

Departmental reins are still tightened from time to time. N. Medvedev, our Deputy Minister, is right: only the commodity marketplace is capable of rescuing the sector from the vices of the deficit. However the transition to market relations must not be uncontrolled. The majority of Soviet economists share the opinion that the Polish version of "shock therapy" is not suitable for us. The market, at least in the initial stages, should be under state control in order to ensure social protection for citizens with low incomes. The main thing here is to get rid of the monopoly of the producers and create the conditions for them to compete. Apparently, there will no longer be a need for ministries, and joint-stock companies and firms should be set up in their place. All the same, let's wait (we won't have to wait long) until the radical government programme is announced.

In the current quarter the logging enterprises are to export 34 million cubic metres of timber and produce 40.5 million cubic metres. The programme, one should say candidly, is not an easy one. The most important thing now is to intensify cross-cutting into lengths. Herein lies the security for all precise realization of the assortments programme. It is also extremely important to raise the discipline of deliveries at the sites and not to allow arbitrariness in dealing with contractual matters. This is the only way that the work of the forestry complex can be stabilized and the supply of timber for the country's economy be improved.

Lesnaya promyshlennost

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