



THE HISTORY OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES IN TURKESTAN

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ABSTRACT

The article is devoted to the history of the activities of agricultural cooperatives in 1920-1924, which played an important role in the restoration of the national economy of the Turkestan ASSR.

KEYWORDS: Cooperation, farms, Turkestan Central Executive Committee, Turcxlopsyuz, Turkselsoyuz, Selkhozbank, credit union, agrotechnics, seeds, tools, agricultural products.

INTRODUCTION

The policy of military communism in the Turkestan ASSR in 1918-1920 had a significant impact on the life of the society. Some elements of market relations emerge. Farmers were able to sell a certain surplus of their agricultural products on the market. By joining the newly formed cooperatives, there was an opportunity to expand the area under crops and grow more crops. However, the establishment of a bureaucratic society and the important issues of the restoration of agriculture as a result of the aggressive policy of the Bolshevik government have not yet been resolved. In 1924, the share of arable land in the republic was 58.7% of the total arable land, and the gross agricultural output was 42.7% compared to 1913. By 1925, 13 out of every 100 farms had no arable land, and 71.8% of landless farms had up to 2 tenths of land [1.327] is an example.

RESEARCH METHODS

Due to the fact that land in Uzbekistan has long been divided into small and scattered areas, the simplicity of agricultural machinery, the poor condition of irrigation networks, the lack of funds did not allow the rapid development of new lands, the expansion of arable land.

Another characteristic of Uzbek rural farms is that 40 percent used their produce for their own consumption, while the remaining 60 percent (mainly cotton, fruit, and melons) were sold on the market. In addition, low-income farmers borrowed large sums of money from rich farms to grow crops, and spent most of their income on farming to pay off their debts. That is why in Turkestan since 1920 agricultural cooperatives have been established as lending institutions.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

In 1918, there were 958 branches of lending cooperatives throughout Turkestan, of which more than 700 were in the territory of the present-day Republic of Uzbekistan [2, 150]. Agricultural cooperatives were formed mainly in the cotton sector. In 1919, 70,000 cotton farmers were members of 49 cotton cooperatives in Turkestan, but in 1921 the number increased to 56 and the number of members increased to 98,000 [3, 57]. By the end of 1923, 302 of the 339 agricultural cooperatives established in the Fergana region were located mainly in cotton-growing areas [1, 328]. The need for extensive state support to farmers for the further restoration and development of agriculture required the reorganization of



the former cotton cooperatives and the establishment of universal agricultural cooperatives in their place.

An important step in the development of this field was the decision of the Turkestan Central Executive Committee on September 21, 1921 "On the establishment of agricultural cooperatives" 102 and the decision of the Turkestan Central Executive Committee on March 13, 1922 on the approval of the Central Board of the Agricultural Cooperative 4.531].

There was an opportunity to transform agricultural cooperatives into agricultural companies on a voluntary basis for growers of cotton and other textile crops. One of the main reasons for the formation of agricultural cooperatives was that the cotton farmer was also interested in agricultural cooperatives because of the possibility of obtaining an advance or a loan from the cotton committee through an agricultural company.

The second reason was that the companies were opened not on the initiative of farmers, but on the initiative of the Cotton Committee and the Agricultural Bank. Under the new economic policy, cooperative relations with the state have developed on a comprehensive economic basis. The state, based on its own interests, supported rural cooperatives with loans on favorable terms. Forms of cooperatives in which the state is interested have developed more.

In April-September 1922, in 8 districts of Fergana region, agricultural cooperatives (Isfara, Kaynar, Aravan, Konibodom, Kuchnak, Andizhan, Jalal-Abad and Margilan) received 450 pounds of rice and 3 million pounds of Turkestan Agricultural Association. UZS credit assistance was provided. On February 3, 1923, through the Agricultural Aid Association under the All-Union Central Executive Committee, the Turkestan region received 1.5 million gold coins for the development of agriculture [5.148].

In February 1923, the Turkestan Cotton Cooperative (Turkhlopsyuz) was abolished and its subsidiaries were merged into the Turkestan Agricultural Cooperative Association (Turkselsoyuz). All agricultural lending organizations have been added to its structure. In order to increase productivity and income, the charter provides its members with good seeds, agricultural equipment, pedigree livestock, processing and sale of farm products, and collective farming, to organize the use of agricultural equipment, to lend money and in kind to

its members, to accept the funds of the local population, and to disseminate knowledge of agriculture and cooperation among the local population.

On February 7, 1923, at a meeting of the TKP dedicated to the establishment of cooperatives, 5 new district agricultural associations (rayselsoyuz) were formed as part of the Turkselsoyuz. There are 5 in Baynalminal district association and 12 in Pishpak district association, and it is planned to establish district credit unions in Tashkent, Kokand, Andijan, Jalal-Abad, Kattakurgan in the near future [4.539].

In May 1923, the government of the RSFSR established the State Agricultural Bank to provide loans to farmers. Its branches were also opened in the Turkestan ASSR and were called the Central Asian Agricultural Bank (Selkhozbank) with an initial capital of 3 million soums in gold. The bank operated through credit companies and agricultural cooperatives. As a result, the number of such companies increased to 1,169 by the end of 1923, with a turnover of 58.8 million soums in gold [6, 270].

Until April 1924, the Agricultural Bank spent 2,183,076 soums on agricultural loans to Turkselsoyuz and other agricultural cooperatives and state organizations, including 888,076 soums in loans to agricultural credit companies. They, in turn, lent to 52,286 members [3.58]. However, it should be noted that in the first year of its establishment, the Agricultural Bank provided loans to associations in the range of 22-35%. After the protests of the companies, it was reduced to 12%, and the loan interest rate for non-members was set at 37-39% [7.59].

On August 5, 1923, a branch of the All-Russian Cooperative Bank was opened in Turkestan (Samarkand and Fergana). One of the important tasks on the agenda of the VIII Congress of the Turkestan Communist Party, which took place on May 4-9, 1924, was the need to strengthen lending to farmers in order to radically change the activities of agricultural cooperatives [5.148].

It was proposed to attract funds from preparatory organizations (Cotton Committee, Turkpilla, etc.) to finance agricultural lending. In May 1924, at a joint meeting of the Turkestan Cotton Committee, the Turkestan Agricultural Association, and the Agricultural Bank, all types of agricultural cooperatives were merged



into a single agricultural lending association, and the Turkestan Agricultural Cooperative Association [8.228].

From October 1923 to October 1924, the Ferghana regional association provided its companies with 1,486 working animals, 3,000 sheep, 5,000 soums worth of tools, 45 wagons of flour, 30 wagons of grain, 2,000 pounds of sugar, and 15 wagons of various goods. raw cocoons, 13,000 pounds of fruit were sold at the fairs and the proceeds were distributed to the association's farms. The results in this area can be seen in the case of Margilan district of Ferghana region. Between 1923 and 1924, there were 81 companies in the county. During the year, companies provided farmers with tools, food, and other daily necessities. In total, 450 heads of cattle, 1,036 heads of horses, 3,000 heads of sheep, 45 wagons of flour, 30 wagons of grain, 500 pieces of agricultural equipment, 2,000 pounds of sugar, 4 wagons of various goods, 5,000 boxes of silkworms were fertilized. Work animals are given on credit for 2 years, other products for 1 year. In 1923-1924, the population was provided with livestock and other products worth 100 thousand soums [9.256].

In 1924-1925, the Central Asian Agricultural Bank allocated 3,975.2 thousand soums to low-income farms in Uzbekistan. These funds are long-term and short-term, with a long-term loan of 6% per annum for the bank and 2% for the association, a total of 8%, for short-term loans for 6 to 14 months, 12% per annum for the bank, 3% for the association and 15% for the total. one association received 10,320 soums, and each farm received 60-70 soums [9, 267]. The improvement in the financial security of agricultural cooperatives is that if in 1924 19.8 mln. had a working capital of 21.9 million in the first six months of 1925. As of January 1, 1925, the number of members of the organization was 161783, but by June of this year it had grown to about 260877 [10.81].

CONCLUSION

Thus, as a result of the agrarian reforms carried out in the Turkestan ASSR, many poor farms became active producers of goods through cooperation and began to move from the natural forms of management to the market forms. As a result, it led to the growth of agricultural production in the country, the development of its productive forces, albeit partially. Agricultural cooperatives have played an important role in restoring

market relations and developing economic life in the countryside. However, later the Soviet government's abandonment of the new economic policy, the introduction of industrialization, collectivization policies in agriculture, the mass movement of peasants to collective farms and state farms, and the abolition of individual farms chose a politicized path alien to the market economy and limited their economic and social independence, which later led to its complete abolition.

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