

(and the World's) For India's Glorious Future

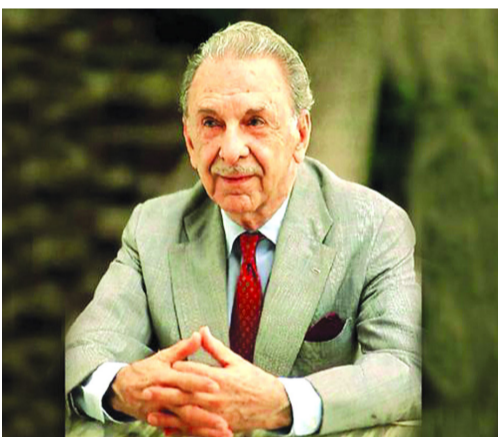
21 February 2025, No. 1

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**A modest magazine with a big hope –
to convey and, God willing, to convince
the leaders of India, the prominent citizens & the forward-looking sections of India;
the leaders & prominent citizens & forward-looking sections of Tamil Nadu & Pondicherry;
the prominent friends of India abroad:**

Why

**Auroville should be most important, most prestigious,
flagship project and face of India and why,
in cooperation with the maximum possible nations and all Indian states,
her great, grand and gorgeous development into a magnificent futuristic universal city –
the Earth-Queen, the Rose-flower of Earth, a new kind of United Nations;
a cultural, educational, entrepreneurial, architectural, technological, and
an all-round “World Olympics”, 365 days a year, for centuries to come –
an indispensable highest priority
for a strong and united, and a different kind of developed India,
a different kind of developed world!**



J. R. D. Tata

One of the builders of modern India, a friend and associate of Auroville from the moment he came to know about Auroville in midseventies till the last breath of his life in 1993, recipient of India's highest civilian award Bharat Ratna - Jewel of India.

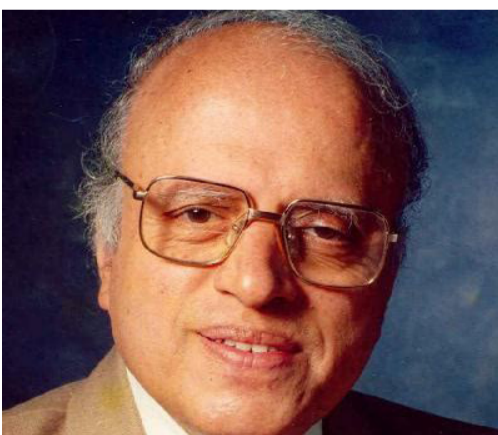
“ Auroville is not just an idea. It is the future, the future of the world.... I believe in it more today than ever before.

I have come here to breath the Auroville spirit. I'm not an Aurovilian, but I have the Auroville spirit!

The existence of such a unique international socio-cultural experiment, inspired by Sri Aurobindo and the Mother, has brought prestige to India and should be preserved and encouraged to grow both in its operations and in its spiritual and moral influence in the world.

Perhaps in the future, other Aurovilles can be created in India...

I have always believed in living a little dangerously. Don't be afraid of danger but keep the power to dream. ”¹



Dr. M. S. Swaminathan

Father of India's food surplus status, former chairman of the Auroville Foundation, recipient of India's highest civilian award Bharat Ratna - Jewel of India.

“ 15th August 1947. It was the day of India's Independence. When everybody was going towards the Marina Beach in Madras (for celebrations), I was walking towards Egmore (Railway) Station to take a train to Pondicherry.”^{2a}

“ Auroville and the concept of Nations' Diviner Dimensions (NDD) in particular do hold the potentiality to embody and to complement the hopes and ideals that lay behind the creation of United Nations and UNESCO while at the same time benefiting India in manifold ways.”^{2b}

References & Notes:

1. These five extracts are from an interview published in a monthly magazine Auroville Today (February 1993 issue) and from a book 'A Unique Friendship : J.R.D. Tata and Auroville' by Frederick Schulze Buxloh

2a & 2b. The first quote is from Dr. M.S. Swaminathan's speech in Auroville, published in Auroville weekly News & Notes, and second quote is from a message drafted by Aryadeep S. Acharya, which Dr. M.S. Swaminathan approved for publication in his name in 2010.



Mirra Alfassa

(Introduced to the world by Sri Aurobindo (*“the greatest intellectual of our age”* – Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan¹, ‘reincarnation of Leonardo da Vinci’ – Nolini Kanta Gupta²) as the Mother, as the human embodiment of the ‘creative principle’ known in the Indian and many other ancient traditions as the Divine Mother - who, according to Sri Aurobindo, has taken birth in a human body to open a path to a radically different and tremendously superior new species beyond the human species, resulting in a highly evolved society and a new world on this very earth.)

“ Then towards Madras, where there is plenty of space, (Auroville will have) a stadium. We want this stadium to be the most modern and the most perfect possible, with the idea — it is an idea I have had for a long time — that twelve years — the Olympic Games take place every four years — twelve years from 1968 — in ’68 the Olympiads are taking place in Mexico — twelve years later we would hold the Olympic Games in India, there (in Auroville). So we need space. ”³

“ ...if nations collaborate in the work of Auroville, ...it will do them good – it can do them a lot of good, a good that can be out of proportion to the appearance of their actions. ”^{4a}

“ I am speaking of the countries’ collaboration in CREATING something....If some interest is awakened in all countries for this (Auroville) creation, little by little it will have the power to react against the error they have committed... the psychological error of believing that fear can save you from a danger! Fear attracts the danger much more than it saves you from it. ”^{4b}

“ ... I tell people that the creation of a city like Auroville has more weight in the earth’s history than all the groups of the world.... ”⁵

References & Notes:

1. Second President of India, a philosopher-statesman; quoted in K. D. Verma’s book “Sri Aurobindo as a Critic”, The Indian Imagination (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2000)
2. From a recorded talk of Nolini Kanta Gupta, a philosopher, a yogi and a foremost disciple of Sri Aurobindo; published in a book “Tribute to Nolini Kanta Gupta” edited by Nirodbaran, Sri Mira Trust, Pondicherry, p.18
3. The Mother on Auroville, published by the Sri Aurobindo Ashram Trust, p. 54. These words constituted a part of her conversation with a close disciple explaining her plans for Auroville.
- 4a & 4b. Mother’s Agenda, V. 7, Conversation dt. September 21, 1966). This was said in context of nations piling up weapons of war and destruction.
5. Mother’s Agenda, V. 8, Conversation dt. October 25, 1967. This was an informal expression of the Mother in context of some of her talented disciples directing their time and energy towards building a new institution for world unity in the light of Sri Aurobindo instead of directing their energies to develop Auroville.

Making India greatest nation in the world!

Letter from the editor

India, an ancient civilisation, is today a young, rejuvenated and growing nation. In the first hour of the 15th August 1947, as India stepped into Independence, the then leaders of the country assembled in the Parliament to take a vow of a new beginning for India's all-round progress and prosperity, to lift India to the skies so as to serve as a lighthouse for the onward human journey. The Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru gave voice to their hopes and aspirations:

“Long years ago, we made a tryst with destiny, and now the time comes when we shall redeem our pledge, not wholly or in full measure, but very substantially. At the stroke of midnight hour, when the world sleeps, India will awake to life and freedom. A moment comes, which comes but rarely in history, when we step out from the old to new, when an age ends, and when the soul of a nation, long suppressed, find utterance....”

Numerous people – with whatever their God-given talent and energy – had dreamed, worked, struggled, suffered, laid down their lives for this moment. It was naturally a time for jubilation, for celebration because a critically important goal, a crucial milestone had been reached.

The immediate next challenge was to organize the freedom in such a way that it brings peace, self-reliance, a good education, a good and free life to all citizens. About a year after the Independence, on 3rd September 1949, Sri Aurobindo, while replying to a letter of Kailas Nath Katju, then Governor of West Bengal, wrote:

“...I have long been acquainted with your name and what you have done for our country as one of its leaders in the struggle for freedom and after Independence was gained, in the heavy and difficult work that had to be done under trying and arduous circumstances to organise its independence and contend with the growing difficulties of the task.

The difficulties you speak of which beset all who are working for the world's peace and welfare are indeed very great; the strength to meet them and to support those who are doing the work is less widespread than it ought to be and there is too much fear and demoralisation everywhere in the world and the will to co-operate for the best is deficient and often absent. I am afraid the hour in which one can be confident that these difficulties would be soon overcome is not yet near and men of goodwill will have to persevere with great courage before they can say, “It is done.” But I believe that as the labour is arduous so will the outcome be sure and satisfying. It has been a great good fortune for Bengal that you have been sent there as Governor and you may be confident that my blessings will attend you in your work.” (Ref. Complete Works of Sri Aurobindo (CWSA), Vol. 36, p. 512)

While the heavy and difficult work of organising India's freedom is behind us, the need for strength and support to meet the challenges ahead, the need for new visions, a new worldview, new kind of leadership is still very much there.

Here, Auroville assumes a vast relevance, a vast significance simply because Auroville, when developed fully into a unique universal city, brings tremendous new strength, a tremendous new support for India's forward journey as well as the world's onward march. A greatly developed Auroville is India's nuclear bomb in reverse – a colossal constructive force on the world stage.

This is the idea, the dream, the hope behind this modest magazine – to convey and, God willing, to convince its readers how a fully developed Auroville Universal city brings to India and, through India, to humanity a new strength, a new vision, a new hope, and an absolute certainty of success of the experiment of human life on earth. In other words, the magazine seeks to convey the splendors of Auroville's marvellous potentialities and extraordinary relevancies for a new India and a new world. The references to those relevancies & potentialities will be its standard theme. Consequently, kindly excuse occasional repetitions. Each issue will also carry certain research content which throws light and enriches our understanding of the emerging future in the world and, in that context, the future of life on earth.

- Aryadeep S. Acharya

Postscript: The editor and publisher of this magazine is aware that in the present social environment, the words such as “India's (and the World's) Glorious Future”, coming as they do from an unknown person, may rise suspiciousness or even alert in many or most people. As the cautionary phrase goes: If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. But one must remain true to one's convictions. The editor of this magazine is absolutely convinced that it is only Auroville vision, worldview, ideas & ideals & “ideology” that can make India a different kind of developed country, and for this to happen, one of the best things to do is to lift Auroville to the skies of all-round successes.

Auroville

Contours of a Compelling Benefit Story The Splendors of Potentialities A Game-Changing Partnership between the Human and the Divine “... an eternal work that transcends individuality on all sides”¹

Auroville the Earth-Queen!²
The Rose-flower of the Earth!³

Something that offers to India
an immense and unparalleled opportunity to host
a new kind of United Nations;⁴

Something that offers to India
an immense and unparalleled opportunity to host
a cultural, educational, entrepreneurial, architectural, technological and
an all-round 'World Olympics',
365 days a year, for centuries to come!

Something that offers to India
extremely important hints for
India's urban planning and development
for generating tremendous energy as well as diversity
on the foundations of unity
for the gradual transformation of the country.⁵

Something which stands for and communicate
a vision, a worldview, aspirations, ideas, ideals, approaches and perspectives which offer a platform,
a broad framework within which
the soul of India and the soul of humanity
can come to the fore and lead the onward human journey!⁶

Something which could become
a common programme and a meeting point
of a vast number of forward-looking,
individuals, organisations, nations of the world.

Something whose great, grand and gorgeous development has
profound implications for India's mission in the world
'India's nuclear bomb in reverse' (read 'a greatest constructive force in the world'.)

Something whose great, grand and gorgeous development could
contribute more to the unity of India than
building world's tallest statues of unity in each state of India,
(No offence intended).

Something whose great, grand and gorgeous development has
both instant “good” and a long-term “good”:
Instant good - physical development, economic development & prosperity, employment generation,
collective sense of confidence for a better future, collective will for progress towards new horizons,
psychological sense of well-being in the society
Long-term good – gradual birth of new dreams, new aspirations, new visions, new thinking resulting
in gradual change and progress
in every branch and aspects of social existence, including religion, politics, commerce & business,
technology, education, law and jurisprudence, environment.

Something which is a logical culmination
of the European Renaissance
into the supreme human renaissance
starting with India!

Something whose great and comprehensive development
with worldwide alliances and presences could, in time,
draw India and the world closer to
the dreams of great leaders of the bygone times
summed up in the words of Winston Churchill:
“life of the world” (moving) “forward into broad sunlit uplands”⁷

while at the same time,

universalizing the idea of India and generating, worldwide,
inspired and inspiring, collaboration for India to emerge
what former US president Bill Clinton summoned India to become
“the right kind of giant”⁸

References & Notes:

1. Mother's Agenda, Vol. 1, p.53. The full sentence reads: *“Open a new chapter in your existence. Live, no longer for your own realization or the realization of you ideal, however exalted it may be, but to serve an eternal work that transcends your individuality on all sides.”*
2. In 1993, after writing a study paper on a pressing issue of Auroville, Aryadeep S. Acharya set out to find a single word that encompasses in its meaning all that the Mother meant by Auroville. After weeks of concentrated search, he found the word “Earth-Queen” from an American poem on New York City by Richard Hovey. His study paper *“Reaching out to the Survival Challenge of the Earth-Queen”* was self-published and distributed in November 1993. This followed one of the most beautiful spiritual experiences of his life - continuous descent of gentle peace for many weeks. Aryadeep feels that the word “Earth-Queen” encompasses in its meaning all that the Mother meant by Auroville – nobility and aristocracy of the highest order, high aspirations, prosperity, pristine cleanliness and beauty, a cultural renaissance bordering the divine.
3. “Rose-flower” is a word that spontaneously sprung up in Aryadeep S. Acharya while cycling in Auroville in 1991 and pondering on the importance of unified and harmonious development of Auroville. The title of one of his papers on Auroville, published in 2003, was, *“Saving the Rose-flower of the Earth”*.
4. This refers mainly to the International Zone of Auroville where the unique research & creativity pavilions expressing and nurturing the essential, the distinctive strengths & qualities - the soul - of all or maximum possible nations (and each state of India within the Pavilion of India) has been envisioned. Aryadeep S. Acharya calls this Nations' Diviner Dimensions (NDD) and has written an explanatory study paper on the subject, pointing out how this could be new kind of United Nations on India's soil
5. In October 2006, Christoph Fischer, a sociologist and a former resident of Auroville from Italy, posted a single-sentence comment on Auroville's internal website, Auronet, regarding Auroville city plan and India's urban development: *“Just imagine, 20,000 full-grown Aurovilles would be enough to contain India's entire population while occupying not even 20% of its territory; the country would look quite different then – no urban sprawl, no slums, and a lot of space for nature reserves!”* Aryadeep S. Acharya took that comment up for further study and investigation. His paper *“Town Planning for Transforming India into a “Right Kind of Giant” - A Study in Sri Aurobindo's Light”* was published in a specialised research magazine *“TRIALOG – a Journal for Planning and Building in the Third World”* from Germany in June 2012.
6. In October 2019, Bloomsbury UK published *The Philosophy of Sri Aurobindo* containing fourteen research papers by diffident authors, edited by Dr. Debidatta Aurobinda Mahapatra. One of the research papers, namely, *“The Force Behind the Indian Renaissance and Crucial Significance of Auroville's Emergence”* by Aryadeep S. Acharya explains Auroville's relevance for India's supreme renaissance.
7. Winston Churchill in his speech to the House of commons on 18th June 1940, referring to the crucial importance of winning the World War II, defeating the Nazi ideology.
8. Inaugural speech by President Bill Clinton in a conclave *“India – Future Pigmy or Giant”* organized by India Today magazine in 2001

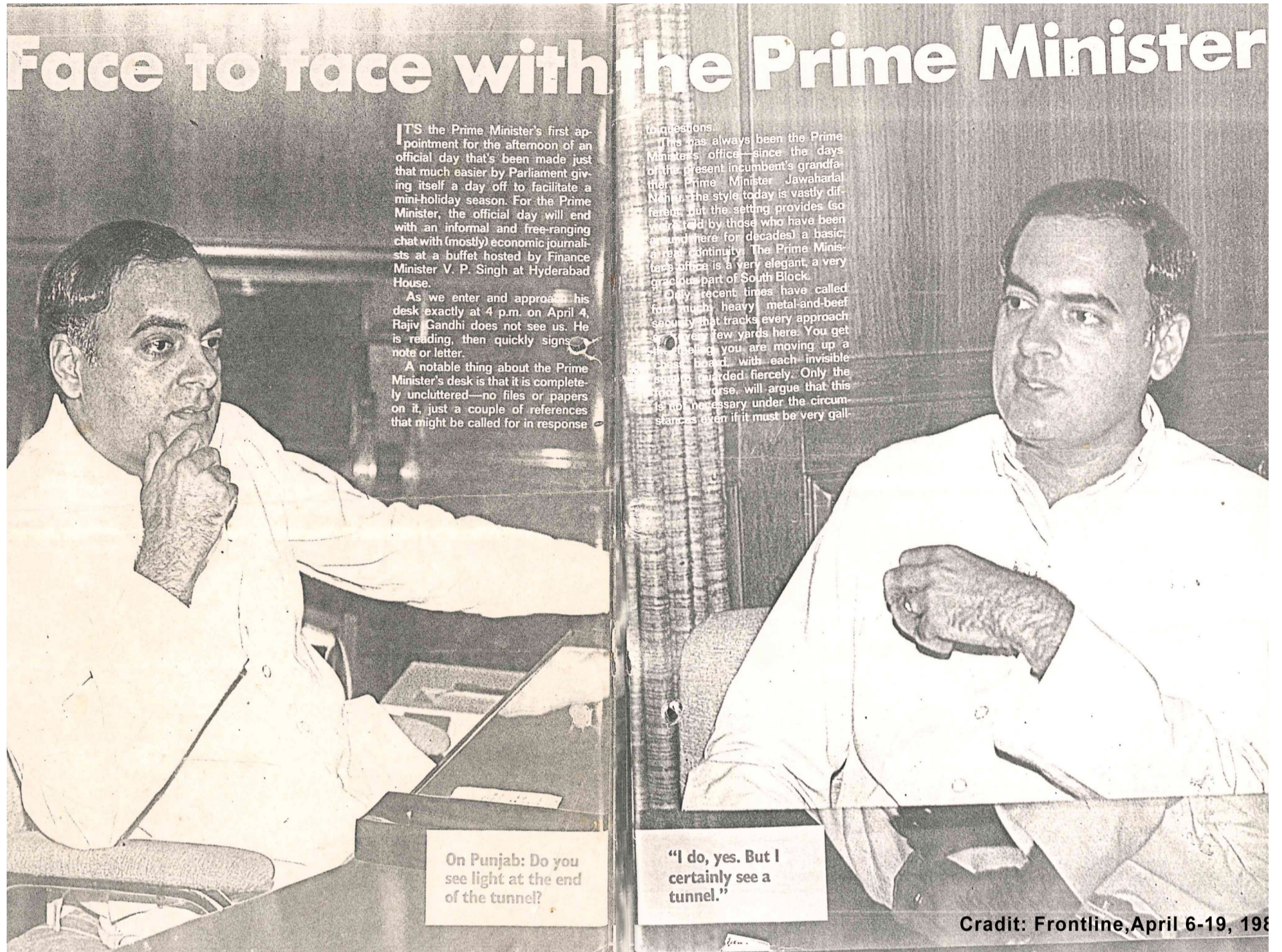


“new models...
by treading new
paths.....
new India (with)
new goals....
forging new
paths...
a new enthusiasm
and a new zeal...
a new journey and
a new perspective,
a (new) direction
and the (new)
vision,
a (new) resolve and
a (new) confidence
for a (new India).”

Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his inaugural speech while inaugurating the new building of the Parliament of India, 28 May 2023

Editor's comment: Auroville and her founding inspiration, Sri Aurobindo and the Mother, vivify what is meant by new models, new paths, new visions, new hope.

(late) Dr. L. M. Singhvi, a prominent Indian figure of the recent past: “As a teacher of mankind, Sri Aurobindo’s legacy and vision is cherished, preserved and advanced in material terms, on this earth, in Auroville.”



Vision of 21st Century

Question by N. Ram: May I ask, you, even if this is slightly schematic, what is your vision of the 21st century in India? What are the key components of modernisation in developing an old, an ancient society such as ours?

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi: I think the first think to bear in mind is that any development we do, we must preserve – it's very difficult to pin a name on it – but preserve the Indianness that we have. An inner strength, a deep spirituality ... you know, that factor which has made India India and has absorbed everybody, which no other country could in this manner. That is the first thing that we must not loss no matter what we are trying to gain. On the gaining side, we must first choose what we think are areas which will be positive to us – from the West, the East, from everywhere in the world. But what is really required between, let's say now and the turn of the century, is a change in the thinking of our people. They must be more dynamic, they must not think back...which we still do. But they must learn to think ahead.

Reference: Frontline, April 6 – 19, 1985

Editor's comment: Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi found it very difficult to pin a name "*on what makes India India*". There is here an element of quest, of sincere inquiry. Then he speaks of "*inner strength, deep spirituality*". That is exactly what Auroville is all about - quest, an inquiry for inner strength, deep spirituality. Only thing, Auroville's founding inspiration Sri Aurobindo & Mirra Alfassa (whom Sri Aurobindo introduced to the world as the Mother) offer what may be called a lived light, an experience-based guidance, assimilating best of India's and human past.

Rajiv Gandhi then speaks of taking best from the West and the East. Auroville is for taking the best from the East and the best from the West. In fact, the personality of Sri Aurobindo is regarded as belonging as much to the West as to the East. Auroville cannot but be the same.

Malini Parthasarathy, senior journalist, former member of the Governing Board of the Auroville Foundation:
 "Auroville could be a possible microcosm of what India is meant to be."

“When the earth stood golden heaven tall”¹

Editor's note: In August 2024, Peter Diamendis, one of the foremost exponents of the new technologies and proponent of a coming era of abundance, sent an email to all on his mailing list. The email contained quotes highlighting the disruption of the times ahead. There and then, I decided that I will publish in each issue of this magazine, which was at the conceptual stage at that time, the 12 bullet points Mirra Alfassa (introduced to the world as the Mother by Sri Aurobindo) wrote in 1937, mentioning the 12 things she wants to bring down upon the earth. The future issue of this magazine will take up each of this point and elaborate them further.

What I want to bring about in the material world, upon the earth..

- 1) Perfect Consciousness.
- 2) Integral Knowledge, omniscience.
- 3) Power invincible, irresistible, ineluctable; omnipotence.
- 4) Health, perfect, constant, unshakable; perpetually renewed energy.
- 5) Eternal youth, constant growth, uninterrupted progress.
- 6) Perfect beauty, complex and total harmony.
- 7) Inexhaustible unparalleled riches, control over all the wealth of this world.
- 8) The gift of healing and giving happiness
- 9) Immunity from all accidents, invulnerability against all adverse attacks.
- 10) Perfect power of expression in all fields and all activities.
- 11) The gift of tongues, the power of making oneself understood perfectly by all.
- 12) And all else necessary for the accomplishment of Thy work.

Mirra Alfassa (23 October 1937)

(Introduced to the world by Sri Aurobindo (“the greatest intellectual of our age” – Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan¹, ‘reincarnation of Leonardo da Vinci’ – Nolini Kanta Gupta²) as the Mother, as the human embodiment of the ‘Principle of creation’ known in the Indian and many other ancient traditions as the Divine Mother - who, according to Sri Aurobindo, has taken birth in a human body to open a path to a radically different and tremendously superior new species beyond the human species, resulting in a new creation, a new world on this very earth.)

Ref. 1. (late) American Aurovilian poet Roger Harris in a poem City of Peace

A scene from Auroville Inauguration, 28th February 1968



Thanks for your esteemed attention to this modest magazine.

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For any feedback or inquiry, write to feedback@aryadeepvisionfoundation.org

Aryadeep Vision Foundation is at present a small seed that seeks to sprout and become a marvellous tree. It is a tiny drop that aspires to be beautiful lake. It is a shimmering line that dreams of becoming a luminous peace imparting rainbow on India's and the world's horizon.

Finally, Aryadeep S. Acharya humbly expresses his inability to accept invitations that necessitates his travelling out of Auroville. However, he will be happy to meet people virtually, communicate by email, and also receive them physically in his office in Auroville after prior appointment. On necessity, he will also be happy to send his representatives in response to invitations for meetings or speeches.

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