

## **National Census 2010 To Identify 40 Per Cent With Very Low Income**



*Banci Penduduk & Perumahan untuk dapatkan maklumat. FotoBERNAMA: Arjasneh Ahmad*

KUALA LUMPUR, July 6 (Bernama) -- The 5th National Population and Housing Census which started Tuesday, is vital for identifying 40 per cent or 2.4 million households with the lowest income in the country, says Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Tan Sri Nor Mohamed Yakcop.

He said the data gathered from the census would be used to draw up and implement policies to empower this group and to raise their economic status and quality of life.

"First, we need to identify them, who are they and where are they. Then we can organise different programmes to suit them," he told a press conference after launching the census, here Tuesday.

He said the focus was also in line with the government's objectives under the Tenth Malaysia Plan and of attaining the developed-nation status, where every level of society could benefit from the economic growth and social justice, hence narrowing the economic gap between the rich and poor in the country.

"When this 40 per cent is energised, they can contribute back to the economic growth," he added.

The National Census this time will be for six weeks until Aug 22, costing RM200 million and involving 29,000 workers.

Census commissioner Datuk Wan Ramlah Wan Abdul Raof said the census would be conducted using three methods, including e-Census for the first time through the website, [www.statistics.gov.my](http://www.statistics.gov.my)

Through this method, the public can fill the questionnaire themselves online using the identification details given.

The other two methods are the usual face-to-face interview or the public filling in the questionnaire which will then be collected by the census worker.

Wan Ramlah said the report on the initial count was expected to be out by November this year.

-- BERNAMA