

India urged to boycott tour

LONDON, Sept 22 (PTI) — A British civil rights group has sought Indian support in freeing the 12 youths — all of Asian origin — seized by the West Yorkshire police in a series of raids on Bradford's Black community last July.

The appeal urged the Indian Government to cancel this winter's MCC cricket tour as a show of protest against the assault, oppression and humiliation of Asians, West Indians and Africans in Britain.

The appeal said that at a time when the democratic rights of the Asian immigrants were being steadily eroded through racist legislation, discrimination in areas of employment, housing and education and racist murders and arson attacks were rising, it was shocking that the Indian and Sri Lankan Governments were preparing to welcome the MCC cricketers.

It pointed out that the 12 youths were all political activists of the United Black Youth League (UBYL) formed to advance the struggle of the Black community against British Government's oppression.

At the time of their arrest the youths were engaged in organising campaigns against the proposed

deportation of three local Blacks. They were also engaged in conducting an investigation into the fire bombing of two Asian premises in Bradford — an investigation that had already revealed the connivance between extreme right-wing forces and the West Yorkshire police.
