CHAPTER - IX

FINDINGS AND SUGGESTIONS

The control of pitfalls is much difficult because it involves people and human relations which cannot always be foreseen. But, it is easy to prevent pitfalls which are caused through ignorance of a hazard or a wrong posture. What is really difficult is to combat the wrong attitude which may manifest itself in neglecting interest in the job, haste and disregard for correct planning.

In order to make the Food Corporation of India an efficient organisation, it is absolutely essential that its financial resources must be improved and also constant efforts should be made to change its outlook. Concerted efforts will have to be made by the Government, high-ups of the Corporation and staff of the Corporation to improve it. We offer the following suggestions for removal of pitfalls of the FCI and findings to improve the efficiency of the Corporation.

Suggestions for Solving the Problems of FCI

1. All Regional and District Offices should be established in the centre of the cities and godowns should also be built near the city to facilitate smooth transportation.
2. The surplus staff should be transferred to any other department, with the approval of the Government.

3. The staff should be trained properly and only after completion of satisfactory training, work allotment should be made.

4. Recruitment procedure should be amended. Written examination should be introduced for the recruitment of staff. Promotion policy of staff should also be fixed on the basis of qualifying examinations.

5. Proper arrangement should be made by the management for the player of the FCI.

6. Being a commercial body, the behaviour of the officers/staff of FCI should be polite and gentle with its clients.

7. Being a commercial body, FCI should issue its own shares among public for raising its own funds, so that it may minimise the subsidy of the Government of India.

8. The overtime should not be paid if FCI has fixed its norms. The FCI should have to curtail its expenses on telephone, stationary and T.A. of staff etc. The departmental labour should be advised to increase their
working capacity, because due to negligence in their duties, huge quantity of foodgrains are damaged/destroyed.

Suggestions for Improvement of working of FCI

1. The purchase of foodgrains as well as other commodities should be done directly from cultivators or farmers without appointing any commission agents.

2. Before purchasing foodgrains, proper inspection of foodgrains should be done by the purchasing staff.

3. The proper labour arrangement should be done by the FCI so that loading/unloading and stacking work may be completed well in time and possibilities of transit and storage losses may be reduced. To avoid sweeping of stocks during loading and unloading, tarpaulin should be used.

4. The stock should be transported well in time under proper covered wagons and trucks to avoid damages which may occur due to rain fall.

5. The storage of stock should be done in proper manner to utilise the full capacity of the storage complex so that FCI will not suffer economic losses.
Recommendations to the Quality Control Department

1. All the foodgrains should be properly fumigated before monsoon with the insecticides such as celphos, phosfume etc. to avoid the damages of stocks.

2. Insecticides should be available well in time so that the proper treatment may be given to the stocks.

3. The quality control staff should be well trained for the use of insecticides so that the preservation work should be done properly.

4. The stock should be properly inspected by quality control staff at the time of receipt of stocks at depot/godowns.

Suggestions for Sales Promotions

1. The godowns should be built in the security areas and the movement plan should be well arranged for proper distribution of foodgrains to the public.

2. The stock should be issued directly to the consumers and fair price shops dealers to avoid commission charges, which are charged by the State Government.
3. The stock should be disposed off well in time to avoid damages through distribution among the public.

4. As per purchase plan, the FCI should build its own godowns near the mandis where the stocks are to be purchased to avoid the financial loss of the Corporation which is being borne through paying heavy ent to the State/Central Warehousing Corporation/private parties. If bigger storage complex are built, there will be less chance of theft cases.

5. Godown should be built near the mandis, it will avoid heavy transportation charges as well as transit losses.

Proper Handling of Sugar and Fertilizer
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The FCI should maintain a specific godown for storing sugar and fertilizer. They should be disposed of well in time to avoid further damages through auction or open sale.

Improvement of Transportation Facilities:
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1. Godowns of FCI generally should be served by the railway track lines.
2. The FCI should have its own trucks for internal shifting of stocks. If FCI has its own transportation means for internal shifting of stocks, there will be less possibilities of transit losses or theft on route.

3. If FCI has its own railway siding of BG and MG, the transportation through trucks can be avoided. Hence, there will be no chance of pilferage of foodgrains, sugar and fertilizer and handling charges of stocks will also be saved.

4. The FCI should also make proper arrangement of transportation for shifting of purchased foodgrains from mandis to FCI godowns.

5. Proper rules and regulations should also be laid down by the authorities of FCI for loading/unloading and stacking of purchased foodgrains so that loading/unloading and stacking may be done according to the norms by handling labours. There should be an arrangement for welfare, entertainment and medical facilities for the handling labours.
Recommendation for Improvement of Export and Import Promotion Programmes

FCI should maintain quality and proper packing of exported foodgrains. The exported foodgrains should be prevented from fumigation before despatching to other countries. The stocks should be pest free at the time of despatching.

Suggestion for Revision of Movement Plan

Movement plan of FCI should be revised. Foodgrain bags should not be stopped in the transit. It should be sent directly to the required places and stored there. If this system is followed, it will reduce loss in transit and unusual expenses of loading and unloading.

Suggestion for Encouragement of DPS Labour

Due to seasonal work in FCI, DPS labour should be employed. Strict discipline should be imposed in the FCI so that regular labour should perform their duties properly. If any labour is not performing his duties properly, he should be punished. The departmental and direct payment system labour should be allowed to work in that place. Recruitment of labour through contractors should be avoided.
Introduction of Proper Transfer Policy

Proper transfer policy should be made by the Management of FCI.

Surplus Staff should not be sent on tours:

At the time of allotment of tours, concerning officers should be careful. They should send sufficient staff and officers at required places on tours. Payment against forge tour bills should be avoided. If any staff member or officer is found to be guilty, he should be severely punished by the department for presentation of forge tour bills and misappropriation of accounts.

In the end, I can suggest that there is need for the establishment of Research Cells in FCI at different levels, for institutional research and for a quinquennial review for examining the FCI as a whole, so that, not only hurdles will be removed and difficulties solved, but also there will be better performance throughout and the general grievances against the Corporation may be removed.