

less than 75 per cent of cotton by weight:

Provided that the manufacturer shall stamp the name of the variety by which the cloth is commonly known before the words "Blended Fabric".

A news item has appeared in the Patriot dated 12th June, 1978 that there has been a sudden spurt in cheating in blended fabrics by way of displaying higher percentage of polyester content in the final varieties of cloth than the actual content of such fibre in the cloth.

However, in April 1978, office of the Textile Commissioner on its own had undertaken intensive check to find out whether stamping is done by manufacturing mills according to the actual blends used. The Inspectorate staff from all the Regional Offices of the Textile Commissioner's organisation had been deployed for this purpose. Samples were drawn and sent to laboratories for testing. From the reports so far available it has been found that only in four cases has the variation of percentage been higher. Action under law is being taken against these defaulting parties by Textile Commissioner. As would be evident, the incidence of cheating has been rather limited and not wide spread.

Textile Commissioner's office is equipped under law to take action against such incidents and carry out inspection through its regional offices.

Premature retirement in HAL, BEL and BEML

*557. SHRI L. R. NAIK:
SHRI IBRAHIM KALANIYA:
SHRI H. R. BASAVARAJ: SHRI
YOGENDRA MAKWANA: SHRI
KRISHNA NAND JOSHI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of emplo-1022

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yees who were prematurely retired or whose services were terminated without conducting departmental enquiries or who were forced to resign in HAL BEL and BEML during the year 1975-76;

(b) what is the number of employees among them who have since been reinstated;

(c) whether any review was undertaken and opportunities given to the victimised employees for being heard in these cases; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (PROF. SHER SINGH): (a) Fifty-three.

(b) Nine.

(c) and (d) A review was undertaken in all the above mentioned cases by the competent authority. However, it was found that apart from the nine employees who have been reinstated, there was no other case of victimisation. It was, therefore, not considered necessary for giving a personal hearing in these cases.

Minimum price for jute

*558. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision to ensure a minimum price of Rs 447.64 per quintal to the jute growers for their bottom grade raw jute;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) by when the decision is likely to be implemented?

fPreviously Starred Question 379, transferred from the 2nd August, 1978.