

INACCURATE DATA OF LITTLE USE (THE SUN, 12 AUGUST 2010, LETTERS, PAGE 15)

The enumerators appointed by the Census Commissioner's Office were given seven days detailed training on understanding the questions, concepts and definitions, communication skills, matters on attitude and etiquette while meeting with the respondents and other matters pertaining to the census. They have been instructed and trained to go through and ask all the questions in the sequence/order as printed in the form for every person in the living quarters.

As a main government agency on official statistics, the issue of data quality has always been given high priority. In this context, certain steps are undertaken by the Department to ensure high quality census data, among others are:

- a. all questionnaire will be scrutinised for completeness and consistency and in addition, quality checks will be undertaken to ensure that data collected are of quality; and
- b. prior to the last two weeks of the census completion date (22 August), a special survey will be carried out to evaluate the quality of the data obtained during the census.

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

ISMAIL YUSOFF

Deputy Commissioner

for Commissioner

Population and Housing Census, Malaysia 2010