

Rural Land Policy Changes over the Past 70 Years in China

Lijun Wang*

Department of Geography and Tourism, Baoding University, Baoding, 071000, China

*Corresponding Author.

Abstract:

This paper reviews and summarizes the evolution of rural land and other resources or assets, including the private ownership of land and other assets; the reform and opening up has become a special form of ownership, which is an important part of the theoretical system of socialism with Chinese characteristics. The current state of rural collectively owned resources and assets is described. It explains the problems existing in the development of rural collective economy at this stage. Finally, it is pointed out that under the background of integrated urban and rural development and benign interaction between urban and rural factors, the open flow of rural property rights will be an inevitable trend. The current state of rural collectively owned resources and assets is described. It explains the problems existing in the development of rural collective economy at this stage. Finally, it is pointed out that under the background of integrated urban and rural development and benign interaction between urban and rural factors, the open flow of rural property rights will be an inevitable trend.

Keywords: Rural areas, Rural land, Rural collective economy

I. INTRODUCTION

The government of China has been continuously exploring effective systems for handling the relations between the state, land and farmers in accordance with the major social contradictions and changes of historical tasks in different stages, to promote the rural land system's reformation, change and perfection. Its transformation process can be divided into four main stages: the period of new-democratic revolution, the period of socialist revolution and construction, the new period of reform and opening up and the new era since the 18th National Congress. The rural land system with Chinese characteristics has been basically formed and has accumulated valuable experience: putting the people as the center, keeping reform commensurate with the development level of productive forces, and carrying out reform in a gradual manner [1]. Combined with the world situation, national conditions and situation

in the new stage, these experiences are of great reference significance for the comprehensive construction of a modern socialist country.

II. 1949-1952: FARMER-OWNED AND FAMILY MANAGEMENT

At the early stage of the founding of the new China, the government carried out and completed the rural land reform throughout the country, completely abolished the feudal rural land ownership, and established the peasant rural land ownership [2].

On October 1, 1949, the new China was founded. However, at that time, the new liberated areas, which accounted for more than a half of the country's population, had not yet completed the rural land reform, which seriously hindered the development of social productive forces. On June 30, 1950, the Central People's Government promulgated the implementation of the rural land Reform Law, which proposed to abolish the rural land ownership under feudal exploitation by the rural landlord class and implement the rural land ownership of farmers [3]. Since then, the government has carried out a vigorous rural land reform movement in the new liberated area. By the end of 1952, the Chinese main rural land had basically completed the rural land reform. Through the rural land reform, about 300 million farmers with little rural land, including the old liberated rural land, have received about 700 million mu of rural land free of charge.

The completion of the rural land reform completely eliminated the rural landlord class rural land ownership, and the farmers really became the owners of the rural land. This has fundamentally liberated the rural productive forces, stimulated the enthusiasm of farmers in production, and promoted the rapid recovery and development of agriculture. The national total grain output increased to over 160 billion kilogram in 1952 from over 110 billion kilogram in 1949, up by 45%; farmers' income increased by more than 30% compared with 1949. In addition, many farmers have built new houses, bought means of production, bought all kinds of consumer goods, and their living standards have been significantly improved and improved.

III. (1952-1956): AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION PERIOD

In the face of the situation and task of establishing a socialist country, on the premise of adhering to all the rural land farmers, the government developed mutual aid groups and agricultural production cooperatives, completed agricultural cooperation, and realized the transformation of agricultural socialism. In this period, farmer owned and operated rural land together [4].

At the end of 1952, the rural land reform was basically completed, and the task of restoring the national economy was successfully realized. In such a context, the government put forward the general line of the transitional period, and proposed to basically realize the national industrialization and the socialist transformation of agriculture, handicraft industry, capitalist industry and commerce in a quite long historical period [5].

The socialist transformation of agriculture was actually started before the general route of the transition period was proposed. In 1951, China adopted the Resolution on Mutual Assistance in Agricultural Production (draft), which proposed that "mutual labor is a collective labor based on the individual economy (on the basis of farmers' private property), and its development future is agricultural collectivization or socialism". In December 1953, the China adopted the resolution on the Development of Agricultural Production Cooperatives, proposing that "agricultural production cooperatives characterized by rural land investment and unified operation" and "increasingly become an important link to the progress of our mutual assistance and cooperation movement". In October 1955, the China adopted the Resolution on Agricultural Cooperation, proposing that "facing the rising situation of the rural cooperation movement, the Government is to lead the movement boldly and in a planned way", further accelerating the agricultural cooperation, and the agricultural socialist transformation was basically completed by the end of 1956.

At that time, whether the development of mutual cooperation or development of agricultural production cooperatives, adhere to all rural land farmers, "pay by work, by share", the superiority of agricultural cooperation and effect is more obvious, the statistics show that more than 80% agricultural production cooperatives are increase income, and generally mutual group is better than single, cooperative is better than mutual aid group [6].

IV. 1956-1978: PEOPLE OF PEOPLE'S COMMUNE PERIOD

In this period, the commune possessed and operated rural land. In the face of the situation and task of accelerating the construction of a socialist country, the Government transformed all rural land farmers into collective ownership and collective management through the development of people's communes.

In order to change the country's poverty and backward appearance as soon as possible, the Government tries to open up a new situation in exploring the road of socialist construction [7]. On June 30, 1956, the National People's Congress issued the Demonstration Articles of Advanced Agricultural Production Cooperatives, which stipulates that members must submit the privately owned rural land and livestock to the cooperative; organize agricultural activities;

and the labor results shall be distributed completely in accordance with the principle of "distribution by labor". In order to change the country's poverty and backward appearance as soon as possible, the Government tries to open up a new situation in exploring the road of socialist construction. On June 30, 1956, the National People's Congress issued the Demonstration Articles of Advanced Agricultural Production Cooperatives, which stipulates that members must submit the privately owned rural land and livestock to the cooperative; organize agricultural activities; and the labor results shall be distributed completely in accordance with the principle of "distribution by labor".

The people's commune rural land collective ownership, collective unified management, on the one hand to solve a problem in water conservancy construction, farm land construction, at the same time adopt the unification of agricultural products purchase and sales policy, guarantee the supply of urban agricultural products, and through the price of industry and peasants products "scissors" accumulation of wealth, support the national industrialization and urban construction, shows the superiority of the collective; On the other hand, eating a "big pot of rice" and engaging in egalitarianism have severely suppressed the labor enthusiasm of farmers and resulted in a long-term stagnation of agricultural production. According to statistics, from 1957 to 1978, grain output increased by 2.2% annually, and the per capita income of farmers only increased by 33.3 yuan in 20 years, with an annual increase of more than 1 yuan.

V. 1978-2012: PERIOD OF REFORM AND OPENING UP

During this period, on the premise of adhering to collective rural land ownership, the government entrusted farmers with contracted management rights, and established the responsibility system for family property contract. [8] The rural land was changed from "collective owned and collective management" to "collective owned and family management". In 1978, 18 farmers in Xiaogang Village, Fengyang County, Anhui Province, pressed their bright red handprints on a guarantee of less than 100 words and began to make a big contract. In September 1980, the China issued the Several Issues on Further Strengthening and Improving the Responsibility System for Agricultural Production, proposing that in those remote mountainous areas and poor and backward areas, production could also be delivered to households. In 1982, the No.1 document clearly stated that all kinds of responsibility systems, including production to households, are the production responsibility system of the socialist collective economy. Since then, the central government has issued a number of No.1 documents, all emphasizing the need to stabilize and improve the family joint property contract responsibility system. By the beginning of 1986, more than 99.6% of rural households nationwide, and the family joint production contract responsibility system was fully established

in China's rural areas [9].

After the establishment of the household joint property contract responsibility system, the rural land contract policy has been continuously improved. In 1984, the No.1 Central Document clearly stated that the rural land contract period should generally be more than 15 years. In 1993, the State Council of the Several Policies and Measures on the Current Agricultural and Rural Economic Development stipulated that the original cultivated rural land contract period would be extended by another 30 years. In 2008, the China decided to emphasize that the existing rural land contract relationship should remain stable and unchanged for a long time, and give farmers more sufficient and guaranteed rural land management rights [10].

In order to consolidate the achievements of the household joint property contract responsibility system, the state has clarified the rural land management system from the legal level to ensure its smooth implementation [11]. According to the 1993 amendment to the Constitution pointed out that the responsibility system of household joint property contract in rural areas is the collective ownership economy of the socialist working masses. According to the 1999 amendment to the Constitution, rural collective economic organizations will implement a two-tier management system based on household contract management and combining unification and division. The Rural land Contracting Law, implemented in 2003, makes detailed provisions on the acquisition, protection and transfer of contracted rural land and management rights. The Law on the Mediation and Arbitration of Disputes over Rural land Contract Management promulgated in 2009 stipulates on the mediation and arbitration of disputes over rural land contracted management. So far, China country has established a relatively sound rural land contract laws and regulations system.

The two-tier management system, which bases on household contracted management and combining unification and division, is in line with national conditions, public opinion, greatly liberated and developed rural productive forces, fully mobilized the initiative, enthusiasm and creativity of farmers in production, and agricultural production developed rapidly. China's grain output increased rapidly, with only more than 300 billion kg in 1978, 350 billion kg in 1982, 400 billion kg in 1984, 450 billion kg in 1993, and 500 billion kg in 1996.

VI. AFTER 2012: SOCIALISM WITH CHINESE CHARACTERISTICS FOR A NEW ERA

During this period, the government followed farmers' willingness of farmers to retain the right to contract and transfer rural land management rights, and established the separation of

the three rights system, which promoted rural land transfer and moderate-scale operation. It was another major institutional innovation in rural reform.

With the large transfer of rural labor force, the level of agricultural modernization continues to improve, and the demand for rural land transfer is becoming increasingly. In order to meet this development needs, the China adopted the "separation of the three rights", realizing the transformation of rural land from "collective owned and family management" to "collective owned, peasant household contract and diversified operation". First, we will establish a system of the separation of the three powers. In 2013, the classification of farmers' contracted rural land management rights into contracted and management rights, and the separation of contracted and management rights, is another major innovation in China's rural reform. In 2016, the government issued the Opinions on Improving the Measures for the Separation of Rural land Ownership, Contracting Rights and Management Rights, making systematic and comprehensive institutional arrangements for the "separation of the three powers". Second, we will confirm, register and certify certificates. In 2014, the central government clearly proposed that it would basically confirm, register, and certify contracted rural land management rights in about five years. At present, 2,838 counties, 34,000 townships, and more than 550,000 administrative villages have carried out rights confirmation work, confirming 1.5 billion mu of contracted rural land to 200 million rural households. Third, the rural land contract period will be extended for another 30 years. In 2017, the government announced that the second round of rural land contract will be extended for another 30 years. At present, the second round of rural land contract extension is continuing to be extended for another 30 years in batches [12].

The implementation of the "separation of the three rights" has realized the sharing of rural land rights among the collective farmers, contracted farmers and new agricultural business entities, and brought the revitalization of China's basic rural business system with new vitality and vitality. Up to now, the transfer area of household contracted arable rural land has reached 555 million mu, and various new types of agricultural operators have developed rapidly, with more than 2.2 million farmer cooperatives, more than 3 million family farms, and more than 900,000 socialized agricultural service organizations.

The history of rural land policy shows that the rural land problem has always been a key issue related to the overall situation and success or failure. The issue of the relationship between rural land and farmers was a major issue of revolution and construction. Every stage of the success of the Government is closely related to the rural land policy. Some of the detours are because of problems with the rural land policy. Giving and protecting farmers' rural land rights and interests is the fundamental way out to mobilize their enthusiasm and create more wealth. Throughout the rural land policy, there are four main inspirations: First, the rural land

policy is the basis for the development China. The rural land policies formulated by the Government at various periods not only opened up the space for its survival and development, but also consolidated and strengthened the dependent strength of revolution and construction. Because of this, the government stressed that the rural land policy is the basis for the development. Second, the rural land policy should be adapted to the stage of economic and social development According to the situation and tasks of different periods, the Government evaluated the situation and followed the trend. It formulated rural land policies with distinctive characteristics of The Times at different stages, which played an important role in the Government's success in revolution and construction. Therefore, the formulation of rural land policy should be based on the historical stage of national development, in line with the national development strategic goals, and play the maximum effect of the policy. Third, the rural land policy should conform to the objective law of production relations to adapt to the development of productive forces. Rural land policy is from the surface to adjust the people-rural land relations, and from a deep level to adjust the relations of production to meet the needs of the development of productive forces. Practice shows that any rural land policy that meets the requirements of the development of productive forces can stimulate the enthusiasm, initiative and creativity of farmers, and thus promote the development of productive forces; otherwise, it will hinder the development of productive forces. Fourth, the rural land policy should always safeguard farmers' rural land rights and interests. The core of rural problems is the problem of farmers, and the core of farmers' problems is the rural land problem. If farmers' rights and interests are safeguarded, the society will prosper and the people will live and work in peace and contentment. Therefore, the formulation of rural land policies must always take the protection and realization of farmers' rights and interests as the starting point and foothold, and must not damage the interests of farmers.

The government attaches great importance to the rural land problem and has made a series of important instructions and instructions, stressed at the symposium on the rural reform in Xiaogang Village that in deepening the rural reform under the new situation, the main line is still to properly handle the relationship between farmers and rural land; In the deliberation of the Plan for Deepening the Pilot Reform of the Rural Homestead System, the government pointed out that we must resolutely change the nature of public ownership, break the red line of cultivated rural land, and damage farmers' interests, so as to realize, safeguard and develop farmers' rights and interests. The reform of the rural land system is a major event, and the subjects and interests involved are very complex, and we must be promoted prudently and prudently. At present, rural land including contracted rural land, homestead, collective construction rural land, etc., involved more diverse, more complex, both historical problems, and practical contradictions, we should thoroughly implement xi general secretary important instructions spirit, earnestly summarize historical experience, from the political, economic,

social and other perspectives of planning rural land reform, fast, orderly, in major issues, major principle, good laws and regulations, fairness, moral risk, to safeguard farmers' rights and interests and rural social harmony and stability.

VII. CONCLUSION

The government made major decisions and plans to implement the rural revitalization strategy. The reform of the rural land system is closely linked to farmers' production and life, rural industrial development, and rural governance, and is a key link in promoting rural revitalization. In the reform of the rural land system, we should accelerate the revitalization of rural land resources factors, promote the reform of the land system such as the separation of contracted land and homestead sites, and activate the vitality of land factors. In the process of land expropriation and collective operational construction land entry, the government should guarantee the fair share of land value-added income of farmer; reform and improve the use system of land transfer income, adjust the use scope of land transfer income, change the long-term rural land transfer income "from rural agriculture and city", increase the proportion of agricultural and rural investment, and use more for agricultural and rural development.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The paper was supported Subject number: sz2021094, Hebei Education Development.

REFERENCES

- [1] Fan D (2001) Change Course, Basic Characteristics and Enlightenment of Rural Land System: Based on the Perspective of the CPC's 100 Years History. *Agricultural archaeology* (4): 86-94
- [2] Wang LJ (2015) The evolution in Chinese farm's life since the foundation of the People's Republic of China. *Asia Life Science* 24(1): 11-20
- [3] Steven V (2005) *Social Change* Beijing: Peking University Press: 25
- [4] Lou C, Yuan S (2019) Influencer marketing: How message value and credibility affect consumer trust of branded content on social media. *Journal of Interactive Advertising* 19(1): 58-73
- [5] Kay S, Mulcahy R, Parkinson J (2020) When less is more: The impact of macro and micro social media influencers' disclosure. *Journal of Marketing Management* 36 (3-4): 248-78
- [6] Ding S, Meriluoto L, Reed WR (2011) The Impact of Agricultural Technology Adoption on Income Inequality in Rural China: Evidence from Southern Yunnan Province. *China Economic Review* 22(3): 344-356
- [7] Robertson GP, Swinton SM (2005) Reconciling Agricultural Productivity and Environmental Integrity: A Grand Challenge for Agriculture. *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment* 3(1): 36-46
- [8] Asfaw, S., B. Shiferaw & F. Simtowe. Agricultural Technology Adoption, Seed Access Constraints and Commercialization in Ethiopia. *Journal of Development and Agricultural Economics*, 2011, 3(9): 436-477.

- [9] Pretty J, Toulmin C, Williams S (2011) Sustainable Intensification in Africa Agriculture. *International Journal of Agricultural Sustainability* 9(1): 5-24
- [10] Davi, CC, Otsuka K (1994) *Modern Rice Technology and Income Distribution in Asia* Lynne [M]. Boulder and London: Rienr Publishers: 25-32
- [11] Rabman S (1999) Impact of Technological Change on Income Distribution and Poverty in Bangladesh Agriculture: and Empirical Analysis. *Journal of International Development* 11(7): 935-955
- [12] Cunguara B, Darnhofer I (2011) Assessing the Impact of Improved Agricultural Technologies on Household income In Rural Mozambique. *Food Policy* 36(3): 378-390