



# CO-EVOLUTION

Auroville Village Action Group

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To Whom it may concern

This is to certify that Mr. Ivar Jenten, Dutch national, lived and worked in Auroville during the period from about 1976 to 1989. During that period, he gave unstintingly of his energies in the area of village development, at first setting up schools for working children in the untouchable colonies, later training their mothers in handicraft and organising a cooperative society to provide regular employment. About 350 women are presently employed in the unit he started, and a network of 12 evening schools has grown out of his original two.

In addition to his contributions to women's development and children's education, Mr. Jenten also made pioneering experiments in ferro-cement technology, a low-cost housing method, and his buildings still house a school for village children. He also trained men and boys in compressed mud-block making and in welding. His well-digging team is responsible for many of the early open wells in Auroville. During the whole period of his work, Mr. Jenten never lost touch with the people, always working with them and demonstrating the dignity of manual labour and the equality of all work sincerely done.

At Village Action we very much miss the energy and enthusiasm of Mr. Jenten's participation, and we wish him every success in his future endeavours.

Sincerely,  
for AUROVILLE VILLAGE ACTION

Dee DeCew  
(former Coordinator)