



Hetzboldstr.17, 99631 Weißensee/Thür.

Newsletter May / June 2021

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

just some short information from my side today, before I hand over to Ms Mano, our home manager in Pandur. For weeks, the news here has been full of catastrophic corona news from India. Unfortunately, however, these usually relate to the areas around Delhi and Mumbai. I had asked them to report on the current situation in the region in the deep south of India.

But now first to the further information:

The **letters with the donation** proofs for the year 2020 went on Wednesday (12.05.) on the post office way, except for Weißensee, Sömmerda and Kölleda with the German post office. In the mentioned places the mail is distributed.

If someone who has donated in the past year has not received mail, please contact: amy.carmichel@web.de or by phone: 036374 21258.

At the moment **it is not possible to transfer money to India**. The background to this is that from April 2021, by government order, all organizations in India should open a new account for foreign transactions. The previous accounts lost their status in this regard. How long this changeover will take, especially now, in the aggravated situation due to the Corona crisis, we have to wait and see. As soon as everything is working again, the transfer, which was actually planned for May, will go on its way.

The **construction of the house** for the grandmother and the two grandchildren has progressed well, until the Corona-related construction stop a few days ago. Some recent pictures of the construction work at the end of the newsletter.

I will now hand over to Ms Mano. In the coming months, there will again be **up-to-date information** in the WhatsApp group, as usual - and in the case of very important developments, also on the "news ticker" of the newsletter page on the internet, at: www.amycarmichel.bplaced.net → Rundbrief / News-Ticker.

Report on the current situation in Tamilnadu/Thiruvallur/Pandur as on Wednesday, 12.05.2021

Since the Tamil Nadu Government by its order released on 22.04.2021 has advised all the Educational Institutions to be closed with immediate effect on account of the spreading of COVID-19 Corona Virus, our TELC Kabis Higher Secondary School, Pandur also had been

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Amy Carmichel – Hilfe für Kinder in Indien e.V. ist beim Amtsgericht Sömmerda unter der Registernummer VR 150908 registriert.

closed from 23.04.2021 until further orders. The Plus II (XII std.) students had completed their Practical Examination within these days and were sent home on the 24th of April with their parents.

They were informed that the Theory Examination stands postponed and will be held later. However, the Online Classes will be continued as usual.

But the Schools were functioning as usual for all Teaching and Non-Teaching Staff until the end of April 2021. Most of the Teaching and Non-teaching staff were called by the State Government at every District Headquarters for attending election classes for more than 3 times , where they were taught how to handle the Ballot papers and other systems like polling machines etc. pertaining to the election. The staff had to stay overnight before and after the election in the (unknown places) for 2 days.

The Lok Sabha election took place on Tuesday, the 6 th of April, 2021.

I suppose that they all attended the election classes without any precaution (not wearing any personal protective equipment) because at that time, there was no such community spread. The unawareness of the community spread at that time, leading the teachers and all other workers who were engaged in the election-duty to be affected by Coronavirus. Since then the virus has spread severely and fast everywhere.

I have already informed our Project co-ordinator that one of our teachers Mr.R.Rajasekaran who was working in the TELC Kabis Higher Secondary School, Pandur for 33 years in the same school, handling XI and XII th standards in Commerce Subject in Vocation Group died due to corona. On the 1 st of April, he came in person to Frolich Home to greet me. Then he was well-no symptom of corona. After the death of Mr.Rajasekaran all were aware of the danger with mild fever, cough and cold. Few were admitted in the hospital and were discharged. And few were isolated and were in quarantine at home as per the advice of the Doctors. Warden Mr.Parisutham of Boys Home also is one of them.

This is not only in Pandur but also in many schools even in our only one College that belongs to Tamil Evangelical Lutheran Church (TELC) TBML College in Porayar.

The Tamilnadu Lok Sabha election took place on Tuesday, the 6 th of April, 2021. But, at that time no one knew about the start and seriousness of Covid-19 community spreading throughout the entire state. Everyone went in groups for voting including me (to the nearby Kabis Higher Secondary School). Only later, we came to know about the community spread of Covid-19. Subsequently, the people were admitted with fever and other symptoms of Covid-19 including oxygen deficiency in the hospitals.

It has been observed that the rules and regulations issued by the Government are not being strictly followed. The Government is instructing to give utmost importance to follow test-track-treat protocol in all parts which includes aggressive testing to detect early COVID-19 positive cases, timely isolation of such positive cases by providing them clinical intervention. Further it was found that there is a general laxity in the observance of COVID-19. Appropriate behavior in work places and in public, especially in crowded places people are found without wearing masks and hand hygiene and social distancing. Appropriate fines are collected from those who are not obeying the rules.

Now today the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic is given its rapid spread and severity and is creating much anxiety and panic across the country. Lack of Oxygen Cylinders, lack of beds supplied with oxygen cylinders and spaces in the hospitals. The ambulances are waiting with the patients outside of the hospitals for admission. No outpatients in any cases are allowed

in any hospitals.

Our training students in Jehovah Hospital, Manali, Chennai 1) R.Arisha (AC 10-13), 2) K.Jeevitha (AC 06-16), 3) R.Saranya (AC 03-13), 4) A.Sri Devi (AC 02-16), 5) A.Sri Priya (03-16), 6) S.Sowmiya (AC 02-13) and 7) E.Vishnu Priya (AC 01-17) are staying in the hospital for helping the patients.

Likewise in Sri Kumaran Hospital, Chennai 1) R.Narmatha (AC 12-12) and 2) J.Jeya Priya (AC 06-10) are staying back in the hospital. In VGR Indira Nursing College, Pandur no one is staying there, so R.Rachel Gunavathi (AC 05-11) is at home.

Regarding Shops 1) The Tasmac - Alcohol Shop (The Tamilnadu Spirit Marketing Corporation), 2) Jeweler Shops, 3) Super Markets, 4) Textile and no transport such as trains, bus, lorries and taxis, auto rickshaws, tractors, vans etc. Only ambulances are running because of patients. Petrol bunks and medical shops full day. Banks, post offices from 10.00 to 2.00 midday, vegetables, groceries up to 2.00 and household items also up to 2.00 midday.

The **building construction** – R.Ritik (AC 12-18) and R.Rakshita (AC 11-18) is stopped as the workers are afraid to come outside from their villages away from Pandur due to the fast spread of corona. In Pandur also today I heard that in the villages few got slight symptoms and kept themselves isolated (quarantined) This strict curfew is up to the 24 th of May. Based on the present situation, the Government may extend or reconsider the lock down.

The churches are open from the morning till 10.00 in the night for people to enter the church for praying. But no service was conducted. For weddings 100 people are permitted, for the death/funeral only 20 are permitted.

The Theory Examination for the 12 th standard is sure, but only after the fall of Covid-19 cases, the Government will announce the date.

I thank God that so far none of our old and present Amy Girls and Foundation students became ill as far as I know.

It was said on television that the vaccine does not prevent the people from getting Covid-19. Few people who got vaccination were also affected by Covid-19 and died because of the injection – one famous Comedy Actor in Tamil Film Industry Mr.Vivek died of Cardiac arrest on the 3 rd day after he got vaccination.

With kind regards, Mano

—

Thank you Mano, for the information. Let us hope and pray that the situation in Tamil Nadu will not be as severe as in some other parts of India - and that the pandemic will really come to an end soon, no matter where in the world.

With many greetings,



(May, 15th 2021)

Winfried Stelle, Projekt-Koordinator „Amy Carmichel“

As announced, here are some current pictures of the construction work:



Here is a preview of the dates (as of 15.05.2021):

Foster-Parents meeting 2021: Due to the current Covid situation, we do **not yet have a date and place**. (As in 2020, we will try to hold the meeting on a weekend in September - if the situation allows it).

Date of Foster-Parents-Visit 2021: (probably) 25 October to 06 November 2021.

As long as the Corona regulations and the travel warnings for India still apply, the offer is subject to change.

According to the current state of affairs (development of the Corona situation in Germany and India), the chances of actually implementing the trip are unfortunately rather unlikely.

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 afternoon or evening events 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 or phone: 036374-21258.

The newsletter for July / August 2021 is expected to be published in mid-July 2021.

The next **remittance to India** will be made (with all special gifts received until then) as well as remittances to India are possible again (see newsletter above).

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 Ammas trip to Germany** last year before and the **foster-parents visit** in 2019, and in addition a short review of our jubilee year. Total length is 45 minutes.

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 May 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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