



Youth Center Auroville <youthcenter@auroville.org.in>

Objection to ATDC e-mail

1 message

Youth Center Auroville <youthcenter@auroville.org.in>

Fri, May 6, 2022 at 8:18 AM

To: ATDC Auroville Town Development Council <avenir@auroville.org.in>

Cc: Working Committee <workingcom@auroville.org.in>, Auroville Council <avcouncil@auroville.org.in>, Auroville Foundation <avfoundation@auroville.org.in>, famc <famc@auroville.org.in>

Dear Auroville Town Development Council,

Youth Centre team would like to officially file an objection to your e-mail (dated 5-5-2022), in which you demand to "dismantle unauthorised structures in Youth Centre before Monday May 9th 2022, 9 pm".

Firstly, as stated in our previous correspondence, we would like clarity on which "unauthorized" buildings your e-mail refers. The Crown Road area was cleared in December 2021, and no standing buildings have been constructed in that area.

Most existing buildings in the Youth Centre are temporary, and not illegal. Furthermore, The Youth Centre has had an official telephone and electricity connection since 25 years and all buildings have been in plain sight, and accepted by the Auroville Foundation as well as the ATDC since 25 years. There has been continuous interaction between the various authorities of the Auroville Foundation and the Youth Centre over the years and the Youth Centre receives a budget from the Central fund. It is a public space for the Resident Youth and is very much authorised and has the support from the residents of Auroville. The Town Development Council cannot arbitrarily consider the Youth Centres buildings as unauthorised at a whim and at its own discretion.

The National Green Tribunal judgement states that environmental clearance is necessary to proceed with any development plans. The judgement states that environmental clearance following project plans and all due procedures are necessary for any development on any other part of Auroville except for the Crown Road. Since the Youth Centres buildings are outside the Crown Road, prior environmental clearance is needed in order for demolition as well.

The Residents Assembly Decision also states to "pause all development projects on the Crown" until a detailed development plan is created and approved by the Residents Assembly of Auroville. We inquire, then, under whose authority and authorisation is this demand being made?

You have given the Youth Centre a notice of four day notice. We request that the Auroville Town Development Council follow the law, and give a 30 day notice for any demands of demolition.

Sincerely,
The Youth Centre Executives and Team