

## CHAPTER XIII

### UNOPPOSED RETURNS

The law provides that if in a constituency the number of contesting candidates who remain in the field after the withdrawal of candidatures equals the number of seats to be filled, the Returning Officer shall declare all of them to have been duly elected to the seats. Similarly, if, at a later stage, as a result of the subsequent retirement of any candidates from the contest under section 55A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, the number of the remaining contesting candidates becomes equal to the number of seats to be filled, the Returning Officer shall declare all such candidates to have been duly elected to fill the seats. The law.

Most of the constituencies return a single member only. All others return two members each. One of the seats in each two-member constituency is reserved either for the scheduled castes or for the scheduled tribes, as the case may be. In a two-member constituency, therefore, unopposed returns would not necessarily be automatic merely because the number of contesting candidates equals the number of seats to be filled.

The following alternatives cover all possible contingencies in this regard :— Alternative cases  
in two-member  
constituencies

(a) If, there is only one contesting candidate or only one remains after retirements in a single-member constituency or in a two-member constituency at the election in which one seat only is to be filled, that candidate is declared elected.

(b) If, in a two-member constituency, both seats are to be filled at the election, but there is only one contesting candidate, or only one remains after retirements, that candidate is declared elected to the reserved seat if he is a member of the scheduled castes or scheduled tribes, as the case may be, for whom one of the seats has been reserved. Otherwise, he is declared elected to the unreserved seat. In either case, a fresh election has to be held for filling the seat left unfilled.

(c) If, in a two-member constituency, both seats are to be filled at the election and there are only two contesting candidates or only two remain after retirements, they are both declared elected provided at least one of them belongs to the scheduled castes or the scheduled tribes, as the case may be, for whom one of the seats has been reserved.

If both the remaining candidates belong to the scheduled castes or the scheduled tribes, as the case may be, it is decided by lot which of them is to be declared elected to the reserved seat. The other candidate is then declared elected to the unreserved seat.

If neither of the two remaining candidates belongs to the scheduled castes or the scheduled tribes, as the case may be, the election is a contested one and poll must be taken for electing one of them to the unreserved seat. The reserved seat is left unfilled and a fresh election has to be held for filling it.

Unopposed returns.

During the general elections in 1957, 12 candidates were returned unopposed to the House of the People and 48 to the State Legislative Assemblies. 4 candidates to the House of the People and 9 candidates to the State Legislative Assemblies were returned unopposed as a result of the retirement of the other contesting candidates. All the 12 candidates returned unopposed to the House of the People belonged to the Indian National Congress. Of the candidates elected unopposed to the State Legislative Assemblies as many as 43 belonged to the Indian National Congress while the other 5 were independent candidates.

A statement of uncontested elections is appended at the end of the chapter. This excludes unopposed returns which resulted from retirements of all other contesting candidates.

Unopposed returns in the Naga Hills District.

All the three seats in the State Legislative Assembly allotted to the Naga Hills District of Assam were left unfilled in the first general elections held in 1951-52, the constituencies having failed to elect any members. All these seats were filled unopposed during the general elections in 1957, the candidate returned in each case belonging to the scheduled tribes for whom the seat was reserved.

## STATEMENT OF UNCONTESTED ELECTIONS

### A. House of the People

Sl. No.	Name of State.	Name of Constituency.	Name of elected candidate.	Party affiliation.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Chittoor	Shri M. V. Gangadhara-siva.	Congress
2.	" "	Rajamundry	Shri Datta Satyanarayana Raju.	"
3.	" "	Vicarabad	Smt. Sangam Bai.	Lakshmi "
4.	Assam	Darrang	Shri Bijoy Bhagavati.	Chandra "

Sl. No.	Name of State	Name of Constituency.	Name of elected candidate.	Party affiliation.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
5.	Assam	Cachar	Shri Nibaran Chandra Laskar.	Congress
6.	Bihar	Darbhanga	Shri Rameshwar Sahu	"
7.	Madhya Pradesh	Mandla	Shri Mangrubabu Uike	"
8.	Mysore	Hassan	Shri Siddananajappa	"

**B. State Legislative Assemblies**

1.	Andhra Pradesh	Begam Bazar	Shri J. V. Narasing Rao	Congress
2.	"	"	Smt. Seeta Kumari	"
3.	"	"	Shri Padmanabha Reddy	"
4.	"	"	Shri P. Mohendranath	"
5.	Assam	Kohima	Shri Sait suo Angami	Independent
6.	"	Rupohihat	Maulavi Md. Idris	Congress
7.	"	Dergaon	Shri Ramnath Das	"
8.	"	Naga Hills Central	Shri Khel hose Sema	Independent
9.	"	Jorhat	Shri Mohidhar Pegoo	Congress
10.	"	Lakhipur	Shri Ram Prasad Choubey.	"
11.	"	Mokokchung	Shri I. Chubatemsu Ao.	Independent
12.	Bombay	Jodiya	Shri Kantilal Premchand Shah.	Congress
13.	"	Limkheda	Shri Virsingbhai Kanjibhai Nisarta.	"
14.	"	Bardoli	Shri Kalyanjibhai Vithaljibhai Mehta.	"
15.	Kerala	Manjeswar	Shri M. Umesh Rao	Independent
16.	Madhya Pradesh	Bindranawagarh.	Smt. Shyamkumari	Congress
17.	"	"	Shri Jaideo Gadadhar	"
18.	"	"	Shri Miyaram	"
19.	Madras	Villavankode	Shri M. William	"
20.	Mysore	Sampagaon II.	Shri Nagnur Mugutsab Nabisab.	"
21.	"	"	Shri Annarao Basappa	"
22.	"	"	Shri Jamadenda Sarvesh	Independent
23.	"	"	Shri Virupakashappa	Congress
24.	"	"	Shri Kudur Rudrappa	"
25.	"	"	Shri Y. Manjayya Shetty.	"
26.	"	"	Shri Kadidal Manjappa	"
27.	Orissa	Satyabadi	Shri Nilakantha Dass	"
28.	Punjab	Rewari	Smt. Sumitra Devi	"
29.	Rajasthan	Malpura	Shri Damodar Lal Vyas	"
30.	"	"	Shri Hari Kishan	"
31.	"	"	Shri Dhanna Lal Harit	"
32.	"	"	Shri Bheeka Bhai	"
33.	"	"	Shri Chuni Lal	"
34.	Uttar Pradesh	Silhat	Dr. Sita Ram	"
35.	"	"	Shri Surat Chand	"
36.	"	"	Smt. Vinaylaxmi Suman	"
37.	"	"	Shri Jayendra Singh Bisht.	"
38.	"	"	Shri Jitendra Pratap Singh.	"
39.	West Bengal	Chopra	Shri Mohammad Affaque Chowdhury.	"