

## Empowering girls in Sri Lanka through Connect to Learn



(L-R): Prof Uma Coomaraswamy, Consultant - Commonwealth of Learning, Ranjith G Rubasinghe, CEO - Mobitel, Denis Brunetti, Head of Ericsson Sri Lanka and Dr Vijitha Nanayakkara, Vice Chancellor Open University of Sri Lanka

Ericsson, Open University of Sri Lanka and Mobitel, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to deliver Information and Communication Technology (ICT) training to teenage girls from farming communities in Sri Lanka. First lady Shiranthi Rajapaksa, graced the event in support of the initiative.

The Connect to Learn Sri Lanka programme includes delivery of laptop computers, broadband Internet access, online education resources and relevant training. Thus giving students and teachers access to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century educational tools and resources to foster collaborative learning, cross-cultural understanding and global awareness.

Denis Brunetti, Head of Ericsson Sri Lanka, stated that this initiative is made in recognition of the International Day of the Girl Child, marking the first milestone of Ericsson's 'Technology for Good' programme in the country.

Also commenting, Ranjith G Rubasinghe, CEO - Sri Lanka Telecom Mobitel states that the partnership will not only enrich the society but will also strengthen ties with Ericsson and Open University of Sri Lanka. A programme of this nature will help bridge the digital divide in Sri Lanka, thus making it a testament towards the contribution of uplifting the livelihood of the farming communities through technological advancements.