

## \*UNFPA, implementing partners sign work plans



According to the Demographic and Health Survey conducted by the Department of Census and Statistics in 2016 in Sri Lanka, 17 percent of never-married women aged 15-49 years have suffered from domestic violence from their intimate partner. Research shows that 50% of youth in Sri Lanka have limited knowledge about their sexual and reproductive health and 35% of married women are not using any form of contraception.

Lack of knowledge on Sexual & Reproductive Health Rights and Sexual & Gender-Based Violence is not only closely related with each other but they also make it harder for women and young people to contribute to peace, growth and development of the country.

Recently, the United Nations Population Fund and its implementing partners - Women in

Need, Women Development Centre, Jaffna Social Action Centre and Family Planning Association Sri Lanka signed their annual work plans for the year 2020 to address these issues of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence and the lack of access to Sexual and Reproductive Health information.

This partnership is within a project worth USD 1.4 million funded by the Government of Japan as part of Japan's larger commitment with the Sri Lankan Government to implement programs that increase the participation of women and young people in maintaining peace, security and development of the country. Under this project UNFPA and the partners will work with the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Women and Child Affairs and Social Security.