

**FEEDBACK ON FRUITLESS COUNTING HOMELESS (THE SUN DAILY,
16 JULY 2010)**

We refer to the letter "Fruitless counting homeless" (16 July 2010) and are concerned with the feedback raised by the writer.

Population and Housing Census are conducted every ten years. The previous census was in 2000. Census 2010 is the fifth census since the formulation of Malaysia in 1963. Among the objectives of the census are for planning, formulation and implementation of government policies and programmes. Apart from this, the census data are also widely used by business communities, research institutions and individuals. Census data is also used as input to population projection.

The census is an important national undertaking to establish the total count of the population of a country irrespective whether they are homeless or insignificant in terms of number.

As for the homeless, who are also part of the population, special effort has been taken to cover them in the census. This is in line with the international practice adopted by other countries during their census undertakings. In order to determine the homeless population, enumeration for this category was carried out on the first night of Census Day which adheres to the international recommendation.

Enumeration of the homeless for Census 2010 was primarily conducted by the staff of the Department of Statistics with special assistance from the police and town councils throughout Malaysia due to security reasons.

We appreciate the effort of the complainant in highlighting the issues and we thank him for his concerns.

ISMAIL YUSOFF

Deputy Commissioner

for Commissioner

Population and Housing Census, Malaysia 2010