

# Our services: speech therapy

## Speech and Language Therapy

Navajeevana has provided comprehensive speech and language therapy both in the field and at the centre since 2000. Speech and language therapy consists of a range of treatments to minimize the experienced by adults and children who have speech and language troubles, communication difficulties and swallowing problems. Our ultimate goal is to enable the client to achieve their best to become an effective communicator.

## The need for our services

Navajeevana provides the only speech therapist in the Hambantota district of Sri Lanka. The area has a very high number of people with disabilities, and our speech and language therapist works with over 500 clients annually. The most common reasons that clients access our services include: speech and language delay, stroke, learning difficulties, head injuries (traumatic brain injury), specific language impairment, dysphagia (eating and swallowing problems), voice disorders (problems with the vocal chords etc), neurological conditions, such as Parkinson's disease, stammering, hearing impairments, cleft palates, motor neurone disease and much more.

Due to the rural nature of the Hambantota district, clients access our services from up to 30km away. Expenses are high and many clients find it difficult to meet the cost of visiting us. We offer field based services for clients who cannot reach the Tangalla centre.

We know that there is a huge demand for our services. Over the years, we have worked hard to raise the profile of our speech therapy unit to increase awareness of what we can offer amongst hospitals and doctors. This has resulted in a large increase in the numbers of clients we work with.

## How we help

Navajeevana's trained speech therapist makes an initial assessment of the client to identify the communications barriers and difficulties. A rehabilitation plan is then prepared according to the outcomes of this assessment.

Navajeevana knows that we get better results in our therapy work if parents and care givers are empowered to participate in the process. Parents and care givers are involved in the preparation of the rehabilitation plan and are trained to carry out follow ups to the therapy sessions we provide.

The speech and language therapist works hand in hand with the physiotherapy unit, government doctors, special education teachers and other medical and paramedical staff.

**Speech therapy costs us Rs 21,600 per child and Rs 24,000 per adult over six months**

Contact us for more information at:

Navajeevana  
320, Mahawela Road,  
Tangalle  
Sri Lanka

T: 047-2242718/2241345  
F: 047 224 0579  
E: Navajeevana@sltnet.lk  
[www.navajeevana.org](http://www.navajeevana.org)

