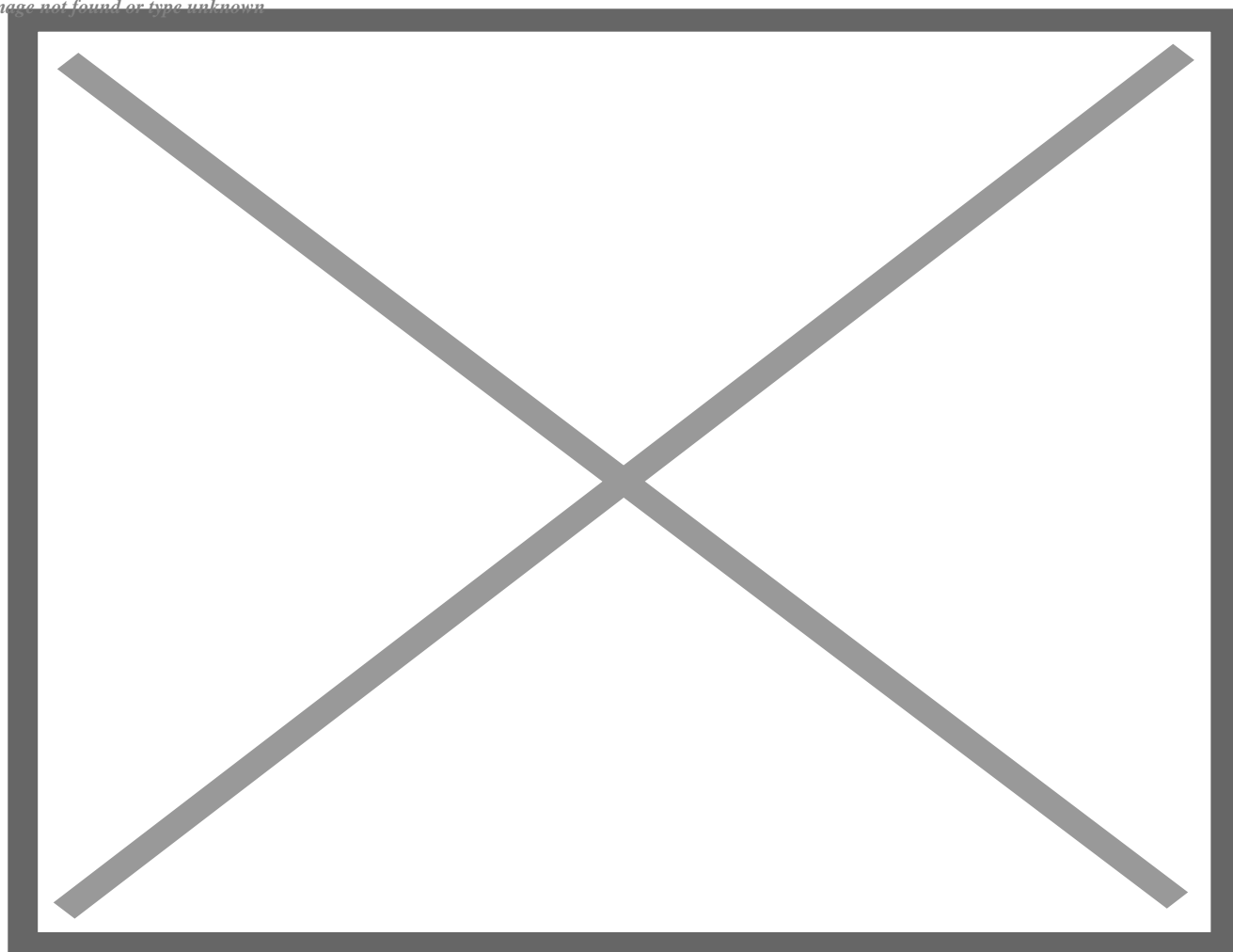


# *Cuban president stresses the importance of upcoming elections in the country*

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**Photo: Prensa Latina.**

Havana, Feb 6 (RHC) Cuban President Miguel Díaz-Canel considered it an honor to be a candidate for deputy given the elections to the National Assembly of People's Power, a moment he

described as the most important of the year in the country.

Díaz-Canel is one of the 470 nominees for deputies to the National Assembly of People's Power (parliament) in assemblies held on Sunday on the island. Until March 24, the candidates will tour the territories for which they were nominated, to dialogue with the citizens.

The also first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba was nominated by his hometown, Santa Clara, capital of the central province of Villa Clara, and together with the other nominees held meetings on Monday with students, teachers, workers, and other residents of that city.

According to the Cuban president, the elections scheduled for March 26 should be a democratic exercise to build a better country.

The meetings in communities, schools, production, and service centers will allow the population to get to know their possible representatives in the next 10th legislature of the Caribbean nation's parliament.

Among the nominees elected in municipal assemblies of the Government, the most represented sectors were general and higher education, health, sports, and the press.

Official data indicate that of the total number of candidates, 55.3 percent are women, 20 are young people of up to 35 years of age; 45.5 percent are black and mulatto, and 95.3 have higher studies. (Source: Prensa Latina).

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