

# Kantamanto traders protest

By Francis Yaw Kyei

**T**HE Kantamanto Traders Association in Accra has protested against the impending demolition of their stores for the construction of new railway lines.

According to the members, their ejection would render over thirty thousand traders jobless and further exacerbate the rate of unemployment in the country.

Speaking at a news conference at the Kantamanto market yesterday, the chairman of the association, Mr. Samuel Amoah, said the Ghana Railway Company Limited leased the area to the traders who had been doing their businesses there for the past thirty years.

"Though we agree with the expansion and

modernisation of the railway system, our ejection that short period of time would lead to dire economic consequences for them and their families. will put about thirty thousand people out of business".

He said: "Our families and dependants will suffer greatly when we are thrown out of the markets since our livelihoods depend on the business we do here," he said.

Mr. Amoah appealed to President John Evans Atta-Mills to intervene since their ejection within



*The traders protesting against the AMA's decision*

Photo: Ebo Gorman

reconsider its decision to eject them.

The news conference was attended by the executives and members of the various traders associations including the Kantamanto Used Clothes Sellers Association, Kantamanto Traders No. 2 Association, and the AC Baba and 10 Traders Association.

The rest were the Kantamanto Bonsu Brothers Association, Kantamanto Shoe Sellers Association, and the Kantamanto Warehouse Association.

benefit of the nation.

Describing it as a strategic university, President Mills said the investment in the education sector was part of the commitment to developing the capabilities of the youth to support the nation's development drive, and assured that the government was prepared to take other measures to better the welfare of the people.

Stating that the people of the region deserved to have a university, the President added: "We are in power to serve you and not to lord it over you".

He, assured them that other development concerns would be taken care of.

President Mills, later planted a commemorative tree to mark the occasion and thanked the chiefs for their support and cooperation, and stressed that the government would reciprocate by ensuring that the region had its fair share of development.

Nana Kabrese, vice-president of the Brong-Ahafo Regional House of Chiefs and Omanhene of Yeji, who chaired the function, thanked the government for the various development projects in the region and gave the assurance that the chiefs would continue to offer the necessary assistance to ensure the successful completion of the university project.