

Prosthetics and Orthotics (P&O)

Navajeevana has produced custom made prosthetics and orthotics for clients across the Hambantota and Matara districts since 2003. The unit, which has received funding from Motivation, USAID and the Japanese Embassy, produces over 500 devices annually.

Prosthetics refers to the branch of science concerned with artificially replacing a missing part of the body, such as a hand or leg. In 2007, 18 prostheses were made by the P&O unit.

Orthotics refers to the branch of science concerned with the study of fabrication and the fitting of mechanical devices to support those parts of the body that have lost their strength of function. In 2007, 505 orthoses were made.

The need for our services

Southern Sri Lanka has a higher than average number of people living with a disability. Many disabilities are the result of infections and injuries that have not received the right treatment at the right time. This results in people having parts of their body amputated, or losing control over parts of their body. Many of our clients come to us using ill-fitting or broken prosthetic or orthotic devices.

The P&O unit is the only one of its kind in the Hambantota district, and prides itself on producing tailor made devices which are comfortable and adaptable to the Sri Lankan climate.

How we help

Navajeevana's trained P&O staff make initial assessments and plaster casts of the affected area on the patient. The cast is then taken for rectification, where the irregularities or problem areas are addressed. The staff make use of modern technologies in moulding specially produced plastic materials around the cast to make the prosthesis or orthosis, and it is taken to our P&O workshop for perfecting and preparation for use. The client is then supported in learning how to use the device and receives the necessary therapy they need from Navajeevana's other services.

Costs

- **An artificial functioning hand (prosthesis) costs us Rs12, 693 to produce**
- **A cosmetic functioning hand (prosthesis) costs us Rs 7,200 to produce**
- **A knee-ankle-foot orthosis with a knee joint costs us Rs 7,708 to produce**
- **An orthosis to support the back and trunk costs us Rs 10,000 to produce**

Contact us for more information at:

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