

**LETTER OF INTENT**

**BETWEEN**

**THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA**

**AND**

**THE MINISTRY OF ECOLOGICAL AND INCLUSIVE TRANSITION OF  
THE FRENCH REPUBLIC**

The Ministry of Railways of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Ecological and Inclusive Transition for Transport of the French Republic (hereinafter referred to as 'the Parties'),

KEEPING IN MIND that a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on technical cooperation in the field of railways signed in February 2013 between the Indian Railways (IR) and the Société Nationale des Chemins de fer Français (SNCF) already allows a successful technical cooperation,

AIMING at enhancing the cooperation already existing between India and France in the field of railways,

CONVINCED that this cooperation will serve these mutual benefits,

DECLARE THEIR INTENTION TO CREATE hereby an *Indo-French Permanent Railway Forum* in accordance with the following provisions:

1. The Indo-French Permanent Railway Forum that the Parties intend to create will provide the framework for the exchange of information between the government officials and the technical experts of the Parties. This cooperation will be specifically dedicated to policy development and the follow-up of issues pertaining to transport sector with a focus on railways.
2. The Indo-French Permanent Railway Forum will work on the areas listed below at para 5.
3. Indo-French Permanent Railway Forum will function with three officials from MoR, India and four officials from Government of France. It will meet at least once a year alternately in India and France.
4. Both Parties will advise each other in case the need arises for any addition or substitution of representatives.
5. The Permanent Indo-French Railway Forum will discuss the cooperation in various areas, including high speed, semi-high speed, regulating competition, intermodality, stations, sustainable urban mobility solutions, waste management and safety systems.
6. The implementation of this Permanent Indo-French Railway Forum will notably include bilateral dialogues, expert exchange programmes, information exchanges, workshops and seminars. The Parties may, where possible, share any useful and non-confidential information which comes within the objective of this letter of intent.
7. In course of time, as & when needed the Parties offer to consider issues pertaining to Urban Transport and Road Transport in partnership with officials of respective ministries / departments of

both Governments concerned with the subject matter. The Parties will endeavor to mobilize the necessary means in accordance with their respective budgetary and personnel availability.

8. This letter of intent will not affect the rights and obligations of the Parties arising from other international agreements, to which they are or may become party.
9. This letter of intent is not intended to create any legally binding obligations between the Parties and will not affect their national legislative and regulatory framework.

Signed in two originals at New Delhi on 10 March 2018 in Hindi, French and English languages all texts being equally authentic.

The Minister of Railways of the  
Republic of India



Piyush Goyal

The Minister for Europe and  
Foreign Affairs



Jean-Yves Le Drian