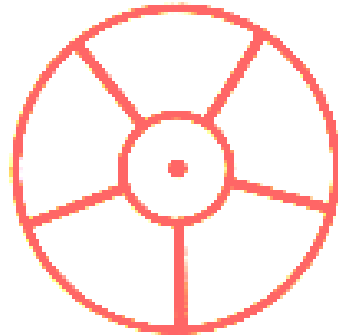


AUROVILLE FOUNDATION

AUROVILLE



MINUTES OF THE 58TH MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD



Hybrid mode

2022



18-01-2022 AT 10-45 AM

AUROVILLE FOUNDATION, AUROVILLE

Minutes of the 58th Governing Board meeting (hybrid mode) held on

18th January 2022

The following were present:

1)	Shri. R. N. Ravi Governor of Tamil Nadu	Chairperson
2)	Dr. Tamilsai Soundararajan Lt. Governor of Puducherry	Member
3)	Dr. Nirima Oza	Member
4)	Dr. Jayanti S. Ravi Secretary, Auroville Foundation	Secretary
<u>Joined On-line</u>		
5)	Smt. Darshana Dabral, JS &FA Ministry of Education, New Delhi	Member
6)	Smt. Neeta Prasad, Joint Secretary Ministry of Education, New Delhi	Member
7)	Prof. Goutam Ghosal	Member
8)	Prof. R. S. Sarraju	Member
9)	Prof. Nandana G Basappa	Member

Leave of absence was granted to the following Member:

1)	Shri. Aravindan Neelakandan	Member
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Dr. Jayanti Ravi, Secretary, Auroville Foundation, Auroville welcomed the Chairman and the Members of the Governing Board and introduced Dr. G. Seetharaman, newly appointed OSD (Officer on Special Duty) of Auroville Foundation to the Chairman and the Board Members.

The Board was informed about the 34th Finance Committee Meeting held on 17th January 2022 where Governing Board meeting agenda items relating to budgets and financial matters were discussed. The comments on the Agenda Items from the Integrated Finance Division (IFD) of the Ministry of Education were also informed to the Board.

The Agenda Items were taken up for discussion and decisions were taken as detailed below.

Note:

MoE had sent their comments on the said agenda points before commencement of meeting and the comments were considered.

Item No 58.1:	Confirmation of the Minutes of 57th Meeting of GB held on 02nd November 2021
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The Minutes were circulated to the members. The members of the Governing Board resolved to confirm the minutes of the 57th Meeting of the Governing Board held on 02nd November 2021.

Item No 58.2:	Approval of the Minutes of 34th meeting of the Finance Committee held on 17th January 2022
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The members approved the minutes of the 34th meeting of the Finance Committee held on 17th January 2022.

Item No 58.3:	Action taken report on the Minutes of 57th meeting of the Governing Board
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The action-taken report on the decisions of the 57th meeting of the Governing Board was noted by the Board.

Report of Secretary, AF

- The action points of the 57th Governing Board meeting of 2nd November 2021 have been discussed with the concerned Working Groups of Auroville.

- Each Working Group has taken up one or more action items for implementation. Some Working Groups have taken the help of resource persons.
- The Working Committee, ATDC, FAMC and SAIER have prepared presentations with the highlights of progress made thus far and the plans ahead.
- There have been follow-up meetings with officials of the Tamil Nadu Government for the acquisition of city lands and the establishment of a New Town Development Authority (for land use regulation).
- Secretary also informed the Board that Auroville Foundation has recently signed an MoU with Pondicherry University, so that the students from the Auroville Institute of Applied Technology (AIAT) can obtain certificates for recognized courses of Bachelors of Vocational Training (B.Voc) and masters' certification also.
- Secretary informed that a collaborative urban planning tool known as "Dream Weaving" has been developed in Auroville and will be used to provide inputs for the detailed development planning of the Crown. The Governing Board welcomed and accepted this initiative with the following stipulations:
 - (i) Plans and proposals will be consistent with the Auroville Master Plan;
 - (ii) Ongoing works, including the Crown Road will remain unaffected.

- (iii) The outcome of the Dream Weaving exercise will go to the Auroville Town Development Council as an input for detailed development planning of the Crown.

Item No 58.4:	Approval of the Auroville Foundation annual report and accounts for the FY 2019-20 & FY 2020-21
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The Auroville Foundation Annual Report and Accounts for the FY 2019-20 & FY 2020-21 were approved.

Item No 58.5:	Approval of the township development budget for FY 2022-23
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The Board approved the budget as per the recommendations of the Finance Committee.

Item No 58.6:	Approval of Re-constitution of the Finance Committee
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The Board approved the re-constitution of the Finance Committee with the following membership:

- Smt. Darshana Dabral, JS &FA, Ministry of Education
- Smt. Neeta Prasad, JS (ICC &Planning), Ministry of Education
- Dr. Nirima Oza, Member, Governing Board
- Dr. Jayanti Ravi, Secretary, AF and
- Dr. G. Seetharaman, OSD, AF (convenor)

Item No 58.9:	Additional charge of Dr G. Seetharaman as OSD, Auroville Foundation
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The Board noted and approved that Dr G. Seetharaman has been given additional charge of OSD to Auroville Foundation.

Item No. 59.1	Approval for Nominating Vastu Shilpa Consulting (VSC) agency as an external consultant to prepare DDP
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The Board has approved to nominate Vastu Shilpa Consulting (VSC) headed by Padma Bhushan recipient Dr. B.V.Doshi as the external consultant to prepare a DDP at approximate cost of Rs. 1.98/- Crore and signing the MoU between AVF and VSC as per GoI norms.

Additional items discussed with the approval of Chairman

1) Organisation and Governance committee

In the 57th meeting of the Governing Board on 2nd November 2021, the Board had noted that:

- there is a proliferation of groups and discussion forums.
- there is a need to simplify the governance and organisation structures (trusts, units, activities and committees) of Auroville.
- there seems to be decision paralysis or the inability to put decisions into practice.
- the Residents Assembly is seen by many as a decision-making body for even operational issues that are under the responsibility of working groups

The Board also noted that there seems to be a lack of clarity amongst some Auroville residents about the roles, responsibilities and decision-making authority of the Residents Assembly as provided for in the Auroville Foundation Act.

Secretary, AF suggested that a Governing Board committee can be formed under sections 16(1) and 16(2) of the Auroville Foundation Act with two members of the Governing Board and Secretary AF as member-convenor to look into these matters.

It was decided to establish an Organisation and Governance committee to look into organisation, governance and related matters with the following Governing Board members as committee members:

- Dr. Nirima Oza
- Dr. Gautam Ghoshal
- Joint Secretary, (ICC & Planning), MoE
- Dr. G. Seetharaman, OSD
- Dr. Jayanti S. Ravi, Secretary

Secretary, AVF will be the member-convenor of the committee.

The committee may co-opt additional members and invite inputs from experts.

2) Chief Vigilance and Security Officer

The need for a better coordination of security in Auroville was recognised and it was decided to designate an Officer of Auroville Foundation as a Chief Vigilance and Security Officer, who will report to Secretary, AF.

- 3) Commitment to the values for adhering to the ideals of Auroville and to the Constitution of India by the residents of Auroville.

The need for a declaration to be given by all residents of Auroville (including newcomers, volunteers and friends of Auroville) was considered and found to be appropriate. The content of the committee was discussed and approved.

- 4) Topographical survey of master plan right-of-ways

The proposal of conducting a drone survey of master plan right-of-ways (RoWs) was approved. It was noted that the topographical survey may take 2 to 3 months and that the work will be executed in two-phases. It was further decided that Crown RoW clearing and infrastructure work must proceed, while tree clearing can happen after the Stay issued by the National Green Tribunal (South Zone) in Original Application No.239 of 2021 is lifted.

- 5) Township development budget

During the 57th meeting of the Governing Board on 2nd November 2021, the Board had approved a budget outlay of Rs. 1,000 Crores for township development for the period 2021-22 to 2025-26. The abstract budget with phasing was approved in-principle.

- 6) Nomination of member of the Auroville Town Development Council
During the 57th meeting of the Governing Board on 2nd November 2021, Secretary AF was authorized to nominate the Governing Board's nominee on the ATDC as and when required for smooth and efficient functioning of the ATDC.

The Board approved the nomination of Dr. G. Seetharaman, OSD, Auroville Foundation as the Governing's Board's nominee in lieu of Mr. Debabrata Sahoo, who had resigned from ATDC membership.

The Board noted that the ATDC had elected Dr. G. Seetharaman as Member-Secretary with additional charge of finance and accounts in its meeting of 10.01.2022.

It was decided to have the next meeting of the GB in April 2022.

The Meeting ended with thanks to the Chairman and other Members proposed by the Secretary.

Dr. Jayanti S. Ravi
Auroville Foundation, Auroville
(Secretary)

//APPROVED//

Shri. R. N. Ravi
Governor of Tamil Nadu
(Chairperson)