

News in Brief

Training on Introduction to Satellite Data

Sri Lanka has been selected for a pilot programme to test whether poverty can be measured through variables derived using satellite images. Under this pilot study, initiated by the World Bank, findings from Orbital Insight with census data and on-the-ground surveys will be used developing poverty proxies. In connection with this programme, training on Introduction to Satellite Data was conducted at the Department of Census and Statistics (DCS) from 11th to 14th January 2016. It also provided an opportunity to discuss how the skills of local and international remote sensing experts can be used improving and facilitating the work, and add value for the work of DCS using remote sensing. While exposing staff to new aspects of data science, new data tools and technologies, this initiative facilitate DCS to improve official statistics in Sri Lanka in the future while applying newest technology.

Key components of this Training included use of 'R' open source software environment for statistical computing and graphics), 'QGIS' software which is a cross-platform and open source desktop geographic information system), and 'GIS' (geographic information system) as data capturing, analysis and dissemination tool.

