

## DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Date of Elections: November 11, 1977

### Purpose of Elections

Elections were held for all the members of Parliament on the normal expiry of their term of office.

### Characteristics of Parliament

The unicameral Parliament of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Supreme People's Assembly, comprises 579 deputies elected for 4 years.

### Electoral System

All citizens who have reached the age of 17, including members of the armed forces on active duty, have the right to vote, irrespective of sex, race, occupation, length of residence, property status, education, party affiliation, political views and religion; ineligible, however, are the insane and those disenfranchised by court decision.

Electoral registers are compiled at the level of the sub-constituency. Voting is compulsory.

All qualified electors may be elected to the Supreme People's Assembly.

Candidates for deputy are recommended by political parties and social organizations (which may recommend joint candidates), or at meetings of employees of State organs and enterprises, of members of co-operative farms and organs, and of servicemen. The recommended candidate must agree, in writing, that he is willing to be elected from the constituency concerned.

The election of deputies is valid only when more than half of the voters in a given constituency take part in it. The candidate who has received the greatest number of votes and more than half the votes of all electors of his constituency is declared elected. Each elector may cast only one vote for one candidate of one constituency.

In the event of a parliamentary vacancy arising due to death or recall of a deputy, a by-election is held pursuant to a decision of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly.

## General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

On October 27, 1977, the Central Election Committee announced that all candidates nominated at meetings of employees of organs and enterprises, meetings of co-operative farm members and of employees of co-operative organizations, meetings at residential quarters and of servicemen in accordance with the rules of the elections to the Supreme People's Assembly were registered by the 579 constituency election committees.

According to the Central Election Committee, 100% of the country's registered electorate participated in the 1977 poll and the totality of these electors voted in favour of the 579 registered candidates proposed on the final official list of the Workers' Party of Korea, the leader of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland.

At its first session (December 15-17, 1977), the sixth Supreme People's Assembly unanimously re-elected Marshal Kim H Sung as President of the Republic. Mr. Li Jong Ok, Deputy Premier since December 1976, was elected Prime Minister and formed a 32-member Administrative Council (Cabinet).

## Statistics

### 1. *Distribution of Deputies according to Professional Category*

Office employees. . . . .	46.2%
Workers. . . . .	42.8%
Co-operative farmers. . . . .	11.0%
	100.0%

### 2. *Distribution of Deputies according to Sex*

Men. . . . .	79.2%
Women. . . . .	20.8%
	100.0%

### 3. *Distribution of Deputies according to Age Group*

Under 35 years. . . . .	5.6%
35-55 i. . . . .	78.9%
Over 55 i. . . . .	15.5%
	100.0 %