

**LETTER OF INTENT
ON THE NEW NATIONAL MUSEUM AND COOPERATION ON MUSEOLOGY**

The Government of Republic of India and the Government of the French Republic collectively referred to as the “Parties” and individually as the “Party”

Considering the rich cultural tradition between India and France, and inspired by their common desire to strengthen, through the instruments of cultural cooperation, the friendship and the mutual understanding between the two States and their citizens;

In furtherance to the implementation of the Agreement concerning cultural, scientific and technical cooperation signed on 7th June 1966;

Following the signature of the Letter of Intent on the Museum and Heritage Cooperation by the Ministers of Culture on 28th January 2020;

Recalling the 1998 India-France Strategic Partnership and the perspective of its joint renewal in 2023;

Considering the experience acquired by France through the Grand Louvre and the Louvre Abu Dhabi projects;

Intend to cooperate in the following terms:

Article I Object

The Parties wish to further deepen their cooperation in the field of cultural expertise, the valorisation of India’s cultural heritage and museology.

Within this cooperation, the Parties have identified, at the request of the Government of India, the Project of National Museum situated in the North and South Blocks in New Delhi, India, hereafter referred to as the “Project”.

The Parties declare their interest in cooperating on the “Project” and intensify their cooperation in museology.

Article II Cooperation between the Signatories

Both Parties state their common will to operate within the framework of the 1986 ICOM Code of Ethics for Museums, as revised in 2004. They undertake to pay close attention to the rules of ethics, scientific rigour and methodology in museology, as well as the adaptive reuse, restoration and conservation of the building.

The National Museum will:

- Be implemented in the North and South Block buildings of India's Central Administrative Area, located near Raisina Hill, New Delhi;
- Display the rich history and heritage of India through the millennia;
- Be constituted of collections from both the current India National Museum and the pan-India Museums.

Article III Organisation

France Museums Développement (subsidiary company of Agence France Muséums, hereinafter referred to as FMD) will act as the Operator for Government of the French Republic and will work with the agency identified by the Ministry of Culture of India.

The Parties will constitute two joint governance bodies:

- The Steering Committee will be responsible for the planning and the strategic decision making for the project.
- The Operational Management Team will ensure the implementation of the project and the follow-up of the different phases.

Article IV Content and Scope of Collaboration on the Project

As the first step of the overall partnership, the Government of the French Republic will entrust FMD the responsibility to conduct a Feasibility Study and a preliminary Master Planning Proposal.

Following the Feasibility Study, the Parties may consider entering into an agreement for FMD to provide a detailed Master Planning Proposal for execution. The detailed Master Planning Proposal will encompass (but will not be limited to) the following areas:

- Visitor experience & programming (including a study on potential audiences);
- Business Model;
- Display of the collection;
- Restoration and conservation of the buildings;
- Adaptive reuse of the building and facilities;
- Training & capacity building plan.

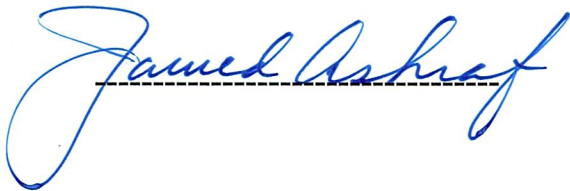
The detailed terms of reference of the Feasibility Study including the preliminary Master Planning Proposal will be agreed upon through consultations between the between the Indian agency designated by the Ministry of Culture of India and FMD.

This Letter of Intent does not create rights and obligations within the meaning of international law.

SIGNED in Paris on July 13, 2023 in two originals each in the English and French languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of any divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

JAWED ASHRAF

Ambassador of India to the Republic of France and Principality of Monaco



EMMANUEL LENAIN

Ambassador of France to Republic of India

