



Hetzboldstr.17, 99631 Weißensee/Thür.

Amy info letter January 2025

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

today we are passing on the latest newsletter from the Leipzig Missionary Organisation for your information. I have shortened the text slightly, focussing on the content relating to our work and India. The unabridged original version can be found in the newsletter email as a PDF attachment and is also linked on our website.

Just a quick info: The annual donation statements for 2024 are in progress. However, it will still take a few days before they are sent out. Together with them, the invitations to the 2025 Patent Meeting will also be sent out.

The foster-parent meeting will be on Saturday, 26 April 2025 at the St.Wigberti Monastery in Werningshausen.

With many greetings,
Winfried Stelle, Project-Coordinator „Amy Carmichel“

(20. January 2025)

Newsletter for partnerships with the TELC (Leipzig Mission) January 2025 (*abbreviated version*)

Introduction

At the beginning of the year, I would like to greet everyone with a newsletter. Since June, I - Annette Kalettka - have been the Asia/Pacific Officer at the LMW. Twice a year, we want to keep each other informed as interested parties and those involved in the partnership with the Tamil Evangelical Lutheran Church. The information flows together in the LMW and is passed on. It is often helpful to know about each other and to support each other.

Personnel matters

In addition to myself, Evelin Michalczyk will continue to be your contact person in the LMW for the Asia department.

We still have three volunteers from the TELC in the Saxon Regional Church until March 2025.

We are expecting 3 volunteers from the TELC again in 2025.

The general political situation in India

The Indian general election 2024 took place from 19 April to 1 June 2024. A total of 968 million

people in India were called to vote. The National Democratic Alliance (NDA) party alliance led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi achieved the number of votes required to form a government, but his BJP party lost its majority in parliament. With this election result, some hope for more freedom, others fear that restrictions will increase.

General church situation in the TELC

During the visit of the two representatives of the TELC church leadership, the difficulties with money transfers were discussed at length. Money transfers from abroad are subject to the Foreign Currency Registration Act (FCRA) in India. The money is deposited in special accounts that are controlled by the state. The government currently reserves the right to open, freeze (frozen status) or close the accounts. The TELC accounts are currently 'frozen'. Every six months, a new review is carried out to determine whether the respective account will be opened, closed or remain frozen. We are waiting daily for positive news from the TELC.

Church and international organisations are raising the difficulties with the German government and also with the Indian embassy and demanding consequences.

These difficulties are also affecting the Outgoing Volunteer Programme. In the last two years there have been no volunteers from Germany in the TELC.

Information from the partnership groups

Amy Carmichel e.V. Weißensee (Thuringia) and TELC Home for Girls in Pandur:

In August 2024, the association celebrated its 20th anniversary with a meeting day under the motto 'Hope'. There was another trip to Pandur in September. A lot has changed and the situation on the ground is not easy. The association members were able to get to know the new manager and visit the old familiar one and discuss many things with her. The reunion with the sponsored children is always a special moment for most of them.

For all partnership groups, project work is at a standstill due to difficulties with the transfer of funds. This is very unsatisfactory and complicates dealings with donors.

We very much hope that the transfer of funds will soon be possible again so that the facilities can return to normal operations.

Visit to the LMW

In June, Bishop Samraj was travelling privately in Germany and also he was for a short visit to the LMW to meet the new director.

The General Secretary of the TELC, Mr Thangapalam Rayappan, and Rev. Dr Thomas Kennedy Sathanantham were guests in Hermannsburg at the beginning of November for the International Consultation on Strengthening Children's Rights. The partner churches of the ELM, including the TELC, signed a joint agreement. The representatives of the TELC church leadership were then guests at the LMW for three days.

Concerns, request for solidarity and intercession

The situation of Christians in India is currently anything but easy. Church members from East Germany feel reminded of the times in the GDR. It takes perseverance, steadfastness, courage and patience. Let us pray for our brothers and sisters in India, that God will give them what they need to be able to live their faith freely and openly.

Let us pray for all those who lead the church and often take on responsibility as volunteers for children's homes, schools and diaconal projects in their church. The burdens are very great and a great deal of spiritual solidarity is needed. Our contacts, thoughts and prayers can give strength to the Christians in India. They feel that they are not alone, but that they are part of the global Christian community. Unfortunately, more caution is needed when it comes to digital and personal dialogue.

What can I ask without hesitation? Which photos can I post on social media? Which digital options do our Indian partners prefer?

Outlook/Dates 2025/26

I would particularly like to draw your attention to our annual festival on 14/15 June on the LMW campus. This year, our partner church in Tamil Nadu will be our focus. We are planning a forum in which all groups can introduce and present themselves. Feel free to bring guests from India and join us!

Now we wish you peaceful and blessed months in 2025!

Annette Kalettka
Director and Advisor Asia/Pacific Department

Evelin Michalczyk
Administrator Asia/Pacific Department

For all those who neither receive the information from the WhatsApp info group nor use the news ticker on the Amy website, here is the latest information from there, with the corresponding pictures:

21 December 2024: Unfortunately, the Frolich Home itself is still on hold for reopening. The application has been resubmitted to the district administration office and we are waiting for authorisation to be granted.

But the kindergarten has now reopened. The pictures are from the Christmas party there.



"Amy Carmichel- Hilfe für Kinder in Indien e.V.“ c/o Winfried Stelle, Hetzboldstr.17, 99631 Weißensee/Thür.
Internet: www.amycarmichel.bplaced.net / Email: amy.carmichel@web.de