

ESSCOM To Propose 4 Options To Government
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SEMPORNA, Aug 6 (Bernama) -- The Eastern Sabah Security Command (ESSCOM) will propose four options to the government on resolving the relocation of nine water villages in Simunul, Semporna.

ESSCOM director general Datuk Mohammad Mentek said the options were concluded from a study conducted jointly with other agencies and a follow-up census carried out by Esscom recently.

"I will present the proposed options to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Mohd Najib Tun Razak and we will wait for his decision on whether the residents should relocate or stay put," he said at the district office here today to provide updates on the status of the census carried out at the nine villages.

He did not elaborate on the options but said the census involving 13,738 residents at the villages was 97 percent completed.

According to him, 170 of the 2,356 houses were left out of the census as they were vacant.

"Eight hundred and fifteen (815) houses were occupied by non citizens with permanent residence status, green identity card holders and IMM13 document holders, while 46 houses, by those without any documents.

"We also found that 38 percent of the residents are working in the service sector and 28.5 percent in the agriculture sector," he said.

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