

Singapore

Rice

Singapore has been a single-party state since its independence in 1965. Initially, Singapore had joined the Federation of Malaysia in 1963, but separated from it two years later, becoming an independent nation. According to Singapore's constitution, it is a parliamentary republic where executive power lies with the Prime Minister. There is also a President, who is technically the chief of state, but has very limited powers and responsibilities (United States Department of State 2010)

Upon independence, the political party which won (and has continued to win) an overwhelming majority in elections was the People's Action Party (PAP), led by Lee Kuan Yew. The PAP actually won all of the seats in National Assembly in the elections of 1968, 1972, 1976 and 1980. Since 1980, there have been no more than 2 members from opposition parties elected to the legislature. Lee stepped down in 1990, handing over the office of Prime Minister to his First Deputy, Gok Chok Tong. Gok remained in office until 2004 to become the Senior Minister in the cabinet of Lee Hsien Loong's cabinet. Lee had previously been the Deputy Prime Minister. Lee remains in office today. As all three of these individuals were members of PAP, there have been no SOLS changes in Singapore from 1965 to the present day.

References

United States Department of State. "Country Background Note: Singapore". Last edited 1 April 2010.
<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/2798.htm>

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