

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 290  
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.02.2022)**

**BENEFITS OF TWO TIME ZONES**

**290 SHRI DEEPENDER SINGH HOODA:**

Will the Minister of Science and Technology be pleased to state:

- (a) the difference in mean solar time between the Eastern most and the Western most part of the country, taking into account the vast geographical expanse of the country;
- (b) whether any study has been conducted to estimate the gain in man-hours per day by having two time zones;
- (c) if so, the broad findings of the study in terms of gain in man-hours per day and the increase in the GDP it will result in; and
- (d) the complete details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE  
AND TECHNOLOGY & EARTH SCIENCES.  
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)**

(a): India extends from 68°7'E to 97°25'E with east-west spread of ~29° which corresponds to two-hour difference in mean solar times

(b-d): Two studies one by National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) and the other by National Physical Laboratory (NPL) have made certain recommendations related to IST /Time Zone stating benefits like power savings and gain in man-hours etc. The studies were examined by involving all concerned including ex-Director of NPL who was also President INSA. After evaluation of all angles the findings/recommendations of the studies have not been favoured.

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