

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2041  
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2010  
SEPARATE TIME ZONE FOR NORTH EASTERN STATES  
Thamaraiselvan Shri R.

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

- (a) whether there has been a demand for a separate time zone for the seven North Eastern States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the reaction of Government thereto?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS(PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

- (a) No, Madam.
- (b) Question does not arise.
- (c) In the year 2002, the Department of Science and Technology had constituted a high level Committee to explore the feasibility of having two separate time zones given the longitudinal difference between the extreme regions of the country. The Committee in its recommendation observed that having separate time zones may not provide any major advantage to the states but may pose difficulties in view of differential timings to be framed for airlines, railways, communication services etc. They recommended a more effective solution of advancing the work timing in these states which can be implemented through administrative actions.