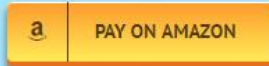


October 22nd, 2018 Sample Current Affairs

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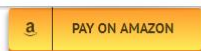


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1. Should India have two time zones? National timekeeper adds new arguments

- Why India's national timekeeper is proposing two separate time zones?**
- How actually time is maintained? What is the country's legal time as per law?**
- Why the voices raise again and again for separate time zone in India?**
- Where do the new research proposes the second IST demarcation?**
- How will be the risk of railway accidents at every crossing from one time zone into another managed?**

GS paper 1 (Indian Geography)

In this video, you can find detailed answers for all the above questions.

The above article has been retrieved from:

Kabir Firaque . (2018, October , 22).
Should India have two time zones? National timekeeper adds new arguments. Indian Express. Retrieved from <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/should-india-have-two-time-zones-national-timekeeper-adds-new-arguments-5408216/>

What is the context about?

- ❑ Over the years, various citizens and political leaders have debated whether India should have two separate time zones.
- ❑ Now, a proposal for two time zones has come from India's national timekeeper itself. Scientists at the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research's National Physical Laboratory (CSIR-NPL), which maintains Indian Standard Time, have published a research article describing the necessity of two time zones, with the new one an hour ahead of the existing time zone.

Why India's national timekeeper is proposing two separate time zones?

- ❑ The demand is based on the huge difference in daylight times between the country's longitudinal extremes, and the costs associated with following the same time zone.
- ❑ The newly published article identifies where the two time zones be demarcated from each other — at the “chicken neck” that connects the Northeast to the rest of India, an area that is spatially narrow and reduces the possibility of railway accidents, it says.
- ❑ The article also puts a figure to the country's potential savings in energy consumption — 20 million kWh a year — if it does follow two time zones.

How actually time is maintained? What is the country's legal time as per law?

- ❑ If lines of longitude are drawn exactly a degree apart, they will divide the Earth into 360 zones. Because the Earth spins 360° in 24 hours, a longitudinal distance of 15° represents a time separation of 1 hour, and 1° represents 4 minutes.
- ❑ Theoretically, the time zone followed by any place should relate to its longitudinal distance from any other place.
- ❑ Political boundaries, however, mean that time zones are often demarcated by bent lines rather than straight lines of longitude. This is “legal time”, as defined by a country’s law.
- ❑ The geographic “zero line” runs through Greenwich, London. It identifies GMT, now known as Universal Coordinated Time (UTC), which is maintained by the Bureau of Weights and Measures (BIPM) in France.
- ❑ Indian Standard Time, maintained by CSIR-NPL, is based on a line of longitude that runs through Mirzapur in UP. At $82^\circ 33' E$, the line is 82.5° east of Greenwich, or 5.5 hours (5 hours 30 minutes) ahead of UCT.
- ❑ While India follows one IST, the United States follows several time zones across its breadth.

Why the voices raise again and again for separate time zone in India?

- ❑ India extends from $68^{\circ}7'E$ to $97^{\circ}25'E$, with the spread of 29° representing almost two hours from the geographic perspective.
- ❑ This has led to the argument that early sunrise in the easternmost parts — the Northeast — causes the loss of many daylight hours by the time offices or educational institutions open, and that early sunset, for its part, leads to higher consumption of electricity.

Where do the new research proposes the second IST demarcation?

- ❑ The research paper proposes to call the two time zones IST-I (UTC + 5.30 h) and IST-II (UTC + 6.30 h).
- ❑ The proposed line of demarcation is at $89^{\circ}52'E$, the narrow border between Assam and West Bengal.
- ❑ States west of the line would continue to follow IST (to be called IST-I). States east of the line — Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Arunanchal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Andaman & Nicobar Islands — would follow IST-II.

How will be the risk of railway accidents at every crossing from one time zone into another managed?

As the railway signals have not yet been fully automated in the country, the border between the two time zones should have a very narrow spatial-width with minimum number of train stations so that the train timings while crossing the

border can be managed manually without any untoward incidents.