



NO STOPPING THESE DISABLED KIDS: A team of Friends Indeed from Netherlands with physically challenged children who are going around on specially-made mobility devices at Maharshi Sambamurthy Institute at Kakinada. Report P 3

After serving disabled for six months, Dutch team takes leave of Kakinada

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

Kakinada, Feb 17: For the last six months, Human Kinetic technologists Esther Blom, Girolanda Costa Ramos, Jan Willem de Joode, Tom Kalkman and Annelies Verheij made Maharshi Sambamurthy Institute (MSI), which serves the physically-handicapped girls of Kakinada, their home.

Enabling the girls to stand on their own 'legs' was their mission.

These members of 'Friends Indeed', a Netherlands-based voluntary endeavour that supports welfare works in Andhra Pradesh, came here after completion of their education.

Serving the under-privileged was the only thing on their mind. They raised money from the Rotary Club to support their travel to India.

The Human Kinetic Technolo-

gists are leaving for Netherlands on February 22.

During their stay, they manufactured calipers and props for the physically handicapped.

The Dutch team brought their own machinery and set up workshop here.

They trained six persons about making of artificial limbs so that the work continues even in their absence.

With the help of locally available raw material, they manufactured calipers and artificial limbs.

The Dutch team also trained six persons about making of artificial limbs so that the work continues even in their absence.

'We like the Indian culture and traditions. The Indians are

very friendly. We would have stayed here for some more time if only our visas were extended," said Esther Blom and Annelies Verheij.

Jan Willem De Joode and Girolanda Costa Ramos wanted that their mission be continued.

They said that they were leaving all equipment behind so that the locals could use it to make calipers.

Government Training-cum-Production Centre technician P.Prasada Rao said that the new techniques introduced by the Netherlands team were innovative and offered customised solutions to the handicapped persons.

This helps in avoiding injury due to ill-fitted calipers, he told mediapersons.

Chakradhara Rao, another technician said that to overcome the language barrier, the Netherlands activists used ingenious teaching methods.