PM's Visits to France & Germany

Visit to France

FRANCE

Capital - Paris

Currency – Euro & Franc

President - François Hollande

Prime Minister - Manuel Valls

Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi visited France between 9 April and 12 April 2015 as part of his three-nation tour to France, Germany and Canada.

During the visit, Modi met with French President Francois Hollande and had talks with business leaders of select French companies in defence and infrastructure sectors. The meeting saw India and France agreeing to further deepen and strengthen bilateral ties based on shared principles and values.

The visit saw the signing of 20 Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) and Agreements between India and France to give new impetus to bilateral co-operation between the two nations. The details of the MoUs are given below.

The agreements covered the fields of Defence and Nuclear Energy, Space, Economic relations, Railways, Energy, Tourism, Science and Technology, Skill Development and Ayurveda.

Other events that happened during Modi's visit to France

1. He addressed the Indian Community at Carrousel du Louvre in Paris
2. He also addressed the UNESCO at its headquarters on the occasion of its 70th anniversary on 10 April 2015
3. He gifted India and the Great War - a publication by Ministry of External Affairs at World War-I (WWI) Memorial for Indian soldiers in Neuve Chapelle, France
4. He paid homage to the Indian Soldiers at WWI Memorial for Indian soldiers in Neuve Chapelle, France
5. He visited the CNES (National Centre for Space Studies) and the Airbus A 380 Assembly Line Facility in Toulouse, France
6. He gifted a painting titled Tree of Life, reflecting traditional societal respect for nature in India to the French President Francois Hollande

India and France signed 20 Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) and Agreements on 10 April 2015 to give new impetus to bilateral co-operation between the two nations.

The two nations signed agreements covering the fields of Defence and Nuclear Energy, Space, Economic relations, Railways, Energy, Tourism, Science and Technology, Skill Development and Ayurveda.

The MoUs and Agreements were signed during visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to France between 9 April and 12 April 2015.

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Details of MoUs

Defence and Nuclear Energy

MoU between L&T and AREVA: The MoU aims at cost reduction by increasing localization, to improve the financial viability of Jaitapur project. It will also enable transfer of technology and development of indigenous nuclear energy industry in India.
Pre-engineering agreements (PEA) between NPCIL and Areva: It was signed with an aim to bring clarity on all technical aspects of the plant so that all parties (AREVA, Alstom and NPCIL) can firm up their price and optimize all provisions for risks still included at this stage in the costs of the project.

Space

MoU between on Megha Tropiques: The MoU seeks to extend the sharing and use of data from the Megha Tropiques satellite by 2 more years. The satellite, a joint project between ISRO and CNES, was launched aboard Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) on 12 October 2011.

MOU for Ka-band propagation experiment over Indian tropical region: It envisages cooperation between ISRO, CNES and ONERA for implementation of the project concerning Ka-band propagation experiment over Indian tropical region.

Programme between ISRO and French National Centre for Space Studies (CNES): It proposes cooperation in the areas of Remote sensing, satellite communications and satellite meteorology; space sciences and planetary exploration amongst others.

Sports

MoU on Cooperation in Sports: The MoU envisages cooperation and exchange of experiences in the fields of sports medicine, management and coordination of sports federations and establishment of National Institute of Sports in India based on French model of INSEP.

Economic Relations

MoU on cooperation in the field of renewable energy: It seeks to encourage and promote technical bilateral cooperation on new and renewable energy issues. It would cover solar, wind, bio-energy, tidal and wave energy sectors.

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Railways

Railway protocol between Indian Ministry of Railways and French National Railways (SNCF): The Protocol seeks to establish cooperation between Indian and French Railways for semi-high speed rail and station renovation.

Energy

Guarantee Agreement with AFD Financing of Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL): The Agreement seeks to finance Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL)

Culture, Heritage Conservation, Tourism, People-To-People Contacts

Administrative Arrangement in the field of Cultural Heritage: The Administrative Arrangement between the Indian Ministry of Culture and French Ministry of Culture and Communication envisages cooperation in the field of cultural heritage, through training of Indian heritage conservation professionals at the Institute National du Patrimoine (INP).

Letter of Intent (LoI)on Tourism: Seeks to increase cooperation in tourism sector between India and France and promote sustainable bilateral tourism between the two countries The LoI also seeks to facilitate twinning of sites having historical, natural and cultural significance in India and France for promoting them as tourist destinations.

Letter of Intent (LoI) between the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and National Institute of Preventive Archaeological Research (INRAP): The LoI envisages collaboration on preventive archaeology projects, initiatives to disseminate culture and promote archaeology, training programmes for specialists of ASI and deployment of expertise, in particular, in the field of underwater archaeology.

MoU between School of Planning and Architecture, Delhi and National Architecture Institute in Paris, France: It envisages cooperation to undertake joint planning and geographical studies in India and France and training of local counterparts in modern urban and regional planning.

MoU between Indian Heritage Cities Network Foundation (IHCN) and Association Nationale des Villes et Pays d'Art et d'Histoire et villes a secteurs sauvegardés et protégés (ANVPAH): It envisages

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cooperation in the fields of sustainable development, urban planning, heritage conservation and up-gradation of basic services.

Volontariat International en Entreprise (VIE) scheme: The scheme offers Indian Visa for 12 months renewable once for a period of 12 months for 250 French students and a 'second residence permit' of 12 months for the Indian students in France following the 12 months already granted.

Letter of Intent on Ayurveda between Ministry of Ayush and University of Strasbourg: It allows both the parties to strengthen their relationships and cooperation in the area of Ayurveda education and research and conducting joint workshops/conferences on Ayurveda as complimentary medicine in France

Skill Development

MoU between National Skill Development Agency (NSDA), India and the National Commission for Vocational Qualifications (Commission Nationale de la Certification Professionnelle – CNCD): The agreement will facilitate exchange of information and knowledge about maintenance of qualification registers through information exchanges, visits and other suitable meetings.

Science and Technology

MoU on cooperation in the field of Science & Technology: For cooperation between the two countries in the areas of applied mathematics, physics, Information & communication technology, water resources and environment, life sciences amongst others and establishment of Virtual Joint Laboratories, and establishment of Joint Research Centres.

MoU on Collaboration for establishment of a National Institute of Marine Biology and Biotechnology in India: The proposed MoU seeks to establish a National Institute of Marine Biology and Biotechnology in India, with a Hub and Spoke network of laboratories spanning India's marine regions from the Andaman to Lakshadweep.

Apart from this, **India also agreed to buy 36 multi-role Combat Aircraft Rafale fighter jets** in a flyway condition. Prime Minister Modi during his visit to France also gifted a painting titled **Tree of Life,** reflecting traditional societal respect for nature in India to the French President Francois Hollande.

The Tree of Life, with multiple roots and branches like a banyan tree, is a motif for a tree's benevolence, fruit, seeds, shelter, healing, procreation and regeneration faculties that sustain life and clean the environment.

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Visit to Germany

GERMANY

Capital - Berlin

Currency - Euro

Chancellor - Angela Merkel

India-Germany Joint Statement was released on 14 April 2015 with an aim to upgrade and further strengthen the Strategic Partnership between the two countries.

The Joint Statement was released after the meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and German Chancellor Angela Merkel in Hannover and Berlin. PM Narendra Modi is on a three-day visit to Germany.

As part of the statement, the two nations agreed to take proactive steps to advance collaboration in the areas of manufacturing, skill development, urban development, environment, railways, cleaning of rivers, language and science & technology.

The Hannover Messe 2015 Fair

India is a partner country at the Hannover Messe 2015 fair, which was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and German Chancellor Angela Merkel.

PSUs sign 6 pacts at Hannover Messe to boost 'Make in India'

Public sector firms, including BHEL, Instrumentation Ltd and HMT, have firmed up six MoUs with companies from Germany, Switzerland, Russia and Bulgaria for scaling up Indian manufacturing in high-tech areas.

The Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) were signed yesterday at an event organised by engineering exporters' body EEPC India at the ongoing Hannover Messe fair in Germany.

Power equipment maker Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (BHEL) inked a pact with Russian Joint stock company INTMA for upcoming projects in Russia and Kazakhstan.

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While Rajasthan Electronics & Instruments Ltd and Bulgaria-based Milkotronics Ltd signed an MoU to manufacture milk analyzers in India, Instrumentations Ltd and German firm KE Kauer Engineering inked an agreement for production of control valves.

Three MoUs were signed by Hindustan Machine Tools (HMT), the release said. HMT inked pact with Switzerland-based Num Controls for manufacturing of CNC controls, systems and drives.

It also signed pacts with FT Machine Tools, Germany, for collaborating on flow forming machines and Enit GmbH for total engineering solutions.

Industry chamber FICCI also signed an MoU with Hannover Milano Fairs India to organise a platform to discuss and showcase new solutions and innovations in urban development in 2015-16, partnership and opportunities in this sector.

Addressing at the fair, Department of Heavy Industry Secretary Rajan Katoch said that the German industry has opportunities to participate in India's plan for creation of about 100,000 MW generation capacity in the short term.

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