

## **GSS DISPATCHES MORE CENSUS MATERIALS**

**M**ORE census questionnaires and other materials have been dispatched to parts of the country where those materials are reported to have run out.

The head of the Publicity and Education Unit of the National Census Secretariat, Mr. David Kombat, told the Daily Graphic on Wednesday that efforts were made to ensure that the census materials did not run out again.

He explained that the shortages of materials were due to printing challenges, which the secretariat was addressing conscientiously.

Mr. Kombat said following complaints by enumerators about the inconvenience of using only one T-Shirt which could not be changed when it got dirty, the secretariat had decided to give one additional T-shirt to the enumerators in order to ease the inconvenience.

Apart from the shortages of census materials, the enumeration exercise has been characterized by other challenges, such as the refusal of some communities in part of Upper West and Upper East Regions to participate in the exercise.

The people of Sirigu, Mirigu, Kandiga, Nabango in the Kasena-Nankana West District in the Upper East Region are dissatisfied about the fact that their communities have been coded under the Kasena-Nankana East District for enumeration instead of the Kasena-Nankana West District where they rightly belong.

They are also calling Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) to ensure that trained enumerators from the Kasena-Nankana West District are allowed to conduct the exercise in their four communities instead of sending enumerators from Kasena-Nankana East District to conduct the exercise.

According to them, unless their concerns were addressed, they would not rescind their decision not to participate in the census.

Reacting those concerns, Mr. Kombat said efforts were made to engage the leadership of communities involved to find an amicable solution to the problem. Mr. Kombat explained that the downpour being experienced in some parts of the country was slowing down the work of enumerators.

He said even rainfall experienced in some part of Accra recently affected the work of enumerators, and so in areas where rainfall was heavy, the impact was more severe. He expressed the hope that there would be favorable weather condition in the days ahead to enable census enumerators to cover enough grounds.