

[Subscribe](#)

[Past Issues](#)

[Translate](#) ▼

[View this email in your browser](#)



Auroville Bulletin 50

Nominations closing for the Selection Process, letter re land exchanges sent to Secretary & Crown Road update

A Summary of Events Happening in Auroville Today

December 23rd, 2022

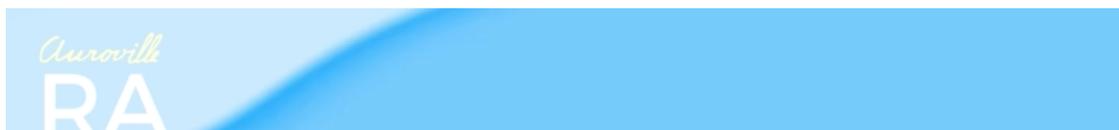
Note: There are important actions to take at the end of each Bulletin, if you are reading on your phone you may need to click 'see more' to view the entire bulletin.

Urgent actions needed

- **Nominations for the latest Selection Process are closing tomorrow, 24th December:** Please see below for more information.
- **BCC calls for support for Aurovilians on bridging maintenances:** 25+ Aurovilians have been moved onto a bridging maintenance without warning, while they are still working for Auroville. Please see [here](#) for more information, and email BCC on bccoffice@auroville.services or bccauroville@gmail.com if you can help.
- **Financial support for legal fees:** If you can donate towards legal and delegation fees, please email evolvinggalaxy@gmail.com. Please see [here](#) for more information about why further financial assistance is necessary.
- **Help with the AVC room vigil:** Please participate! For nearly 6 months the community has held a 24/7 vigil in the AVC room in Town Hall. **More people are needed** to ensure the round-the-clock presence. Please contact avcouncil@auroville.services, WhatsApp 94430 03617 to sign up. See [here](#) for more information.
- **Join the Wednesdays for Auroville meetings:** There is a weekly community meeting held at the Tibetan Pavilion, every Wednesday 5:00-6:30pm.

Hot topics

Selection Process - nominations closing tomorrow



Open till December 24th
**WORKING GROUP
NOMINATIONS 2023**



The nominations for the latest Selection Process (SP) will close **tomorrow, Saturday 24th December** and the SP itself will take place on 29th January 2023.

There are vacancies in the following working groups:

AV Council (2 vacancies)

Entry Board (3 vacancies)

RA FAMC (6 vacancies)

It is important, now more than ever, to strengthen the RA working groups - especially since the legitimacy of some of these groups is being fought for in Court. If you, or anyone you know, would like to participate in the process then please use the online [nomination form](#), or for in-person nomination please use a printed nomination form, available from the RAS office in Town Hall. Once you have completed the form, it can be given to RAS members / resource persons (at the RAS office) every Thursday between 10am and 12pm. When nominating another person, the approval of the nominee must be sought beforehand.

RAS are also looking for resource persons for their Organisational Team. If you can

RA WGs demand that Secretary & Land Board cease land exchange talks

As [published](#) in this week's News & Notes, the four working groups of the Residents' Assembly have formally written to the Secretary and the Land Board to "demand that any and all land exchange considerations stop immediately." They highlight that the constitution of the current Land Board is "highly questionable" and that the Land Board has "ceased to communicate with and relate to the Residents' Assembly (RA) as per its mandate". The letter also highlights that the latest land under consideration for exchange without due process is AuroAnnam.

In October, 1.5 acres of highly valuable land on the highway was exchanged for 2.15 acres of inaccessible farmland within the Master Plan area. This represents a financial loss for Auroville of around 6 Crore. A similar exchange of land on the same highway in 2017 exchanged 1.03 acres of Auroville land for 10.37 acres Master Plan land plus 21 lakhs, clearly demonstrating that the Secretary and her Land Board, in their haste to secure Master Plan land, are negotiating very poor deals for Auroville.

Crown Road - unsafe 'works' continue at a slow pace

The Crown Road works re-started last month after a long delay and were announced to leave a large stretch of road (marked in red on [this map](#)) inaccessible, but only until the [end of December](#). Many portions of land on which the future road is marked are still in private hands, leaving questions about how the AVFO's 'ATDC' envisages the road being finished so quickly. With their own deadline approaching soon, it seems highly unlikely it will be met, and road users will have to continue to navigate unsafe situations where motorised two and four wheelers are sharing road space with cycles and pedestrians and the alternative roads are pitch black at night due to the street lights being removed. Additionally, the damaged roads lack sufficient indicators, especially for nighttime.

When [challenged](#) by the School Board and community members regarding the lack of safety considerations during the works, the AVFO's 'ATDC' [consistently](#) tried to [deflect blame](#), by highlighting the entirely unlinked issue of some young people illegally riding motorized two-wheelers. This week they sent a [message](#) out to the community stating that "we urge [road users] to drive at not more than 15km/ph", implying that if any accidents were to happen above that very low speed then they would not take any responsibility. However, as there are no road signs to indicate a suggested speed and the message was sent out only on AuroNet and via the AVFO's limited 'massbulletin', the vast majority of road users including workers, volunteers, guests and visitors will not have received this, or any of the other messages, sent out

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

A further [response](#), which includes links to several urgent letters, was sent this week by the RA TDC. They stated that “We ... have repeatedly written to the CPWD and AVFO regarding the lack of proper safety measures on the dismantled roads and the temporary bypasses”, emphasising that this situation would not be happening if the group in question had respected the result of the RAD earlier this year to pause all development work on the Crown until proper plans had been put in place.

Crown Road - notice sent to Youth Center fair organisers

Despite [dismissing](#) the road works as “a temporary situation” and deflecting the safety concerns until now, the AVFO’s ‘ATDC’ issued a statement on their "grave concern" regarding the annual Youth Center fair. A [notice](#) on the second day of the fair requested the organisers to cancel the event, claiming that it had gone ahead without “any request or approval”. However, as the RA WCom & RA TDC [clarified](#) in News & Notes “The Youth Center team had informed the Working Committee selected by the RA about their annual fair, and had received our support and encouragement.” They also denounced the “continuous harassment ... targeting the youth of Auroville” and called into question the “legitimacy of the constitution of this ‘ATDC’”. The notice continues “We are concerned that in spite of our many warnings, the so-called 'ATDC' refuses to acknowledge any of its responsibilities, deflecting them by blaming others and especially the youth.”

Legal Update

Madras High Court - FAMC case: On Monday 19th December 2022, the Madras High Court heard a petition that was submitted in July 2022 regarding the appointment of the GB FAMC. The case was withdrawn. As the RA WCom explained in their [massbulletin](#), “After careful consideration and with the advice of our legal counsels it was decided to withdraw the petition, in order to submit a new one with updated information.” You can find the order, confirming the withdrawal, [here](#).

The AVFO’s ‘WCom’ has hailed the proceedings as a victory, sending out [a press release](#) that implies that the case was dismissed by the Court based on merit, instead being withdrawn. There has been no finding regarding the petitioners standing to come before the Court or any other finding on the merits as has been suggested.

Tindivanam Court - Abri/Ami/Evergreen: The next hearing is scheduled for January 31st, 2022.

Other Updates and Information

Grace's story

Grace from the Pumphouse community worked at the Offerings Desk of the Matrimandir for 35 years. In June of this year, she was removed from her post without warning or reason. She shares her story [here](#), in which she claims that she was removed after a new “legal advisor and liaison” was appointed to work at the Matrimandir under the AVFO and Grace questioned the changes made by the new Matrimandir Executives.

Regarding tree planting

The AVFO's 'ATDC' sent a threatening [notice](#) via Auronet and their own massmail service noting that it is no longer allowed to plant trees without permission, stating that “Any resident found to be planting without permission shall face consequences.” The RA WCom & RA TDC has clarified via [massbulletin](#) that the pronouncement made by the AVFO's 'ATDC' regarding the planting of trees is “baseless and may be discarded”.

The RA groups took the opportunity to remind the community that “announcements published through massbulletin@auroville.org.in are not managed by any of the groups recognised by the Residents' Assembly”. To receive massbulletins from the RA working groups, residents should contact avmassbulletin@auroville.services from their non-auroville email ID.

Youth Center Fair & “Get Lost” - A Miraculous Productions Play

A big thanks to the organisers of the Youth Center Fair and everyone who contributed to this beautiful community event!



[Subscribe](#)

[Past Issues](#)

[Translate](#) ▼



The fair included a play from Miraculous Productions, which can be viewed in its entirety below. The play details the adventures of Hansel and Gretel and their father, who are visited by their new landowner, Fluenza, and was written and produced by Johnny and Jesse.



Auroville Bulletin 50th edition

The Auroville Bulletin has reached the milestone of 50 editions, a little under one year after it began. The original intention of the Bulletin was to keep community members informed about the current situation regarding the development of Auroville. Your

Subscribe

Past Issues

Translate ▼

where the Bulletin will not be necessary.



Media & Other Links

- **DT NEXT:** <https://www.dtnext.in/tamilnadu/2022/12/15/hc-reserves-orders-in-case-against-guv-taking-auroville-post>
- **The Hindu:** <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/madras-hc-reserves-orders-on-maintainability-of-writ-of-quo-warranto-filed-against-tn-governor-rn-ravi/article66266882.ece>

We are a group of Aurovilians who are actively involved in understanding the current crisis situation in Auroville in order to find a way forward together.

We stand for:

- Respecting our community processes for decision-making
- A collaborative approach in developing Auroville using integrated methods such as the Dreamweaving initiative
- Transparency and fairness in the organisation of Auroville
- Creating unity with our diverse voices

Please note that the website <https://standforaurovilleunity.com/> contains a great deal of information and a detailed timeline.

With regard to future actions, those who have particular skills such as writing, social media, film editing etc. are welcome to write to evolvinggalaxy@gmail.com.

Please also share your thoughts and suggestions by replying to this email.

We hope this has been helpful. Let's keep working to find a way to bring us closer together to the beautiful dream of human unity in Auroville. We can do it ... together.

For those who have had previous technical problems receiving the Bulletin, the list of all previous Bulletin issues is accessible here: <https://linktr.ee/evolvinggalaxy>

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#)

Grow your business with  mailchimp