

Minister of Energy and Resources	Choi Chang-Nak
Minister of Construction	Lee Kyu-Ho
Minister of Health and Social Affairs	Rhee Hai-Won
Minister of Labour	Lee Hun-Ki
Minister of Transportation	Cha Kyu-Hun
Minister of Communication	Lee Dai-Soon
Minister of Culture and Information	Lee Woong-Hee
Minister of Government Administration	Chung Kwan-Yong
Minister of Science and Technology	Lee Tae-Sup
Minister of National Unification Board	Huh Moon-Doh
Minister of Sports	Lee Sei-Kee
Minister of State for Political Affairs	Chung Jae-Chull

### 3.5 Foreign Relations

South Korean history has deep-rooted involvement with Japan, China, USSR, USA and of course, North Korea. Foreign relations with its close neighbours are not, and have not always been, good. Japan and China for hundreds of years battled over Korea, leaving the country ravaged by war and underdeveloped. More recently, the Korean War saw North Korea, China and the USSR oppose South Korea in bloody conflict. The United States, as the major power, along with several other countries including Canada under United Nations auspices joined forces with South Korea to suppress the communist aggression.

In December, 1965, a normalization treaty signed by Japan put relations between the two countries on friendly footing for the first time in about 80 years. South Korea has maintained close ties with the United States, which has about 40,000 servicemen stationed there, and a portion of the South Korean army is under U.S. command.

There were increasing efforts during 1972 to effect some sort of rapprochement with communist ruled North Korea. In October 1972, four months after the first political talks between the two Koreas since the war began, martial law was imposed in the South. A month later a new constitution was introduced giving the president enormous powers, replacing the former democratic system - supposedly to give Park the necessary authority to deal with the North. In 1973, talks with North Korea broke down. Relations between the two Koreas remained strained, but worsened dramatically following a bomb explosion in Rangoon in October 1983 that killed 17 South Koreans who were in Burma with Chun on a state visit. The bomb was later proved to have been set by North Korean commandos. The Rangoon affair immediately followed another national trauma: the downing of a South Korean airliner carrying 269 passengers and crew by Soviet fighters in September of 1983. The Soviet attack put a large hole into Seoul's present foreign policy of pushing