



c/o Winfried Stelle, Hetzboldstr.17, 99631 Weißensee/Thür.

## Newsletter January/ February 2021

Dear foster-parents, friends and supporters of our sponsorship project,

This year's newsletter No.1 comes late, but I can start it with good news: As of today, 25 January 2021, both Frolich Home and Kabis High School have resumed their actual work. However, they will still not be able to resume their usual regular operations this school year.

Before I continue with the main topic, I would like to point out that **some important information will follow at the end of the newsletter (page 3)**.

### **Frolich Home and Kabis High reopened**

The first rumours that the schools might reopen after the Pongal festival in January were already heard in autumn. However, there were no further details on this until the end of 2020, nor was there any confirmation. It was not until 17 January of this year that the Tamil government announced that schools and boarding schools for the final years 10 and 12 of the current school year would reopen soon. However, the exact date and the rules regarding the Corona measures (e.g. ensuring distance rules in class and in the dormitories, etc.) were still unclear.

Today the time had come and a **total of 14 students from grades 10 and 12 were able to return to Frolich Home**. Before classes can start the day after tomorrow (tomorrow is 26 January, the 72nd Republic Day in India), all the paperwork has to be sorted out and everyone has to present a current (and of course negative) Corona test.

The plan is then to prepare everyone specifically for their final exams, which are to take place in April.

For all pupils in the other classes, the school year 2020/2021 will end as it began and has run so far: with home schooling via education packages that are provided at intervals by the school authorities via the schools concerned.

After all, the school year ends regularly at the beginning of April - and their end-of-year exams, as well as the half-year exams, are waived because of the special situation over the past year.

### **What's the situation into India?**

Overall, the situation has continued to improve. In Tamil Nadu, a total of 4,904 active Corona cases were reported as of 24 January 2021. To date, there have been 12,316 deaths related to the infection (over the entire past year). Tamil Nadu is roughly comparable to Germany in size and population.

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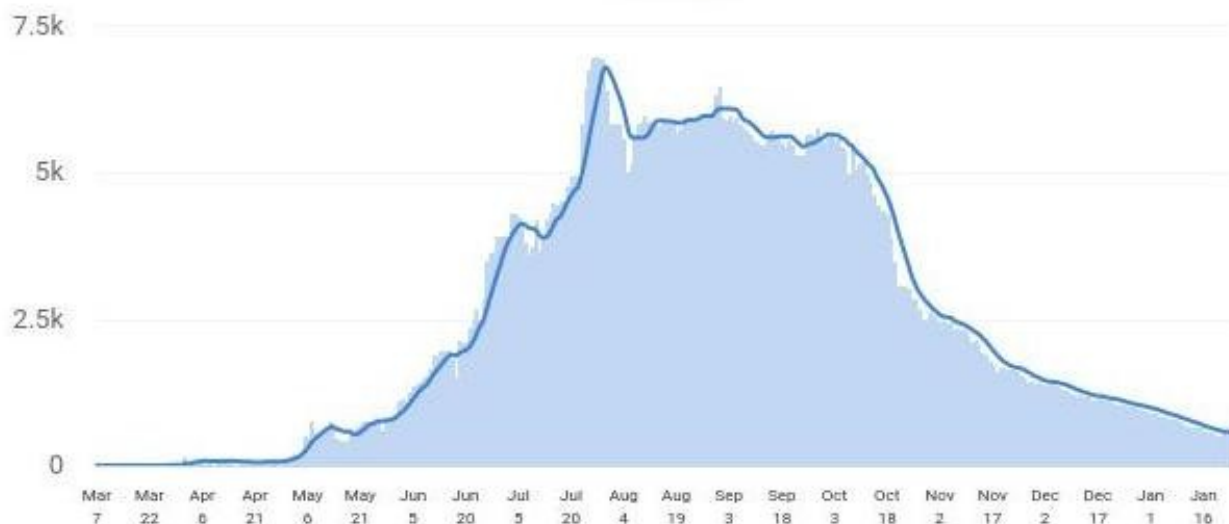
BIC : BYLADEM 1001

Deutsche Kreditbank AG (DKB)

#### Zur Beachtung:

Bitte ab sofort nur noch die nebenstehende Bankverbindung verwenden. Vielen Dank!

I do not have any current figures for the Thiruvallur district itself.



*Development of Covid 19 infections from March 2020 to January 2021 in Tamil Nadu*

The vaccination campaign started in India at the beginning of January. There are currently two vaccines available, one developed by India and one by a British-Swedish company, which is also produced directly in India. As of yesterday, a total of 1.62 million vaccinations are said to have been carried out.

The central government's target is that all 1.3 billion Indians should be vaccinated "in the foreseeable future".

In Tamil Nadu, too, vaccination has been going on diligently since 5 January. Mainly the staff in medical institutions had a chance to do so at the beginning. But Mano already informed us in mid-January that a number of our girls (all aged 15+) had also received their first vaccination (message in Amy group dated 14.01.2021).

I had already written in the November newsletter that there had been a whole series of relaxations of the Corona measures in Tamil Nadu on 1 November. Theatres and cinemas were allowed to reopen, as were many colleges.

Life seems to be running "normally" again, with the exception of the mandatory wearing of masks and the distance rules (both of which are being observed less and less in practice) and the continued closure of schools and kindergartens.



*Trip to Poondi Reservoir on 1 December*

The Frolich Home was also very busy from December onwards. Throughout the month, our children came to pick up their Christmas gifts and to write letters to their sponsors. These were then mostly passed on by me via email or WhatsApp (Mano still only sends the mail by email, to be on the safe side).

**I hope that the email letters all reached their addressees.**

And with the girls who could be reached, Mano Amma had also organised an excursion to the Poondi reservoir and a joint participation in the harvest service in the church of one of the neighbouring villages.



*At the harvest service on 15.12.2020*

**Once again, a heartfelt "Thank you!" to everyone who contributed in such a wonderful way to our house-building fundraiser just before Christmas.**

It was simply wonderful to experience how fast and uncomplicated help can be!

Unfortunately, the money could not yet be handed over to the affected families.

It has arrived in India and is in the TELC account. A transfer to Pandur is in the works.

The granny and her two grandchildren have been temporarily taken in by neighbours.

### **Further information:**

Due to the Corona circumstances, but also due to changes that preceded or are connected with the founding of the new association, there will be some changes in the usual schedule this year.

The association "Amy Carmichel - Hilfe für Kinder in Indien e.V." (Amy Carmichel - Help for Children in India) has finally been entered in the **register of associations** with effect from 25 November 2020.

The **annual donation statements** for 2020 are in progress (the preparatory work is in full swing). Unfortunately, the practical implementation up to the dispatch still needs some time.

According to information from the tax office, Amy e.V. is only entitled to issue donation statements once it has been entered in the register of associations.

For the past year, we are in negotiations so that the certificates can be issued once again via one of the cooperation partners.

**We therefore ask for a little patience.**

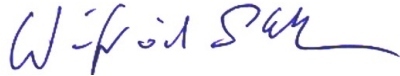
Unfortunately, a date for the **foster-parents meeting in 2021** (together with the annual members' meeting of Amy e.V.) cannot be planned at the moment, nor any other events.

The **foster-parents visit in India in 2021** remains in the plan for the period **from 25 October to 6 November 2021, but with reservations**, as it will certainly **not be possible to plan anything in this direction before July / August** this year. At the moment there are 10 registrations.

We must also ask all those who are waiting for a godchild for a little patience. The new school year 2021 / 2022 will hopefully start normally again in June.

I wish everyone a really good New Year, even if the start was (still) quite "bumpy".

With many greetings,



Winfried Stelle (Projekt-Coordinator „Amy Carmichel“)

(25. January 2021)

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**Here is a preview of the dates** (as of 25.01.2021):

**Date of the foster-parents visit 2021:** (probably) 25 October to 06 November 2021. Registrations for the trip are still possible. **The offer is subject to the Corona regulations and the travel warnings for India.**

**The foster-parents visit is a group travel offer.** Participation is possible for up to 20 people. It is planned to spend one week in Pandur (with excursions in the region and opportunities to do something together with the children) and the second week will be a multi-day trip to a more distant destination in the south of India.

**India afternoons or evenings** are also possible in your town/parish by arrangement, **as soon as the Corona regulations allow it again.**

Please send enquiries to Winfried Stelle, email [amy.carmichel@web.de](mailto:amy.carmichel@web.de) or phone: 036374-21258.

The **newsletter for March / April 2021** is expected to be published in early / mid March 2021.

The **next transfer to India** is expected to take place in mid/end February 2021 (with all special gifts received by then).

All those who are interested can still receive the current DVD, (as usual for a donation of € 10.00 for our office costs, plus € 1.55 postage). Please just contact me.

This time the film contains two travelogues: Mano's trip to Germany last year and the sponsor trip in 2019, and in addition a short review of our jubilee year. Total length is 45 minutes.

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### **Interested in a foster-parentship?**

Sponsorship with one of our boarding school children is possible for as little as 17.50 euros per month, and a study sponsorship for about 25.00 euros per month (as of January 2021).

### **Help with a donation?**

**Amy Carmichel / DE95 1203 0000 1020 3209 56 / BYLADEM 1001 /  
Deutsche Kreditbank AG (DKB)**

Thank you for your support!

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