THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA):
(a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) The four Associations are local associations representing the employees of the respective Commissioners of Income-tax at charge level. These local associations cannot take up matters of all India character and as such they cannot be given representation in the Departmental Council at Ministry level.
- (c) The four Associations are affiliated to the All India Incometax Employees Federation, which is not yet recognised by the Government. The question of allotment of one seat in the Departmental Council was discussed by the representatives of these Associations when they saw the Chairman, Central Board of Direct Taxes, on the 21st July, 1981. The Chairman informed them that the question blad hoc recongnition to the All India Income-tax Employees Federation was under consideration and the request for allotment of one seat in the Departmental Council would arise only when the question of granting ad-hoc recognition to the Federation was decided.

Exports of Jaggery

*200. SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether jaggery is exported to other countries: and
- (b) whether Government are aware that the jaggery prices have gone down to the disadvantage of the producers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COM-MERCE (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN): (a) The export of Jaggery has been banned with effect from 1-4-81.

(b) There has been a seasonal decline in the price of gur.

Merger of offices of secretary to the steel ministry and Chairman of SAIL

man of SAIL

*201. SHRI B. V. DESAI:
Will the Minister of FINANCE

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a high level working group has suggested complete merger of the offices of the Secretary to the Steel Ministry and the Chairman of Steel Authority of India;
- (b) if so, whether it is also a fact that this working group was set up by the action committee of experts on public sector undertakings in a bid to tone up and streamline the working of the core public undertakings in five sectors;
- (c) if so, whether the action committee had already submitted reports on all sectors to the Union Government; and
- (d) if so, whether it is also a fact that the Union Government are seriously considering its recommendations and how many of these recommendations have so far been accepted and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA): (a) and (b). Presumably, the Hon.ble Member is referring to the Working Groups constituted by the Expert Committee on Public Enterprises under the Chairmanship of Shri Mohd. Fazal to advise it on various