

Matrimandir

August 2025

With the imagination's eye, one begins to see the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow — the completion of the Matrimandir.

The Gardens, the Lake and the two new buildings, one to house the support activities for Matrimandir in the future, and another to receive all the people who will come to visit the Gardens and Chamber, are moving forward.

To reach this point has been the work of 54 years of nonstop activity; from the first excavation of the crater of Matrimandir in 1971 up to the ongoing excavations in the Gardens and the Lake.



For hundreds of people, it has been an opportunity to serve — some for decades, some for years or some for a few months of dedicated activity. Thousands of others, whether donors, specialists of construction or occasional enthusiastic volunteers, have all contributed to the constant growth of Matrimandir over these last five decades. A divinely orchestrated symphony of energies of all kinds has brought Matrimandir to the point it has reached today.



Moving through the Gardens in the afternoon, after the morning groups visiting the Inner Chamber have all come and gone, one experiences the pace of the energies that are building and maintaining Matrimandir.

About 200 people are on the site each day attending to different areas of work. It may be the highflying disc cleaning teams who rappel down the outer surface of Matrimandir to clean the golden discs, or it may be the teams who cut, rake and haul away the grass of the wide garden spaces. There is a team of masons busy with the construction of the new Garden of Utility. The work is well underway. There is also the garden team transplanting cactus plants (given the spiritual significance of “Wealth” by the Mother) as a final touch to the Garden of Wealth.

Over in the Garden of Bliss, with its set of five elegantly flowing bowl-shaped fountains, a team arranges to work after dark on the setting of lights to illuminate the features of the garden. We are learning to appreciate that garden lighting is a specialized, artistic task!

The Garden of Youth is in its initial stage of construction; excavation has recently been completed to enable us to build a 240 square meter underground room to house equipment such as ride-on lawn mowers in the years to come. Once built, this underground room will be covered with 75 centimeters of composted soil so that the green plantation of the Youth Garden can be grown here, too.

Inside Matrimandir, the afternoon maintenance team of volunteers vacuums the Chamber carpet, wipes down all the marble and glass surfaces and generally attends to the detailed tasks of maintaining the interior

of Matrimandir. Similarly, the 12 individually colored spherical spaces within the Petals that encircle the building, are being cleaned and prepared by another team of dedicated staff. The white Lotus Pond below Matrimandir with its 216 large petals of sculpted white marble, receives regular attention too, to maintain the beauty of water flowing gently down over its surfaces.

Another team is busy trying out the newly donated electric stair-climbing wheel chair. This chair, and another soon to come which will climb up the curving interior staircase of the Matrimandir, will add a long missing feature to assist those who need this form of support to reach the Inner Chamber. The Matrimandir workshops nearby hum with activity, from the metal workshop engaged in a wide range of projects needed for the completion of Matrimandir, to the laundry, the catering section, the stock room and the other workshops needed to keep Matrimandir active and functioning throughout the day.

On the other side of the Gardens, the offices of Matrimandir are busy coordinating the task of receiving visitors or of channeling the offerings, great and small, that ensure the growth and maintenance of Matrimandir. Staff in another section look after accounting for the multiple activities of Matrimandir.

The planning section is deeply engaged with a wide range of forward-looking activities: architects are preparing the designs for the next three large gardens

to be constructed — Youth, Harmony and Perfection. Other architects are delving deeply into the planning for the construction of the Matrimandir Service Facility which will house all the support activities described above. This new building will be located outside the perimeter of the Lake on its north eastern shore. Another team of architects is engaged in the development of the concept designs for the Reception Pavilion, to be located outside the Lake on its western shore. This building will one day be the point of entry for all who come to visit the Matrimandir and the Park of Unity.



Masons work in the Garden of Utility



The new stair climbing wheel chair is given its first try out

As for the Lake, with two large sections on the south east and south west now excavated, work is underway to place a new set of electric cables under the bed of the future Lake. This large cable set will bring in all the electricity from the solar plant, the generators, and the State electricity grid to power all the activities of Matrimandir.

New excavation and soil movement for the Lake are waiting for permission from the authorities to carry the work forward. In the meantime, we have been busy cleaning up the area where the 10-meter-high temporary concrete end wall to the Lake had stood. This wall was swept away by the force unleashed by Cyclone Fengal on 30 November 2024. We now

Service Facility planning session



look forward to restarting the Lake excavation and waterproofing work.

These and many other activities weave together into a multidimensional tapestry which is the growing reality of Matrimandir. Looking ahead, one can now clearly see the approaching day of Completion. The work of decades, of two generations of well-wishers from all over the world, is bringing Matrimandir steadily towards this goal.

The surety of the movement, the approach towards the definitive completion of the Matrimandir, brings a quiet joy to all engaged here in service to the Soul of Auroville.

The Goal

The Goal remains to complete the Matrimandir, including the Park of Unity and the Lake, by The Mother's 150th birth anniversary on 21 February 2028. The work at the Matrimandir is forging ahead on all fronts.

We are reaching out to all of Mother's children to join hands to achieve this great endeavour. Each rupee is a drop of gold for Matrimandir and the sky is the limit.

Project Cost	Cost INR	Status
4 Golden Doors to close the Sphere	40 lakhs	41 lakhs received
Heliostat	20 lakhs	sponsored
Garden of Bliss, restructuring	25 lakhs	
Garden of Utility	35 lakhs	sponsored
Remaining 3 Gardens of Youth, Harmony, Perfection	155 lakhs	
Remaining 520 meters of the Oval Road	81 lakhs	7 lakhs per 100 meters
Next phase of the Lake, about 25% more	25 Crores	
Total cost of the Lake	100 Crores	80 Crores to go
Service Compound	18 Crores	very urgent
Reception Pavilion	20 Crores	urgent
Modernization of Electrical infrastructure	90 lakhs	very urgent
West Bridge crossing over 100 meters of the Lake	20 Crores	urgent

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Offerings to Matrimandir

Please note that all Indian offerings must be A/c Payee to Auroville Unity Fund. Cheques and Demand Drafts need to be accompanied by a letter / email from the donor specifying the offering is for Matrimandir along with PAN, full address, phone and email. Offerings can also be made through direct Bank Transfer to Auroville Unity Fund. Please contact Matrimandir Offerings Desk over email or phone for more details regarding bank transfers, tax exemptions and foreign donations

matrimandir.donations@auroville.org.in | 0413 - 2622051

Booking for Concentration in the Inner Chamber

Matrimandir Inner Chamber is open to visitors every morning except Tuesday and Sunday.

**Link for booking <https://mmaccess.auroville.org.in/visitors/new>
Matrimandir Access Group mmconcentration@auroville.org.in**