

Matrimandir

February 2026



The newly completed arching bridge in the Garden of Utility

The Goal is to complete Matrimandir, including the Park of Unity and the Lake, as an offering to The Mother for Her 150th birth anniversary on 21 February 2028. So, as we enter 2026, the development work at Matrimandir is moving forward on many fronts.

At the same time the work of maintaining all that has already been built, and of accommodating the hundreds and thousands of visitors who come to see Matrimandir each day is an ever-increasing task. It is as if Matrimandir and the Park of Unity continue to bloom, like a giant flower bringing forth new multicolored leaves and petals with each changing season.

At the heart of all this action, stands the Matrimandir main building for which the maintenance keeps a

small army busy on a daily basis. But as well, in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) in Chennai, work is progressing on two development projects. First, they are engaged in developing the drive mechanisms needed to move the sliding Golden Doors in each of the four main pillars. These doors are designed to slide out of view below the sphere of Matrimandir when open, and guided by a sophisticated set of sensors and controls, to complete the golden sphere when closed. It will be wonderful when this feature of the Matrimandir is finally in place. Secondly IIT Madras is assisting with the upgrading of the Heliostat on the roof of Matrimandir. The Heliostat is the crucial device designed to bring the Sunray precisely onto

the Crystal in the center of the Inner Chamber. The current heliostat is about 20 years old and needs either an upgrade or replacement by a system of another type. IIT is currently testing a device with no moving or digital parts, using a set of two lenses to focus the ray. If successful this system will replace the current mechanically driven heliostat and provide a much simpler and maintenance-free way to capture the ray.

In the Gardens work is proceeding steadily, with the Garden of Utility on track to be completed by mid-February this year. The vaulted stone arch bridge was freed from scaffolding in mid-January revealing the elegant curving lines which rise above a lily pond below. The Garden of Bliss, with five marble clad fountains, has also been refined in several aspects over the last months. The flowing curtains of water offer a very pleasing sight and sound for all to experience. Work in the newly started Garden of Harmony is now in full swing, with excavation of the central water body proceeding well.

In the Lake, on the southern edge of the oval of the Park of Unity, work is underway to prepare for the casting of the concrete foundation for a new wall to be built at the western end. You may recall that the central Lake wall was swept away a little over a year ago when cyclone Fengal inundated the site with huge quantities of rain. In the coming summer months, we will waterproof the 300-meter-long excavated section of the Lake. This, when joined to the already waterproofed 100 meters of Lake section 1, will create a 400-meter-long Lake section

with retaining walls at both ends. It will be wonderful indeed to watch as this long lake section is filled with harvested rainwater. Beyond this 400-meter-long section, Lake Section 3 is under preparation for its excavation phase, hopefully soon to come!

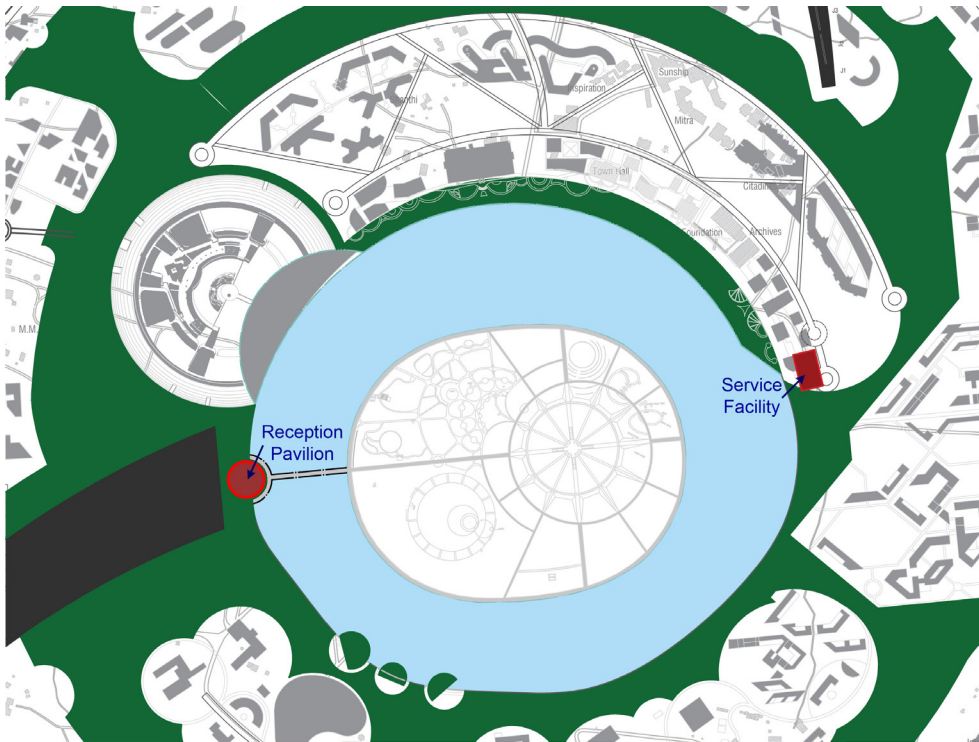
And one thing leads to another. Excavation of Lake Section 2 has involved another huge project landing on the table. With all of the electricity for the Matrimandir and the Park of Unity, whether solar or generator or state electricity, coming from the far shore of the Lake to the south, new cables are having to be laid under the Lake. Such an opportunity to modernize the entire electrical distribution for Matrimandir and the Gardens could not be passed up. So, a massive work is under way as the electrical team endeavors to replace old with new without ever cutting supply.

At the same time, to complete the Lake around Matrimandir, all of the original support facilities such as laundry, catering, workers facilities, stock room etc., have to be relocated so that the Lake on the eastern side can be excavated. To house all of these activities a building known as the "Service Facility" has been designed over the last couple of years by two Auroville architects. The very first phase of work for this project has just begun, with test holes being drilled to ascertain the strength of the earth below the building's foundations. Structural engineers have been engaged to make all the design calculations needed for the building. Our plan is to begin construction of the Service Facility in early 2026 and have it ready by mid-2027.



Visitors at Matrimandir Viewing Point

To the south of Lake Section 2, rising 10 meters above it, is the extensive public Viewing Point. Visitors walking up from Auroville's Visitors Center come in large numbers to have a view of the growing Matrimandir project. On an average day some 5000 people brave all weathers to come to the Viewing Point to look at the remarkable sight of the Matrimandir surrounded by the Park of Unity with the Lake project in the foreground. Improvement of the Viewing Point facilities is a constant labor of love for our Matrimandir team.



Map showing the locations of the Service Facility on the eastern outer shoreline of the Lake and the Reception Pavilion on the west.

Fundraising

“The Matrimandir will be the soul of Auroville. The sooner the soul is there, the better it will be for everybody and especially for the Aurovilians.” The Mother 15 November 1970

With just two years to go to reach the goal of completing the Matrimandir, fundraising has become a very important part of the work for the Matrimandir team.

From Matrimandir we are reaching out to all of The Mother’s children.

We are reaching out to you and we are asking you to

reach out to all your contacts to help raise the funds.

Wouldn’t it be wonderful if we could all join hands and give a completed Matrimandir as a birthday offering to Her?

To achieve this goal there is a lot to do and a lot of money to be raised.

As you can see to achieve this goal many projects need to be completed.

Two other projects which have been very much under study over the last several months are the Reception Pavilion, to be located on the western outer shoreline of the Lake and, associated with it, the 100-meter-long Bridge which will cross the Lake between the Reception Pavilion and the Park of Unity.

What a change it has been over the last 55 years! Digging began in the dry, dusty red earth to form the crater for the construction of Matrimandir in 1971 and now a bridge is being designed to cross a Lake surrounding Matrimandir! If anything can be called a miracle, it is this: the transformation of the land of Auroville over these last five decades and the rising of the sphere of Matrimandir at its center!



Excavating the foundation crater for Matrimandir in 1971

The Project Budgets and Timelines

PROJECTS	BUDGETS IN INDIAN RUPEES	BUDGETS IN US DOLLAR	PROJECTED COMPLETION DATE	COMMENTS
Garden of Light	68 Lakhs	\$ 75,000	Completed	Sponsorship still welcome
Restructuring of the Garden of Bliss	31 Lakhs	\$ 34,000	21.02.26	Sponsorship welcome
Garden of Utility	50 Lakhs	\$ 55,000	21.02.26	15 Lakhs still needed
Garden of Youth including Underground Storeroom	1.6 Crores	\$ 175,000	31.12.26	Sponsorship welcome
Garden of Harmony	80 Lakhs	\$ 87,500	15.08.26	Sponsorship welcome
Garden Perimeter Road Remaining 520 meters	81 Lakhs	\$ 88,500	31.12.26	Sponsorship welcome
Lake Sections 2 & 3	25 Crores	\$ 2,732,000	31.12.26	Sponsorship welcome
Lake Sections 4 & 5	75 Crores	\$ 8,196,000	31.12.27	Sponsorship welcome
Modernization of the Electrical Infrastructure	60 Lakhs	\$ 65,600	31.12.25	Sponsorship welcome
Service Facility	20 Crores	\$ 2,186,000	31.12.26	Sponsorship welcome Very Urgent
West Bridge crossing the Lake	20 Crores	\$ 2,186,000	31.12.27	Sponsorship welcome
Reception Pavilion	20 Crores	\$ 2,186,000	21.02.28	Sponsorship welcome
TOTAL	165 Crores	\$ 18,066,600		"All can be done if the God touch is there"

For more details about Projects and How to Donate please go to our **website matrimandir.org**

For any inquiries please contact Matrimandir Offerings Desk by email at **matrimandir.donations@auroville.org.in** or drop into the office. We love to see and hear from you.

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**