

# Principles Of Management

## Concept of Principle of Management :

The principle of Management is the broad and general guidelines for managerial decision making. They are different from the principles of science as they deal with human behavior. They are different from techniques of management as techniques are method whereas principles are guidelines to action and decision making. The principle of management is different from values that are formed as generally accepted behavior in society and having moral coordination whereas principles are formed through research having technical nature.

## Nature of Principles of Management

The nature of principles of management can be described in the following points :

- (1) **Universal applicability** i.e. they can be applied in all types of organizations, business as well as non-business, small as well as large.
- (2) **General Guidelines:** They are General Guidelines to action which however do not provide readymade solutions as the business environment is very changing or dynamic.
- (3) **Formed by practice and experimentation:** They are developed after thorough research work based on experiences of managers.
- (4) **Flexible** which can be modified by the practicing manager as per the demands of the situations.
- (5) **Mainly Behavioural:** Since the principles aim at influencing human behavior they are behavioral.
- (6) **Cause and Effect relationship:** They intend to establish a relationship between cause & effect so that they can be used in similar situations.
- (7) **Contingent:** Their applicability depends upon the prevailing situation at a particular point in time.

## Significance of the Principles of Management

The significance of principles of management can be derived from their utility which can be understood from the following points :

- (1) Providing managers with useful insights into reality.
- (2) Optimum utilization of resource and effective administration.

- (3) Scientific decisions.
- (4) Meeting the changing environmental requirements.
- (5) Fulfilling social responsibility.
- (6) Management training, education, and research.

### Taylor s Scientific Management :

F.W. Taylor (1856-1915) was an American mechanical engineer who believed in analyzing the work scientifically and finds one best way to do any work. His book Principles of Scientific Management was published in 1911.

### Principles of Scientific Management :

Taylor gave the following principles of scientific management :

- (1) **Science and not the rule of thumb:** which implies developing one standard method through work-study unifying the best practices globally which would result in optimum resource utilization.
- (2) **Harmony, Not discord:** which implies that there should be a mental revolution on part of managers, workers, and owners to respect each other's role and eliminate any class conflict to realize organizational objectives.
- (3) **Cooperation, not individualism:** It is an extension of the Principle of Harmony, Not discord whereby constructive suggestions of workers should be adopted and they should not go on strike as both management and workers share responsibility and perform together. There should be complete cooperation between the labor and the management instead of individualism.
- (4) **Development of Every Person to His or Her greatest Efficiency and Prosperity:** This implies the development of competencies of all persons of an organization after their scientific selection and assigning work suited to their temperament and abilities.

### Techniques of Scientific Management

- (1) **Functional Foremanship:** Functional foremanship is a technique in which planning and execution are separated. There are 8 types of specialized professionals 4 each under planning and execution who keep a watch on all workers to extract optimum performance.
- (2) **Standardization and Simplification of work:** Standardization refers to developing standards for every business activity whereas Simplification refers to eliminating superfluous varieties of products or services. It results

in savings of the cost of labor, machines, and tools. It leads to fuller utilization of equipment and an increase in turnover.

- (3) **Method Study:** The objective of the method study is to find out one best way of doing the job to maximize efficiency in the use of materials, machinery, manpower, and capital.
- (4) **Motion Study:** Motion study seeks to eliminate unnecessary motions in the execution of a job to enable it to be completed in less time efficiently.
- (5) **Time study:** It determines the standard time taken to perform a well-defined job. The objective of the time study is to determine the number of workers to be employed, frame suitable incentive schemes & determine labor costs.
- (6) **Fatigue Study:** Fatigue study seeks to determine the amount and frequency or rest intervals in completing a task.
- (7) **Differential Piece Wage system:** Differential Piece Wage system seeks to reward a more efficient worker by giving him/her more wages for more quantity of standard production achieved.
- (8) **Mental Revolution:** It involves a change in the attitude of workers and management towards one another from competition to cooperation.

**Principles of Management:** Henri Fayol (1841-1925) was a French Mechanical engineer who gave 14 general principles of Management which are as under :

- (1) **Division of Work:** Work is divided into small tasks/jobs and each one is done by a trained specialist which leads to greater efficiency.
- (2) **Authority and Responsibility:** Managers are empowered with the authority to give orders and obtain obedience and responsible for the accomplishment of tasks for which they are granted authority.
- (3) **Discipline:** it is obedience to organizational rules and employment agreement which are necessary for working of the organization.
- (4) **Unity of Command:** There should be only one boss for every employee. If an employee gets orders from two superiors at the same time the principle of unity of command is violated.
- (5) **Unity of Direction:** Each group of activities having the same objective must have one head and one plan. This ensures the unity of action and coordination.
- (6) **Subordination of Individual Interest to General Interest:** The Interest of an

organization should take priority over the interests of anyone individual employee.

- (7) **Remuneration of Employees:** The overall pay and compensation should be fair to both employees and the organization.
- (8) **Centralization and Decentralization:** The concentration of decision-making authority is called centralization whereas its dispersal among more than one person is known as decentralization. Both should be balanced.
- (9) **Scalar Chain:** The formal lines of authority between superiors and subordinates from the highest to the lowest ranks are known as the scalar chain. This chain should not be violated but emergency employees at the same level can contact through Gang Plank.
- (10) **Order:** A place for everything (everyone) and everything (everyone) in its place. People & materials must be in suitable places at an appropriate time for maximum efficiency.
- (11) **Equity:** The working environment of any organization should be free from all forms of discrimination and the principles of justice and fair play should be followed.
- (12) **Stability of Personnel:** After being selected and appointed after the due and rigorous procedure the selected person should be kept at the post for a minimum period decided to show the result.
- (13) **Initiative:** Workers should be encouraged to develop and carry out their plans for improvements. Initiative means taking the first step with self-motivation It is thinking out and executing the plan.
- (14) **Espirit De Corps:** Management should promote team spirit, unity, and harmony among employees. Management should promote teamwork.

## Difference between the unity of command and unity of direction

<i>Basis</i>	<i>Unity of Command</i>	<i>Unity of Direction</i>
(1) Meaning	One subordinate should receive orders from & should be responsible to only one superior.	Each group of activities having to save objectives must have one head and one plan
(2) Aim	Prevents dual subordination	Prevents overlapping of activities
(3) Implications	Affects an individual employee	Affects the entire organization.

### Fayol versus Taylor :

While the work of Taylor concerned the shop floor, the work of Fayol concerned General Principles applicable to all types of situations.

