

**Auroville**  
**Regenerating the**  
**earth for humanity**

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Cover photos:

Front cover: Annual celebration Auroville, Early years

Back cover: Regenerated forest with windmill, biodiversity,  
Amphitheater with multicultural society of residents

# GREETINGS FROM AUROVILLE!

WEB SITE

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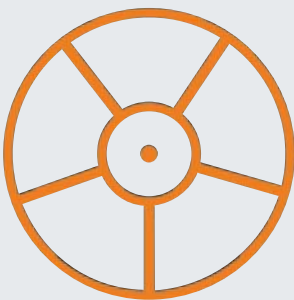
Greetings from Auroville to all men of good will  
are invited to Auroville all Those who thirst for progress  
and aspire to a higher and truer life

28.2.68.

*Greetings from Auroville  
to all men of good will*

*Are invited to Auroville all  
those who thirst for progress  
and aspire to a higher  
and truer life.*

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'J. J.', is written below the main text.






# A DREAM

This groundbreaking text written 1954 is a prelude to the City of Auroville.





**T**here should be somewhere upon earth a place that no nation could claim as its sole property, a place where all human beings of good will, sincere in their aspiration, could live freely as citizens of the world, obeying one single authority, that of the supreme Truth; a place of peace, concord, harmony, where all the fighting instincts of man would be used exclusively to conquer the causes of his suffering and misery, to surmount his weakness and ignorance, to triumph over his limitations and incapacities; a place where the needs of the spirit and the care for progress would get precedence over the satisfaction of desires and passions, the seeking for pleasures and material enjoyment.

In this place, children would be able to grow and develop integrally without losing contact with their soul. Education would be given, not with a view to passing examinations and getting certificates and posts, but for enriching the existing faculties and bringing forth new ones. In this place, titles and positions would be supplanted by opportunities to serve and organise.

The needs of the body will be provided for equally in the case of each and every one. In the general organisation intellectual, moral and spiritual superiority will find expression not in the enhancement of the pleasures and powers of life but in the increase of duties and responsibilities. Artistic beauty in all forms, painting, sculpture, music, literature, will be available equally to all, the opportunity to share in the joys they bring being limited solely by

each one's capacities and not by one's social or financial position.

For in this ideal place money would be no more the sovereign lord. Individual merit will have a greater importance than the value due to material wealth and social position. Work would not be there as the means of gaining one's livelihood, it would be the means whereby to express oneself, develop one's capacities and possibilities, while doing at the same time service to the whole group, which on its side would provide for each one's subsistence and for the field of his work.

In brief, it would be a place where relations between human beings, usually based almost exclusively upon competition and strife, would be replaced by relations of emulation for doing better, for collaboration, relations of real brotherhood.

The earth is certainly not ready to realise such an ideal, for mankind does not yet possess the necessary knowledge to understand and accept it or the indispensable conscious force to execute it. That is why I call it a dream.

Yet, this dream is on the way to becoming a reality. The achievement is indeed far from being perfect but it is progressive: little by little we advance towards our goal which, we hope, one day we shall be able to hold up before the world as a practical and effective means of coming out of the present chaos in order to be born into a more true, more harmonious new life.

- Mirra Alfassa



Albania Afganistan Algeria Argentina Australia Austria  
China(Nationalist) **China**(Communist) Cambodia Cameroon  
Columbia Congo Congo(Kinshasa) **Costa-Rica** Cuba

# Inaugurati

Kenya Korea Kuwait Laos Lebanon Liberia Libya  
Morocco Mauritania **Mexico** Mongolia **Mozambique**

*Auroville was founded by Mirra Alfassa, a native of France and spiritual collaborator of Sri Aurobindo, one of India's most famous modern philosophers and renowned freedom fighters.*

*Sri Aurobindo recognized her as his co-equal and she came to be called "The Mother" (a title of veneration).*



Belgium **Bhutan** Bolivia Brazil Bulgaria Burma **Burundi**  
**Canada** Central African **Rep.** **Ceylon** Chad Chile  
 Cyprus **Czechoslovakia** Dahomey **Denmark**  
**Dominican-Rep** Ecuador El Salvador Ethiopia  
 Fiji Finland **France** Gabon **Germany**  
 Ghana Greece **Guatemala** Guinea **Haiti**  
 Honduras **Hungary** Iceland Indonesia **Iran**  
**Iraq** Ireland **India**(23 States) Israel **Italy**  
**Ivory-Coast** Jamaica **Japan** Jordan  
 Luxembourg **Malagasy** Malta Malaysia Mauritius **Mali**  
**Nepal** Netherlands **New Zealand** **Nicaragua**



About 5,000 people from all over the world gathered for the foundation ceremony of Auroville. Youth representing 124 nations, placed hand full of soil from their country, to be mixed in a white marble-clad, urn in the centre of in the Amphitheatre



# THE CHARTER





1. Auroville belongs to nobody in particular Auroville belongs to humanity as a whole. But to live in Auroville, one must be a willing servitor of the Divine Consciousness.
2. Auroville will be the place of an unending education, of constant progress, and a youth that never ages.
3. Auroville wants to be the bridge between the past and the future. Taking advantage of all discoveries from without and from within, Auroville will boldly spring towards future realizations.
4. Auroville will be a site of material and spiritual researches for a living embodiment of an actual Human Unity.



Dawn bonfire at Auroville's Amphitheatre, 28 February 2019



# PEOPLE

53 NATIONS, 3000 RESIDENTS, A UNESCO ENDORSED PROJECT

The pioneers came, starting an impossible mission on an eroded plateau in 1968. Everything needed to be done. Some twenty pioneer years were spent under the sun, planting and watering the very first trees, living a rather ascetic lifestyle in rural India, with passion and spirit focused on building an ideal society. The villagers were rural farmers, their fields interspersed with the newcomers. Early Aurovilians learned as much from the rural culture while they offered work and vocational training to the villagers, and education for their children. Auroville's intercultural lifestyle is well grounded in its neighbourhood and India - one third of its population is Indian

- most of them born in the neighbouring villages. Today Aurovilians are global citizens creating together an egalitarian society, living a multicultural lifestyle in an experimental intentional community. Governance is through evolving participatory models, researching beyond democracy, beyond political and religious framework. Schools research in the free progress approach.

Auroville connects with the bioregion through 42 outreach activities in education, economic development, women empowerment, cultural heritage with over 100000 people in the bioregion.





**UNESCO confirmed its endorsement in its resolution in November 2017, repeating what was originally stated in 1968, 1973 and 1983 Auroville contributes to the advancement of the objectives of UNESCO, especially dialogue among civilizations, cultures and religions, cultural diversity and culture as a factor for development". The ideal of Human Unity is a fundamental precept of Auroville.**





# A LABOR OF LOVE

AUROVILIANS REGENERATING THE BARREN LAND



Pioneers started the land regeneration the day after the inauguration – first borewells and huts, followed by grass, acacia trees and finally some birds appeared. Life comprised of a lot of sky, sun, and the space to create a new society.

The unlikeliness of starting a universal city couldn't have been greater.

In 50 years, the foresters regenerated the barren plateau to the lush tropical dry evergreen forest it originally carried. Nature responded amazingly to the ardent efforts in water conservation and afforestation work. Today biodiversity has returned to the whole bioregion: trees and shrubs spread by the birds, the sanctuary forest attract a wide variety of birds, reptiles, even wild cats, bats, porcupines, and deer.

Auroville's expertise in land regeneration – be it afforestation, organic farming, water conservation, restoring water bodies and soil is well sought after as consultancy and research campus throughout India, even internationally. Auroville reaches out with an impact in transforming...

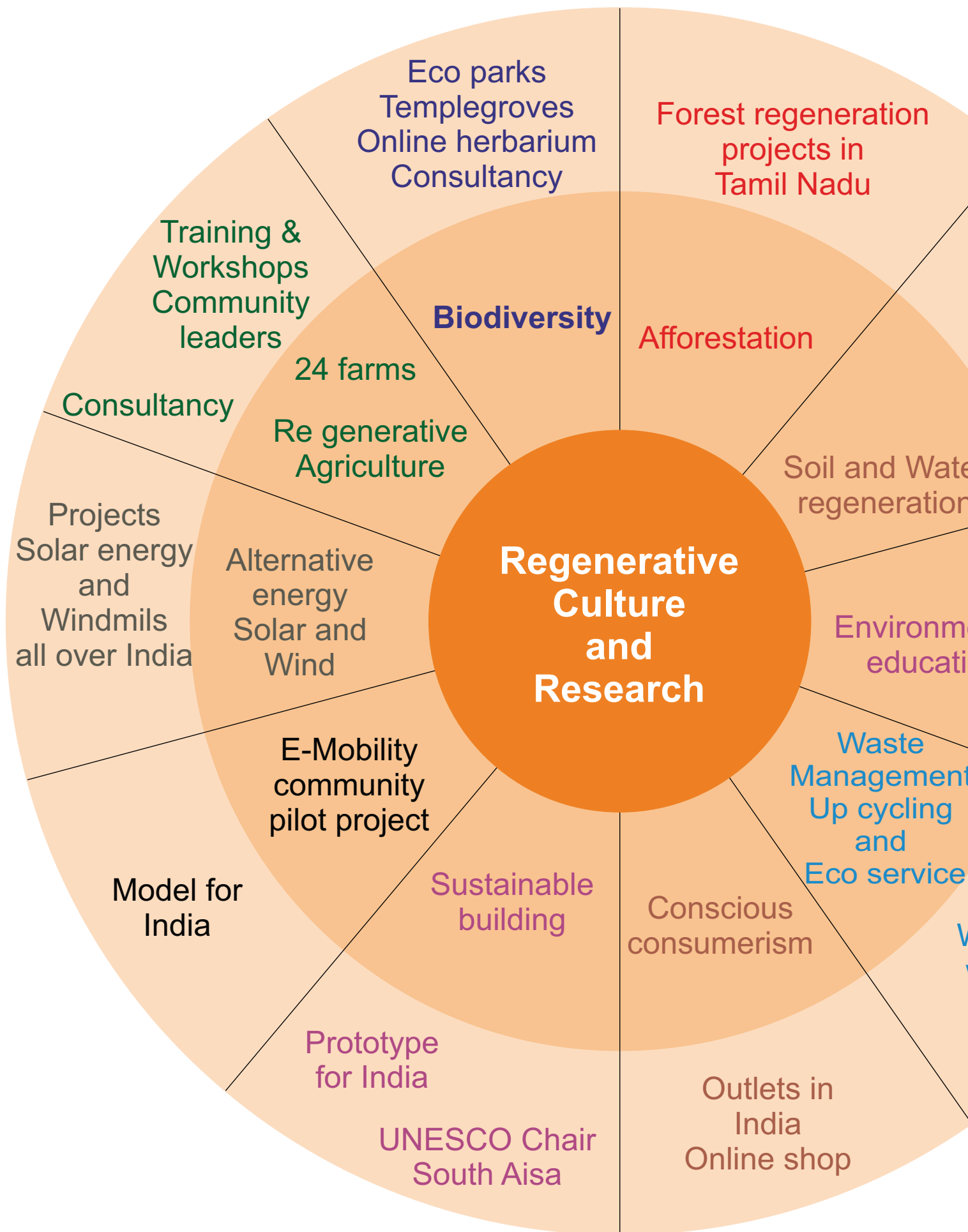
TOP  
*The land as the first  
Aurovilians found it.*

BOTTOM  
*Auroville as turned  
green in 50 years.  
In the background  
a windmill from  
the early days.*











# Expertise in research, development and outreach with regenerative work

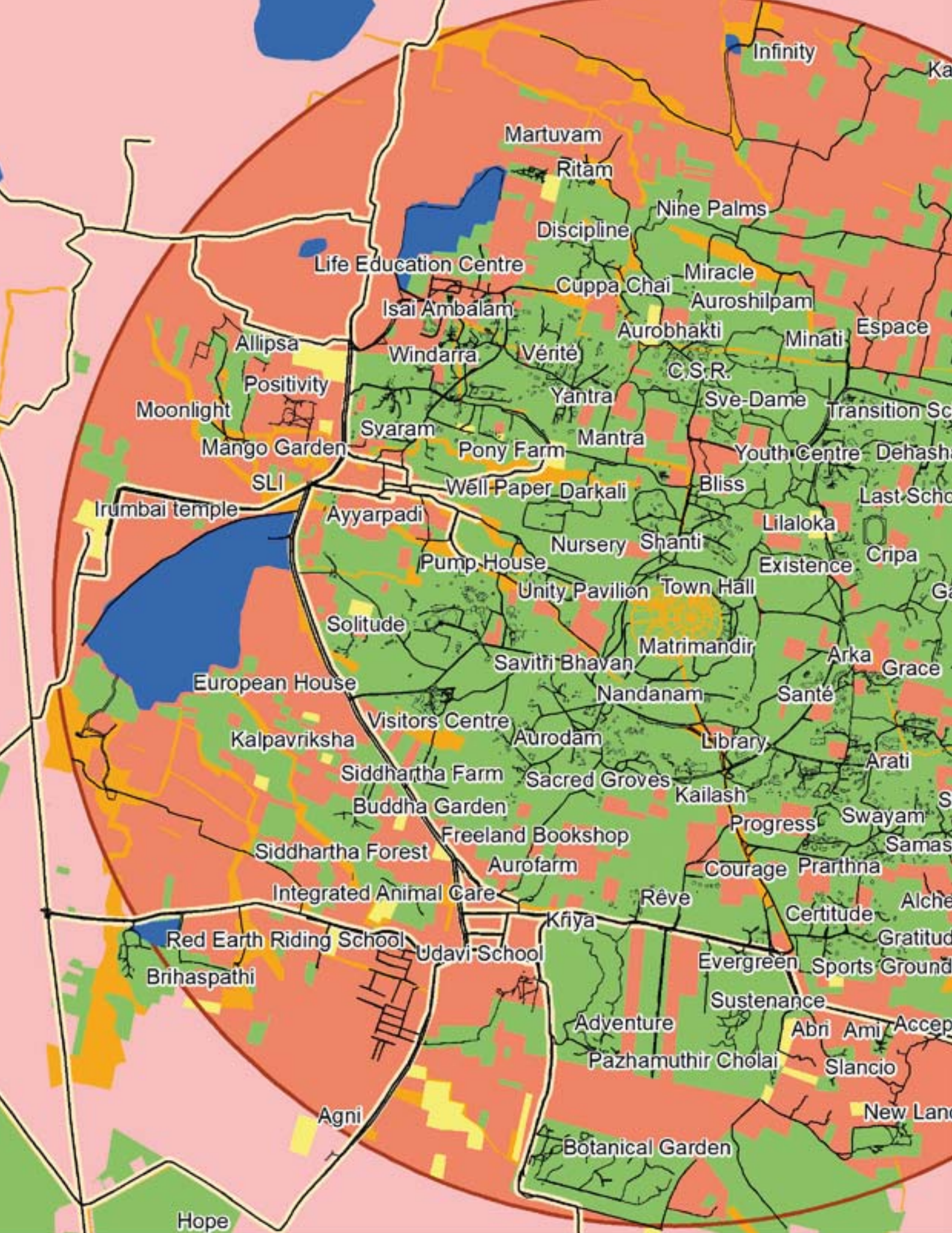
Restoration  
of traditional  
village ponds

Train  
the trainer  
workshops  
and  
Teacher  
manuals  
for India

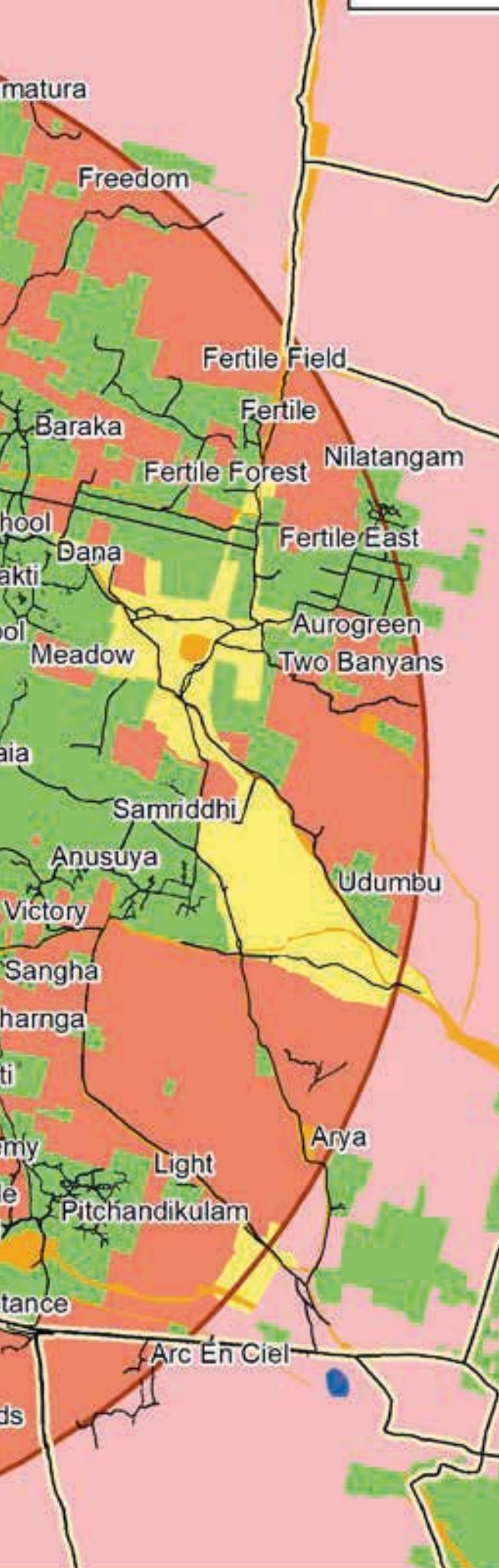
Waste less  
workshop

Research and Development	Outreach and consultancy
<b>Regenerative Agriculture</b>	
24 organic farms	Sustainable Livelihood Institute, Ecopro, Solitude Farm, Pebblegarden, FarmHand
<b>Biodiversity</b>	
Pebblegarden Botanical gardens Shakti Nursery Pitchandikulam Forest	Ecoparks Templegroves Botanical Services Online Herbarium Pitchandikulam Forest consultants
<b>Afforestation</b>	
26 Regenerated forest	Forest regeneration projects in Tamil Nadu
<b>Water and Soil regeneration</b>	
All Auroville 1968-today Auroville's Centre for Scientific Research Kireet	Restoration of traditional water system & restoration of water bodies. Auroville's Centre for Scientific Research Water harvest, Palmyra
<b>Environmental education / workshops and study materials</b>	
Auroville schools Greengroup	Wasteless, Sustainable Livelyhood Institute , Auroville Village Action Group, Solitude Farm, Youthlink, Aranya Forest, EcoPro, Auroville Consulting
<b>Waste management</b>	
Ecoservice, Upcycling studio, Auroville's Centre for Scientific Research	Solid waste management & education, Wasteless, Auroclean, EcoPro, Ecofemme
<b>Conscious consumerism</b>	
Upasana, The Colors of Nature, Naturellement, The Taste of Nature , Marc's coffee, Aditya, MG Ecoduties, Small Steps, Ecofemme, Wellpaper, Auroville papers.	
<b>Sustainable building</b>	<b>Prototyping for India</b>
Earthweavers, Sacred Groves, Aureka, Auroville Earth Institute, Joy of impermanence	Auroville Earth Institute, Unesco Asia Chair, Auroville design consultants, Auroville Bamboo Center
<b>E-Mobility</b>	<b>Prototyping for India</b>
Integrate Transport Service (ITS) - Community E-Mobility-Pilot project, Kinisi, E-bike, E-cycle,	Integrate Transport Service, Auroville Institute for Applied Technology (AIAT)
<b>Alternative energy: Solar and wind</b>	<b>Projects all over India</b>
Sunlit Future, Auroville Windsystems, Aureka, Auroville Energy Products Auroville Consulting, AUORE, Auroville CSR	









# Auroville Campus

Auroville has secured 92% of the land in the City area and 38% of the Greenbelt area - only 52.6% of total lands in the planned area as of 2019.

While honoring the vision of the future city, it is clear that the reality of rapidly expanding villages and Pondicherry city needs to be accommodated to the planning process.

Auroville has to think and act strategically, seeking the purchase of those land holdings that best empower its unique culture and green research campus.

If you knew there was a place on Earth that was working on:

solving humanity's most pressing problems,

would you fight to preserve it?

The strategic purchase of land today will ensure that Auroville's impact continues to unfold





# A vibrant regenerative Culture











# Impact in India and internationally

Auroville is the world's first and only internationally recognised experiment in human unity, researching into the future cultural, environmental, social and spiritual needs of mankind. Auroville has been endorsed by UNESCO as well as other international bodies and enjoys the support of the Government of India, its host nation.

Auroville sees itself as a place of research and experimentation for humanity as a whole, role-model and potential catalyst for changing global perceptions, lifestyles and practices for the benefit of all humanity.

**Auroville's regenerative projects** have been engaged in 14 Indian states (including 25 projects in Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry) with projects or outreach to 30 countries.

Today Auroville is working with 120,000 people in the bioregion, through over 40 organisations:

**Auroville village Action Group (AVAG)** works through its network of 340 village-level self-help groups with over 6000 people in 85 settlements and 35 Panchayat villages benefiting 120,000 people in the areas of community development, economic development, capacity building and psychosocial support.

Auroville is involved with 36 education and cultural centers with 1800 Students. Auroville runs 6 health facilities with 6000 patients annually. The dental team caters to 1,400 school students from 17 schools and 1,850 patients from the bio-region annually

## **Outreach & education in ecology and regenerative work**

**SLI Sustainable Livelihood Institute** – a joint venture of Tamil Nadu Government and Auroville, has offered training to over 1500 farming community leaders from the agriculture dominated 30 districts of Tamil Nadu in past 2 years

**Botanical Garden** receives 3500 school children yearly, Pitchandikulam Forest Consultants offers environmental education to over 100 schools in the Bio-Region.

**Wasteless** games and study modules in schoolbooks are reach 50,000 children in Tamil Nadu,

**Auroville Consulting** organised trainings for 3000 students and professionals past years, providing future generations of leaders for socially inclusive and ecologically regenerative development projects

**Auroville Earth Institute AVEI**, Representative and Resource Centre as UNESCO Chair for Asia in "Earthen Architecture, Constructive Cultures and Sustainable Development", is working in 36 countries to disseminate knowledge in the construction of sustainable habitats.

Auroville is networking internationally to 31 Auroville International Centers.





# The next 50 years

## **The next 50 years: Auroville as a Campus for Regenerative culture and in all areas of life and research**

From a experimental community to regenerating the land to actively working in the bioregion to betterment in social, ecological, economical nexus, to become an educational center for integral approach with interns, volunteers, students and seekers from the world, to bringing best practices and innovation in regenerative work to Tamil Nadu and India.

### **Auroville – Univercity    The Auroville Campus initiative**

Auroville as a whole is already a new kind of universal city, a 'univers-city', a learning society. ACI is focussing on the aspect of higher and unending education, developing more well structured long- term advanced professionally relevant study and experimental learning programs. All social institutions and process, from science to technology, from arts to culture, from governance to economy, from families to workplaces, are living laboratories to give birth to a new society, a new humanity.



#### **Water**

Securing the future water supply for Auroville and its bioregion with approx. 120,000 people

Water retention landscapes, agriculture based on smart irrigation with surface water

Grey water and waste water recycling

Zero runoff from Auroville's land holding,

Restoration of the traditional system of village water conservation and irrigation.

Reaching out to India's cities for planning sustainable development for cities, regenerating water bodies.

#### **Regeneration of the land**

Enhanced biodiversity in fauna and flora to serve as a gene pool for tropical South India.

Organic farming based on smart irrigation, conservation of traditional seed varieties.

Regeneration of soil in newly purchased land

Research in information system in natural regeneration of the original tropical forest

Reaching out to India by creating ecoparcs, environmental education, supplying seeds and seedlings,

#### **Waste, sustainable building, E-mobility and conscious consumerism**

Waste recycling and waste processing for the bioregion

Research in climate adapted, solar passive building using recycled materials, 3-D printing, modular setups.

E-mobility pilot project of a community based e-mobility.

Organic processed foods



# Funding Auroville

## catalyst for Auroville's collective development:

Mission : Funding Auroville is a fundraising service for Auroville's collective development, its land, ecology and work for human unity.

We are committed to fundraise to safeguard the land and water for Auroville, to secure the base, so that "the city the earth needs" continues to grow and develop harmoniously with its bioregion. We focus on fundraising to secure priority land holdings for the "Auroville campus", and its regenerative work through bringing forward projects in and reaching out from Auroville.

We serve as a dynamic link between those interested in promoting regenerative work in Auroville, the project holders and Auroville's Governance.





Team: Sigrid, Supriya, Rishi, Peter, Prem, Giovanni and Allan

Auroville is associated with prominent leaders, thinkers and internationally recognised organisations. An extensive listing of supporters worldwide is presented on our website.

### **Funding Auroville**

Website <http://funding.auroville.org/>

[info@funding.auroville.org](mailto:info@funding.auroville.org)

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Aurovillefunding/>

Townhall, 605101 Auroville, Tamil Nadu, India





# Donate for land for Auroville



Empower Auroville to flourish

Donations for land preserve the land and ecology of Auroville, and protects and empowers the community's role in transformation of society, a beacon for the future of humanity.

Please join us by donating directly for land purchase.

Contact us:  
[donations@funding.auroville.org](mailto:donations@funding.auroville.org)

Donations can be made through our website and its secured payment gateway:  
Funding Auroville <http://funding.auroville.org>

Donations to land are tax exempted



There is a place that is solving humanity's most pressing issues,  
do you join to preserve it?

Please join us by funding projects  
Current and future projects are displayed on our website

Funding Auroville <http://funding.auroville.org/>

Contact us for detailed information on opportunities to steer upcoming projects to reality.

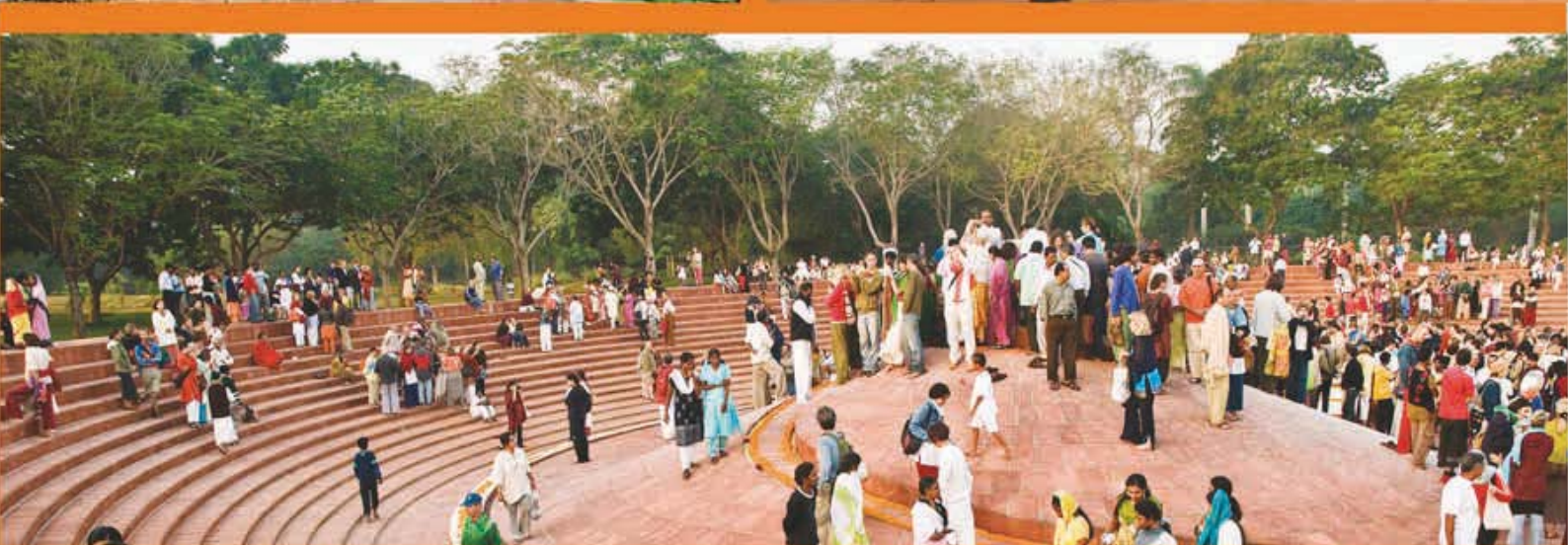
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