

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4696  
ANSWERED ON:25.08.2010  
ECOLOGICAL IMBALANCE DUE TO RIVER RAFTING  
M.Thambidurai Dr.

**Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether river rafting/surfing on the important rivers such as Ganga makes an impact on the animal lives thereby creating an ecological imbalance;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the awareness campaign initiated by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a)&(b) River rafting in stretches of rivers passing through areas having wild animals does impact the animal life in terms of accessibility of animals to water and other habitat use in the areas around the river. Establishment of rafting camps further impacts the habitat use by animals.

(c) This aspect is taken care of by the concerned licensing authorities for river rafting under the State Governments.