

CENSUS HICCUPS (12 JULY 2010, LETTER PAGE 8)

The Department of Statistics appreciates your concern and cooperation with regards to the Population and Housing Census, Malaysia 2010.

Enumerators are appointed by the Census Commissioner's Office who are trained on understanding the questions, concepts and definitions, communication skills and other matters pertaining to the census. The Department in its training programme has instilled in the enumerators that the sequence of the set of questions should be followed. But this was not so according to your complaint. The Department apologises for the hiccups faced.

There are 51 questions in the questionnaire from four main parts as follows:

Part A - House Address - 1 questions

Part B - Living Quarters particulars - 11 questions

Part C - Household particulars - 9 questions

Part D - Person particulars 30 questions

The process of enumeration is carried out using three methods that is: face to face interview and self enumeration whereby the respondents are given the choice either to fill up the form using hardcopy or on-line via e-census. Self-enumeration method has been introduced to improve the data collection process in Population and Housing Census Malaysia 2010.

Enumerators are required to ask all the questions during their visits. In the event of face to face interview, enumerator will ask the questions and immediately fill up all the information gathered from the respondents into the questionnaire. Each enumerator will carry a name tag tied to an orange lanyard with the census logo during the visit.

The enumerators have been instructed and trained to go through and ask all the questions in the sequence/order as printed in the form for every person in the living quarters. They should not skip any questions unless if the questions are irrelevant to that particular household. For question pertaining to household income, head of household should inform the enumerator only the total income of household which is collected in a range form and no exact income amount.

As for the incidence that has taken place at your living quarters during the enumeration, we would like to investigate the matter. Please provide us with details of the visits including the full address of your house.

We appreciate your support to the census. For any further queries, please contact banci2010@stats.gov.my or 1-800-88-7828.

SITI ZAKIAH MUHAMAD ISA

Corporate and User Services Division

for Commissioner

Population and Housing Census, Malaysia 2010