



FROM THE HISTORY OF IRRIGATION WORKS IN FERGHANA VALLEY (As an example 50-70-s of the XX century)

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ABSTRACT

In the article the state of irrigation-land-reclamation of Ferghana valley in the condition of cotton monopoly in 1950-1970 is closely observed. Besides, the measures on improvement of irrigation system by Soviet government and their results are analyzed in the article on the grounds of primary sources.

KEY WORDS: *Ferghana valley, irrigation-land-reclamation, cotton monopoly, Soviet government, irrigation system, collective farm, state farm, drainage, collector, virgin lands.*

INTRODUCTION

It is known that during the years of Soviet rule in Uzbekistan, as well as in the agriculture of the Ferghana Valley, a policy of cotton monopoly was established, and irrigation was completely subordinated to it. The implementation of the cotton monopoly increased the dependence of the local population on grain, meat and milk, that is, on the center for the supply of essential food. It was in the 1950s and 1970s of the twentieth century that the colonial order was established in the Ferghana Valley. In particular, the Soviet government emphasized the need to further accelerate cotton production, especially in the Ferghana Valley, which has favorable natural conditions, climate and opportunities for cotton growing. In particular, the adoption of the Resolution of the Council of Ministers of the former USSR of September 2, 1952 "On irrigation and development of lands in Andizhan, Namangan and Ferghana regions of the Uzbek SSR for further development of cotton" [9:14] is a clear proof of our opinion. The resolution considered the development of 65,000 hectares of protected lands in Central Ferghana (including 15,000 hectares of neglected lands in the irrigation network) in the next 4-5 years, starting from 1953. However, the adoption of this historic decision, in turn, indicates that the Soviet government's policy of cotton monopoly in the valley has intensified.

METHODS

The governing bodies of the Soviet government developed a number of guidelines and tasks for the rapid development of agriculture, especially cotton growing. At the September 1953 Plenum of the Central Committee of the CPSU, special emphasis was placed on the issue of short-term increase in cotton production. At the same time, the Plenum set the following tasks: "It is necessary to significantly increase cotton yields on collective and state farms and expand cotton cultivation by using unused lands, developing new irrigated lands, and thus improving land reclamation"[7:436]. It should be noted that the main goal of the Soviets in this event was to provide the center with more raw cotton. As a result of the development of new lands, the cotton sector has accelerated, but has caused a number of serious problems in the health of the population.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

In 1953-1955, the number of developers in the collective farms of Namangan region was 48, and the newly developed lands were located mainly in Damkul, Akkum, Momakhan, Achchik Lake, Karakalpak, Mingbulak, Naiman and Boz massifs [8: 3]. Up to 8-10 quintals of cotton were harvested from one hectare of developed land. In the first year of the redeveloped lands in the collective farm "Gigant" of



Zadarya (Mingbulak) district 18-20 ts. cotton was obtained [10: 3]. In 1953, the mobile collective farms of Central Ferghana managed to get a good harvest of cotton. In particular, the collective farm named after Kirov in Boz district up to 25.3 centners per hectare, the collective farm "Leninchi" in Kholdevonbek district (now Shahrikhan district) up to 26.4 centners per hectare, and the collective farm "Gigant" in Zadarya (Mingbulak) district up to 30.3 centners per hectare received a cotton crop up to ts. [11:52]. The increase in productivity was due to the centre's policy of so-called cotton monopoly. Its rise has led to a complete reduction in other crop areas. As a result, the needs of the population in other essential grain products were not met.

In the same year, the farms of Boz district delivered 10,900 tons to the state under the contract. In practice, 16 thousand tons of cotton are grown per hectare, which is 8689 tons. cotton was handed over and the plan was fulfilled by 80%. In the implementation of the state plan of cotton production of the district, the collective farm "XVII Party Congress" has 863 hectares of cotton fields. and 21.5 ts. instead of 15.4 ts. formed from. The state plan for cotton production was fulfilled by 71.6%. Out of 13 kolkhozes in the district, 5 kolkhozes have 15 ts. to, 7 kolkhozes 15 ts. to 20 ts. and only one kolkhoz 25 ts. from 30 thousand tons of cotton [14: 7]. The figures also show that the cotton sector dominated the district's agriculture, and that the Soviet government's command plan in this area was gradually strengthened.

The Resolution of the Council of Ministers of the Union and the Central Committee of the CPSU of February 9, 1954 "On further development of cotton growing in the USSR in 1954-1958" the regulation of water use in state farms was considered [6:96]. This decision marked the beginning of a new phase of cotton monopoly in the Ferghana Valley. In particular, in the tasks for the development of cotton growing in the 6th five-year period (1956-1960) of Andizhan region, according to the long-term plan of collective farms to achieve 235.9 thousand hectares of irrigated land (including 158.6 thousand hectares of cotton) and 482.1 thousand tons of cotton. thousand tons, while increasing the total yield in the region from 30.4 hectares per hectare. In order to carry out this task, during the remaining 4 years of the 6th Five-Year Plan period, the obligation to expand the area under cotton by 7.7 thousand hectares and increase the gross raw material of cotton to 84.1 thousand tons [1:32]. These strict obligations were strengthened from year to year by the local Soviet authorities.

In 1957, collective farmers and mechanization workers of Toshloq district of Ferghana region introduced the methods of square-

nest sowing and double care of cotton in all cotton fields. In particular, the district collective farms doubled the cultivation of cotton on 9,000 hectares of the total area of 12,000 hectares, and were the first in the region to implement the state plan for cotton production [2: 87]. The average yield in the district in 1956 was 27 ts. instead of 28.3 ts. formed. Despite the fact that the lands attached to the Gulistan collective farm, which was established this year in Central Ferghana, are completely unsuitable for agriculture and require a lot of manpower, material and financial resources, there has not been a moderate yield of cotton. In particular, the cotton harvest in 1958 was 11.70 ts., in 1959 11.91 ts. 8.46 tons in 1960 and 9.14 tons in 1961, and the plan to produce cotton was never fulfilled [3: 6]. Therefore, as of January 1, 1962, the financial condition of the collective farm amounted to 48,000 rubles of capital debt in the card index.

On January 13, 1958, the Council of Ministers of the USSR adopted a resolution "On the progress of irrigation and reclamation work in the Ferghana and Andizhan regions and throughout the country" [4:62]. According to the Council of Ministers of the USSR, in 1958 the state of work on the preparation of the irrigation system for vegetation (growth) irrigation, measures for washing and reserve irrigation were not fully implemented. Due to this, as of January 5, 1958, the cleaning of the irrigation network in the country was completed by 58.5%. At the same time, 68.2% of the plan was implemented by mechanisms and 44.3% by hand. In particular, manual cleaning of the irrigation network was carried out by 2.4% in Namangan, 3.3% in Andizhan and 7.1% in Ferghana. The main reason for the failure of this work was the inability of the Soviet government to provide the irrigation system with sufficient machinery and equipment.

Established in 1959 in the Ferghana Valley, the "Communism" collective farm has achieved high yields of cotton and other agricultural crops. In particular, in 1961 the collective farm increased the area from 670 hectares to 25 hectares yielded from. At the same time, the Karl Marx collective farm of the Akhunboboev Production Department, established in 1959, planted cotton on 720 hectares and in 1962 on 27.4 thousand hectares yielded from [12: 2]. In 1959-1961, the plan for the preparation of new lands in the state farm "Gulbog" Turakurgan district by the 1st Construction and Installation Department amounted to 2675 hectares, which in practice was fulfilled by 2407 hectares or 89%. During these years, the machine-reclamation detachment of the state farm "Gulbog" was supposed to prepare 597 hectares, but in practice it was prepared for 372 hectares, or 62.3% [5: 77]. However, the yield of cotton by the district kolkhozes



during 1959-1961 decreased year by year. In 1959, the yield was 30 ts. , in 1960 28.1 ts., in 1961 25.2 ts. formed.

As of May 10, 1963, in Central Ferghana, 9706 hectares of new lands were prepared, 7196 hectares were washed, and a total of 1991 seeds were sown. It planted 463 hectares of cotton, 1117 hectares of maize and corn and 411 hectares of other agricultural crops, 857 people and 75 tractors worked on the collective and state farms in these new lands [13:31]. The role of mobile collective farm brigades in the development of the Central Ferghana reserve was also significant. "From 1964 to 1971, the mobile brigades of these collective farms acquired about 1,200 new lands on plots divided into several sections. For example, the first year after its development - in 1964 - 20 ts per hectare from, in 1965 - 26.3 ts. and in 1972 47 ts. was obtained from" [15:37]. The examples also show that cotton production in the valley has increased significantly. Most of the cotton grown was transported to the center. Sadly, it served to enrich the former Union alliance rather than the needs of the local population.

The development of Central Ferghana lands on the basis of the policy of cotton monopoly has intensified in recent years. In particular, on November 15, 1973, a meeting of the Council of Ministers of the USSR "On the implementation of the decision of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan and the Council of Ministers of the USSR on agricultural development, irrigation, establishment of new farms and complex construction in Central Ferghana". According to the resolution of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan and the Council of Ministers of the USSR of November 1, 1971 "On measures to accelerate the irrigation and agricultural development of Central Ferghana", the construction of industrial, residential and cultural facilities Execution of the task of establishing forest protection of fields planned for 1972-1973 was analyzed. At the same time, in 1972, with the help of the Uzgiprozem Institute of the Ministry of Agriculture of the USSR, in cooperation with the Ministry of State Farms and the Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources, the general scheme of the Central Ferghana region was edited.

Ferghanavodstroy, Andizhanvodstroy and Namanganvodstroy trusts and regional irrigation departments in the Ferghana Valley for 19 years (1953-1972) carried out excavation, concrete and reinforced concrete works in the amount of 1634039 thousand, including 650526 thousand in Ferghana, 8338 thousand. Andizhan, 149692 m³ fell in the Namangan region. In the first quarter of this year, the council of Namanganvodstroy trust set a task to add 460 hectares of new land in the first quarter of this

year. In particular, as of February 8 this year, 40 new irrigated lands have been developed on the second stage of the M-1 canal, 4.9 km of pipes have been laid. Construction and installation work was completed in the first ten days of February for 16 thousand rubles, or 28%, instead of 57 thousand rubles. In particular, the work on irrigated lands in the 184-hectare Komsomol collective farm in Zadarya (Mingbulak) district, which is scheduled for commissioning in February, has not been completed. The reason for this is the frequent arrival of tasks from the center of different content, the urgency of their implementation, the fact that one task has not yet been completed and another is assigned.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, it should be noted that in the 50s and 70s of the XX century in the Ferghana valley agriculture was dominated by the Soviet policy of cotton monopoly, where irrigation was completely subordinated to this policy. To this end, many protected lands have been developed and replaced by cotton fields. Based on this practice, the Soviet government focused on getting more cotton and further expanding the area under cotton. As a result, cotton monopoly in the valley provinces intensified and the life of the peasants became increasingly difficult.

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