

PUZZLED BY CENSUS EXERCISE (THE STAR, 15 JULY 2010, LETTER, PAGE N45)

We are concerned with the issue mentioned by the writer.

There are 26,000 temporary field enumerators appointed by the office of the Census Commissioner. They 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.

The enumerators were also reminded on the importance to strictly follow all the census procedures and guidelines.

The process of enumeration is carried out using three methods which are face to face interview and self enumeration whereby the respondents are given the choice either to fill up the hardcopy questionnaire or on-line via e-Census.

In the case of face to face interview, an enumerator will ask the questions and immediately fill up all the information into the questionnaire.

For the self enumeration method, a set of census document will be provided for the respondent to fill in. The census kit contains a set of questionnaire, guidelines for filling in the questionnaire which includes a code card (Doc. 4), a black ball-point pen, a re-visit letter and an envelope. A complete guide for e-Census is also provided for reference to respondent who opt to do the census on-line.

We regret that the enumerator had failed to adhere to census procedures and guidelines for providing the card code to the respondent. As for the incidence that had taken place at the writer's residence, we seek the cooperation of the writer to provide information of his house address in order for us to investigate and take appropriate action.

The cooperation from the public is highly appreciated too, not only to respond to the census but also to provide feedback as to ensure the quality of the data. For enquiries, please contact banci2010@stats.gov.my or toll free line 1-800-88-7828.

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