

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1457
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.12.2018)**

SEPARATE TIME ZONES

1457.SHRI JAYADEV GALLA:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there have been demands from North-Eastern States for having a separate time zone since the sun rises at 4.00 am in the North-East and sets at 4.00 pm and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether National Physical Laboratory has also recommended to have two separate time zones in the country and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Ministry is aware that in the absence of a second time zone, there is a huge consumption of electricity, reduced productivity in factories, etc. and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and**
- (d) whether the Government has formulated any methodology for having two time zones when smaller countries like France has 12 time zones, Britain has 9 time zones and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES
([Dr. Harsh Vardhan](#))**

- (a) There have been requests from certain sections in the North Eastern States for a separate time zone on the ground that the sunrise and sunset in that part are much earlier than the official working hours.**
- (b)&(c) National Physical Laboratory (NPL), published certain reports in science journals on this issue, inter alia, referring to saving of electricity, etc. The matter was examined by a High Level Committee (HLC) comprising Secretary, Department of Science and Technology, Director, CSIR-NPL and Chief Secretary, Govt. of Tripura. The HLC after considering the issue recommended not to have two time zones for India for strategic reasons.**
- (d) No, Madam.**
