

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4320  
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.12.2019)**

**DUAL TIME ZONE**

**4320. SHRI MANISH TEWARI:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has any plan of considering a dual time zone in the country in view of the time gap between Eastern States and Western States, if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government has taken cognizance of a scientific paper brought out by scientists at the Delhi-based CSIR -National Physical Laboratory (NPL) regarding the feasibility for India to have two time zones as it would increase productivity in all the north-eastern States, if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government has acknowledged that a separate time zone for the north-eastern region could help in saving 20 million kWh of electricity a year according to researchers at the NPL, if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether the Government proposes to adopt the dual time zone taking into account the benefits of likely increase in productivity and electricity savings; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the strategic or other reasons therefor?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE; MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES  
(Dr. HARSH VARDHAN)**

- (a) No, Sir.**
- (b)to(e) Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) - 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.**