

MEN OUTNUMBERING WOMEN

Malaysia's population now stands at 34 million

KUALA LUMPUR: The Malaysian population is now at 34 million, with the male population continuing to outnumber females.

In fact, said Department of Statistics Malaysia chief statistician Datuk Seri Dr Mohd Uzir Mahidin, the male population increased by 100,000 more than the female population in the first quarter of the year.

The male population has risen to 17.8 million from 17.4 million, while the female population has increased to 16.1 million from 15.8 million.

Uzir said there were 111 men for every 100 women.

He said 90 per cent of the 34 million population were citizens, with the remainder being non-citizens.

Uzir also reported an increase in Malaysia's young and working-age populations, with those aged zero to 14 rising from 7.5 million to 7.7 million, and those aged 15 to 64 increasing from 23.2 million to 23.8 million. He said the number of seniors aged 65 and older remained steady at 2.5 million.

"In Sabah, the Kadazandusun make up 2.1 per cent of the na-

tional population, Bajau at 1.8 per cent and Murut at 0.3 per cent.

"In Sarawak, Ibans accounted for 2.4 per cent of the national population, Bidayuh at 0.7 per cent and Melanau at 0.4 per cent."

However, he said there was a 9.4 per cent decline in the number of births in the first quarter of the year, at 106,386.

The majority of births were recorded in Selangor, while Labuan recorded the lowest.

Malays accounted for the most births at 68.8 per cent, up from 67.6 per cent the previous year, while birth rates among Chinese and Indians decreased.

The number of deaths has decreased by 1.5 per cent compared with the previous year.