



## RUKUN NEGARA: THE PRINCIPLES

1 BELIEF  
IN GOD

3 THE SUPREMACY OF  
THE CONSTITUTION

2 LOYALTY TO KING  
AND COUNTRY

4 THE RULE  
OF LAW

5 COURTESY AND  
MORALITY

## THE OBJECTIVES

• TO achieve greater unity  
among Malaysians

• TO maintain a  
democratic way of life

• TO create a just society in which  
the wealth of the nation shall be equitably shared

• TO ensure a liberal approach to her rich  
and diverse cultural traditions

• TO build a progressive society which shall be  
oriented to modern science and technology

# Time to be counted

> Census to employ enumerators, Drop Off Pick Up system, and online submissions

BY NATALIE HENG

newsdesk@thesundaily.com

**PETALING JAYA:** The Population and Housing Census 2010, which begins tomorrow and runs until Aug 22, will be conducted using a mix of enumerator interviews and the new Drop Off Pick Up (DOPU) system, allowing for online submissions.

The DOPU system will be used primarily in the urban areas while the enumerator interviews will be used mainly in the non-urban areas where, chief statistician and census commissioner Datuk Wan Ramlah Wan Abd Raof said, they are preferred.

Wan Ramlah said the DOPU system has come about because one of the issues identified in the past censuses, especially in the high-density urban areas, was a difficulty in reaching people in the day-time.

"They may be working, for example, and the people at home are often not suitable to answer the questions," she said.

A DOPU package will be left, containing the census questionnaire, instruction manual and a black ball-point pen.

"The black ball-point pen is important because the data will be scanned and processed electronically. It needs to be stressed that no other colours are accepted," she said.

The DOPU system allows individuals to fill in the forms within three days and call the Statistics Department to pick them up.

"Alternatively, there are instructions on how to do the census online," she said.

Wan Ramlah said the public can recognise the 39,000 enumerators by looking out for their ID tags. These will be in orange for the supervisors

and blue for the enumerators. Both have orange lanyards bearing the census logo.

She said public cooperation is important as the census data is used for the benefit of society.

"Policy-makers need this information to formulate policies and allocate resources, researchers use it to study socio-economic trends, and private companies may use it to understand the market," she said.

The quality of the data is only as good as the information the public gives and, therefore, this needs to be as accurate as possible.

Wan Ramlah displays the census pack.



She said individuals who may be worried about giving personal data should not be worried because data is never released to third parties.

"Every individual's privacy is protected by law and all information gathered is collated by the Department of Statistics and supplied only as pieces of aggregate data. No

individual details are ever released," she said.

The census -- the fifth since independence and held once every 10 years -- covers a total of 7.5 million households and includes everyone living in Malaysia, including citizens and foreigners, whether they are living here legally or illegally.