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## PRESS RELEASE

### **INDIAN PEACEKEEPERS HELPING MINE VICTIMS IN SOUTHERN LEBANON**

Naqoura, Lebanon – Indian peacekeepers serving with the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) have organized a special clinic in their headquarters in Ibil as Saqi to provide artificial limbs to victims of mine and cluster bomb explosions in southern Lebanon. The artificial limb, known as the 'Jaipur Foot,' was developed and manufactured in Jaipur, India.

The peacekeepers have identified over 100 Lebanese people who could benefit from the artificial limb. These patients have started receiving free medical examinations and limb fittings by a medical team flown over from India especially for this project.

The ten-day clinic started on 14 April and it ends on Tuesday, 24 April. Around ten patients are being fitted with the limbs each day. The Indian specialists are also training local technicians so that after-care treatment can be provided to the patients once the specialists leave. The bank Arab Finance House is funding the project.

In 2006, 22 people from southern Lebanon who had lost their limbs due to injuries sustained during mine and cluster bomb incidents were provided with these artificial limbs.

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