Nobel boost to city's link with LIGO

Bengaluru scientists play significant role in project pioneered by Nobel laureates

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As Rainer Weiss, Barry C. Barish and Kip S. Thorne take the stage later this year to accept the Nobel Prize for Physics, they will be standing on the shoulders of hundreds of collaborators around the world, who made it possible to sense gravitational waves that "shook the world" in 2016.

Of these, more than 35 scientists from India, including a team of seven from Bengaluru-based International Centre for Theoretical Sciences (ICTS), played a significant role in understanding and deciphering the data from the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory (LIGO), an international collaboration pioneered by the three Nobel laureates.

Elated lot: A team from Bengaluru-based International Centre for Theoretical Sciences has been deciphering data from Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory. ▪ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

At Hessarghatta, the seven-member team – led by Parameswaran Ajith from ICTS – works on modelling the sources of gravitational waves, among others; their LIGO Tier-3 grid computing centre tests Einstein's famous Theory of Relativity with the data thrown up by the detectors in the U.S. and Europe.

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