

## India-France Bilateral Brief

### Overview

India and France established diplomatic relations soon after India's independence in 1947 and have enjoyed close and friendly relations since then. Launched on 26 January 1998, the Strategic Partnership with France was the first-ever for India with a Western nation, and the first for France outside of European Union. The Strategic Partnership embodied the core vision of both countries to enhance their respective strategic autonomy by drawing upon a strong and enhanced bilateral cooperation. Defence and security, civil nuclear matters and space constitute the principal pillars of this strategic cooperation. In recent years, the partnership has broadened to include cooperation in artificial intelligence, science and technology, innovation, blue economy, environment, renewable energy, sustainable development, and trilateral cooperation with a focus on the Indo-Pacific.

2. The core of India-France partnership is underpinned by our shared democratic values, belief in multilateralism as a means to tackle global challenges, respect for international law, and strong economic, cultural, academic, and people-to-people ties.
  
3. The year 2023 marked 25 years of India-France strategic partnership when Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid an official visit on 13-14 July as the guest of honour at the French National Day. During the visit, both sides adopted the roadmap *Horizon 2047*, setting the course for the next 25 years until 2047, a year that will mark centenaries of India's independence and diplomatic relations between both countries.

4. Following Prime Minister Modi's visit, the President of French Republic, Mr. Emmanuel Macron, paid a state visit to India as the chief guest for the 75th Republic Day of India on 26 January 2024. This was President Macron's second state visit to India, and the sixth visit by a French leader as the guest of honour for India's Republic Day. For the two leaders to be the guests of honour at successive national days respectively was unprecedented, and a high point in the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the declaration of the strategic partnership between the two countries.

5. In February 2025, Prime Minister Modi paid a visit to France and co-chaired, with President Macron, the AI Action Summit in Paris. During the visit, PM Modi also visited Marseille, where both leaders held bilateral discussions on the entire gamut of bilateral cooperation and on global and regional matters. In Marseille, both leaders jointly inaugurated India's Consulate General in Marseille and paid respects to Indian soldiers who lost their lives during World War I at Mazargues War Cemetery in Marseille. India will host the AI Impact Summit in February 2026 for which President Macron would be traveling to India.

6. Both leaders have used the opportunities of multilateral summits to meet regularly and review the progress of bilateral relations, in particular the *Horizon 2047* roadmap. For instance, both leaders met on the sidelines of the G7 Summit in Kananaskis, Canada, in June 2025, and on the sidelines of the G20 Summit in Johannesburg in November 2025. Both leaders also held telephone conversations in August and September 2025.

#### Other High-level Political Exchanges

7. Both sides have been able to maintain the momentum of high-level exchanges, with discussions centering around bilateral issues and mutual global concerns, reflecting the strategic convergence between the two countries. Within four months of the visit of Prime Minister Modi in February 2025, External Affairs Minister (EAM), Dr. S. Jaishankar,

paid an official visit to France in June 2025 during which he held discussions with French Foreign Minister Jean-Noël Barrot and called on President Macron. During the visit, he also attended the inaugural Mediterranean edition of Raisina Dialogue in Marseille, together with Foreign Minister Barrot. The Mediterranean edition will now be an annual event in Marseille providing a platform for conversations on Mediterranean linkages with India and the Indo-Pacific region that has the potential to shape a common future for the region.

8. In January 2026, at the invitation of Foreign Minister Barrot, EAM Dr. Jaishankar paid a visit to France and addressed the 31st Conference of Ambassadors of France as the guest of honour. He was the first non-European Foreign Minister to be the guest of honour at this Conference. During the visit, EAM called on President Macron and held bilateral discussions with his counterpart. EAM also participated in the first India-Weimar Foreign Ministers' meeting, which included the Foreign Ministers of France, Germany and Poland. EAM also interacted with French parliamentarians, including members of the India-France Parliamentary Friendship Group and the Parliamentary Defence and Foreign Affairs Committee. He also held discussions with the Executive Director of International Energy Agency, Mr. Fatih Birol, and the Director General of UNESCO, Mr. Khaled El-Enany.

9. Several Indian ministers maintained exchanges with their French counterparts on a regular basis, including through bilateral visits and on the sidelines of multilateral events. In January 2026, Minister of State of Electronics and Information Technology Jitin Prasada visited Paris for AI Impact Summit pre-event in Paris, and had bilateral interaction with his counterpart, the Minister Delegate for Artificial Intelligence and Digital Affairs, Ms. Anne Le Hénanff. Earlier, in June 2025, there were several Ministerial visits from India to France, including the visit of Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal to attend WTO Ministerial Meeting in Paris on 3-4 June; the visit of Minister of

Earth Sciences Dr. Jitendra Singh to participate in the third United Nations Ocean Conference in Nice on 9-13 June; and the visit of Minister of State of Electronics and Information Technology Jitin Prasada on June 10-13 to attend Vivatech Summit. Besides these visits, Dr P K Mishra, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, visited Nice on 6-7 June to co-chair the seventh International Conference on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure.

10. Minister of Culture and Tourism Gajendra Singh Shekhawat visited France on 26-28 September 2025. During the visit, he met with the French Minister of Culture, Ms. Rachida Dati, and discussed further strengthening India–France cultural cooperation, including collaboration in the areas of transcription and translation of manuscripts, and in the field of museums, particularly with regard to the ongoing cooperation on the *Yuge Yugeen Bharat National Museum* project.

11. From France, Mr. François-Noël Buffet, French Minister of State of Interior, visited India on 23 April 2025, to jointly inaugurate the second edition of MILIPOL India along with Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityanand Rai. A delegation headed by Director General of National Security Guard (NSG) of India attended MILIPOL Paris in November 2025, on the occasion of which a Letter of Intent on Cooperation between NSG and National Gendarmerie Intervention Group (GIGN) of France in the field of counter-terrorism was signed.

12. In terms of bilateral dialogues, on 13 January 2026, NSA Ajit Doval co-chaired the 38th India-France Strategic Dialogue with Diplomatic Advisor to the French President Emmanuel Bonne in New Delhi. During the visit, Mr. Bonne also met EAM and called on the Prime Minister.

13. On 20 January 2025, both sides held Foreign Office Consultations at the level of Foreign Secretary in Paris. Apart from this, bilateral consultations on Indo-Pacific, UN, Middle-East, disarmament and non-proliferation, counter-terrorism, health, and consular issues have taken place since January 2025.

#### Defence Cooperation

14. India and France have a strong and robust defence partnership with an increasing *Atmanirbharata* element in it. The defence cooperation between the two sides is reviewed under the Annual Defence Dialogue (Defence Minister-level) and by the High Committee on Defence Cooperation (Secretary-level). The fifth Annual Ministerial-level Annual Defence Dialogue was held on 11 October 2023 in Paris. There have been several high-level visits on the military side. French Chief of Staff, General Pierre Schill, visited India in October 2025 to participate in the UN Troop Contributing Countries' Chief's Conclave. From the Indian side, the Chief of Defence Staff, General Anil Chauhan visited France in April 2024, followed by a visit by Chief of Army Staff Gen. Upendra Dwivedi in February 2025.

15. Among the significant achievements in the defence partnership is the P-75 Scorpene Project of which the last and the sixth submarine was commissioned in the Indian Navy in January 2025, and the delivery of 36 Rafale aircrafts by France to India by 2022.

16. On 28 April 2025, the Governments of India and France signed an Inter-Governmental Agreement for the procurement of 26 Rafale-M aircrafts for the Indian Navy. In line with the Government's thrust on *Aatmanirbhar Bharat*, the Agreement includes transfer of technology for integration of indigenous weapons in India. It also includes setting up of a production facility for Rafale fuselage as well as Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) facilities for aircraft engine, sensors and weapons in India.

17. In November 2025, PM Modi inaugurated the Safran Aircraft Engine Services India (SAESI) facility at the GMR Aerospace and Industrial Park near Hyderabad airport via videoconferencing. The facility, set up by French aerospace major Safran, is India's first deep-level aircraft engine MRO centre established by a global original equipment manufacturer. It is designed to service up to 300 LEAP engines, which power Airbus A320neo and Boeing 737 MAX aircrafts, a year, and is expected to employ more than 1,000 technicians and engineers by 2035. Safran also officially announced a new MRO shop dedicated to the M88 engine powering the Rafale fighter jet, in Hyderabad, adjacent to the LEAP engine center. In addition, Safran signed a joint venture and cooperation agreement with Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) to manufacture Safran's Hammer modular air-to-surface weapon. The Hammer can be integrated on multiple aircraft types, including the Rafale and India's single-seat HAL Tejas.

18. India France joint defence exercises have grown in scope and complexity over the years. Bilateral Staff Talks between respective services of the two militaries take place regularly. Bilateral Army exercise *SHAKTI 2025* was held in France on 18 June-1 July 2025. French Air and Space Force (FASF) and IAF have been participating in bilateral *Ex-GARUDA*. In 2025, the 8<sup>th</sup> edition of the exercise was conducted at Mont de Marsan in November 2025. Both air forces also participate in multilateral exercises such as *TARANG SHAKTI* and *MILAN*. Both navies conducted bilateral exercise Varuna VARUNA in March 2025, as well as participated in multilateral exercises such as *La Perouse*. As a part of *Operation Clemenceau*, the French Carrier Strike Group *Charles De Gaulle* visited India in January 2025.

19. A letter of Intent on deepening the Defence Space partnership was signed on 26 January 2024 between India and France, which is a testimony to the increasing strategic co-operation in the field of space. India participated as military observer in the *AsterX-23*

*and AsterX-24* exercises in France. As a sign of increasing trust, the status of participation was enhanced from observer to a participant for the exercise held in March 2025.

20. Port calls are being held regularly. *INS Tabar* made a port call at Toulon in August-September 2024. The port call also included the harbour phase of *Ex VARUNA 2024*. *INS Talwar* made a port call at La Reunion in October 2024. Indian Navy training ships *INS Tir* and *CGS Sarathi* visited La Reunion in September 2025, as part of efforts to strengthen maritime cooperation between the two countries.

21. An event between the defence technology and startup ecosystems of India and France, called *FRIND-X* was organised to provide a platform for collaboration in December 2024 in Paris. Over 20 startups on both sides attended the event, which spanned different sectors, including AI, drone technologies, space and quantum.

#### Trilateral Cooperation

22. Apart from bilateral dialogues, India and France also have separate trilateral institutional exchanges with Australia and UAE. Ministerial-level meetings as well as focal point meetings of both mechanisms are being held regularly, including on the sidelines of multilateral events. France is one of the original signatories to the MoU on India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor that was signed on the margins of the G20 summit in Delhi on 9 September 2023.

23. In furtherance to the India-France Roadmap on Indo-Pacific of 2023, in February 2025, both sides signed a Joint Declaration of Intent on Triangular Development Cooperation to identify and implement sustainable development goals and climate-focused projects in priority sectors, including digital innovation, digital public infrastructure, clean energy, green technologies, preservation of biodiversity, women empowerment, education, health, nutrition, water, and sanitation.

## Space Cooperation

24. India and France have a rich history of cooperation in the field of space for over fifty years, between ISRO and the French Space Agency Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales' (CNES).

25. The first India-France Strategic Space Dialogue was held in Paris on 26 June 2023 led by then Foreign Secretary Vinay Mohan Kwatra and the then Secretary General, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, Anne-Marie Descôtes, where they identified areas for cooperation under the civil space cooperation and defense space cooperation tracks.

26. ISRO and CNES have concluded a joint declaration for cooperation in future launch vehicle technologies, and an agreement for cooperation in joint earth observation mission *TRISHNA*, maritime domain awareness and space situational awareness. While ISRO's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) has launched French satellites on commercial basis, Arianespace France has been a major provider of launch services to Indian geostationary satellites. Arianespace and NSIL have concluded a Letter of Intent for collaboration in commercial launch services.

## Cyber Cooperation

27. India and France have a cyber dialogue mechanism to discuss cyber cooperation and related matters. A dialogue on cyber security matters was held in Paris on 9 Jan 2024.

## Cooperation on Counter terrorism

28. India and France have a robust cooperation on topics relating to countering terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including under UN forums. The 17th Meeting of the Joint Working Group on Counterterrorism was held in September 2025 in Paris.

## Civil Nuclear Cooperation

29. India and France have a deep cooperation on the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, including in relation to the Jaitapur Nuclear Power Plant Project. India-France Special Task Force on Nuclear Energy within the framework of the Indo-French Strategic Dialogue met twice in 2025. It was co-chaired by Foreign Secretary Shri Vikram Misri from Indian side and Secretary-General of the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, Ms. Anne-Marie Descôtes, from the French side. Besides, both sides have agreed to work on establishing a partnership on Small Modular Reactors (SMR) and Advanced Modular Reactors (AMR). During the visit of Prime Minister Modi in February 2025, both sides signed a letter of intent on SMRs and AMRs, and the Implementing Agreement between India's GCNEP, DAE, and France's INSTN, CEA, for cooperation in training and education of nuclear professionals. The cooperation on JNPP and exploration of SMRs and AMRs signifies a shared vision for sustainable and efficient nuclear energy solutions.

30. In 2025, Dr V K Saraswat, Member, Niti Aayog, visited France in October and delivered a keynote address at India Fusion Day organized by ITER in south of France. Over ten leading Indian companies and more than 20 industry delegates participated in the 6<sup>th</sup> edition of World Nuclear Exhibition (WNE) held in November 2025 in Paris showcasing their nuclear engineering capabilities, advanced technologies and expertise across the nuclear sector.

## Trade and Investment

31. Within the European Union, France is India's third-largest trading partner, after the Netherlands and Germany. For the year 2024-25, Indian exports to France amounted to Euros 6.6 billion. The bilateral trade between India and France has more than doubled in the last decade to Euros 12.67 billion in 2024-25. Bilateral trade with France is expected to grow further with the signing of India-EU Free Trade Agreement on 27 January 2026.

32. France is the 11th largest foreign investor in India with a cumulative investment of Euros 9.79 billion from April 2000 to March 2025 which represents 1.61 percent of the total FDI inflows into India, according to data provided by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT). Top 5 FDI equity inflows are in: services sector (17.69 percent), cement and gypsum products (8.33 percent), air transport (including air freight) (6.81 percent), miscellaneous industries (6.67 percent) and petroleum and natural gas (6.34 percent). These five sectors represent 45.83 percent of the total equity inflow from France from April 2000 to March 2025. Most big French groups have their subsidiaries in India: 38 of the 40 French CAC 40 companies are already present in India, and around 50-70 SMEs are also present in India, essentially in the mechanical and pharma-chemical sectors.

33. Discussions during various high-level visits in 2024-25 focused on trade, technological advancements, and energy security, reflecting a commitment to deepening ties for mutual economic growth and global leadership. France considers India an important market for its products, and is looking to increase the number of joint ventures and encourage investments in and from India. Both countries are also moving to jointly develop technologies and integrate existing technologies. The process of enabling Unified Payment Interface (UPI) in France has started. Several Indian companies, including TCS and L&T Tech Service, have opened their innovation centres in France for joint technology development.

34. Several events are routinely held in France to strengthen trade, investment, and technology ties between the two countries, including promotion of Indian fashion and Indian textiles, round-table conferences on opportunities in India's first International Financial Services Centre at GIFT City, Gujarat, round-table conferences with CEOs of major French companies in construction, automobile, education, infrastructure, logistics and technology, UPI and digital infrastructure. Several delegations of companies from

FICCI, CII and ASSOCHAM regularly visit France and hold round-table meetings, seminars and workshops in different sectors with their French counterparts.

### Digital Cooperation

35. During PM's visit to Paris in July 2023, NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL) and France's Lyra Collect executed an agreement to implement UPI in France and Europe. The payment mechanism went live at the Eiffel Tower during President Macron's visit to India on 26 January 2024, as the first merchant in France to accept UPI. Subsequently, UPI payments were launched at Galleries Lafayette on 3 July 2024 and at the Vallee Village Concierge in 2025.

36. With a shared belief in the power of a Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) approach for the development of open, free, democratic and inclusive digital economies and digital societies, India and France have advanced multi-stakeholder exchanges through the InFraStructures (India France Structures) and InFinity (India France Innovation in Information Technology) platforms. So far, there have been three editions of the InFraStructures workshop in 2022, 2023 and 2025. Additionally, a half-day session on DPI for 45 French civil servants was organized in 2023, 2024 and 2025.

37. Under the Station F-HEC Paris International Launchpad program, ten Indian startups participated at Station F since May 2025 for a 4-month program. MeitY has started conversations with Station F-HEC for enrolling two more cohorts of ten startups in 2026. The program is to be extended for more cohorts of Startups from India.

38. As part of the joint DPI cooperation efforts, India and France have mutually identified potential high-impact initiatives in the areas of mobility, commerce and

culture, as initial focus areas to showcase the significant benefits of inter-connectedness between platforms accomplished by leveraging open protocols.

### Cultural Cooperation

39. Indian culture enjoys a wide and discerning audience among the French population, reflected in the numerous and frequent cultural events held across France. The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) sponsors visits of Indian artists to France, as well as exchanges of students in the fields of culture and the arts. In addition, a substantial number of Indian artists perform in France on a commercial basis and/or at the initiative of various local cultural associations, outside the purview of the official exchanges.

40. A major highlight in recent years was the Festival of India, Namaste France 2023, held at La Seine Musicale in Paris from 6-9 July 2023. The festival showcased renowned Indian visual and performing artists spanning classical, modern, and contemporary traditions. It featured 18 concerts, 16 workshops, and seven panel discussions, along with a craft bazaar, a tribal paintings exhibition, a photo exhibition on the Rabari nomadic tribe etc. In addition, several French cities host Indian cultural festivals that showcase our culture through dance, music, films and gastronomy including Namaste Nantes, the India Carnival at Val-de-Reuil, Desi Week in Bobigny, the Indian Festival in Grigny, Happy Inde in Nice and Ganga Sur Seine (Film Festival) in Paris.

41. India sets up a pavilion every year at the prestigious Cannes Film Festival where it was the Country of Honour in 2022. In October 2025, India also participated in MIPCOM 2025 in Cannes, an annual international trade show for the television industry. India established its pavilion under the WAVES - World Audio Visual & Entertainment Summit banner, highlighting its strengths in films, OTT platforms, animation, and gaming.

42. Many renowned museums, such as Musée Guimet, house significant collections of Indian artefacts, and regularly organize exhibitions focused on India. One such major exhibition of Indian art is planned for 2028 to commemorate 30 years of the India-France Strategic Partnership. Building on the strong cultural momentum, India will be opening its Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre in Paris soon.

#### Cooperation in Blue Economy

43. Both sides have decided to enlarge the scope of maritime cooperation to address issues of sustainable use of marine resources, and work towards ocean governance, including through coordination in relevant international bodies. In this regard, an India-France Roadmap on Blue Economy and Ocean Governance was agreed to in February 2022 whose purpose was to exchange views on respective priorities, share best practices and support ongoing and future cooperation. In order to achieve this, an annual bilateral dialogue on the blue economy and ocean governance was agreed. Its first meeting was held in Paris on 12 October 2023 where both sides had a detailed discussion to explore cooperation on the agenda items across the institutional, economic and infrastructure, scientific, academic, and cultural pillars of blue economy.

#### Cooperation in Environment

44. India and France had launched International Solar Alliance (ISA) during COP21 in Paris in 2015, and France is the current co-chair of ISA (2024-26). France has also joined Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) in July 2020 and has assumed the role of co-chair of CDRI for the period 2024-26. Ms. Anne Grillo, Director General of Globalization in the French Foreign Ministry, co-chaired the CDRI Governing Council meeting with Principal Secretary to Prime Minister Dr. P.K. Mishra in May 2025. The 7<sup>th</sup> edition of International Conference on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure was held on 07

June 2025 in Nice, France, which was the first time the conference was held outside of India.

45. Both sides have constituted a Joint Working Group on Environment, the fourth meeting of which took place in July 2024. Recalling the richness of the bilateral cooperation in environment, climate change, biodiversity and pollution, the sides agreed to work under the Blue Economy Dialogue in the areas of coastal ecosystem and services, marine and coastal planning and in coastal ecology and environment.

46. Ministries of Renewable Energy on both sides have an active cooperation through a Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2021.

47. Green hydrogen has become a priority area of cooperation for both India and France and is identified as one of the areas of interest in the above-mentioned MoU. Both countries have even adopted a Road-map on Green Hydrogen in October 2022, including elements such as fostering industrial partnerships, R&D to improve hydrogen technologies, certification, and establishing a regulatory framework for developing a decarbonised hydrogen value chain.

#### Cooperation in Health

48. Both countries are intensifying their cooperation in the field of health and medicine. As a first step, a Declaration of Intent (DoI) has been signed on 23 January 2024 by both countries to cooperate in the field of health and medicine. The DoI provides the basis for cooperation in new areas including Digital Health, AI for Healthcare, Medical Waste Treatment Technology, Biotechnology, One Health approach for fight against antimicrobial resistance, exchange and training of medical doctors. The first meeting of Joint Working Group in the field of healthcare was held on 28-29 January 2025 in Paris,

when both sides held detailed discussions on anti-microbial resistance, digital health and human resources for health.

49. Apart from these, the France-India Campus for Life Sciences and Health is a project initiated by the French Government in 2022 that brings together prestigious French and Indian higher education and research institutions and research laboratories. The goal is to address jointly the global challenges related to life sciences and health and build long lasting cooperation between the two countries through student training.

#### Cooperation in Education

50. India and France are committed to strengthening their academic ties and to foster exchanges of students. The number of Indian students studying in France is estimated to be about 10000, with the ambition of having 30,000 Indian students in France by 2030 . Among the Indian students who come to France every year, the majority is for business management studies. With the New Education Policy (NEP) 2020, French University campuses are also being welcomed in India.

51. In 2023, France launched a five-year validity Schengen visa for Indians who have studied in France for at least one semester at Masters-degree level at a university recognized by the French university system. In September 2024, the French government started international classes in about 35 French universities and schools. Usually spread over two semesters, the program allows non-French speaker students to reach B2 level of French. There is no entrance exam to qualify for admission in such schools. After successful completion of the international classes, direct admission into a French-taught undergraduate program will be provided.

#### Cooperation in Science and Technology

52. India and France have a rich history of cooperation in the fields of science and technology. The cooperation ranges from health, digital, energy and oceans to applied

mathematics. Several linkages have been forged between both the sides, namely between MoES, MeITY, DST, DBT, and CSIR on the Indian side, and ANR, CNRS, INSERM, INRIA, and Institut Pasteur on the French side. The broad areas of cooperation are discussed and agreed upon annually under India-France Joint Committee on Science and Technology. Its second meeting was held in January 2024, when a MoU between Department of Science and Technology (DST) of India and L'Agence nationale de la recherche (ANR) of France was signed.

53. The Indo-French Centre for the Promotion of Advanced Research (IFCPAR/CEFIPRA), registered in 1986, acts as one of the key institutions driving research activities between the two sides. Projects under CEFIPRA include: Collaborative Scientific Research Programme (CSR), Industry-Academia Research Development Programme (IARDP), Raman-Charpak Fellowship Programme, Indo-French Programme for Women in Science (PROWIS), Indo-French Emerging Project Partnership Programme, High Impact Scientific Research Network Programme and Seminars/ Workshops on mutually agreed topics. Since its launch, over 250 fellows have been supported under Raman-Charpak Fellowship. A total of 16 women scientists have been supported under PROWIS since its launch in 2022.

54. The 39<sup>th</sup> Governing Body meeting of CEFIPRA was held in January 2026 in Paris, co-chaired by Shri Abhay Karandikar, Secretary (DST) from the Indian side, and by Ms. Sabine Sciortino, Director General of Global Affairs and Cultural and Economic Diplomacy from French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs. On the occasion of India-France Year of Innovation 2026 that also marks the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of establishment of CEFIPRA, both sides plan to organize various activities as part of Year of Innovation celebrations.

Indian Community in France

55. There is a large presence of Indian diaspora in French mainland and its overseas territories. In mainland France, the diaspora size is estimated at about 1,19,000, largely originating from the erstwhile French colonies of Puducherry, Karaikal, Yanam, Mahe and Chandernagore, and the states of Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Punjab. The estimated Indian-origin population in French Overseas Territories is over 350,000: Reunion Island (over 300,000), Guadeloupe (over 57,000), Martinique (over 8,000) and Saint Martin (over 1,900). There are over 50 Indian community organisations active in France.

56. There had been a long-standing request from the Indian-origin communities in Guadeloupe and Martinique for registration under the scheme of Overseas Citizen of India, which has been granted through a notification dated 11 July 2024 from the Ministry of Home Affairs of India. As of 30 October 2025, ten OCI cards have been issued to people of Indian origin in Guadeloupe and Martinique.

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*February 2026*