



National Security holds 'SSSS' awareness creation campaign for G.A market queens

BY JONATHAN DONKOR

THE Ministry of National Security engaged market queens in the Greater Accra region yesterday as part of efforts to heighten security consciousness among traders.

The sensitisation, held at Bubiashie in Accra, was in line with the See-Something-Say-Something (SSSS) awareness creation campaign being embarked upon by the ministry.

The traders, numbering more than 50 and representing various markets in the region, were encouraged to report suspicious activities of people to security agencies.

Launched in 2022, the SSSS aims to protect the country against terrorist attacks by encouraging the public to be vigilant of the activities of suspicious characters and report them.

It forms part of the ministry's border counter-terrorism strategy that seeks to encourage the citizenry to collaborate with state security agencies to reduce the threat of

terrorism in the country.

A Coordinator for the SSSS Campaign, Akosua Ntim Sekyere, said the traders had been targeted for the engagement because women and children were often vulnerable during conflicts, hence the need to get them to be on the alert.

She said that Ghanaians needed to learn lessons from conflict situations in neighbouring countries and speak up about suspicious happenings to enable security agencies take practical actions.

She said the country needed to protect its peace and stability by supporting the campaign irrespective of their political and religious affiliations because crime did not consider those groupings.

"Peace is a shared responsibility. If you see something, say something. We cannot trade our peace and stability for anything," she was reported to have said.

Ms Sekyere reportedly advised the traders to be careful of the items strangers leave in their shops for safekeeping because they could be explosives or harmful substances.

She purportedly urged the trad-



• Ms Akosua Danquah Ntim Sekyere (right) addressing the market queens **Photo: Seth Osabukle**

ers to call the toll-free number — 999 — or use emergency numbers or visit the police station to report suspicious activities to state security authorities.

It was reported that she advised the traders against prank calls and disclosure to the public of issues they report to the ministry to help

safeguard their safety.

The President of the Greater Accra Market Traders Association, Mercy Naa Afrowa Needjan, urged her fellow traders to spread the word to keep the country safe.

She urged the ministry to protect the identity of those who call to report suspicious happenings so

that they would not be attacked by the suspects.

The traders were given awareness creation flyers and stickers to post at vantage points and were also taught SSSS campaign songs in different Ghanaian languages.