

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.190**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.07.2018

**OBSERVATORY FOR GRAVITATIONAL WAVES STUDY**

190. SHRI PONGULETI SRINIVASA REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to develop any observatory to study the phenomenon of gravitational waves and if so, the details thereof including the time by which the said observatory is likely to be operationalised; and
- (b) the progress made by the Government in this regard?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (Dr. JITENDRA SINGH):

- (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has given 'In-Principle' approval for Construction and Operation of Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Laboratory – India (LIGO) in India in collaboration with LIGO Laboratory, United States of America. This is the third observatory identical to the two LIGO observatories in USA. An MoU has been signed between DAE-DST of India and National Science Foundation of USA on 30.03.2016. LIGO-India Observatory is scheduled to be operational in 2024.
- (b) Of the various sites surveyed for this project, the site in Hingoli District of Maharashtra has been selected as the primary site and the process of acquiring land for the project is in advanced stage.

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