



PERSATUAN DAYBREAK

NEWSLETTER
No. 21

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Disabled Adults & Youths Being Rewarded, Encouraged & Accepted in Kinta

For Private Circulation only

Improved Training Facilities

The socks manufacturing project was started in early 2003 to accommodate the seriously disabled trainees who needed a sheltered environment. Because of their severe disabilities these trainees are not able to be placed out in open employment as some more able trainees after 2 years of training at Daybreak.



Cutting pieces of required size

The production of socks involves 8 different steps with some simple and straight forward while others require more skills. This enables us to provide training and employment for our trainees according to the degree of their disability.

The materials produced by six knitting machines are in rolls and have to be processed by the trainees. The first step is cutting the knitted material into pieces of required size. Then they have to be turned for sewing purpose before the ends of the socks are sealed. Next the top elastic ends are folded and sewn. Then the outer surface of the socks are turned again and they are inserted into moulds. The socks are then placed in an oven to set their shape. Later they have to be sorted out to separate the faultily knitted or sewn socks from the good ones. Lastly they are packed in pairs and labelled. The trainees who are involved this project are paid allowances according to their work performances. The State Education Department has permitted Daybreak to sell these socks to school students in Perak.



Socks placed in an oven



Packing socks and labelling

Report On A Trainee



Raenuga
at her stall

Raenuga Thevi is a 17 year old Indian girl. She dropped out of primary school as she could not cope with her studies and was not able to adjust to her school mates. When she was

only 4 years old she lost both her parents in a motor accident. Raenuga managed to survive the tragedy with a serious head injury. However, she still suffers from left hemiplegia (paralysis on the left side of body) due to injuries on the right hemisphere of her brain. Besides her severe disability in using her left arm she also suffers from slurred speech. This had caused her inferiority complex and much unhappiness while she attended her primary school. Her grandmother, who takes care of her now, was not able to persuade her to continue schooling.

Raenuga joined Daybreak in June 2003 for rehabilitation. After joining Daybreak she was happy and was able to get along well with the other trainees. She has been going through a rehabilitation programme arranged by our new Occupational Therapist (O.T.). Mr. Samraj Johnson, from India joined Daybreak in February 2004 on a two year contract with us. He is a graduate O.T. with much experience in rehabilitation services in a hospital. Raenuga is undergoing exercises for her physical disabilities so that it does not limit her functional abilities. She is also going through a programme to learn skills in the plant nursery. She is taught the required adaptations needed in handling all the equipment with less effort.

She has been selected for training to be self employed at her home. She is being trained to manage a sundry stall and a small plant nursery with the help of her grandmother at her home. She is receiving training in keeping simple accounts and is undergoing a simulation programme at Daybreak. She sells sundry goods like sweets, biscuits and stationery items at her stall in the foyer. She will be attached later to a sundry shop in town to get further experience in a real situation. We have applied to the State Social Welfare Office for a grant to help Raenuga set up a stall at her home.

Visitors At Daybreak



Visitors and Committee members

Ms. Paivi Alatalo (*Second Secretary*) and Mr. Erkki Bohan (*Accountant*) from the Embassy of Finland visited Persatuan Daybreak on Wednesday 14 April 2004. They were welcomed on arrival at 11 a.m. by the Chairman and Committee members. They visited the trainees at their different work stations and they keenly looked at various handicrafts made by the trainees on display.

They also visited our new plant nursery project. There is a large green house with several varieties of papaya plants and palms--fox tail, ixora sunkiss, macathuri and rheo. A large storage tank provides water to the sprinklers and a big garden shed is also in the compound. A full time gardener has been employed and he is assisted by several trainees. Our honoured guests were pleased with their visit to Daybreak. This plant Nursery Project has been funded by the kindness of the Embassy of Finland in Malaysia.

PERSATUAN DAYBREAK

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Business Hours: 8.45am to 5.45pm (Monday to Friday)

Donations:

We would be grateful for any donation to us. Cheques should be crossed and made payable to Persatuan Daybreak.