

**SH50 PER KG**

# Base Titanium asks farmers to grow cotton for ginnery

**CHARI SUCHE**/Mining company Base Titanium is asking farmers in Kwale county to grow cotton to feed its ginnery.

The company has set aside 5.5 hectares to build a cotton ginnery.

The company said it has found a market for cotton in Australia. "Let farmers embrace this opportunity and they won't regret it," Base Titanium community programmes superintendent Mwanarusi Hamisi said.

A kilogramme of cotton in Kwale sells for Sh50. On the international market, cotton ranges sells for Sh150 to Sh200 a kilogramme, translating into big profit.

The company formed a cotton cooperative society, Pamba and Viazi (PAVI) that consists of cotton, soghurm and potato farmers and has enlisted 500 farmers actively planting cotton.

PAVI manager Lenox Mwachoo said the revival of cotton farming has been a boost to farmers. "On the first attempt I harvested 500kgs which I used to pay school fees," he said. "And I expect to get more this time." He said he has leased land.