

It is felt that we lack the necessary scientific potential for perfecting a policy on technology and managing the forests competently. Despite the fact that 95 percent of the forests are concentrated in RSFSR territory, we do not have a single scientific research institute. On the other hand, in the All-Union Ministry there are about ten of them. With your help, arrangements must be made for some of these institutes to be transferred to the RSFSR Ministry of Forestry, so as to provide for the successful devising of a policy on technology. Moreover, it is essential to introduce changes in the planning and financing of forestry activity, to alter the norms pertaining to all types of forest revenue, including stumpage fees and fines levied for violations of forest regulations, and on the basis of this, draw up a budget providing for the qualitative conduct of forestry."

(Question from an unidentified People's Deputy).
"Valerii Aleksandrovich. At the present time, more than twenty departments and logging agencies of Union and Other jurisdiction are engaged in economic activity in the forests of Russia. I am referring to the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the railway workers, the southerners and so on and so forth. Are you prepared to become the absolute boss of the forests"?

V.A. Shubin, "Logging is indeed being done by dozens of ministries and departments of both Union and republic subordination. The fact that this is in accordance with quotas allocated to them from the allowable cut is nonetheless, not paralleled by a mandatory requirement to build logging roads and regenerate the areas that have been cut over. That is why I perceive the proposed Law on the Forests of Russia, for which I shall be responsible if appointed, to be concerned first and foremost with the systematization of this work in such a way that the logging departments must be held responsible for the recreational and ecological consequences in the felling areas, carry out mandatory reafforestation activities and build road networks. But in any event, for control to