

About 500 persons with disability to benefit from free artificial limbs

By Getrude Mbago

ABOUT 500 persons with disabilities in the country are set to benefit from free artificial limbs scheduled for May, this year at the Muhimbili Orthopedic Institute (MOI) in Dar es Salaam.

The camp will be run by specialists from India in collaboration with the local ones.

India Higher Commissioner to Tanzania, Sandeep Arya said on Tuesday in Dar es Salaam during the commemoration of India Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) day to celebrate over 400 Tanzanian officials and specialists who benefited from various short courses in India, in this financial year.

According to be him, the services will be provided as part of India's continuous support to health sector in Tanzania.

He said during the camp, those with missing arms or legs will be checked and provided free artificial limbs.

"We focus on areas of priority for Tanzania such as health care, Information and Communications Technology, water sources and infrastructures

He said that among the largest Indian projects currently underway is the water supply project from Lake Victoria to Tabora, Nzega, Igunga and 89 villages en route at a cost of 600bn/-.

"Two other water supply projects in Dar es Salaam-Chalinze and in Zanzibar are also going well, and that India has committed further 1.15tr/- for water supply in other 26 towns in the country," he added.

The high commissioner further said that India has also proposed a tele-education programme in five universities as well as a tele-medicine programme in five hospitals in Tanzania wherein the agreement is set to be commenced in the near future.

Speaking on ITEC which covers government officials from various departments, Arya clarified that those technical training and capacity build-

ing courses pertained to areas such as ICT including computer soft ware and services, health care, financial tools, entrepreneurship development, managing water sources, energy and power, technologies, agricultural techniques, small scale industries, rural development, management skills, human resources planning, among others.

Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Prof James Mdoe commented India for the support it has been providing to Tanzania where through ITEC alone, a number of public officials have been benefited by acquiring free skills and knowledge to improve public service.

He also said that in 2017, the Tanzanian government received 131,000 copies of mathematics and sciences secondary school books from the government of India, which (books) have, to a great extent, improved the learning and teaching infrastructures.