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MESSAGE

I am very glad to say a few words (in absentia) for the "ICTS at Ten" event of the International Centre for Theoretical Sciences (ICTS) of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, which is an autonomous institution under the aegis of the Department of Atomic Energy of the Government of India.

The ICTS is a unique institution in the Indian scientific ecosystem in combining programs (which train young researchers and catalyse new research directions) with in house research in a number of areas in physics, mathematics and related disciplines. This functions as a national facility for the entire Indian scientific community and enables it to effectively interface with their international counterparts. I am happy to see that in its ten years of existence, ICTS has served as a platform for several new initiatives in the country through programs such as on big data (2011), mathematics of tropical meteorology (2013) and recently Laser Plasma Acceleration (2017). I am also glad to see that the ICTS campus has come up very well in the last couple of years and has hosted more than fifty meetings with over three thousand participants.

Its researchers have also done DAE and Indian science proud in the significant role they played in deciphering the LIGO measurements. I am sure ICTS will also play a major role in training the future manpower for the new field of gravitational wave astronomy, which the LIGO-India project of DAE and DST will open up. New directions like the Indian Monsoon Initiative of ICTS also have the potential to help understand a scientific phenomenon of crucial importance to the country.

I would like to conclude by saying that the DAE is fully behind this new initiative of Indian Science and will support it so that it fulfils its mission to enhance science and scientific training in India. My very best wishes for the next ten years of ICTS.

