

**ANOTHER ROUND OF CENSUS (THE SUN DAILY, 23 AUGUST 2010);  
WHY NO ENUMERATOR? (THE SUN DAILY, 26 AUGUST 2010); AND  
LEFT OUT OF CENSUS (THE SUN DAILY, 27 AUGUST 2010)**

We refer to the letters “Another round of census” (23 August 2010), “Why no enumerator?” (26 August 2010) and “Left out of census” (27 August 2010) and are concerned with the feedback raised by the writers.

The enumeration process was officially over on the 22 August 2010. However, the mopping process which involves those households that were not interviewed during enumeration was carried out by Department of Statistics, Malaysia (DOSM) officers until 3 September 2010.

As a main government agency on official statistics, the issue of data quality has always been given high priority. To ensure the accuracy, quality and integrity of data, certain steps are undertaken:

- i. In any census operation, the non-sampling error (NSE) will occur and it is recognised in worldwide statistical literature. The NSE occurs due to respondent refused to answer correctly, enumerators did not asked question properly or areas not covered during the enumeration. In CCES, sample selected is based on probability sampling. The purpose for carrying out the CCES is to measure census coverage and content error. This is in accordance with the manual **“Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses Revision 2”** published by the United Nations. This kind of survey has been conducted since 1970. The CCES 2010 is the fifth survey which is independently planned and conducted. A team of trained staff was deployed to implement data collection system which is supervised by trained permanent staff of DOSM. The CCES is currently underway until October 2010. The recommended rate for under enumeration is less than 5 per cent which was adhered in the last four censuses.
- ii. Questionnaires will be scrutinised for completeness and consistency and in addition, quality checks will be undertaken to ensure that data collected are of quality. The processing of the data involves various levels of activities from initial checking of the forms, editing, data capture, quality checks and coding for occupation, industry, field of study and migration.

We appreciate the effort of the complainants in highlighting the issues and we thank them for their concerns.

**ISMAIL YUSOFF**

Deputy Commissioner

for Commissioner

Population and Housing Census, Malaysia 2010