



## **The Functioning and Organizational Structure of Farmer's Union in Punjab**

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### **Abstract**

The paper investigates the organizational structure and operation of farmer's unions in Punjab, focusing on their historical history, internal dynamics, and strategic roles in modern agricultural mobilizations. The research emphasizes the union's federated yet factional structure, characterized by charismatic leadership, grassroots village networks, and issue-based alliances that alter in response to agrarian crises and political environment. Decision-making procedures are demonstrated to rely on both democratic consensus and hierarchical command, with local units exerting substantial autonomy in everyday activities. Protest coordination, policy advocacy, negotiations with governmental actors, and the supply of economic help and information to farmers are among the unions' operating techniques. The farmers' movement of 2020–2021 is an example of how these unions achieved unprecedented unity, using both traditional and digital mobilization strategies, and struck a balance between selected political affiliations and non-partisanship. According to the paper, Punjab's farmer unions are still powerful forces for collective action and agrarian policy impact because of their deep rural penetration and dynamic flexibility, even though organizational fragmentation continues to present challenges.

**Key words:** Farmer's movement, Agriculture, Organization, Green revolution, Framework, Farmer union

An organization is a formalized social and economic body created to accomplish group objectives by allocating duties in a systematic way. It has a clear management structure that describes the connections between different roles and functions and runs continuously. The company can operate effectively due to this structure, which guarantees the unambiguous delegation of duties, authority, and tasks. There are both public and private sector organizations, such as governments, businesses, academic institutions, and the military. Each



is essential to upholding social functions and carrying out civic duties. An organization's structural framework is crucial for accomplishing long-term goals and maintaining social order and productivity because it guarantees coordinated efforts, clear communication, and goal-oriented operations.<sup>1</sup>

The Green Revolution, which began in the mid-1960s, caused considerable improvements in Punjab's agriculture. The advent of high-yielding crop types, combined with greater usage of chemical fertilizers, insecticides, pesticides, and herbicides, altered the agricultural landscape. These measures not only increased agricultural productivity, but also brought Punjab agriculture within a market-driven framework. Farmers grew increasingly reliant on external inputs, which they had to buy on the market, resulting in a new economic paradigm. This change increased agricultural output and contributed to the growth of Punjab's economy. However, the increased reliance on market-based inputs required farmers to sell a percentage of their output to fund these purchases, thus consolidating their position in the global market.

The Green Revolution also brought about a fundamental change in Punjab agriculture system, as new technologies forced nearly all farmers, regardless of their level of resources, to adopt modern agricultural practices, which in turn led to increased expenditure on agricultural equipment, machinery, and other inputs. As a result of the widespread adoption of these technologies, agriculture became increasingly commercialized, and farmers had to constantly monitor market prices for both their crops and the inputs they needed. This transformation forced farmers into a collective struggle for their economic interests, as they confronted problems such as rising expenses and increased financial investment. Farmers formed a united platform to advocate for their rights after sharing concerns about agriculture pricing and input costs.<sup>2</sup>

The farmer movements around the world date back to the late nineteenth century, when agricultural communities began to face rising economic pressures. The National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry (the Grange), one of the earliest large-scale national farmer organizations, was founded in the United States in the 1870s. The Grange arose in response to two distinct economic complaints experienced by farmers at the time. First, it lobbied for the establishment of "Granger Laws," which were meant to govern the railroads and warehouses that farmers used to transport and store their commodities. These laws went



into effect in a number of upper Midwest states. Second, the Grange attempted to build cooperatives that would eliminate intermediaries in agricultural trade, allowing farmers to sell directly to markets and keep more of their profits. These efforts were motivated by similar earlier attempts, such as Massachusetts railroad commissions and New York dairymen's associations, and were aimed at resolving power inequalities in the agricultural economy.<sup>3</sup>

The history of the peasant or farmer movement in India can be traced back to the colonial era, when farmers throughout the country stood up in rebellion against their landowners, British colonial and even feudal lords. As a consequence of extreme exploitation, loss of rights over land, imposition of additional taxes, and resorting to new agricultural relations, the peasants resorted to carrying out these activities as part of the nationalist fight for independence. The farmers and peasants of the British era engaged in a number of notable struggles, including the *Birsa Munda* revolt Nagar Peasant uprising in Bihar 1830-33, *Champaran* in Bihar 1918-19, *Kheda* in Gujarat 1918, *Bardoli* in Gujarat 1925. Recent history in independent India has seen two main types of peasant or farmer movements. The *Telangna* movement in Hyderabad 1946-51, *Tebagha* movement in Bengal 1946-49, *Naxalbari* movement in Bengal 1967 and *Lalgarh* movement in Bengal 2009 were all led by Marxists and Socialists. On the other side, rich farmers led movements in Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Punjab, and Gujarat.<sup>4</sup>

During both the pre and post-Independence eras in Punjab, farmers have been actively mobilised in large numbers on multiple occasions. There were unique aspects to this fight and challenges to overcome in each round. Historically, large-scale farmer protests have always been a direct result of and a massive impact on particular problems within rural communities. The farmers of Punjab participated in several important movements, including: A movement led by the *Pagri Sambhal Jatta* against British rule 1907, PEPSU tenants, under *Lal* Party leadership, fight for land rights for landless tillers 1948-52, Anti-Improvement levy agitation against the cost of irrigation for corps 1958-59, the agitation arose from a demand for a higher crop purchase price 1978-84 and Struggle to get fairly compensated for pestdamaged cotton 2015.<sup>5</sup>

Punjab is an agricultural state where farming is essential to the economy and way of life. The land and agricultural lifestyle are being generously left to the next generation. The farmer plays a crucial role in the social and economic context of India. Punjab had a



significant rise in grain production, which helped end the country's food shortage. Although Punjab only accounts for 1.53 % of India's total land area, 2.77 % of India's total cultivable land, and 2.22 % of India's total population, it supplied between 32 to 49 % of India's rice and 51 to 75 % of India's wheat to the country's food grain reserves between 1980 and 2009.<sup>6</sup>

Farmers' unions had emerged in Punjab and other areas soon following the launch of Green Revolution technologies. In the years between 1971 and 1972, a group of rich farmers came together to join the Punjab *Khetibari* Union in an effort to negotiate better terms from the government in terms of input prices of crops, electricity rates and reliability, and increase crop pricing market. The unions helped them negotiate with the commission agents in the grain *mandis* (market place) and organised protests to get a better deal from the state. Around the country, farmers' unions were also organizing at this time. The farmers of Punjab agreed to join the *Bharatiya Kisan* Union (BKU) after attending a 1980 meeting of a national-level coordination committee in Hyderabad. In the 2019, *Samyukta Kisan Morcha* (SKM) led the activities of thirty farmer unions across Punjab, both large and small in farmer movement. All of them, excluding maybe one or two, were present at the protest areas in Delhi.<sup>7</sup>

Article 19(1) (c) protects the right to form organisations, serving as a fundamental pillar of individual liberty and permitting citizens to assemble free from governmental interference. This essential liberty enables citizens to pursue shared objectives while guaranteeing the coexistence of varied perspectives and ideas within society. This right allows citizens to participate with the state and advocate for improvements in sectors such as labour rights, education, or health, whether through political parties, trade unions, or civil society organisations. The Constitution highlights the significance of freedom of organisation, fostering a pluralistic society in which citizens can advocate for shared objectives, contest injustices, and strive for societal advancement. The right to form organisations facilitates peaceful assembly and engagement in public discourse, so fostering democracy and reinforcing the principles of equality and fairness. This freedom is essential for cultivating an inclusive and dynamic civil society.<sup>8</sup>

The Farmers' movement is fundamentally based on the establishment of voluntary associations designed to satisfy the varied and frequently opposing interests of agricultural producers. Although these organisations are established on concepts of collaborative action and common objectives, actual membership participation is often irregular and influenced by



differing levels of engagement. Leaders in these organisations are frequently volunteers, indicating a lower level of behavioural engagement compared to more formal work organisations. The difficulties of membership recruitment, loyalty, and active engagement are exacerbated by the geographic dispersion of farmers, which can impede the formation of a unified identity or shared objective. As these movements progress, particularly in relation to collective bargaining, the voluntary aspect may wane, resulting in more intricate relations between individual autonomy and the necessity for collective strength in tackling economic issues.<sup>9</sup>

The new Farmers' movements have emerged as one of the most influential non-parliamentary political forces in India since the early 1970s. In an increasingly mechanised agricultural economy, farmers have joined together in various states to fight for better economic conditions. The main target of these movements has been the state, which supplies agricultural inputs and regulates the markets. The farmers are demanding more subsidies for inputs like Seeds, Fertilisers, Pesticides, Electricity, and Water, as well as lower taxes and debt relief. They are also demanding higher prices for their products, including Grains, Cash-crops, Vegetables, and Milk, and claim that the terms of trade between industry and agriculture are becoming more and more favouring industry.<sup>10</sup>

The significance of the 2020 farm laws protest lies in its relevance to both marginalized people and capitalist farmers. One notable progressive component is its capacity to challenge the current government's political suppression, extending far beyond the agriculture sector. Farmer movements place greater importance on organizational structures which enable the effective application of the sensible decision-making procedures. Organizations can make faster choices by giving lower-level members specific responsibilities. Organizations can be highly complicated, with hundreds of individuals occupying many positions to ensure the effective operation of the organization. Organizations require well-defined organizational structures to effectively allocate resources and achieve financial objectives.

Organizational structure encompasses the various interconnections and arrangements inside the organization. It establishes the manner in which information is transmitted among individuals inside the organization, while also defining the specific duties, obligations, and decision-making processes necessary for the organization to accomplish its objectives.



Efficient organizations have the ability to clearly establish and convey the specific function of each individual role within the larger structure of the organization<sup>11</sup>

This proposes a method of linking framework and interaction as inherently representing shared concepts, a manner of perceiving structures as a tool designed to mirror and enable meanings. Structural frameworks inherently incorporate standard expectations and guidelines for effective functioning and successful outcomes. The structure of regulations, positions, and power dynamics strives to promote specific objectives by selectively allowing particular behaviours, providing endorsement for certain commitments, and also restricting and compelling those who refuse to accept the demands imposed by the structure. The framework actively influences the implementation of rules and the exercise of authority within an organisation, supporting the allocation and understanding of different tasks and responsibilities. The objective of organisational decision makers is to establish a suitable structure that will gradually develop and become the foundation of its own establishment. Organisational structure refers to the predetermined frameworks and actual arrangements of interaction within a company, as well as the extent to which they are mutually created and influential.<sup>12</sup>

Movements consist of networks including organizations, communities, locations for the formation of opposition discourses, groups of unattached individuals, and collective activities. The structure of these movements is characterized by the connections between these many components and external institutions. Organizational issues are separate from questions about the overall structure of the social movement and its role in broader political and organizational arenas. Within the second group of inquiries, there find inquiries about the Bureaucratic vs. Collectivist nature of an organization, its Formal vs. Informal structure, and the centralization or decentralization of decision-making and authority, as well as any hybrid forms thereof. To better understand how both internal discourses and collective identities and external structures and meanings impact movement structure, it is helpful to look at movement structure from both perspectives.<sup>13</sup>

The concept of organizational structure entails comprehending the concrete and abstract components that constitute the framework of an organization. The tangible components of the structure encompass the physical features such as organizational units and hierarchies, whereas the intangible components pertain to the views and judgments of





individuals inside the organization about the structure. This dual viewpoint is crucial for fully comprehending how organizational structure impacts and facilitates organizational actions and objectives.

Schine's research (1971, 1988) delineated three characteristics of organisational structure: Hierarchy, Function, and Inclusion, providing a sophisticated comprehension of formal organisational charts. The hierarchy dimension represents the relative ranks of organisational units, similar to an organisational chart, whilst the functional dimension specifies the various tasks executed inside the organisation. The inclusion dimension signifies the closeness of individuals to the organization's nucleus, denoting their assimilation inside the framework. The proper integration of these aspects elucidates the formal structure of an organisation, but it is recognised that many organisational forms cannot be adequately depicted by charts alone. Three concepts arise in the planning of organisational structure. It establishes formal linkages and reporting lines, defines positions and group dynamics, and creates procedures for coordination across units to ensure effective interactions. Elements including Objectives, Strategy, Environment, Technology, and Organisational scale significantly influence this structure, investigate the interaction between content and structural elements. Content variables such as Complexity, Formality, and Centralisation affect structural features provide a basis for assessing and contrasting organisations. The interplay of various variables generates varied structural designs, illustrating the intricacy of organisational dynamics<sup>14</sup>

The *Bharatiya Kisan Union* (BKU) became a prominent organization in India's agricultural sector in the late 20th century, chiefly advocating for the interests of farmers, especially in the northern states. The BKU's organization features a decentralized framework, enabling local units to function independently while conforming to the union's larger goals. This decentralized framework promotes grassroots engagement, allowing farmers to articulate their problems and grievances at regional and local tiers. The BKU's leadership, typically consisting of prominent farmers and local elites, is essential in mobilizing support and coordinating collective actions, including rallies and demonstrations.

The BKU mostly comprises small and medium farmers, alongside a notable presence of larger landowners involved in cash crops. The demographic variety within the union highlights the coalition's strength by uniting different parts of the agrarian community. The



union initially garnered a primarily upper and middle-caste membership, including significant groups such as the *Jats* in Punjab and the *Gujjars* in Western Uttar Pradesh. However, efforts have subsequently been undertaken to integrate perspectives from marginalized sectors, including people without land and smaller peasants. Throughout these endeavours, the leadership and decision-making mechanisms within the BKU have frequently faced criticism for being predominantly influenced by higher-caste farmers, hence mirroring the prevailing socio-economic hierarchies in rural areas.<sup>15</sup>

The BKU's influence and mobilization capabilities have been rigorously evaluated during times of political transformation and economic reform in India. Incidents like the Encirclement (*Gherao*) of the *Raj Bhavan* in 1984 Punjab demonstrated the union's capacity to mobilize widespread support against perceived governmental indifference and pro-industrial policies. The reduction in the BKU's influence during Operation Blue Star highlights the difficulties encountered by farmers' groups in sustaining unity and coherence amidst evolving political contexts. As the farmers' movement progresses, the BKU's capacity to address the concerns of various agricultural groups, while managing the intricacies of caste and class dynamics, is essential for its continued significance in the current socio-political landscape

In India, the Farmers' movement used a variety of well-planned tactics to rally support, especially in places like Punjab. The movement successfully reached a large supporter base by beginning with door-to-door campaigns, public gatherings, street performances, and pamphlet distribute in public. Furthermore, strategies like occupying nearby corporate dry ports and toll plazas demonstrated the protestors' tenacity and prominence. Participants were able to interact directly with the community and spread knowledge of the farm rules through these grassroots initiatives. However, as the campaign gathered steam and the government remained silent, Farmers' unions realized that a more coordinated strategy was required, and they made the important decision to turn their attention to Delhi. A bigger coalition that would increase the movement's reach and fortify its collective voice was sparked by this crucial turning point in strategy.

The relocation to Delhi led to the establishment of the All India *Kisan Sangharsh* Coordination Committee (AIKSCC), which was instrumental in consolidating over 400 Farmers' organizations. In a pivotal meeting at *Shri Rakab Ganj Sahab Gurudwara*, several





organizations, despite ideological disparities, united to establish the *Samyukt Kisan Morcha* (SKM). This coalition, consisting of 40 individuals, including leaders from 32 of the 34 Punjab farmers' unions, aimed to formulate a unified agenda and coordinate the subsequent phase of the struggle. The collaboration transcended conventional agricultural associations, integrating trade unions, Dalit farmers' organizations, and women's and student groups, demonstrating the movement's inclusive character. The involvement of other organizations not only diversified the movement's leadership but also strengthened its resilience, enabling it to tackle a broad spectrum of issues affecting different groups in the agricultural sector.

The strategic plan of moving to Delhi on November 26, 2020, was profoundly emblematic, correlating the movement with a pivotal date in constitutional calendar. By selecting this day, the farmers emphasized their conviction that the farm regulations endangered the constitutional framework of the nation. Upon the arrival of protesters, they erected improvised encampments throughout the borders of Delhi, converting these locations into dynamic hubs of discontent and alternatives. The logistical arrangement comprised Trolleys, Tents, Tractors, food provisions, and stages for speeches, fostering a social ambiance. This physical occupation functioned as both a site of protest and a centre for dialogue, solidarity, and strategic planning, therefore strengthening the movement's determination and prominence in the national conversation.<sup>16</sup>

Social media has been essential in empowering social movements in India, offering a platform for marginalised voices and facilitating extensive involvement. In movements such as the Farmers' Movement, technologies including WhatsApp, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Telegram have enabled coordination, community development, and the establishment of a collective identity. Digital platforms have enabled individuals and collectives to circumvent conventional media outlets, which may exhibit bias or exert control, thereby generating alternative narratives and promoting grassroots activism. Participants have utilised these platforms to exchange narratives, document occurrences, and challenge dominant discourses, thereby amplifying their voices on both national and global levels. The decentralised structure of social media facilitates movements in sustaining momentum and communicating across extensive geographical areas, frequently in real-time, thereby surmounting obstacles presented by physical distance and state suppression.



Social media has facilitated the establishment of adaptable, informal networks that enhance conventional organisational frameworks within movements. The hybrid strategy has proven crucial in the success of social movements in India, where many groups with divergent political views and objectives frequently must cooperate. Utilising social media for organisation, negotiation, and coalition-building has rendered these movements more robust and adaptable, even against formidable opponents. The use of information and communication technologies (ICTs) in these movements emphasize the necessity of developing digital tools tailored to the distinct requirements of these communities, particularly within the Global South environment. Comprehending the use of social media to cultivate solidarity, facilitate self-organization, and contest prevailing power structures is crucial for activists and technology designers seeking to promote social justice and political transformation.<sup>17</sup>

The Union *Bhartiya kisan* union (BKU) operated in a decentralized manner, with its base at the village level. At least 25 people could constitute a village unit, and at a public meeting, they could choose a committee of six to eleven people, including the five important office holders of president, vice president, secretary, assistant secretary, and treasurer. Depending on how many union members there are in the village, the committee may have more members. The block-level unit was formed by selecting delegates from each village unit; one delegate was chosen for every 25 members, in addition to the unit's president and general secretary. Typically, a block unit consisted of five settlements. A provisional ad hoc (*Kachi*) Block Committee was established in the event that five villages were unavailable. To ensure a democratic and grassroots-led leadership selection process inside the union, all elected delegates convened a session at the block level to nominate seven office bearers.

BKU organization expanded from the block level to the district level, with each block electing one district delegate for every five block delegates. If there were one or two permanent blocks and at least three village units, a district committee was established. All block unit presidents and general secretaries served on this committee, which elected seven office bearers during the district session. Two to three advising members could potentially be appointed by the district committee. Moving on, each of the five district delegates sent one representative to the state session, which also included general secretaries and presidents from every district. President, Senior Vice-President, two Vice-Presidents, General Secretary, Organization Secretary, Secretary, Publicity Secretary, and Treasurer were among the



important office bearers chosen to the state committee. A well-connected chain of leadership was established throughout the organization due to this hierarchical structure, which guaranteed representation from the lowest levels to the highest.

The structural framework of BKU supported effective mobilization and movement coordination in addition to guaranteeing democratic representation. Comprehensive reports that addressed the union's operations, initiatives, difficulties, and government policy discussions were provided at state committee conferences. These gatherings provided forums for strategic planning and internal assessment. For large-scale movements, a separate and specialized group called the *Kisan Council's Sangharsh* group was constituted. This group was essential in planning and directing demonstrations, calculating the resources needed, and creating awareness campaigns. It made sure that movements were coherent and disciplined. The *Sangharsh* Committee also stressed the importance of mass mobilization while educating members and the general public about the reasons behind struggle. The BKU was able to function efficiently at all levels, from village to state, support to its dynamic organizational structure, all the while keeping its primary emphasis on democratic decision-making and grassroots involvement in Punjab's agrarian movements.<sup>18</sup>

The Farmer's union developed a novel and democratic approach when it came to managing funds. To maintain a consistent financial flow across the union's structure, a third of the money raised at each organizational level was methodically sent to the highest level. Members' voluntary donations were the main source of funding, especially after each crop. Despite the fact that membership was optional and only cost ₹10, many farmers made larger contributions since they understood how important it was to continue union operations. On the other hand, delegates were required to make a specific contribution. The union encouraged involvement based on willingness and capability rather than imposing a rigid membership policy because farmers come from a variety of economic backgrounds.<sup>19</sup>

The union collected money through door-to-door collections in addition to regular contributions, particularly during significant movements or programs. Although committee members were the only ones with the ability to vote, other members had an equal right to express their ideas. Consensus and transparency were essential to the union's operations. Members have complete access to information about how the union operated and how funds were allocated. The union promoted a democratic atmosphere through talks and awareness



campaigns, guaranteeing involvement, financial equity, and shared accountability in decision-making.<sup>20</sup>

One of the main goals of Punjab's farmer unions in 2019–2020 was to guarantee that farmers were fairly compensated for their crops and to demand the efficient application of the Minimum Support Price (MSP) system. The unions asserted that market prices frequently dropped below the MSP and that procurement was irregular, despite the fact that MSP had been announced for a number of commodities. They called for prompt procurement, improved *mandi* infrastructure, and clarity in the price procedure. The unions also fought for the payment of outstanding debts associated with the purchase of wheat and sugarcane. They also called for subsidies for diesel, fertilizer, and power, all of which increased the cost of farming and were getting more and more expensive. A crucial goal continued to be providing small and marginal farmers with a steady income, particularly when input costs increased and profit margins decreased. The necessity of ensuring economic fairness for farmers via consistent support and robust policy action was highlighted by the unions.<sup>21</sup>

In 2019 and 2020, Punjab's farmer unions also made it a top priority to oppose the growing corporatization and privatization of agriculture. During this time, farmers were increasingly concerned that central farm laws might be introduced, which they believed would destroy the old *mandi* system and leave them vulnerable to big business. Union mobilizations had already started to form resistance to the laws, even though they were passed later in 2020. The unions demanded that state-level agricultural institutions, including as the Agriculture Produce Market Committee (APMC) system, be preserved. They also sought to protect land ownership by prohibiting the sale or leasing of farmland to private players. Many unions requested legal protections for MSP, ensuring that corporate buyers could not abuse farmers by giving lower rates. These goals were based on the notion that privatization would endanger Punjab's agrarian economy, displace small farmers, and endanger the food security of millions who rely on agriculture for a living.

During 2019–2020, Farmer unions prioritized social connection, awareness-raising, and readiness for wider opposition in addition to economic and policy issues. In order to inform farmers about possible dangers to their rights and means of subsistence, unions in rural Punjab arranged meetings, demonstrations, and awareness campaigns. They underlined the value of cooperation and unity among farmers from various backgrounds. In the belief



that an inclusive movement would be more successful, several unions sought to include women and young people in leadership positions. Environmental concerns were also brought to light, including the detrimental consequences of excessive pesticide use, groundwater depletion, and soil degradation. Unions pushed the government for policy support in this area while promoting crop diversification and sustainable farming methods. The large farmer protests that broke out throughout India the next year were made possible by these more expansive goals, which demonstrated a move toward long-term, inclusive, and socially conscious activism.<sup>22</sup>

The implementation of the suggestions made by the *Swaminathan* Commission was a central demand of the farmers throughout the 2020 campaign. In 2004, in response to the increasing hardships faced by Indian farmers, the *Swaminathan* Commission officially called the National Commission on Farmers was formed. The report's last submission was in 2006, and among its many reform proposals aimed at enhancing the agricultural sector was a suggestion to fix the Minimum Support Price (MSP) at 1.5 times (using the C2+50 formula) the cost of production. In order to ensure farmers' financial stability in the long run, the commission's report pushed for better irrigation systems, stronger rural infrastructure, and an all-encompassing agricultural policy. Many of these suggestions, however, have not been entirely executed, which has resulted in extensive farmer discontent, notwithstanding their importance. The government's alleged failure to address these concerns had a negative impact on farmers' finances and exposed them to market exploitation, according to their concerns.

The execution of the *Swaminathan* Commission's recommendations was regarded as an essential step to mitigate the economic hardship experienced by farmers. The farmers' movement insisted on the implementation of these proposals via definitive policies and legislation, aimed at securing improved pricing for agricultural products and fostering sustainable farming practices. A primary issue was the escalating indebtedness of farmers, resulting in suicides and the deterioration of rural economies. The proposals sought to provide equitable pricing for commodities and promote rural development, thereby offering crucial support to farmers. The farmers urged the government to acknowledge their distinct challenges and requirements, emphasizing the need of long-term agricultural sustainability above short-term market-oriented policies. The comprehensive execution of these proposals was regarded as an essential reform to secure a more favourable future for India's agriculture sector.<sup>23</sup>



Farmers' unions' organizational and institutional frameworks, like those established by Punjab's *Bhartiya Kisan Union* (BKU), show a proven grassroots mobilization mechanism that has successfully raised awareness of agrarian issues on a national scale. BKU's decentralized structure and on-going involvement with local concerns are its key strengths, as they have allowed it to sustain strong rural support and establish itself as a significant voice for farmers. The democratization of rural power structures has been aided by the union's capacity to handle both minor agrarian complaints and major policy issues. The movement's adept utilisation of constitutional rights, coupled with novel organisational strategies and strategic technological application, established a framework for future agrarian mobilisation that unified democratic engagement with efficient coordinated action, marking the 2020 farmers' movement as an important turning point in India's history of rural political organisation and social activism.

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