



Fwd: Share with Djaima residents concerned

Evolving Galaxy <evolvinggalaxy@gmail.com>
To: Evolving Galaxy <evolvinggalaxy@gmail.com>

Mon, Aug 22, 2022 at 9:06 PM

To: Land Board <landboard@auroville.org.in>

Cc: famc@auroville.services <famc@auroville.services>, Auroville Council <avcouncil@auroville.services>, workingcom@auroville.services <workingcom@auroville.services>, tdc@auroville.services <tdc@auroville.services>, avfoundation@auroville.org.in <avfoundation@auroville.org.in>, Boobalan Masilamani <boobalan@auroville.org.in>, agnijata@auroville.org.in <agnijata@auroville.org.in>, girvani@auroville.org.in <girvani@auroville.org.in>, LOE <loechu@auroville.org.in>, jjb <jjb@auroville.org.in>, natesankumar@gmail.com <natesankumar@gmail.com>, arumugam aru <aro@auroville.org.in>, harisurya@auroville.org.in <harisurya@auroville.org.in>, aurokalakumar@auroville.org.in <aurokalakumar@auroville.org.in>, manjini@auroville.org.in <manjini@auroville.org.in>, joyindia . <joyindia@auroville.org.in>

Dear members of the Land Board,

The residents of Djaima are requesting clarifications on the following points:

Djaima residents have not been informed of the land exchange project before this communication, however this land is very much a part of Djaima community, as illustrated by the map, and is of particular importance to the residents considering that it contains the underground water pipe lines of the community, sole water source of about 20 households. Furthermore the stewardship of this plot by the Land Board has been contested on several occasions over the past few years (see attached documents). Djaima residents have been also been watching and reporting the encroachments or misuse of the land to the Land Board, requesting for it to be fenced on the road side, which was finally done in 2019. Residents have also questioned on several occasions the Land Board on its intentions regarding the use of the land, to which the Land Board has stated in writing (see attached documents) that the land was not to be sold, leased or exchanged. Considering the above history between this plot of land, the residents of Djaima and the Land Board it seems relevant that a formal communication should have been made by the Land Board regarding its plans for exchange prior to its completion. We demand clarifications on why such a communication did not take place. Further considering that this information was not shared, to our knowledge, with the rest of the Auroville community as a whole, while the legitimacy of some decision making bodies are currently subject to court cases and that exchange of Auroville land had been halted for several years due in part to the lack of transparency which it involved, we request the Working Committee and the Auroville Council to inquire and confirm that due process has been followed for the land exchange.

We are further requesting the Land Board to share additional information regarding the exchange of the aforementioned plot of land, in particular the projected use of the land by them; whether for agricultural, residential or commercial purpose. Due to the close proximity of some of the residents of Djaima to this land it is of particular importance for this information to be shared.

Regarding the plan of the Land Board to relocate the Djaima pipelines which are crossing this plot of land from west to east over its entire length, this consisting of two sets of PVC pipes, one measuring 2" and the second 3", for irrigation purpose. The residents would first like to point out that they are very concerned about the plan of the Land Board to "to start as soon as possible". Having been victims in the past of the an incident whereby the Land Board had sent a JCB on to the land without informing the community beforehand, although the Land Board had met in the days prior with a resident who had reminded them about the presence of the underground water pipe lines, the unsupervised workers had not been informed of it and broke the pipe line. The Land Board did not take responsibility for the situation and is was left for the residents to deal with the issue. This resulted in the loss of water supply to all the resident for an extended period of time. Considering the above and in an effort to avoid a similar scenario to not be repeated, the residents are requesting that the Land Board does not start any work prior to due consultation with the residents of Djaima, as copied on this email. Secondly there are several challenges with the current proposal of the Land Board to relocate the pipe line. The network of pipes spanning hundreds of meters have been designed to

follow the slope of the land where Djaima is situated to provide an adequately distributed water pressure to the residents, diverting the pipe line further down the slope would result in vertical bends which in turn would create air pockets, further reducing the water pressure, already a source of concern to the residents. Feasibility of conducting the work without incidents and damages while digging hundreds of meters, potentially under the road, or directly above the water line of neighbor Chandrasekar already following the road on the east side without damaging the underground telephone line, then joining with an unknown location inside the community, this without felling any tree (which to the best of our knowledge is still prohibited by the ruling of the green tribunal.) is a strong source of concern for the residents.

The residents are hence proposing a preferable alternative, whereby the pipe line crossing the land would be disconnected and a new bore well and water tank would be constructed on the east side of Djaima, close to the location of the old country well on the south side of 197/6 and close to the edge of 197/9. This solution would separate the two water pipe networks on the east and west side of Djaima, reducing the use of the existing drinking water bore well. Bore well which is now about 40 years old and was made from now heavily rusted sheet metal casing and potentially at risk of collapse with the current usage. The residents of Djaima are urging the Land Board to follow this alternative and to start discussions as soon as possible to plan and start the work without delay in collaboration with the residents of Djaima.

To be noted, the email address of the of the TDC, Working Committee and AV Council have been misspelled to @auroville.servises instead of @auroville.servises in your original notice. This preventing them from being informed about the decision. This has been rectified in our reply.

We are looking for your prompt and immediate response this important matter, for each of the points mentioned above so as to proceed forward with haste. Because, as we understand it, the clock is now ticking.

Best Regards,

The residents of Djaima.

From: Land Board

Sent: Friday, August 19, 2022 12:39

To: symeon@douaroularz.com; Boobalan Masilamani

Cc: avcouncil@auroville.servises; FAMC-all; workingcom@auroville.servises; tdc@auroville.servises; Land Board

Subject: Share with Djaima residents concerned

Dear residents of Djaima community,

This is to inform you that the land next to your community BO197/5 - 0.64 acres has been exchanged for strategic plot consolidating in the city area of the master plan.

The fact that community water pipes are passing on this plot was taken into consideration. Timelimit of 5 months was

agreed with the new owner to move the water pipes to Auroville land.

The Land Board has taken responsibility to organize and finance the work and we will start as soon as possible.

We count on your support and collaboration during the execution of the work for moving the water pipes.

Warm Regards,

Land Board

1st Floor, Town Hall
Ph: 0413 2623699



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6 attachments

 **Djaima1.pdf**
190K

 **Djaima2.pdf**
192K

 **Djaima3.pdf**
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