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Title: Need to strengthen operation of Food Corporation of India.

DR. A. SAMPATH (ATTINGAL): The FCI has been engaged in the procurement, storage, transportation and distribution of food grains for the last 52 years. However, Golden jubilee was not celebrated due to unknown reason. Government has not yet honoured the organisation. Now its operations are under serious threat of privatization. Only 67 per cent of subsidy claimed was released during the last five years. Now FCI is working with below 50% employee and labour strength. FCI is not conducting any recruitment. It is a serious threat to the food security and PDS system. The Category III & IV employees are the pillar of FCI who have not been given wage revision during the last 10 years. It is our duty to save FCI by strengthening its operations. Hence, I urge upon the Government to settle acute shortage through immediate recruitment and also timely release subsidy.