

France and India

Strong political ties at the highest level:

- November 2015: launch on the sidelines of COP21 of the International Solar Alliance by the French President and Prime Minister Modi
- January 2016: state visit by the President of the French Republic to India for the “Republic Day” parade, where France was guest of honour
- April 2015 and June 2017: visit to Paris by Prime Minister N. Modi

A long-standing and dynamic strategic partnership

- In 1998, France became the first Western country to launch a strategic partnership with India
- A strategic partnership in the fields of defence, civil nuclear energy, space and security
- September 2016: signing of the intergovernmental agreement for the supply of 36 Rafale fighter aircraft

A thriving economic partnership

- Annual growth of 7%
- 400 French companies employ 300,000 people in India
- Tourism : France hosted more than 500,00 Indian tourists in 2016, making it the second-most popular European destination
- Infrastructure: involvement of the *Agence Française de Développement* (AFD) as a donor (Bangalore, Kochi and Nagpur metros)

Cooperation in research, culture and education

Space cooperation

- Over 50 years of ambitious French-Indian space cooperation (first agreement in 1964)
- A historic partnership between CNES (French Space Agency) and ISRO (Indian Space Research Organisation)
- 20 Indian satellite launches carried out by Arianespace
- Partnership between CNES and Team Indus with the aim of sending a rover to the moon in March 2018

Scientific cooperation

- France is India's fifth-largest scientific partner
- A unique bilateral structure, IFCPAR (Indo-French Centre for the Promotion of Advanced Research), is celebrating its thirtieth anniversary
- Around 15 joint French-Indian research laboratories, and almost 500 collaborative projects

France's cultural and education network in India

- An *Institut Français* in Delhi and 14 *Alliance Française* branches with 22,000 French language learners
- Reciprocal cultural festivals: Bonjour India, a French cultural festival in India, and Namasté France, an Indian cultural festival in France
- 4 French schools

Academic cooperation

- 4,000 Indian students enrolled in French higher education in 2017, with the goal of 10,000 Indian students by 2020