

CHAPTER III

SOCIAL WELFARE INSTITUTIONS -

A PROFILE OF INSTITUTIONS OF SOCIAL DEFENCE

Within each one of us, there
is a quiet place where we
can shed our troubles and
renew ourselves.

- Dr. Maxwell Maltz.

The present chapter begins with a description of the nature of social defence agencies at state level and social legislations in operation. This is followed by detailed description of the institutional agencies of social defence undertaken for the study. Finally, profile of the study group is presented in terms of the background, educational qualifications, experience of working in the field etc. These, in turn, have given form and shape to the study and answered the questions like: Who are the workers, their position, job title? What are the agencies in which they are employed?

3.1 Social Defence then and now

The simplest meaning of social defence is protection of the society. However, the mode of protection has varied through the years. Earlier, offenders were tortured by inflicting pain even for a trivial offence. They were publicly punished to set an example to society. This sort of protection was based on the belief that a person committed crimes for pleasure. If the pain and punishment were greater than the pleasure derived from the crime, the person would not commit the same crime again. In this era of social defence implied the forceful protection of the community at the expense of the individual.

With the development of psychology, sociology and criminology, new dimensions were created and a deeper knowledge in human behaviour sought. Social defence is no longer thought of as forceful protection today, for now it has been found that crime is a product of various factors and not of pleasure and pain. Hence, the recent concept of social defence lies in protecting the individual from these various factors rather than the community from the individuals (Ancel Marc, 1965). This has brought about a change in philosophy regarding the concept of social defence. "Reverence for Life", ideal of Albert Switzer puts it aptly. "Prevention is better than cure" - This has been utilized maximum in the recent structure of social defence.

A single type of institution alone can not tackle various social problems facing the society, and so various types of institutions were evolved. Moreover, these made it possible to protect the individual from the various factors which made him vulnerable in the society in a better manner. This in turn helped to ameliorate the individual from the society and gave him experiences which may be conducive to him.

3.2 Social Defence in Gujarat

The department of social defence came into existence

in Gujarat after it was made independent state in 1960 by separating it from Greater Bombay. Before the formation of Gujarat State, the activities of social defence were looked after by the Social Welfare Directorate of the Greater Bombay State. In 1972-73, there was a movement to remove the term "Backward Class" as there is a stigma attached to it. Hence this term was replaced by social welfare. The three branches were finally reformed and are functioning as:

- i. The Directorate of Social Welfare.
- ii. The Directorate of Social Defence.
- iii. The Directorate of Prohibition.

The services under the department of Social Welfare are for rural, tribal and weaker sections of the society. While the services under the department of social defence are for the welfare of juvenile delinquents, physically handicapped, destitute women, unmarried mothers and prostitutes. The prohibition work is handled by the department of home affairs and the courts of law.

At present, the Department of Social Defence in Gujarat is managing social institutions to help the needy and handicapped sections of the society. These institutions also include orphanages and children's homes, receiving centres for beggars, institutions for

the blind, physically handicapped and destitute, and institutions for the welfare of women. A few of these activities are directly conducted by the department and others are undertaken, with the help of social voluntary agencies. Some of these form part and parcel of the legal requirements of several social legislations. On the whole, social defence activities in the state are carried out, under seven major social legislations.

3.3 Social Legislations for Social Defence in Gujarat State

The social legislations, for social defence activities in Gujarat are as follows:

1. The Bombay Childrens Act, 1948.
2. The Saurashtra Childrens Act, 1956.
3. The Probation of Offenders Act, 1958 (Central Act and Gujarat State Rules).
4. The Bombay Prevention of Beggary Act, 1959.
5. The Suppression of Immoral Traffics in Women and Girls Act, 1958.
6. The Women and Childrens Institution Licencing Act, 1956 (Central Act) and Bombay Rules.
7. The Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929.

The above legislations are enumerated and later explanations are provided under different paragraphs as

a matter of reference to context. It is not an exhaustive study of the acts or evaluation of study.

Activities Related to Children

The Directorate of Social Defence in Gujarat has kept in tune with the National Policy on children and the U.N. Charter on Children's Rights. The provisions made under, (i) Bombay Children Act, 1948 and (ii) Saurashtra Children's Act, 1956, the Directorate of Social Defence has several remand/observation homes, throughout the State. These homes, admit and keep homeless, destitute, victimised, neglected and delinquent children, as per the order of the Juvenile Court. They are given free lodging/boarding/training facilities, etc. In case the children require longer institutionalisation, they are transferred to certified/special schools. The Director of Defence runs such schools and finances voluntary agencies to run similar ones. The Directorate also provides voluntary aid to voluntary agencies for Juvenile guidance Centre. In addition to these, Youth Clubs are also run and grants in aid provided to family and child welfare projects.

i. Activities under Probation of Offenders Act, 1958.

The Act provides opportunities for reformation and rehabilitation of the first offender and the youthful offenders who have taken to crime due to circumstances

beyond their control. Under this Act, such offenders above 16 years of age can be released on probation. For this purpose, probation officers have been appointed in every district of State.

ii. Activities under Bombay Prevention of Beggary Act, 1959.

The provisions of this act have been made applicable to the Municipal Corporation Limit at Ahmedabad, Baroda and Surat. In order to rehabilitate the beggars arrested and sentenced under the act, several beggars homes and remand homes for males and females have been established in the state. These homes provide for boarding, lodging, facilities to inmates and also provide training facilities in some of the useful areas. About 50 per cent of the expenditure is borne by Municipal Corporation of the three districts.

iii. Activities under Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act, 1956.

Under this act, the Directorate runs state level homes for women and district level reception centres, for rescued girls and women and female inmates released from other correctional homes. The Directorate provides grants in aid to several voluntary organizations for physical, psychological, moral and spiritual development of inmates.

iv. Activities under Licencing Act, 1956.

This act requires all the voluntary institutions working in the Welfare of Women and Children to have a directorate licence. The activities under the act are thus regularised.

v. Activities under Children Marriage Restraint Act, 1929.

The act was amended and adopted by Gujarat State in 1965 and offers statutory protection for victimised child. Child Marriage prevention officers appointed by the Directorates are stationed at Jamnagar, Rajkot, Ahmedabad, Baroda and Surat, for this purpose.

There are collateral activities which have come under the administration of social defence but which do, are not because of any legislation. These are:

i. Welfare of Physically Handicapped.

To educate and promote the welfare of the physically handicapped, several institutions for the blind, crippled, deaf and mentally retarded are run by the Directorate in operating these institutions. It also collaborates social voluntary agencies operating in the area and provide scholarships and other help to the physically handicapped.

ii. After Care Programme.

Before formulation of Gujarat, a few After Care Institutions were established in Gujarat area by Bombay Government. The most important are the State Home for Men in Junagadh (now in Rajkot), a district shelter each in Bhuj, Bhavnagar and Godhra.

These homes admit inmates discharged from other correctional institutions and those who come to urban areas in search of jobs. If a job is not found, extension is granted and until the inmates find a job, they are given free boarding and lodging. After inmates secure jobs, they stay another three months for a nominal payment of their earning.

3.4 Types of Institutions under Social Defence

There are two types of institutions, viz.

i. Residential and ii. Non-residential. Non-residential institutions are open structured institutions where the client is not required to stay in the institution. These institutions have more of preventive and/or developmental goals. Examples of such institutions are Juvenile Guidance Centre, Community Centres, etc.

Residential institutions are closed structured, where the clients are housed for a certain period of

time to cater to their physiological needs of food and shelter in addition to social treatment needs. Institutional care in this contemporary context, specially for needy children has become a complex affair. The traditional goals of institutionalisation viz. the provision of food, shelter and clothing are no longer considered adequate to ensure the ultimate well-being of the beneficiary. Institutionalisation at best is a means, a transitional preparatory phase for the total rehabilitation of the beneficiary in society as productive and peaceful citizen. The goal of rehabilitation thus, demands that the beneficiary, besides supportive services, should also receive the benefits of education, training and behavioural modification so that he may be able to live a free, independent and satisfying life. The institutions of social defence fall into three broad categories viz.

- i. Correctional agencies,
- ii. Social and moral hygiene agencies, and
- iii. Institutions for physically handicapped.

Diagrammatically, the institutions can be explained in the following way.

FIGURE II

TYPES OF INSTITUTIONS

CORRECTIONAL	SOCIAL AND MORAL HYGIENE	PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED
Remand Home, Certified School, After Care Hostels, Beggars' Homes	Reception Centre, State Homes for Women	Home for Crippled Children, Govern- ment School for Blind, Home for Mentally deficient

3.5 Institutional Care Agencies of Social Defence in Baroda

The description of institutional care agencies of Social Defence in Baroda would provide background to the study. The discussion is done in two parts:

- A. Grant in Aid Institutions, and
- B. Government aided Institutions.

A. Grant in Aid Institutions:

In Baroda, the Grant-in-Aid institutions of Social defence are managed by the Baroda District Probation and After Care Association. This association was established in 1952. It was formed, with an aim to help orphans, destitutes, uncontrollable and delinquent children by giving them education and vocational training so that they can be better citizens. The association automatically took under its wings the institutions for

above mentioned children, already existing in Baroda. It aided these institutions financially by raising 20% grant by fund raising and 80% grant from the government. As one of its aims, the association has managed to show to the society that by training these children in such special institutions, they can be rehabilitated back into the society. As a result of the Five Year Plans and various Acts formulated by the independent Government of India, this Association was registered under the Public Trust Act, 1952. Following is the graphical representation of the B.D.P.A.C. Association.

FIGURE IV

BARODA DISTRICT PROBATION AND AFTER CARE
ASSOCIATION

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION

UNDER THE CONTROL OF DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF GUJARAT STATE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. President
2. Honorary Secretary
3. Honorary Joint Secretary
4. Treasurer and 25 other members

The institutions that are covered are:

1. Remand Home for Boys,
2. Remand Home for Girls, and

3. After Care Hostel for Boys.

B. Government Aided Institutions:

As soon as the first five year plan came into operation the already existing institutions started receiving grants from the government. The State took over the responsibility of looking after the vulnerable groups in society. The aim was to protect and rehabilitated them. The institutions covered are:

4. Government Certified School for Boys.

5. Home for Physically Handicapped Children.

6. Home for Mentally deficient children.

7. Government School for Blind.

8. State Home for Women.

9. Receiving Centre for Beggars.

In such institutions all the planning and budgeting is done by the institutions themselves and then the proposal is put forward to the planning officer and the assistant director. The superintendent of any one of these institutions is authorised to inspect any one of the grants in aid institutions. Overall inspection is done by the Assistant Director, Planning Officer and Special Officers. Once in a year, during the closing session i.e. March - April the auditors from the

Directorate of Social Defence comes for auditing the budgets and expenditures incurred by all the institutions in the city of Baroda, under the Department of Social Defence.

Following is the profile of the agencies selected for the study:

1. Remand Home for Boys (see Appendix 3, Tables 1(i) to (iii)).

Location: Near Bhutdizampa ground, Baroda. It is situated almost in the outskirts of Baroda city, very close to the Remand Home for Girls.

Objective: To rehabilitate all those children who are destitutes wandering and found indulging in illegal criminal activities.

Composition of staff: 1. One superintendent, 2. One house master-cum-clerk, 3. One teacher for educational activities, 4. One part-time vocational teacher, 5. One clerk, 6. Four Guards, 7. Two cooks, 8. One Visiting Medical Officer.

Description of the Agency: There are two big halls where the inmates are imparted education and given vocational training. There are two offices - one for the superintendent and the other for office staff and house master.

The inmates live in a dormitory. The agency also has a small compound meant for gardening by the inmates. Apart from these the Bhutdizampa playground is also available to them. The inmates are allowed to play here only under supervision.

Inmates and their Background:

Children below the age of 16 years are kept here. After they are admitted, inquiry is made to study the socio-economic conditions of the family as well as psycho-social conditions of the children by the probation officer (case work service). Finally, the reports are sent to the Juvenile Court Magistrate with due consideration of the children's future. The Magistrate then decides the cases on the basis of the reports prepared. The Juvenile Court meets on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Saturdays of every month. The first offenders are handed over to their respective parents or relatives concerned, provided they are interested in his/her future. In some cases, they are kept under the probation officers vigilance for 1 to 3 years. The child is provided with necessary guidance during this period. The destitutes are transferred to the government certified school for boys, where they can receive industrial training and schooling, till they attain the age of 18 years.

The remand home provides food, shelter, clothing, boarding, education, medical treatment etc. at free of cost. With the purpose of giving industrial training to the children, recently a small training shed has started functioning with the help of OXFORM, an international agency, where the children are trained in chalk making, making of paper bags etc. and also motor winding. The institution has made all possible attempts to rehabilitate destitute, delinquents and other children having no basic support. Baroda is an industrial town and many of the inmates have been given jobs in various pharmaceutical and engineering industries. In this way, the children are rehabilitated.

2. Remand Home for Girls (See Appendix 3, Tables 2(i) to (iii)).

Location: It is situated very close to the remand home for boys, as mentioned earlier, in the area called Bhutdizampa.

Objectives: To take care of young girls who may have been involved in various activities which are not socially acceptable like pick-pocketing, small thefts, etc. and also those who are uncontrollable, destitutes and without any support. It also acts as a certified school.

Composition of Staff: 1. One superintendent, 2. One house mother, 3. One education teacher, 4. Two female

peons, 5. One guard, 6. One cook.

Description of the Agency: It is enclosed within the walls along with the Home for destitute girls. There are two dormitories for the inmates. One room is utilized as office, another one for holding classes from first to fifth standard, one as kitchen and another as store room. There is a big courtyard in the middle of the building. The superintendent's quarter is situated on the first floor. Apart from these, a small space is also available for gardening and there is a small library as well.

Inmates and their Background: The girls between the age of 6 and 16 years are admitted in this home. The procedures are quite similar to the Remand Home for boys. The probation officer makes an enquiry with the background of the girls, finds out the social and psychological aspects. The report based on the study is presented to the Juvenile Court Magistrate and judgement is passed accordingly. If the girl is a destitute or cannot be handed over to the parents then in that case, she is committed to the institution till the age of 18 years on the basis of her fitness. The basic necessities of life i.e. food, clothing, shelter and recreation are provided here too. In the same way for

future use, they are given vocational training in sewing, embroidery, spinning (ambar charkha), cooking, gardening etc. The institution employs trained staff for the purpose.

After institutionalization, many girls are helped by the institution to be rehabilitated into society. There are many cases where girls have gone for nursing course, primary training, college training and some have even done diploma in sewing, under the Government diploma courses.

The girls are released or committed according to the extent of the problem.

3. After Care Hostel for Boys (Established in 1964) (See Appendix 3 - Table 3 (i) to (iii))

Location: In Pensionpura area in Baroda along with other three agencies, namely 1. Home for Crippled Children, 2. Home for Mentally Deficient Children and 3. Government School for Blind.

Objectives: To help the unemployed youth to take the right path and thus protect the society from the potential offenders.

Composition of Staff: 1. One superintendent, 2. One peon (who does the work of record keeping also), 3. One cook.

Description of the Agency; The agency is situated on the first floor of the building which also has Home for Mentally Deficient on the ground floor. One room is allotted for office, one for store room, one for sleeping and staying and there is one dormitory.

Inmates and their Background:

Preferences for admission are given to those boys who are released from Remand Home, Certified School, Central Jail and Orphanages on the attainment of 18 years and if they have nowhere to go and have no support. Basic needs are fulfilled by the institution. They are helped to get employment. On being employed, they are charged 30% of their income for savings. According to the rules, the boys can stay maximum upto 6 months then they leave the institution. Their savings are returned to them so that they can take care of themselves. Only in special cases, they are allowed to stay for a year.

Previously the Government was giving cent per cent grants but now food expenses are given at only Rs.55/- per head. The B.D.P.A.C. Association with the help of the institution raises the sum to run it.

For rehabilitation of these youths, the institution makes provision for further education and voca-

tional training in I.T.I., Diamond Jubilee Cottage Industries, other industries and Government aided Agencies.

4. Government Certified School for Boys (Established in 1950) (See Appendix 3 - Tables 4(i) to (ix))

Location: Near Shastri Bridge, Baroda. Industries like Sarabhai Chemicals, Alembic Chemicals and Glass and Jyoti Limited are one side of the agency and on the other side, runs the main railway track.

Objective: Reformation, shelter, protection and rehabilitation of boys committed under the Childrens' Act.

Composition of Staff: Consists of 1. Superintendent, 2. Deputy Superintendent, 3. cooks (two), 4. guards (six), 5. junior clerk (one). The Superintendent is in charge of the institution. He is assisted by 24 full-time class II and IV staff. The designations of the staff and the number of posts are given in appendix 3.

Description of the Agency: The agency is spacious with 8 dormitories, 3 class rooms, 3 office rooms, 1 dining room, 1 kitchen, one store and one fuel store. There are 5 workshops - one for tailoring, one for carpentry, two for turner, wiring, welding etc. and one apprentice class. There are three rooms for workshop stores - one

for clothing, one for bedding and one for storage of sports goods. The agency also has a dispensary with a sick room and isolation room. There are 10 bathrooms and latrines spread over the agency. It also has facilities for staff quarters within the agency itself. They are for Superintendent, Deputy Superintendent and the Cook. There is also a play ground within the campus itself and also a kitchen garden where some of the inmates work regularly.

Inmates and their Background:

The boys who have come into conflict with the law or found wandering aimlessly, etc. are first brought to Remand Home for observation. If these boys are committed by the Court (Under Bombay Childrens' Act, 1948) then they are brought to the Certified School. During the year of the study period, about 70 inmates were admitted to the institutions out of which, 22 were re-admitted or recaptured after escape. The table in appendix gives the classification by occupation of the parents/guardians of the inmates. The table indicates that majority of the inmates were coming from the low socio-economic groups or low middle class group i.e. with the background of agriculturists, private service and labour class.

Looking to the background and the reasons for being admitted to the institution, one can see that out of the inmates admitted during the year (No.70), majority were in the category of being non-delinquent.

The primary and middle classes of education are held in the premises of the agency itself. These inmates who show an aptitude for studies are sent to outside governmental schools/colleges for further study. The inmates after passing third standard are sent for vocational training in tailoring, carpentry etc. To get a certificate in these courses, the inmates have to pass the final examinations set by the Government and I.T.I. course. Apart from this, the small library mentioned earlier has 1321 books on various topics and stories.

Inmates released, transferred and escaped during the year shows that majority of the inmates (38) escaped from the institution as compared to the number of formally released inmates. The data, however, does not reveal how many of them were helped in procuring jobs or for further training after institutionalization. The follow-up of released inmates is for a year or so mainly through correspondence and home visits if possible.

5. State Home for Women: (Established in 1958) (See Appendix 3 Tables 5. (i) to (ix))

Location: Nizampura area, Baroda.

Objective: Social and moral hygiene and after care services for females needing protection, care and treatment.

Physical Layout - There are 7 dormitories in a square-block with a courtyard in the centre. Only 2 are used by the inmates for sleeping and staying purposes. One room is used for fondling home and one for teaching the children of the fondling home. One room is utilized as class room for the inmates and from the other two, one is used for book-binding work and the other for sewing and embroidery class. The kitchen is at one end and the bath rooms at the other end. Apart from this, there are two offices separated from each other by a verandah, one for Superintendent and the other clerk's office.

Composition of Staff: The main office staff consists of the superintendent, vocational teacher, education teacher, montessori teacher and the rest are clerks, peons, cooks, guards etc. On the whole, there are 21 staff members in the category of class II and III. The staffing pattern of fondling home is also given in the appendix.

Inmates and their Background:

The institution has a capacity of 100 inmates. The inmates as on 1.3.1980 were 31. The total picture of the inmates admitted during the year 1.4.1979 to 31.3.1980 is presented in appendix. The girls above 18 years from the remand home for girls, from fit person institution in jail and from reception centres are also admitted here. The fondling home was established in 1965 and caters to the needs of children below the age of 6. The admission is open to those children who come along with their mothers admitted in State Home and also illegitimate children. The children brought to the fondling home through the order of court are transferred to remand homes and reception centres after they attain the age of six.

The personal data of the inmates reveal that maximum numbers admitted during the year i.e. 1.3.1979 to 31.3.1980 fall in the age group of 19 to 30 years. Majority are either married or unmarried, few are divorced or widowed. The educational level of the inmates of majority is secondary school and above. The rest have done schooling till primary level. This shows that basically, they are not lacking in education and it is

very often a wrong notion that they come from illiterate categories. It also shows that those who are educated are better aware of such institutions and do come here for protection. The occupational background at the time of admission shows that majority had been employed in household work and domestic service. Majority of the inmates were taking training in tailoring, knitting, embroidery and book-binding. The institution provides recreational facilities in the form of film shows, books from the library and activities conducted by the Faculty of Social Work.

Inmates released during the year:

Sixty eight of the inmates were released unconditionally while there were thirty-two who had absconded or voluntarily left or were employed on domestic service.

Majority of the inmates who were released from the institution have returned to their parents or guardians. However, only a few of them have been found in employment or are in private service. Only one has been married and settled.

6. Receiving Centre for Beggars: (See Appendix 3 - Tables 6(i) to (x))

Location: In the neighbourhood of R.T.O. and Varasia

Colony in Baroda city.

Objective: To provide food, clothing, shelter and work to beggars who have been committed according to the State Beggary Act (by obtaining regular remand warrant from the court).

Composition of Staff: The head of the institution is a superintendent who is assisted by 26 other full-time class III and IV staff. The institution also has the benefit of a visiting Medical Officer and Honorary Psychiatrist and Psychologist, respectively.

Physical Layout: The institution is quite spacious with open area for gardening and farming (5 acres). It has 23 halls and rooms, for various purposes.

Inmates and their Background:

The institution lodges both male and female inmates. It has the capacity for 200 inmates, 150 males and 50 females. On 1.3.1980 there were 80 males and 15 female inmates. On enquiring into the causes for begging, it was found that they resorted to begging because they were discarded on account of maladjustment with the family members. The second significant reason was due to mental retardation, illness and/or lunacy. The personal data revealed interestingly enough that out of

212 inmates admitted to the institution, 155 were literate while the rest were illiterate. Majority of them were unmarried (100) while married were only 68 in number and those who had been separated/divorced/widowed were 84 in number. The vocational status of the inmates indicated that majority were unskilled. Majority of the vocational training imparted to the inmates were engaged in agriculture and dairying.

Here the recreational facilities in the form of film shows and library facilities are provided. Apart from this, students from the Faculty of Social Work also undertake group activities. Inmates released, escaped and died during the period 1.4.1979 to 31.3.1980 are given in the appendix. On an average, each month 1 to 2 inmates escaped from the institution.

7. Home for the Crippled Children: (Established in 1961) (See Appendix 3 Table 7(i) to (iv))

Location: Pensionpura area of Baroda alongwith three other agencies namely, Government School for the Blind, Home for the Mentally Deficient and After Care Hostel for Boys.

Objective: To provide medical treatment, education and vocational training to the inmates.

Physical Layout: The building and the outlay is best among the three agencies. It is so designed for the inmates that they can have better movements. There are 10 dormitories for residing, one physiotherapy room, two class rooms, one vocational training room and two offices. The kitchen and dining hall are on one side of the agency. It also has other post operative rooms and one operation theatre which is not being used at the moment. In all there are 44 rooms. It has a spacious and open place for gardening as well as playing.

Composition of Staff: The agency is headed by a Superintendent who is assisted by 23 other full time class III and class IV staff members. One orthopedic surgeon and one music teacher are working on part-time basis.

Inmates and their Background:

The crippled children from the age group of 7 to 16 years are admitted to the institution with the approval of an Orthopedic Surgeon. On 1.4.1980, there were 134 outdoor and indoor inmates. The children are treated in the institution in collaboration with the local Government Hospital for their physical deformities, through operations, physio-therapy and occupational therapy. The personal data of the inmates reveal that majority fall in the age group of 12 to 16 years.

For educational purposes the agency is running classes from Ist to IVth standard. From Vth standard onwards provision is made for the inmates to attend local Municipal School. For pre-vocational training, 35 indoor and 15 outdoor inmates are given training in tailoring, weaving, cane work and embroidery.

Inmates released from the Institution: On completion of treatment, there were only 29 in number, at the end of 31.3.1980.

8. Government School for the Blind: (See Appendix 3 Tables 8(i) to (iv) .

Government school for the blind was established in 1960 alongwith a school for the blind and also for the deaf and dumb by the Late Maharaja Sayajirao Gaikwad of Baroda. It was taken over by the Department of Social Defence, in 1969.

Location: At Pensionpura, Baroda.

Objective: To provide the basic needs of food, clothing, shelter and also to rehabilitate them by giving training.

Physical Layout: There are 7 class rooms for various purposes like craft work, educational classes, music class etc. There are 2 rooms for offices and one for library. The dormitory, the kitchen and dining hall are

situated in a separate building. In addition to these, there is also a store room and a ration room.

Composition of Staff: The staff consists of One Superintendent, who is also known as Head Master. There are three assistant teachers, two craft teachers and one music teacher. For assisting the office work, there is one junior clerk. A visiting Medical Officer comes once in a week. The rest of the staff consists of one cook, one sweeper, two peons and one lady peon.

Inmates and their Background:

Initially, as mentioned earlier, the inmates were kept together with the deaf and dumb. Later, the deaf and dumb were transferred to Mehsana where a similar school had been established somewhere around the same time. All the blind children are kept in Baroda.

Children from the age group of 7 to 17 years are eligible for admission to this institution. They are provided with education from 1st to 7th standard. Out of the inmates admitted during the year, 30 of them are totally blind and 9 are partially blind.

The personal data of the inmates reveal that majority fall in the age group of 6 to 15 years, which shows that these children have been struck by the handicap, in the tender years of life.

Inmates admitted and released during the year:
 Out of a total of 42 inmates present during the time of investigation, 10 were admitted during the year i.e. 1.4.1979 to 31.3.1980, while 13 had been released. So at the end of investigation, there were 39 inmates.

9. Home for the Mentally Deficient Children: (See Appendix 3 - Tables 9(i) to (iv))

Location: Pensionpura, Baroda.

Objective: To make such children self-sufficient to the best possible extent.

Physical Layout: There are 10 dormitories. One room is for physiotherapy, one for occupational therapy, one for vocational training, two for teaching, two for office and one for nursing. Apart from these, there is a kitchen, dining hall, bath rooms and lavatories. There are also staff quarters, for the Superintendent and Class III and IV staff.

Composition of Staff: There is a Superintendent and a Deputy Superintendent, assisted by various Class III and IV staff. There is a part time Orthopaedic Surgeon and also a Music Teacher.

Inmates and their Background:

When the child comes to the agency, he/she undergoes

a thorough medical check up and his/her residual capacities are assessed. According to the findings, a treatment plan is prepared. The children admitted into this institution are of the age group of 6 to 16 years. Day scholars are also admitted but they have to make their own arrangements for transportation and fees are charged for the purpose. The inmates are categorized variously and the pattern of categorization in Table 9(iv) of the Appendix.

According to their needs and capabilities, the inmates are given vocational training in carpentry, sewing, weaving and cane work etc. Besides this, they are also trained in table manners, personal cleanliness etc. During holidays, the children are taken for outings. They are also taken to see fairs and other such events.

In order to make parents feel responsible, for their children, the agency encourages them to visit their children often and take them home for festivals and holidays. It maintains contacts in this respect.

Admission and Discharge Committee: The institution has an admission and discharge committee consisting of four members, viz. 1. The Superintendent, 2. Occupational Therapist, 3. Psychiatrist and 4. Psychologist.

Grouping all these agencies together, the investi-

gator has studied the client system, that is the people who are served by these agencies. Their background, psycho-social aspects, motivational level etc. have also been taken into consideration. After this, the concentration is more on the Study Group comprising of the workers engaged in these institutions.

3.6 The Client System

The clients served by these institutions are for the most part from the middle and lower class, economically. They exhibit multitude of social and psychological problems and have limited motivation. The capacity to engage voluntarily with the existing community agencies, in resolving their problems is absent. Further, the accessibility of service agencies is very difficult for the client system, under discussion. By the time the children come to these institutions, they have experienced neglect and rejection in social life. In order that institutional care be meaningful, tremendous amount of time, energy, innovations and interest is required. Same is true for the institutions meant for the adults. But in the case of children, more intense and far reaching methods are needed.

From the description of the institutions, it can very well be seen that programmes and services are more or less broadly the same. The difference lies in the

details in each case because of the types of clientele they serve.

The children coming to the institution for delinquents and destitutes have typical problems of their own. The delinquents usually suffer from traumatic experiences of family neglect and rejection. The series of Juvenile Court sessions makes the situation move from bad to worse. As a result, very often these children are frightened and confused. Life in the institution is no different from jail in their mind. The outcome is loneliness and a feeling of being unwanted everywhere.)

In many homes, destitute and delinquent children are kept together, which makes the destitute vulnerable to delinquency. Only in Remand Home, quite recently, they are housed separately. In either cases, i.e. delinquent or destitute, institutionalization at first instance is bondage. It snaps ties with the family and society. By the time they pass from one institution to another, they develop attachment which is again broken, when they are released finally. They begin to miss the everyday facilities they enjoyed in the institution. The inmates usually treat the facilities provided by the institutions as their legitimate right and insist

upon getting these. The children of this type create problems in certified school and after care hostels. The institutions remain alert and cautious in dealing with them. The investigator witnessed a situation where-in a child demanded certain rights from the Superintendent. The Superintendent referred the rule book and explained inadmissibility of claims.

In the institutions for physically handicapped, the clients come from low economic groups. By the time, they come for institutionalization, their case is quite adverse and requires special attention. There are three institutions for physically, mentally and visually handicapped, viz. 1. Home for visually handicapped, 2. Home for mentally handicapped and 3. Home for Orthopedically handicapped. The children in the third group/home are usually economically well off in comparison to that of the other two groups. The parents of these children (clients) show more concern and expect improvement of their child. The children also exhibit interest about their recovery. Their attitude towards the institution is like a stay in boarding school. Before coming to the institution, many of them have experienced social and psychological helplessness which has a great bearing on their minds. To them, their deformities are burdensome and seem costly. The parents and

relatives in such cases may have given them the impression that they were of economic and social burden. In some cases, over protection by parents are also bring such results. But once they come to the institution after passing over the initial fright and home sickness, they adopt themselves well to the surroundings, as their problem becomes a shared one, amongst similar cases.

Unlike the children belonging to the Home for Orthopedically Handicapped, the children of the school for the Blind and Home for the Mentally Deficient face severe neglect and abuse at home. The parents rarely come to visit them in the institution, in fact they give an impression of being happy to be released from the responsibility of looking after them. They show no eagerness or hope for their children. The need for warmth and affection was quite evident from the manner in which these children welcomed the investigator more enthusiastically than others. They looked forward to the next visit. They welcomed any visitors. Many clients from the Home for Mentally Deficient conveyed to the investigator that they miss their homes and they express that the investigator should write or bring some message from home.

The clients in State Home for Women have experienced tremendous suffering and hardship. They have been maltreated by their husbands, family members and others in the society. Their trust and faith in the society is lost. Women from all the three classes, viz. low, middle and high reside here. Their stay in the State Home varies from one month to one or two years.

The Receiving Centre for Beggars has clients who live almost a parasitic life. They are the products of peculiar social and psychological conditions. Their attitude towards the institution is indifferent. Many of them have tried to run away, some time or the other.

3.7 The Study Group

The workers engaged in institutional care agencies covered in the study are of all types of Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents, Probation Officers, Case workers, Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists, House Masters, House Mothers, B.Ed. Teachers, Montessori Teachers, Vocational Teachers, etc. As mentioned earlier, the investigator purposefully selected the workers for study purpose, due to the following reasons:

- i. For these workers in the discharge of duties have direct contact with the clients for substantial period of time was available.

- ii. By implication the nature of their work demands that for proper performance, they consciously make use of inter-personal relationship.

The respondents are briefly described in the following section:

Table II: Distribution of Respondents by Designation
Male/Female N = 25

Sr.No.	Designation	Percentage	Male No.	Female No.
1.	Superintendent	36	7	2
2.	House Master/Mother/Asstt.Superintendent	16	1	3
3.	Probation Officer Case Worker	16	3	1
4.	Occupational Therapist	8	2	-
5.	Vocational/Educational Teacher	24	2	4
Total		100	15	10

The study reveals that there are more male respondents. The survey of all the staff members in the institutions shows this straight. However, the nature

of the study does not require cognisance of this fact. Half the number of respondents fall in the age group of 36 to 45 years, which shows that majority belong to the middle age group. Less than one fifth are below 35 years of age and the rest are 45 years and more. This throws light on the fact that young and inexperienced people are taken in few numbers. In all cases, the Superintendents were oldest in age as compared to the rest of the workers. With age and experience, people are more capable and suited for such important posts, so this may be the possible reason. All the respondents are married and have children. They come from middle class family background.

Table III: Distribution of Education of Respondents in the Institutional Care Agencies selected for the study.

Sr. No.	Designation	No.of Post graduates	No.of Graduates	No.of under graduates
1.	Superintendent	5	4	-
2.	House Master/Mother/Asstt.Superintendent	2	2	-
3.	Probation Officer	1	1	-
4.	Case Worker	2	-	-
5.	Occupational Therapist	-	2	-
6.	Vocational/Educational Teacher	-	3	3
Total		10	12	3

It can be seen that 4/5th of the workers are Post-graduates and graduates while 1/5th are undergraduates. 2/5th of the workers who are Post-graduates are M.S.W's and one of them is M.A. in Sociology. It can very well be inferred that highly qualified people are selected for these jobs from the very fact that majority are Post-graduates and graduates. This also shows that special attention is paid to their educational background.

Table IV: Distribution of Respondents by Professional/
Specialized training.

Sr. No.	Designation	Professional Graduate Training	Specialized Diploma Certificate Training
1.	Superintendents	5	4
2.	House Master/Mother/Asstt. Superintendent	2	2
3.	Probation Officer	1	1
4.	Case Worker	2	-
5.	Occupational Therapist	2	-
6.	Vocational/Educational Teachers	2	2
Total		14	9

Approximately 3/5th of the respondents have undergone professional graduate training which is, in accordance with their designation. Approximately 2/5th are having specialised diploma/certificate course consisted of short term course in the particular field or one year diploma course. This shows that alongwith education, training is given equal importance.

This chapter attempted to give a profile of the institutional care agencies, in order to give the necessary background to the succeeding two chapters. The following chapters focuses on the social intervention role of workers selected for the study from the nine social defence institutional care agencies.