

Today, this enormous region is fully experiencing the "charms" of departmental fragmentation. The interests of dozens of union and republic ministries and departments are clashing head on here. Although administratively, Dikson is subordinate to the Krasnoyarsk Krai, the majority of its enterprises are controlled from Murmansk, Leningrad or Moscow.

It is for this very reason that the people of Dikson look with some envy at Noril'sk, 600 kilometres to the south. Here everything is in the same hands and the town is therefore developing harmoniously and in an integrated manner.

But what about Dikson? It is being choked by a multitude of problems.

In recent years an extraordinary situation has arisen in the settlement with regard to the provision of heating to homes and production buildings. Every day breakdowns of various degrees of severity occur in the seaport's boiler facility. Although this started about seven years ago, the people of the port now are still trying to repair the breakdowns as much as possible. The main thing is that the boiler house must not be shut down because the heating season here is 365 days long.

In the spring of last year, when the temperature outside was 30 below, the air temperature inside people's apartments fell to 10-12 degrees.

Many people know about this problem Dikson has. It is common knowledge at the Murmansk Marine Steamship Line and at the USSR Ministry of the Merchant Marine. It is from these very organizations that the northerners have been waiting for several years now to receive genuine help. But there is only one way out of this deadlock and that is to stop patching up old holes and build modern new boiler facilities in Dikson.