

**U.K. Indian Workers' Association's
reported threat to sue B.B.C.**

616. SHRI RABI RAY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the recent press reports to the effect that the Indian Workers' Association of Southall in the United Kingdom have threatened to sue BBC unless it cancels its repeated telecasting the film on Asian immigrants ; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN):

(a) On the 28th February, 1976 the BBC televised a film which caused great resentment among the Asian community in Britain. Asian Immigrant Associations in Britain protested to the BBC about the film and also sought a Court injunction to stop repeat screening of the film. They were not successful and consequently the film was repeated on the 6th March.

(b) The Government has noted with concern and sympathy the feelings of the Asian community in Britain and is watching the situation carefully.

**Allocation of funds for development
of National Highways**

617 SHRI DEORAO PATIL : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state the amount allocated for the development of National Highways in Maharashtra for the year 1976-77 against the State Governments demand?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): A sum of Rs. 7 crores has been earmarked for the development of National Highways in Maharashtra out of the total provision of

Rs. 65.38 crores for 1976-77 included in the Budget Estimates for that year which is subject to vote by the Parliament.

**Production of mica, manganese, iron ore
and other minerals**

618. SHRI KALYAN ROY :
SHRI SALIL KUMAR GANGULI :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that production in mica, manganese, iron-ore and other minerals in the private sector is declining for the last three years ;

(b) if so, the details thereof, year-wise, State-wise and area-wise, and the number of mines which are producing these minerals ;

(c) what is the number of workers engaged in producing these minerals, State-wise and area-wise, in public and private sectors during the last three years ;

(d) what steps Government have taken to develop them in a planned manner and prevent unscientific and slaughter mining ; and

(e) what is the investment, State-wise and area-wise, in each of these industries by the private sector during the last three years ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) and (b) In the case of mica, there has been a marginal decline of production in 1975 in the private sector, but in the case of manganese and iron-ore, the production increased. Details according to information available are in the statements attached (Annexure I & I(A) to I(D)). [See Appendix XCV, Annexure No. 48].

(c) Information as available regarding the total number of workers in public and private sectors taken together engaged in production of these minerals during 1975 is given in the statement.