

Country Reports (Thailand)

In Thailand there are only two special schools for mentally retarded. The first is Rajanukul school, government school that runs by the Department of Medical Services, Ministry of Public Health. It is one institute in Thailand. This institute is provided for mentally retarded children and youths, in institutional care, treatment and training. The institute consists of a hospital for out-patients and in-patients which are accommodate in dormitories. A school conducts teaching academic subjects as well as training the children to help themselves in everyday life, especially in communication and association with other people. We accept the children at an I.Q. 30 up to 75 between the age 5-18 years. There is vocational training for adult in various type of handicrafts such as weaving, carpentry and domestic work such as cooking and laundry etc.

There is also a special well baby clinic. It is held twice a week in the afternoon to screen the mentally retarded children, particularly those who are affected with P.K.U. and other metabolic disorders of which corrective treatment at an early stage could help the children.

The cost for running this institute is quite high, some parents must pay if they can, particular in clothing and educational materials.

Another school is 'Panya Wuthikorn school', a private school runs by the Foundation for the Welfare of Mentally Retarded under the Royal Patronage of Her Majesty the Queen. The school accepts for training mentally retarded only who are at the educable level with an I.Q. of 50-75 between the ages of $3\frac{1}{2}$ -18 years. This school was established only two years ago. Now there are about 120 students, 16 teachers (some are loaned from the Ministry of Education). There are 5 grades from kindergarten to grade V (slow learner) and one shelter workshop. The parents must pay for school fees, meals, and transportation.

And now, the Division of special education, the Ministry of Education, provided special classes for slow learner in 8 normally public schools in Bangkok.

In the Department of Social Welfare, there is home for

severe and profoundly. All the children are orphan from the
child section in the general hospital

There is a Christ Church trained the profoundly also.

There is one Parents' association for the Mentally retarded.