

“KAYAYEI” NUMBERS HIGHER THAN ANTICIPATED

...reveals census officials

Information gathered by the daily EPRESS indicates that the numbers of young women migrating from the three Northern Regions to the capital, Accra in search of jobs have gone up. This came to light following attempts by officials of the on-going population census to enumerate the porters on census night before they head out to their day's job the following day.

Through officials had anticipated that a day will be enough to enumerate almost all of the porters available at the zoned areas such as “Agbogloshie, tudu and surrounding communities, the revelation is that it will take more than a day for the majority of them to be captured because of their huge numbers.

Through the exact numbers of porters are still unknown, Government Statistician Dr. Grace Bediako told journalists it would take more than a day for “all of them to be captured. “Majority of the porters are also in their teens and this presents a worrying trend about Ghana's own efforts of combating the menace of child labour.

The Ghana Statistical Service's own collection of data on child labour under the Ghana Child Labour Survey (GCLS 2003), said out of the estimated 6.36 million children aged between 15 and 17 years, 2.47 million (half of rural children and one-fifth of urban children) were engage in paid economic activity. About two-thirds of the children (68.7%) did not work, of which 80.5% were in school full-time, while an estimated 1.59 million were combining school with work. Nearly 20% of children (about 1.27 million) were engaged in activities classified as child labour.”

Speaking at a recent forum on how to cope with porters in the capital, Vice president John Mahama said the government is hopeful the savanna

Source: Daily Express Tuesday, 28, September 2010