

BIOGRAPHICAL PROFILE

Hideo BO

Minister of Finance

Mr. Bo, 72, a veteran parliamentarian, has been closely associated with Prime Minister Fukuda since he entered politics in 1952. He was appointed as Minister of Finance in December 1976.

A journalist-turned politician, Bo worked before the war as a reporter for the major Japanese dailies Mainichi Shimbun and Tokyo Shimbun covering financial affairs. He was first elected to the House of Representatives from his home district near Osaka and has been re-elected ten times. He has considerable expertise in the field of taxation and has served for extended periods as the chairman of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party's tax system research council.

This is the second time he has held a Cabinet portfolio. He was Health and Welfare Minister under Prime Minister Sato from 1966-68. He also served at one time as parliamentary vice-Minister of Finance.

Mr. Bo has never visited Canada and has not met with any Canadian Cabinet Ministers.