

Prepare grounds for proper census

The campaign for the 2010 population and housing census gathered momentum since July of this year, and so far the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) has called on all Ghanaians and non-Ghanaian residents in the country to make themselves available to be enumerated.

Much as the GSS is calling on the general public to participate in this exercise in order to make it a successful one, it also behooves the service to give us the true reflection of the census when it is conducted. Many a time, the results of some national exercises such as the population and housing census, the voters' registration, etc, arouse controversy. It is on record that the Coalition of Muslim Organization (COMOG) have registered their vehement protest against the result of the last population and housing census which put the population of Ghana Muslim at 15.6 percent.

The officials of the GSS have maintained that the population and housing census is essential for regional and district planning to ensure the judicious use of available resources.

Yes, what the officials of the GSS are saying is true but it is also true that bogus census results undermine the progress of a people.

Since the officials of the GSS are aware that lack of co-operation in the 2010 census could render it unsuccessful, it is up to them to do the right thing in order not to discourage people from participating in it.

Source: Daily Graphic, Monday December 14, 2009, Page 9.