

### A Call for Maximization of Profits Through Self-Financing

It is common knowledge that a process of economic renewal is under way in the timber industry. It is already 11 months since the industry began operating under conditions of self-financing. The positive effects of the economic reform are indisputable. The government order for the production of round timber, commercial pulp, paper, cardboard, wood fibreboard and consumer goods other than food stuffs is being met. The plans for furniture and white paper products are being overfulfilled. In 10 months, the capital investments limit has been fully utilised and the plan for the commissioning of residences, school, hospitals, polyclinics and clubs has been overfulfilled.

Labor productivity in the sector has increased by 7.8% as against 3.7% in 1987. The norms for wage increases have been sustained. The relative reduction in the number of personnel came to 134,000.

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However, there is still a long way to go to achieving a state of complete well-being at the fellings. According to last year's figures, almost every second enterprise here proved to be unprofitable: the total loss exceeded 380 million roubles. In the first half of the year the loss was cut back a little, but this is clearly not enough. Losing enterprises were especially numerous in the large associations such as "Arkhangel'sklesprom" (28.3%), "Vologdalesprom" (27.7%), "Irkutsklesprom" (26.4%), "Komilesprom" (26.0%), and "Dal'lesprom" (23.9%).

Half of the enterprises in "Bashlesprom" and "Murmanles" are operating at a loss. The situation is little better at "Tomlesprom", "Gor'kles", "Zabaikalles", "Yakutles" and "Kemerovoles". But at "Omsklesprom", not one of the 14 enterprises is losing, at "Lenles" only one of the 19 is losing, and at "Tyumen'lesprom" only 3 of 35. Even these figures attest to the correctness of the policy being followed.