

FASHION

Boohoo and Nike 'shocked' at forced labour reports

By Henry Saker-Clark

Fashion brands including Boohoo and Nike have denied the use of suppliers or manufacturing in the Xinjiang region of China as they expressed "shock" surrounding allegations regarding the forced labour of Uighur Muslims.

The brands and retailers, which also included H&M and North Face owner VF, were brought before MPs at the Business, Energy and Industry Strategy (BEIS) Committee to ad-

dress reports that products involving Uighur slave labour could be sold to UK consumers.

Andrew Reaney, group director of responsible sourcing at Boohoo, told MPs: "We were quite shocked by the revelations around the Uighurs and what's happening in Xinjiang province.

"We wrote to all our suppliers across the supply chain to confirm that we have no manufacturing or fabric links to that particular region.

"That was done and all of our suppliers confirmed that they have no manufacturing or fabric links to that region."

Mr Reaney stressed that the online retailer does "not knowingly source any yarn or fabric" from the region, as MPs questioned auditing processes at the business following a row over working conditions in its UK supply chain.

