The Food Corporation of India is having a study conducted through an independent consultant, selected through open tendering, for assessing its existing processes and for suggesting an improved system design for revamping its supply-chain management. Besides helping FCI in documenting its current supply chain, the bottlenecks/hurdles therein, the study would also provide FCI with economically viable and operationally feasible recommendations for bringing in efficiency and improvement in the overall handling of the food grains right from its procurement operations to storage and distribution.

As per the scope of the study the consultant would document the pattern of foodgrains flow of the FCI in 2010-11, study the performance of the Railways in movement of foodgrains, FCI’s own infrastructure comprising of material handling, weighment, sampling and testing, FCI’s movement planning and monitoring, special requirement of the North Eastern Region, project the flow of foodgrains over a 15 year horizon, examine the scope for introduction of modern technology and also the characteristics of a desirable logistic model for FCI and the impact of the proposed National Food Security Bill on the operations of FCI. The detailed terms of reference are available on the FCI website www.fciweb.nic.in.

The study is proposed to be completed in nine months from the date of the signing of the contract and would cover visits to 133 FCI / SWC / CWC depots, with and without railway siding, across the country. With this sample size of more than 5% of the depots, FCI aims for the consultant to not only cover all its operations but also to analyse peculiar problems which are specific to the locations like terrain, labour, manpower, co-ordination with different agencies etc. in order to arrive at the best solution that would cater to all its needs.

The study being undertaken by FCI is also part of the Ministry of CAF&PD’s Result Framework Document for the year 2011-12.