

PROVISIONAL CENSUS RESULTS OUT NEXT JANUARY

Provisional results of the 2010 Population and Housing Census will be released in January 2011, the National Census Secretariat has indicated.

The results will spell out the current national population, as well as indicate the respective populations of all the regions and districts of the country.

However, the generation of analytical tables giving detail statistics of demographic data, such as the educational background and economic status of the population, will be released in January 2012.

The Head of Census Data Processing at the National Census Secretariat, Mr. K.B. Danso-Manu, made this known in Accra yesterday during an interaction with members of the 2010 National Census Publicity and Education Committee (NCPEC), under the chairmanship of the Minister of Information, Mr. John Tia Akologu.

The members of NCPEC had paid a familiarization visit to the Census Secretariat to acquaint themselves with preparations towards the conduct of the census and encourage staff of the secretariat to discharge their duties effectively for the success of the exercise.

Last Friday, the Minister of Finance and Economic Planning, Dr. Kwabena Duffuor, announced September 26, 2010 as the date of the Census Night, which serves as the reference point for the census and also marks the beginning of actual enumeration.

With a projected population of 25 million, the enumeration areas for this year's census have been increased to 38,000, up from 27,000 in the last census conducted in 2000.

Mr. Danso-Manu said 330 people, made up of programmers, scanning assistants, questionnaire administrators, office editors, supervisors, team leaders and drivers would be engaged in the census data processing activities.

He said they would work in a three eight-hour shift system for six days in a week from Monday to Saturday.

Mr. Akologu said he had no doubt that the Census Secretariat would measure up to the task ahead and reiterated the government's commitment to provide the necessary support to help make the exercise successful.

He urged district census officers and the district census committees to be fair during the selection interview of enumerators scheduled for next week.

The Government Statistician, Dr. Grace Bediako, said now was a critical time for publicity and education on the census and therefore, called on religious bodies, traditional rulers and the media to get actively involved in the exercise.

The Deputy Government Statistician, Dr. Philomena Nyarko, said preparations for the census were on course and expressed gratitude to Mr. Akologu and members of the NCPEC for the interest they had shown in the operations of the secretariat.

The Head of the Publicity and Education Unit of the Census Secretariat, Mr. David Kombat, said the floating population who would be enumerated on Census Night would be issued with certificates of enumeration in order to avoid double counting.

Meanwhile, the Government Statistician had appealed to the Police Administration to support the successful conduct of the census.

She made the appeal when she paid a courtesy call on the Inspector-General of Police (IGP), Mr. Paul Tawiah Quaye, at his office at the Police Headquarters in Accra yesterday.

Dr. Bediako particularly asked for police protection for census officials in conflict areas and during enumeration on Census Night.

Responding to the appeal, the IGP pledged the support of the police for the successful conduct the census, adding that the police regarded the exercise as a very important national assignment.

“We are compelled to help you to the fullest. Anytime you need police assistance just let me know,” he said.

SOURCE: DAILY GRAPHIC, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2010 ,BACK PAGE