

Recognition to Sahroui Arab Democratic Republic

3455. **SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY** : Will the Minister of **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government will extend recognition to Sahroui Arab Democratic Republic of Western Sahara declared by Polisario Front, a liberation front which stands for the legitimate aspirations of the people of that region; and

(b) whether Government are aware that Sahroui Arab Democratic Republic has already been recognised by the O.A.U. (Organisation of the African Unity) and has been a member of the Organisation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN) : (a) The question of recognising the Sahroui Arab Democratic Republic is under Government's consideration.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Relaxation in Jobs for Scouts and Guides] In Central Government Services

3456. **DR. K.G. ADIYODI** : Will the Minister of **YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Scouts and Guides whose functioning is similar to the NCC are not entitled to relaxation for jobs in the Central Government services as well as Public undertakings;

(b) whether Government propose to rectify this anomaly and bring it at par with NCC; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) (a), (b) & (c) It would not be correct to say that the functioning of scouts and guides is similar to that of the NCC. No. question

should arise, therefore, of bringing on par employment preference in respect of those who have undertaken the two youth activities.

Purchase of some equipments by Sangeet Natak Akademi

3457. **SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN** : Will the Minister of **CULTURE** be pleased to state :

(a) whether some equipments have been purchased by Sangeet Natak Akademi and its constituent unit Kathak Kendra, New Delhi for use in documentation and filming purposes;

(b) if so, the name of each equipment with their prices, make/model and date of purchase since 1980 onwards;

(c) whether a few equipments were purchased without inviting quotations and also on cash payment, if so, details thereof;

(d) whether no proper staff has been appointed so far to maintain and use them; and

(e) if so, details and steps taken against the responsible officers for the irregularities to ensure spruce up the administration ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE. (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) and (b) Details of the equipments purchased by Sangeet Natak Akademi since 1980 are given in the attached statement. The Kathak Kendra is not operating any scheme involving documentation and filming.

(c) No, Sir,

(d) The Documentation Unit of the Sangeet Natak Akademi is manned by qualified technical personnel,

(e) Does not arise.