A stakeholder meeting of the Census of Population & Housing – 2021 (CPH 2021) was held very successfully on 17th September 2019, at Hilton Colombo Residences and the event was under the patronage Mrs. I.R. Bandara, Director General of the Department of Census & Statistics (DCS).

The Chief Guest of the event was Dr. Harsha De Silva Hon. Minister of Economic Reforms & Public Distribution. The Secretary to the ministry Mrs. Chandani Wijayawardana, Additional Secretary Mr. R.M.S.P. Rathnayaka attended to the meeting. Also university professors, lecturers, heads and representatives of Government, officials from Non-Government agencies and international agencies and officials of the Department participated in the meeting. This was conducted with the partnership of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

Use of Computer Assisted Personal Interview (CAPI) method for data collection will be a remarkable achievement of the CPH 2021. Currently DCS is using CAPI technology for sample surveys, however, this is the first time in Sri Lanka CAPI is used for a census. The Department expects to improve the quality and timeliness of data by utilizing this method and hope this will make a significant improvement of using data for evidence base policy making.