

**Cultural Exchange Programme between
the Government of the Republic of India and
the Government of the French Republic
for the 2016–2018 period**

The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the French Republic (hereinafter "the Parties")

In accordance with the cultural, scientific and technical cooperation agreement signed on 7 June, 1966 between the Government of the French Republic and the Government of the Republic of India with a view to developing and strengthening relations in the areas of culture, education and science between France and India and their peoples, and continuing on from their previous cultural exchange program (2013-2015), signed in New Delhi on 14 February 2013, the Government of the French Republic and the Government of the Republic of India have established this exchange programme as part of their cultural cooperation for the 2016–2018 period.

The Parties:

- recognizing the strength of French and Indian relations, reinforced by their long-standing amicable relationship;
- desiring to deepen the quality and scope of their interpersonal exchanges, an initial step towards the rapprochement between peoples;
- reaffirming their high regard for the respect of democratic values, fostering cultural diversity and promoting the tangible and intangible heritage of both countries;
- being aware of the critical role culture, knowledge and education will play in the societies, economies and mindsets in tackling the challenges of the 21st century; and
- recalling their high regard for the principles and objectives of the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions,

Have expressed their intention, based on actions undertaken during the previous programme:

- to continue their cooperation in the cultural and intellectual fields;
- to continue to promote exchanges between artists, architects, cultural professionals, students, teachers, researchers and athletes to encourage joint French and Indian projects; and
- to encourage interpersonal relations between the two countries with a view to supporting and developing initiatives undertaken in these areas by local autonomous organizations.

I. Contacts

The Parties will encourage the implementation of concrete projects by joint French and Indian parties, not only in the existing fields of cooperation, but also extend these efforts to new areas. These contacts between professionals will develop a common idea of action and will facilitate the emergence of common and innovative visions.

This practical cooperation will be done within existing resources and will aim to mobilize new external resources, including private resources, in the strict observance of optimized management rules.

Efforts to facilitate the issuing of visas should be maintained, supported mainly by the two French consulates opened in India in 2011.

II. Artistic cooperation and cultural exchanges

II.1 Cultural festivals

▪ Bonjour India / Namaste France / Festival of India

The Parties welcomed the successes of the *Bonjour India* (2013–2014) and *Namaste France* (2010–2011) festivals, and wish to renew these two operations in 2016 and 2017. They commit to promoting, in this frame, joint operations that will allow for: the development of perennial cooperations, the exchanging of know-how, the promotion of creative industries. Those festivals shall reach a young audience with the goal of fostering, thanks to cultural events, student mobility. They should also facilitate a constant dialogue between cultural professionals of both countries and develop habits of cooperation.

II.2 Artistic cooperation

The Parties mutually undertake to facilitate the organization of events and hosting events in cultural events organized in their countries.

The Parties recognize the importance of exchanges and sharing of know-how between artists and other professionals of the artistic field, experts, teachers and students in the arts disciplines and between administrators of cultural institutions. They will encourage visits, master classes, trainings and cross-residence programs for artists and cultural professionals; exchanges of teachers and students between art schools and higher education institutions and exchanges of experts and officials of cultural administrations.

The Parties may use the resources offered by digital technology to promote artistic cooperation, including co-productions.

The French government intends to prioritize performing arts, design, artisanal crafts, visual arts, architecture, archaeology, historic and prehistoric site preservation, and urban planning and landscaping.

The Parties recognize the essential role played by the *Alliance française* network in promoting and developing cultural, university and intellectual relations between the two countries. France wishes to continue its support of these associations by making financial contributions for the organization of their cultural and artistic activities. India intends to continue facilitating their operations on its territory. India (ICCR) also intends to establish offices in France in due course. France intends to facilitate their operations on its territory.

The French government is pleased with the strengthening of its relations with the Ministry of Culture and Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR) and wishes to enhance this cooperation to promote cultural and intellectual relations between the two countries and carry out, in France and in India, joint projects.

The French government reiterates its support to the Indian government regarding the creation of an Indian cultural center in Paris.

- **Live performances**

The Parties intend to promote joint artistic productions in the field of live performances. The French government shall do its utmost to finance visits by French artists to India and the practical organization of live performance tours. The Parties shall especially encourage modern music initiatives and collaborations.

With regards to theatre, the Parties shall develop cooperative projects and co-productions that could be featured in the *Bonjour India*, *Namaste France* and *Festival of India* with support from the French Embassy in India, the Ministry of Culture and the ICCR.

The Parties intend to co-organize professional meetings between French and Indian producers and actors.

- **Visual and performance arts**

The Parties recognize the importance of the visual arts in India and are committed to working together in this area, namely through the exchange programme framework.

The Parties intend to continue facilitating student and teacher exchanges in the visual and performing arts.

- **Theatre**

Both sides shall encourage and facilitate exchange of theatre performances in both countries.

- **Design and artisanal crafts**

The Parties are aware of the importance of design and artisanal crafts and are renewing their efforts to further cooperation in this area by supporting exchanges between French and Indian schools. The terms of these exchanges shall be decided on by the relevant institutions.

- **Artistic exchanges**

The Parties shall pursue their efforts in organizing innovative artistic events in all artistic fields.

- **Creative residence programs**

The Parties encourage the participation of French artists in India and Indian artists in France in existing residence programme. The Parties plan to prioritize co-produced artistic projects or those developed through French and Indian creative companies.

- **Literature**

The Parties encourage, through support programs, translation, publication and distribution of works of the other country.

The Parties encourage the publishing houses of their respective countries to participate in international book fairs and events organized in the other country and to organize activities to promote French literature and Indian literature, as well as shares of professional experience between publishers and translators. The competent authorities of the two countries give their support to these operations. They will set up in close liaison with the relevant professional associations, meeting programs between French and Indian publishers, in the field of social sciences and literature.

Translation is a critical means of supporting cultural diversity. The Parties are committed to promoting the translation of French works in India and Indian works in France through reciprocal programmes. They shall strive to encourage increased professionalization of literary translators, namely through translation seminars or workshops held in conjunction with the competent professional associations. The Parties also intend to promote literature from both countries through literary events.

- **Audiovisual arts and film**

The Parties shall continue to promote the organization of film festivals and encourage industry professionals to attend them.

The French Embassy in India shall aim to facilitate exchanges between the Directorate of Film Festivals, the Film Federation of India, the National Film Archive of India in Pune, film schools and French selection panels.

The Parties welcome the initiative in which Indian students (4) come to France for courses at the FEMIS and French students (4) go to India for courses at the Film and Television Institute of India. The Parties intend to continue facilitating student exchanges between their film and audiovisual educational institutions. To this end, the Parties may extend an invitation to the Film and Television Institute of India in Pune and the Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute (SRFTI) in Kolkata to finalize an agreement with FEMIS and INASUP in France.

The Parties will encourage filming on their territory, including through a broad information of existing support programs. The Parties shall strive to facilitate the issuing of visas to film production teams travelling to France and India for filming and to French and Indian audiovisual professionals, especially producers who wish to develop co-production projects.

The Parties shall encourage measures to fight piracy of all audiovisual materials.

- **Communication and media**

The Parties shall continue to host journalists specialized in the field of culture for major events. Terms shall be established through diplomatic means.

- **Indology**

The Parties shall encourage continued cooperation in the field of Indology between the two countries' institutions. They shall strive to contribute to the preservation and cataloguing of major collections of manuscripts and documents put together by the *Institut français* in Puducherry. They shall also encourage the analysis and conservation of these valuable documents as well as all joint studies on India's diversity and cultural history.

- **Anthropology**

Exchange programmes may be expanded to a national research institute, such as the Anthropological Survey of India under the Ministry of Culture – Government of India, as part of research carried out in cooperation with French anthropology institutes on cultural influences in the former French colonies of Puducherry, Mahe and Yanam in southern India.

▪ Youth and Sport

The Parties wish to encourage and promote cooperation in the field of sports in general, and more specifically, exchanges between athletes, trainers, and scientific and technical experts.

On the basis of reciprocity, the Parties may envisage promoting youth exchange programmes and encouraging visits by youth delegations during festivals or youth camps held in both countries. They also intend to promote the exchange of civil servants working in the youth sector to keep them informed of existing youth programmes, policies and institutions in both countries.

The Parties shall strive to sign cooperation agreements in the field of sports for the points set out in the previous paragraph.

III. Heritage and museology

III.1 Heritage

The Parties shall work together to promote, conserve and showcase urban and cultural heritage in France and India. The Parties agree that it is necessary to further cooperation in the fields of archaeology (in order to take action as outlined in the letter of intention signed on 10 April 2015 between the *Institut national de recherches archéologiques préventives* [INRAP] and the Archaeological Survey of India [ASI]), museology and heritage conservation.

IV. Institutional cooperation and education

IV.1 Institutional cooperation

The Parties intend to facilitate the activities of their respective cultural institutions. To this end, the Parties shall encourage the signing of long-term agreements between cultural institutions of both countries. These long-term agreements may be signed:

- between governmental/public institutions of both countries;
- between renowned institutions/organizations of both countries, whether public or private.

IV.2 Cultural education and management

The Parties wish to pursue and encourage exchanges in the field of cultural education and management in order to promote better understanding between the two countries.

In view of cooperation in the field of art heritage conservation and museology, and to follow on from the visit by the *Musée du Louvre* delegation in December 2011 and the signature of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Culture and the *Musée du Louvre* for the 2012–2017 period, the Parties shall develop educational initiatives to train Indian personnel in museology in conjunction with the *Musée du Louvre*.

The relevant institution on both sides shall exchange museum professionals including conservators for a period of 2- 4 weeks to share knowledge and expertise in respective fields.

ICCR has agreed to support a total of 5 scholarships under CEP for Sanskrit Studies in India. In addition to these ICCR is already providing 10 scholarships under ICCR scholarship for pursuing courses in music and dances.

The Parties will cooperate in the field of training of library professionals, both in public and conservation libraries. The exchange of expertise and capacity building will be the subject of special attention between national libraries, in accordance with the administrative agreement signed October 28, 2015 between the Minister of Culture and Communication of the French Republic and the Minister of Culture of the Republic of India.

Folk and modern music, design, fashion and literature could be the subject of exchanges of expertise or capacity building, based on the specific needs identified by the recipient partner.

IV.3 Considering the deep historical links between the island of Reunion and India, and in particular Pondicherry, the Parties decide to pay special attention to the cultural cooperation between these two territories. This cooperation may consist in particular in exchange of expertise, capacity building or common projects in heritage, cultural tourism, performing and visual arts and cultural management.

The present programme shall come into effect from the date of the signing and shall remain valid for the years 2016, 2017 and 2018. If for any reasons, the Parties are unable to meet for the signature of the next CEP in time, the present programme shall be valid till the next CEP is signed.

The Parties promote the conclusion of all agreements necessary for the implementation and funding of the cooperation actions developed in this program.

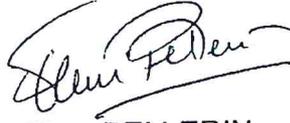
This programme has been signed in New Delhi on 25th January, 2016, in two original copies, each in Hindi, French and English languages, each text being equally authentic.

For the Government of the Republic
of India



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For the Government of the
French Republic



Fleur PELLERIN
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