Auroville Foundation.

This extension, effective from 31.05.2025 for a further period of one year, was granted in recognition of their significant contributions to various projects and activities supporting the development of the Auroville Foundation.

Further, the Board approved the extension of the engagement of Shri Dharmesh Chandra Goel (Former Special Director General, CPWD) as Senior Consultant and OSD (Town Development), Auroville Foundation, on the earlier terms and conditions.

Additionally, the Board approved the appointment of Dr. Sanjeevi (Retired Deputy General Manager, BSNL) as Consultant and OSD for all telecom-related activities at the Auroville Foundation.

ANY OTHER ITEM WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIRPERSON, GB

ITEM NO. 69.40	RECOMMENDATION FOR REMOVAL OF ATDC AND WORKING COMMITTEE MEMBER
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The Governing Board reviewed the formal recommendation submitted by the Auroville Town Development Council (ATDC) regarding the removal of Mr. Govind Ranjan from his position as a Council member. The recommendation cited Mr. Ranjan's continuous failure to attend ATDC meetings, which was considered a neglect of his vested responsibilities.

Additionally, the Working Committee (WC) submitted a formal recommendation for the removal of Ms. Tine from her position as a member. The grounds for this recommendation included her consistent non-cooperation during meetings, unilateral decision-making, and sending emails without the approval of the other Working Committee members.

The Governing Board approved the removal of both Mr. Govind Ranjan and Ms. Tine from their respective positions based on the stated grounds.

ITEM NO. 69.41	SUGGESTIONS FOR STREAMLINING THE TELECOM SERVICES IN AUROVILLE FOUNDATION
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The Auroville Foundation presented recent observations to the Governing Board regarding the GST registration status and the regular payment of GST by AVTS and AURINOCO, the two entities currently providing telecom services. The use of National Knowledge Network (NKN) bandwidth for its designated purposes was also reviewed.

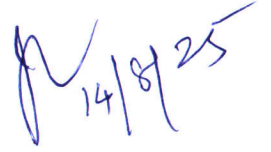
In response, the Board discussed the proposal to designate a single agency under the Auroville Foundation for the provision and maintenance of internet services for residents and offices. This measure is aimed at avoiding operational conflicts and ensuring streamlined service delivery. Additionally, the appointment of a regular consultant, Dr. Sanjeevi (Retd. DGM, BSNL) from the Foundation as the Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for all telecom-related activities was considered essential.

The Board approved the proposed plan submitted by the consultant for streamlining telecom services within Auroville.

Elders Committee:

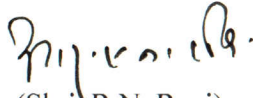
The Chairman suggested the formation of an Elders Committee for advice, inputs, suggestions and ideas related to manifesting the vision and mission of Auroville. This may be composed of long-standing residents as well as those deeply rooted in the teachings, thoughts and direct action of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother. This is to help safeguard and uphold the essence of Auroville's founding spirit. As the community aspires toward both individual excellence and collective unity, the Elders Committee will serve as a guiding presence to ensure that the deeper values and vision of Auroville remain vibrant and alive in our journey toward a collective realization. A suitable group may be selected and formed with the approval of the board.

**The Meeting ended with vote of thanks by the Secretary to the Hon'ble Shri
R.N. Ravi, Governor of Tamil Nadu and Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of
Puducherry and other Members of the Board.**



(Dr. Jayanti S. Ravi)
Secretary
Auroville Foundation

//APPROVED//



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