

# The River Bugs



**W**hat could be more fun, after a stressful week at UMS, than a day spent white water rafting down the Kiulu river in Tamparuli? Thanks to the initiative of the National Integrity Plan Committee, the PPIB staff and their family members had a fun-filled and head-to-toe drenched day on 2 October 2010 which they will forever cherish.

At the rafting station, the participants were given life jackets and helmets, briefed on the basics, such as the proper way to hold a paddle, and advised on various safety precautions, such as getting back onto the raft after falling overboard and dodging low-lying branches. Each rubber raft was able to accommodate 6 passengers and two guides. The staff and their family members were divided into three groups.

It was the PPIB contingent's lucky day, as the guides decided to extend the rafting journey from 7 km to 14 km due to the strong water current - a result of the heavy downpour the previous night. This bonus enabled them to experience the thrill and excitement of navigating through water in markedly different conditions.

After almost two hours of adrenalin-fueled fun - including a heart-pounding moment when several PPIB staff fell overboard - the participants finally reached the end of the journey and celebrated their achievement with a buffet lunch. Filled with bravado after having successfully navigated the Class I-II Kiulu river, some of the participants expressed their readiness to take up a bigger challenge: the Class III-IV Padas river.

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