

The Government of Assam have lodged a protest with the Government of East Pakistan. The Government of India have also directed the Indian High Commission at Karachi to lodge a protest with the Government of Pakistan.

#### Small scale Industries

\*673. **Shri Shobha Ram:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to lay a statement showing the names of centres where the Pilot Project Schemes of the State Bank of India for advancing loans to Small Scale Industries, has been introduced so far?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (**Shri Satish Chandra**): A statement is laid on the Table of House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 22.]

#### Indian Nurses in Bahrein

\*674. { **Shri Vasudevan Nair:**  
**Shri Punnoose:**

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations from Indian nurses (both male and female) serving in the Bahrein Government Hospital, Bahrein Island, regarding their grievances;

(b) if so, what are their grievances; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (**Shri Sadath Ali Khan**): (a) yes.

(b) Their grievances may be broadly classified as hereunder:—

(1) that the Indian nurses are not being allowed certain passage and leave facilities and are not being given the monetary benefits for over-time work to which they are entitled according to their

contract with the Government of Bahrein;

(2) that the non-Indian nurses (particularly Lebanese) doing the same kind of work are given higher initial salaries and are offered better service conditions.

(c) *Regarding (1)—*

The Government of Bahrein have been made aware of the growing discontent amongst the Indian nurses on this account and they have been requested through diplomatic and other Channels to ensure that all legitimate concessions and amenities which are due to the Indian nurses are made available to them without any exception and reservation whatsoever.

*Regarding (2)—*

The Government of Bahrein are conscious of the existence of the anomalies in the service conditions of the Indian and non-Indian nurses. They have agreed to do away with these anomalies by bettering the service conditions of the Indian nurses through a revised contract. A fresh draft agreement has accordingly been prepared and is pending with the Government of Bahrein for their approval. In the new draft agreement the service conditions of the Indian nurses have been brought almost on a par with those of the non-Indian nurses. Every endeavour is being made by us to secure the approval of the Government of Bahrein to the new agreement form and to bring it into operation without unreasonable delay.

#### Border Incident near Uri

\*675 { **Shri S. V. Ramaswami:**  
**Shri E. M. Rao:**

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on the 24th January, 1958, Pakistan armed police violated the ceasefire line in the Uri Sector and carried away a State Constable into Pakistan territory;