

**E-CENSUS ERROR – HOW CAN IT HAPPEN? (FREE MALAYSIA TODAY, 19 AUGUST 2010); AND  
RELIGION DOUBTS OVER E-CENSUS (MALAYSIAKINI, 20 AUGUST 2010)**

With regards to the article, we would like to inform that Department of Statistics through our call centre did not receive any other similar complaint with regards to the matter highlighted by the writer.

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

The e-Census approach was developed to cater for those living in major towns and do not have the time for the face-to-face interview and has difficulty to meet the enumerator. The e-Census has undergone several rounds of checks and pre-tests to ensure its validity and integrity.

For the religion question, e-Census provides a drop down menu of the types of religion. The location of the “No Religion” is immediately above the “Other Religion”. The possibility of the complain to occur could be due to the selection of “Other Religion” instead of the intended answer “No Religion” in the religion question. On received of the writer complaint, Department did a check and found no error in the system.

However the writer had used the e-Census successfully and submitted the response to the system on the 12 August 2010. As a leading provider of statistical data, the Department takes this matter seriously to ensure the accuracy, quality and integrity of data. We appreciate the concern brought up by the writer.

**ISMAIL YUSOFF**

Deputy Commissioner

for Commissioner

Population and Housing Census, Malaysia 2010