

SOCIOLOGICAL ISSUES

Long-Term Program for Socioeconomic Development of Northern Minority Peoples in Preparation

The peoples of the North, having established their civilizations of reindeer-breeders, taiga hunters and coastal fishermen, and after having preserved themselves and their distinctive culture for thousands of years, have in recent years been subjected to the most serious ordeals. What kind of situation do these tiny northern minorities find themselves in today? What lies in store for them? What means are being proposed to resolve the problems arising in light of the published draft program of the Communist Party of the USSR with respect to the party's national policies?

These became the main issues in a discussion which, at the request of "Trud", was held between a TASS correspondent and a department head of the Council of Ministers of the RSFSR, G.N. Oskolkov.

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The discussion got underway with a question regarding the role and importance in problem solving of local self-government of the association of northern minorities.

Unfortunately, even though the newspapers have reported the creation of such an organization as being an accomplished fact, the issue is still only under discussion.

When speaking of the development of a rudimentary form of self-government, and of the growth of the spiritual potential of each national