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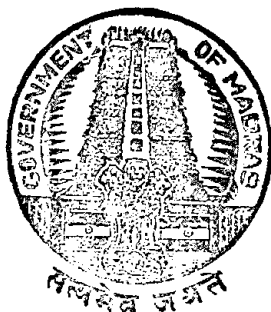
Section : III B

Title : Report on the Working of Board of Schools
Palayamkottam

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HOME DEPARTMENT

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**REPORT ON THE
WORKING OF BORSTAL SCHOOL
PALAYAMKOTTAI
FOR THE YEAR 1959**

32584 :
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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
1960

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Section : III ടി എസ് സി

Title : Report on the working of

Stock No. Borstat School

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8th year 1959

32584

Dated 21st March 1960.

From

SRI M. A. SHERIFF, I.A.S.,
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS, MADRAS-7.

To

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
HOME DEPARTMENT, MADRAS-9.

32584
26/6/61

SIR,

[Subject.—Report on the working of the Borstal School, Palayamkottai, for the year 1959.]

I submit the report on the working of the Borstal School, Palayamkottai, for the year 1959.

2. *Accommodation.*—Accommodation available in the School is for 647 inmates. The daily average population was 444.94 against 441.82 in the previous year. The school was free from over-crowding throughout the year.

3. *Superintendents and Medical Officer.*—The executive charge of the School was held by Sri Douglas P. Alberts, M.A., from 9th January 1959 to 3rd March 1959 and from 19th March 1959 to 4th August 1959, by Sri E. M. Gangadharan from 31 August 1959 to 2nd October 1959 and by Sri C. S. Ramamurthi from 3rd October 1959 till the end of the year. During the remaining part of the year, the Medical Officer, Dr. T. Titus, held additional executive charge of the School also.

The medical charge of the School was held by Dr. T. Titus, M.B., B.S., throughout the year.

4. *Classification.*—There was no change in the method of classification of the inmates.

5. *Education and Vocational Training.*—The education imparted to the inmates comprises the ordinary school curriculum up to the VIII Standard. The inmates are educated in their mother tongue, viz., Tamil. The boys receive their education in convenient batches and are taught for two hours at a time, i.e., from 8 to 10 a.m., 10 a.m. to 12 noon and 1-30 to 3-30 p.m. Boys whose educational standard is above the VIII Standard are afforded ample opportunities to improve their knowledge and their services are also utilized for coaching backward boys during nights in the association wards. Boys in the VIII Standard are coached up for the E. S. L. C. Examination. They are specially allowed five hours' study against 2 hours per day. During the year under report, seven inmates appeared for the E. S. L. C. Examination and four came out successful.

The inmates of the school were supplied with Tamil dailies "Swadesamitran" and "Dinamani". Besides the daily newspapers, the following journals were supplied to the inmates:—

Weekly—

Kalki (Tamil); and
Jadeed Dilohasp (Urdu).

Monthly—

Health (English); and
Nalvazhi (Tamil).

There was no change in the vocational training afforded to the inmates of the school. The selection of inmates to various trades was done according to the special

taste and aptitudes of the inmates. They were trained in the following industries:—

Carpentry, blacksmithy, weaving, book-binding, paper-making, tailoring, masonry and band.

In addition to practical work, theoretical instructions were given to the inmates regularly.

Of the five inmates sent for the Weaving Technical Examination (Lower Grade), two came out successful.

The inmates were also taught agriculture, domestic duties such as cooking, washing and also nursing work in the school hospital.

Sports and games, physical training, Scout Craft, First Aid and Ambulance and religious and moral instruction formed part of the Borstal School education.

There are six houses in the school, distinguished by different colours, viz., green, red, blue, yellow, violet and orange. Each house is divided into groups and is under the charge of a house master. The chief aim of the house system is to inculcate a healthy spirit of rivalry or competition among the boys. Inter-house matches, competitions and group competitions were held during the year.

Court of Honour.—The Deputy Superintendent of the School was the Ex-Officio Chairman of the Court of Honour in the institution. The Secretary was a member of the teaching staff and the Prefects represented the houses while the Court was in session. The Court of Honour system continued to function satisfactorily.

6. *Escapes and recaptures.*—There were three escapes from the school during the year under report. All the three escapes were from extramural gangs. One of the escapees is still at large. The officers responsible for the escapes were dealt with departmentally.

7. *Offences and punishments.*—The number of offences committed by the inmates of the school increased from 23 in 1958 to 43 during the year under report. Of the 43, 19 relate to discipline, 12 to prohibited articles, 11 to assaults and escapes and one to other breaches. The punishments imposed on the inmates were as follows:—

Reduction in grade	..	..	..	29
Extra drill	..	..	..	13
Warning	..	..	..	1
				—
Total	..	..	..	43

The increase in the number of offences was due to rigorous enforcement of discipline. Although there was an increase when compared to the previous year, the conduct of the inmates on the whole was generally satisfactory.

REPORT ON THE WORKING OF BORSTAL SCHOOL, PALAYAMKOTTAI FOR 1959

7-A. Of the 993 inmates discharged during the year 1955 to 1959, eleven reverted to crime. Four hundred and twenty-eight inmates were under the supervision of the Probation Officers.

8. *Release on licence.*—Three meetings of the Visiting Committee were held during the year for considering cases of release under the scheme. On the recommendation of the Committee, two inmates were discharged on licence under Section 15 (1) of the Madras Borstal Schools' Act, 1925 (Madras Act V of 1926), as against one in the previous year.

9. *Finance.*—The total expenditure of the School for the year under report was Rs. 2,49,044.15 against Rs. 2,34,504.34 in the previous year. The cost per head works out to Rs. 559.72 against Rs. 530.78 in the previous year. The increase in expenditure was due to the general rise in prices of certain foodstuffs.

10. *Employment of inmates.*—The chief industries taught in the School were carpentry, weaving, tailoring, blacksmithy, binding and paper-making. The percentage of inmates employed on manufactures was 55.41 against 53.39 in the previous year. The gross outturn on manufactures was Rs. 50,626.15 against Rs. 40,927.59 in the previous year. The net profit under manufactures was Rs. 10,977.80 against Rs. 10,108.49 in the previous year.

11. *Vital statistics.*—The number of inmates admitted into the hospital and the daily average sick decreased from 128 to 123 and 10.71 to 7.47 respectively. There was no death in the year under report. The health of the inmates was satisfactory.

12. *Weightment statistics.*—Inmates were weighed regularly once a fortnight. All the 157 inmates discharged during the year gained weight. The comparative figures for 1957, 1958 and 1959 are furnished below.

Year.	Gained weight.	Lost weight.	Remained stationary.
1957	100.00	..	..
1958	100.00	..	..
1959	100.00	..	..

13. *Sanitary and other improvements.*—The buildings of the School remained in good state of repairs. The School is run on most hygienic lines.

14. *Visits and inspection.*—The total number of visits paid by official and non-official visitors during the year was 20 against 27 in the previous year. The number of visits paid by each visitor is furnished below.

The District Collector	..	..	..	3
The Sessions Judge	..	..	..	1
The District Magistrate	..	..	..	1
The District Educational Officer	..	..	..	1
Non-official and State visitors	..	..	..	14
Total	..	..	..	20

The annual inspection of the school was done by me. I also paid a visit to the institution during the year.

15. *General features.*—Nil.

15-A. *Programme of work to be done.*—

- (i) Extension of electrification of the school.
- (ii) Provision of verandahs to blocks 2 to 7.

16. *Concluding remarks.*—The school staff worked satisfactorily. The Superintendent's supervision and guidance were adequate during the year under report.

17. The administration report and the after-care report of the school are submitted for perusal and return.

Yours faithfully,

Inspector-General of Prisons.

STATEMENT No. I.—Statement showing the number of adolescents discharged during the year 1959 from the Borstal School, Palayamkottai.

Name of district.	Number of inmates discharged.			Name of district.	Number of inmates discharged.		
	Casual.	Habitual	Total.		Casual.	Habitual	Total.
Ramanathapuram	23	1	24	South Arcot	7	..	7
Tirunelveli	..	24	24	Coimbatore	10	..	10
Madurai	..	7	3	10	13	..	13
Madras	..	11	..	11	1	..	1
North Arcot	..	9	1	10	1	..	1
Salem	..	20	..	20	12	1	13
Thanjavoor	..	9	4	13			
					147	10	157

STATEMENT No. II.—Statement showing the appointment of probation officers for those released on licence during the year 1959 from the Borstal School, Palayamkottai.

Name of district.	Official.	Non-official.	Total.
Tiruchirappalli	..	..	1
Madras	..	..	1
Total	2	..	2

STATEMENT No. III.—Statement showing the various kinds of occupations followed by the inmates of the Borstal School, Palayamkottai, who were discharged during the year 1959.

Name of avocation.	Number of inmates.	Name of avocation.	Number of inmates.
Cultivation	46	Petty trade	24
Cooly	..	Mechanic	4
Reverted to crime	1	Peon in Government office.	1
Whereabouts not known.	15	Unemployed	8
Peon in private firm	3	Tailor	2
Factory	7	Weaving	1
Studying	2	Reports awaited	9
		Total	157

STATEMENT No. III-B.—Statement showing the nature of industrial training given in the Borstal School, Palayamkottai, for the inmates under detention during the year 1959.

Name of avocation.	Number of inmates.	Name of avocation.	Number of inmates.
Weaving	47	Band	6
Carpentry	31	Paper-making	2
Gardening	25	Tailoring	12
Mason	7	Kitchen	6
Blacksmithy	8	Binding	13
		Total	157

STATEMENT No. V.—Statement showing the standard of education of inmates admitted and discharged during the year 1959.

		Direct	
		commissals.	Total.
Literates	..	96	96
Illiterates	..	52	52
Total	..	148	148
Discharged during the year—			
Literates	..	157	157
Illiterates	..	..	..
Total	..	157	157



HOME DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 2214, 28th July 1960

Administration Report—Borstal School, Palayamkottai—Report for the year 1959—Reviewed.

READ—the following paper :—

From the Inspector-General of Prisons, Madras, dated 21st March 1960, Pdl. No. 38/S3/60.

Order—No. 2214, Home, dated 28th July 1960.

The Government have considered the Administration Report of the Borstal School, Palayamkottai, for 1959 and it is recorded with the following remarks :—

1. *Statistics.*—The Government note that though the school has accommodation for 647 inmates, the daily average population during 1959 was 444. This shows a slight increase over the figure for last year. However, the gap between the sanctioned and the actual strength is still quite large. The Government hope that the importance of specialised training given in the Borstal School would be realised and committal to the Borstal School would be preferred to a jail sentence in respect of adolescent offenders. The Inspector-General of Prisons is requested to bring to the notice of the Government all cases where he feels that the Government should take action under section 10-A of the Borstal Schools Act.

2. *Escapes.*—There were three escapes during the year, all from extramural gangs. The Government note with satisfaction that persons whose carelessness led to these escapes have been suitably punished. The Government observe that one escapee is still at large. Vigorous efforts should be made to trace him and have him recommitted to the school. The Government are glad to note that security measures have been tightened and the escape rate has been greatly brought down.

3. *Offences and punishments.*—The Government note with concern that the number of offences committed by the inmates increased from 23 in 1958 to 43 in 1959. About half of these relates to cases of indiscipline. Though the Government consider that a premium should not be placed on a mere show of conformity to the rules, masking the inner reactions, the Government would nevertheless like to impress upon the school authorities the importance of smooth administration as an essential pre-requisite to rehabilitation. The Government trust that by using proper psychological techniques it should be possible to make the inmates get used to conditions of relative freedom and thus bring down the number of these 'internal' offences.

4. *Recidivism.*—The Government find that out of 993 inmates discharged from the school during 1955 to 1959, only 11 persons reverted to crime. This is less than 1.1 per cent and it is a tribute to the transforming capacity of Borstal training. In 1958, 266 inmates were under the supervision of the Probation Officers but in 1959 the number increased to 428. This is a welcome change as post-institutional training is now considered an integral part of the correctional programme and is the only guarantee against reversion to crime.

5. *Education.*—The Government are glad to find that the school provides an intensely active and useful programme geared to the interests, needs and aptitudes

of adolescents. The Government are glad to note that all the boys are coached up to the VIII Standard. They are even encouraged to take the E.S.L.C. examination which four of the inmates did actually pass in 1959. The Government note with pleasure that special tuition is given to boys who are also encouraged to develop outside interest and hobbies and an effort is made to keep them abreast of current affairs through newspapers and magazines.

6. *Industries.*—Industrial training forms the cornerstone of the classical Borstal programme and the Government are glad to note that vocational training of a highly diversified type has always been an essential part of the Borstal curriculum here. Training is given in Carpentry, Blacksmithy, Weaving, Paper-making, Book-binding, Tailoring and Masonry. The inmates are also encouraged to take the technical examinations in one of these crafts. Training is also given in agricultural and domestic work and even in nursing. The Government are glad to find that the net profit from industries was Rs. 10,977.80 in 1959 as against Rs. 10,108.49 in 1958. The Government hope that it would be possible to enlarge the receipts still further.

7. *Health and sanitation.*—The Government are glad to find that the buildings have been very neatly maintained. The Government are also glad to note that all the boys admitted to the school gained weight during their stay and there was no death during the course of the year.

8. *Inspections.*—The Government note with satisfaction that the Inspector-General of Prisons conducted the regular annual inspections of the school. The Government also note with pleasure the active interest taken by a number of officials and non-officials who visited the school and made constructive suggestions for the improvement of the school.

9. *Expenditure and receipts.*—The total expenditure in the year was Rs. 1,49,044.15 as against Rs. 2,34,504.34 in 1958. The cost per head comes to Rs. 559 in 1959 as against Rs. 530 in 1958. The increase in expenditure is due to rise in the cost of foodstuffs. The Inspector-General of Prisons is requested to ensure that economies are effected, consistent with the minimum standards prescribed.

10. *General.*—The Government are glad to note that the staff of the Borstal School have been doing their work with energy and enthusiasm. The Government are also glad to note that they have been receiving timely and proper guidance. The Government consider that the administration of the Borstal School was satisfactory.

(By order of the Governor)

R. F. ISAR,
Secretary to Government.

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32584
 26/6/61

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