

PROFILING ECO COMMUNITIES AROUND THE GLOBE

Auroville, India - The City of Dawn A Global Experiment in Human Unity

Location - Tamil Nadu, Southern India



PHOTO BY AUROVILLE.ORG

Vision

- A place of human unity removing borders of politics and religion
- Focuses on sustainable living, spiritual growth and global cooperation
- Supported by UNESCO and Indian government via Auroville Foundation Act
- Auroville Foundation autonomous body under India's Ministry of Education

Key Facts About Community

- In 1968, 124 young people representing 124 countries placed a handful of earth from their home lands into an urn near the centre of Auroville, creating a town dedicated to human unity
- Operates without private property, collective ownership of all assets
- Innovation in renewable energy, natural farming, biodiversity initiatives
- Home to over 3,000 residents from countless countries
- Community led efforts turning degraded land into reforested eco zones



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Sustainability Highlights

- Land Regeneration: 1,200 acres of barren land turned into lush forest
- Renewable Energy: Solar, wind and biogas used widely
- Natural Building: Earth-based homes, domes and low-impact structures
- Water Management: Rainwater harvesting, greywater systems, community scale water management systems
- Organic Farming: Dozens of farms supplying local, pesticide free food



Research Campus for Sustainable
City Development



Afforestation & Organic Agriculture

PHOTOS BY AUROVILLE.ORG



Cutting Edge Renewable and Green Technologies

Lifestyle

- Health trust fund is in place for Auroville residence's medical needs
- Work is seen as voluntary service, not employment
- Many free community services such as two wheeler bike repair shop and shared services such as solar, transit and water
- 8 school systems exist within Auroville providing a unique learning experience for residence of various ages
- Education is non-competitive and holistic (no grades or exams)



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Governance Structure

- No central authority, follow a self-governance framework
- Decisions made through collective processes
- Governed by residents assembly and participatory working groups
- Focus is on conscious collaboration, decisions and actions are focused towards collective sustainability of the community into the future
- The Auroville Foundation has a governing body and International Advisory Council, with more than 700 units grouped into various Trusts



AUROVILLE RESIDENTS ASSEMBLY - PHOTO BY AUROVILLE.ORG

Auroville is not just a place to live. It's a living laboratory for the future of humanity." - Auroville Resident

<u>References</u>

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