

Date of Order : 22.02.2002

**Present: Ms.Reema Kalra for the petitioner.
Mr.Alok Gupta for Mr.Jayant Bhushan
counsel for UOI.**

CASE NUMBER : CWP 7622/00.

Grievances in this petition filed as PIL by Common Cause (A Registered Society) duly registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, is on introduction of two time zones in place of one time zone operating in the country. The Petitioner has prayed for direction to be issued to the respondent, Ministry of Science and Technology and Ministry of Planning to give serious considerations to numerous aspects as highlighted in the petition in adopting two time zones. The sole purpose with which the petition was filed seeking direction was that in case two time zones are introduced, it will ensure proper utilisation of Day Light Houses, improve life pattern, lead to improvements in the work, effect saving of energy, improve health, productivity, energy conservation and ushering in an era contd.....

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**of higher prosperity.
On 29th March, 2001 Amitabha Pande, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Science & Technology filed an affidavit on behalf of respondents 1 and 2 stating that averments made in petition were duly examined in detail, to study the merits, implications and feasibility of the same and a report was sought from the National Physical Laboratory which is the apex body**

set up by an Act of Parliament in matters related to maintenance of all standard physical measurement including time and frequency. National Physical Laboratory duly examined the matter and a report was submitted. It is further stated in the said affidavit that scientific study was got conducted and certain view points were expressed are still under consideration and it was stated that matter was pending at the high level.

After filing of the afore-
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mentioned affidavit, a High Level Committee was constituted by respondents under the Department of Science and Technology. It is stated that on 3.1.2002 the Committee met to deliberate on various aspects of the subject and has given necessary recommendations. After much deliberation and keeping in view the over all perspective, it is stated that the Committee has now recommended that the present system of Single Indian Standard Time(IST) may be continued throughout the country but in order to gainfully utilise the morning hours and to provide the creational avenues during evening hours, the work timings may be advanced by one hour in the Eastern States which include Orissa, Jharkhand, Bihar, Sikkim, West Bengal, Assam, Tripura, Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh. It is stated that Committee is still considering the matter and is likely to submit its
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report.

In view of the various orders passed from time to time and the fact that

**now a High Level Committee has been set up,
the purpose of filing the present petition
has been achieved and we hope and expect
that High Level Committee will expedite its
deliberations and submit its final report.
On submission of the report the Respondents
will duly take appropriate decision in
accordance with law.
Petition stands disposed of.**

Devinder Gupta, J.

**February 22, 2002 S. Mukerjee, J.
KV**