

## Launch of “National Survey on Self-reported Health in Sri Lanka 2014” Report

The Department of Census and Statistics (DCS) launched the survey report “National Survey on Self-reported Health in Sri Lanka 2014” to meet the much needed health statistics on chronic illnesses, acute illnesses and some other important areas at household level. The report was presented to Mr. M. I. M. Rafeek, the Secretary to the Ministry of National Policies and Economic Affairs by Dr. A. J. Satharasinghe, Director General of Department of Census and Statistics. Professor Saroj Jayasinghe, from the Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo, Deans, Heads, and staff members of medical faculties and other faculties from all universities, Mr. Alain Sibenaler, country representative of United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), senior officials from Ministry of National Planning and Economic Affairs and the Department of Census and Statistics also attended the launch ceremony held at ‘Miloda’ on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2016.

This is the first countrywide survey of self-reported health status in Sri Lanka. Though this survey was done without medical tests or clinical examination, findings of the survey reveals very important health statistics. This Survey was conducted in collaboration with the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Colombo. Survey report reveals that 18 percent of the population or nearly one in six persons has reported some chronic illness. The overall disease prevalence shows variations by sex, age, geographic location, and occupation, industry and employment groups. As per the survey findings, there are differences in the prevalence of chronic diseases among employment and industry categories. For example, the highest prevalence of Diabetes (13%) and high blood pressure (8%) are reported for the category of “Senior Officials and Managers”. The full report covering detailed findings is available at <http://www.statistics.gov.lk/>

