



SUNDAY OBSERVER Print media partner



Veet

Miss Sri Lanka
for Miss World 2011

Behind the scene buzz



Chula Padmendra preparing for her television entry as a judge at the 'Best Skin' mini pageant.

Vote Count	
1. Shimalka Bodaragama	1,975
2. Charitha Waidiyasiri	1,806
3. Chamupa Godage	1,795
4. Thushen Vimalaratne	1,493
5. Piumi Perera	1,288
6. Pushpika de Silva	1,254
7. Uddima Oshadi	1,199
8. Nimasha de Silva	1,147
9. Nishuka Jayawardena	952
10. Aloka Weerasinghe	888

Contestants



Shimalka Bodaragama



Nimasha de Silva



Chamupa Godage



Charitha Waidiyasiri



Anne Piyumali



Sashika Herath



Piumi Perera



Nishuka Jayawardena



Uddima Oshadi



Aloka Weerasinghe



Thushen Vimalaratne



Pushpika de Silva



The girls prepare to walk the ramp.



Arantha shows Piumi Perera her best poses.



Narmada prepares to go on stage.



Charitha Waidiyasiri picks her favourite poses with fashion photographer Arantha Sirimanne.

BY OMAR RAJARATHNAM



Watching and reading about the TV Derana Veet Miss Sri Lanka for Miss World 2011 can be a recreational experience. It is packed with flamboyance, glitz, glamour, elegance, charm and fashion.

But for those of you who have always wondered how things work behind the scenes of this pageant, we bring you exclusive snippets of the mayhem of preparing for this pageant which is presented with precision and perfection.

All the mini-pageants held so far had various start times which were carefully selected to match the mood of the title. Whatever the start time, the crew commence their work at least 5-6 hours, prior to that. The ramp is polished and laid out at the location, the banners for all the sponsors are put up adjacent to the ramp. The wires are spread wide across the grass or tiles to reach a plug point and then taped to the

floor to ensure no one trips on them. The music is tested repeatedly to make sure they do not hamper the flow of the catwalk. The preparation was strenuous on the day the contestants got involved in games. The crew had to go to houses in the vicinity and hide clues in kitchens, stitch some clues on leaves of tress in tiny woods and ensure the safety gear was available on time to enable the girls to row on the Bolgoda Lake safely.

The camera crew then arrives, with all their lighting equipment with huge rigifoam boards which are used to manipulate the brightness. They are constantly involved in monitoring the angles especially when the event is held outdoors. The camera crew checks all the edges and cliffs of adventurous locations to ascertain the safety distance so no accidents occur during the shoot.

Simultaneously, the make-up artistes take charge in the dressing rooms by beautifying the twelve finalists. They too experiment with different looks and hairstyles and the various costumes are tried and tested

before the shooting kick starts. The judges arrive at the location about an hour before the pageant, they are briefed on the criteria of judgement and then introduced to the finalists if time permits.

The instructors then take command, they coach the contestants to walk according to the number count and the angles they should turn to pose before the various cameras which record the catwalk stationed around the ramp. The show then finally gets on the road. The tension mounts up, the crew members are spread across the location to ensure visitors do not disrupt the recording. The hosts arrive and prepare to shoot their portions. The girls participate along with the judges where applicable too.

The female host of the show Narmada Abeywardena is a former runner-up of the pageant, so she is not only able to host the show effectively, she can also give the girls advice too. After about an hour spent on shooting with the hosts, the girls then take turns to do their individual voice cuts and then move on

to a specific backdrop selected by the *Sunday Observer's* photographer to pose for the camera so they can look good on print besides looking good on television.

Each mini-pageant takes at least eight to nine hours to complete on the day, this excludes the preparation time taken on the run up to the event. Food and refreshments are available but the time to indulge mostly remains an unavailability for many. As the day comes to a close, the finalists disperse with instruction for the next schedule and the training they are required to undergo to prepare themselves to give their best for the upcoming events.

The pageant is beautiful and the pageant is eye-catching and you can help them to hog the limelight in no time. So, hurry, fill in your favourite contestant's details on the coupon published in this paper and send them to make sure you are part of their glorious moment of winning the title for The *Miss Sunday Observer* Popular Contestant.

Pix: Chinthaka Kumarasinghe and Thilak Perera

Voting Coupon

TV 96.5
Miss SUNDAY OBSERVER



Name of Contestant :

Name of Sender :

Address :

Telephone No :

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Sri Lanka's English Newspaper with the largest circulation

Most Popular Contestant
Miss Sunday Observer
Editor - Sunday Observer ANCL
Lake House Colombo