

Mahadevi News 3/2022

August

Dear members, friends and interested people,

Today you will receive information about the situation in Nepal and the activities of the Mahadevi Women's School, which is located on the edge of the Kathmandu Valley.

What happened in Nepal in the last months?:

Nepal is also affected by severe drought and the lack of fertiliser, so compared to previous years, **sowing was reduced by about 35%**. The impact will be felt in the coming year.

The **Covid** situation in Nepal has been inconspicuous for the last few months, with mostly less than 25 positive test results per day. However, Nepal is also being hit by the new BA.5 and BA.2.75 variants, and since the beginning of July, infections have been rising significantly again at an accelerating rate. In the previous two waves, the positive rate also rose quickly, then collapsed abruptly and after 3-4 weeks the wave was over.

The first **three electric buses** started their journeys in Kathmandu. The [Sajha Yatayat](#) bus company has ordered 37 more; a small contribution to reducing air pollution in the Kathmandu Valley. It is pioneering public transport as we know it. The oil company [NOC](#), with a state monopoly, has steadily increasing debts to India. The price of petrol in Nepal is set purely politically. And if NOC has to sell it cheaper than it buys it, at some point it will no longer be able to pay the debt.

The opening of the **new airport in Pokhara** has been postponed until December.

The festival session has started in Nepal in July:

Many festivals will be celebrated in the next few months, also at Mahadevi Women's School. *"Nepal has a diverse culture and the traditions are unique," Ms Bina writes to us. "The unique culture is difficult to explain in words. Sometimes it is also very difficult to follow. However, everything is very interesting."*

With the **beginning of the rainy season**, a big festival is traditionally celebrated in Nepal to give thanks for the past harvest and to ask the gods for rain and a good harvest in the coming year after sowing. At Mahadevi Women's School, this festival was also celebrated with special food, singing and dancing and was a very special day for the women.

A special festival day is the **15th day of the month of Shrawan** in Nepal. On this day, everyone eats rice pudding. The festival is celebrated after the rice harvest, according to Ms Bina. The women of Mahadevi School enjoyed the special meal after their regular classes.

Now many other festivals follow, which only end after the Dashain festival. It is a time to relax.

Right after Dashain Tihar, the new annual cycle begins in agriculture with busy days for the farmers.

First cooperation between the Mahadevi Women's School and the girls' hostel "Surya Kiran":

From March to June, women from Mahadevi School sewed 30 pyjamas for the girls of the neighbouring hostel under the guidance of our Didi, Ms Sita. The cooperation partner of the hostel was Mrs. Sima. The women of the sewing course received a total of 12,000 Rps (about 100 €) as wages from the Surya Kiran Association.

Looking back to our benefit event with the group "Carolezmer" and the association "EineWelt Plochingen":

On 07/23/22 the group Carolezmer played for our 3 women's schools in the wonderful ambience of the Dettinger Park in Plochingen in summery weather. Many thanks to all those who helped, especially to the association [EineWelt Plochingen](#), which donated the entire net proceeds to our association. With 67 guests, about 850 € went into our association's coffers for our work in Nepal.

Our next benefit event:

"**Perspectives from Nepal** - from the perspective of its people" - slide show by and with book author [Ralf M. Lendl](#) - entertaining - exciting - informative - authentic.

Sat, **09/24/22** at [ZiB in Schorndorf](#), Schlachthofstr.5 at 7:30pm! Please make a note and spread the word.

Remain favourably disposed towards us. Thank you very much for your support.

On behalf of the Mahadevi Board, I wish you good health and confidence. Have a fine summer.

Namaste

Detlef Gründel



May 2022 excursion



rice pudding dinner



Nepalese harvest festival



health check at school



health education



in the sewing room



the fabric for the pyjamas is cut



the girls of "Surya Kiran" are happy about their new pyjamas



at each of the numerous festivals, people like to dance extensively