

# IFCCI Luxury Committee and Comité Colbert sign landmark MoU in Paris

*Partnership to advance Indo-French collaboration in luxury, craft and culture*

**Paris, 2 July 2026 – The Indo-French Chamber of Commerce and Industry (IFCCI) Luxury Committee and Comité Colbert signed a landmark Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in Paris, establishing a long-term framework for Indo-French collaboration across luxury, craftsmanship, culture, design and the creative industries.**

The MoU was signed during *India's New Script on Luxury, Craft and Culture*, a half-day programme held at the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre in Paris on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2026. The event brought together leaders from luxury maisons, fashion, design, retail, real estate, policy, law, education, culture and India's craft and couture ecosystems to discuss India's growing role in the global luxury landscape.

Under the MoU, the IFCCI Luxury Committee and Comité Colbert will develop sustained engagement through roundtables, symposiums, industry delegations, knowledge papers, policy dialogues and cultural exchange programmes. The partnership will also encourage greater interaction between French luxury maisons and Indian designers, artisans, creative entrepreneurs and institutions.

The signing took place at a pivotal moment for India's luxury sector. Expanding premium retail infrastructure, rising consumer sophistication, deep craft traditions and a confident new generation of designers are positioning India both as a fast-growing luxury market and as an increasingly influential creative voice.



L-R: Marc-Antoine Jamet - Secretary-General, LVMH Group; H.E. Mr. Sanjeev Singla, Ambassador of India to France and the Principality of Monaco; Bénédicte Epinay, President & CEO, Comité Colbert; Payal S. Kanwar, Director General, IFCCI; Ms. Éléonore Caroit, Minister Delegate for Francophonie, International Partnerships and French Nationals Abroad; Anurag Tyagi, Vice-Chairperson, IFCCI Luxury Committee & Founder, Sōka House; Srimoyi Bhattacharya, Chairperson, IFCCI- Luxury Committee & Founder, Peepul Advisory

Reiterating the depth of the cultural and business relationship between India and France, the event's esteemed diplomatic speakers – including ***H.E. Mr. Sanjeev Singla, Ambassador of India to France and the Principality of Monaco; Shri Amardeep Singh Bhatia (IAS), Secretary, DPIIT, Government of India; Nicolas Dross, Trade Advisor, European Commission; and Ms. Éléonore Caroit, Minister Delegate for Francophonie, International Partnerships and French Nationals Abroad*** - underlined the strategic importance of this partnership in strengthening bilateral cooperation across luxury, craft, culture and the creative industries.

Spokespersons from IFCCI, the IFCCI Luxury Committee and Comité Colbert expressed a shared sense of optimism, renewed energy and excitement about the collaborative opportunities ahead, with the ambition of unlocking the full potential of Indo-French relations for luxury and cultural businesses.

“France and India share a profound respect for the hand, the eye and the time required to create objects of lasting value. This MoU opens a new chapter of exchange between French maisons and India’s creative ecosystem. It is an invitation to learn from one another, to celebrate craftsmanship in its many forms, and to imagine how heritage can remain alive, relevant and inspiring for future generations.”

— **Bénédicte Epinay, President & CEO, Comité Colbert**

“This MoU gives structure to a relationship whose potential has long been evident. As one of the world’s fastest growing consumer markets, India is emerging as a strategic growth destination for luxury brands and an increasingly important voice in conversations on retail, craftsmanship, consumer insight, policy and cultural value. Through this collaboration, IFCCI will help build a more continuous and purposeful bridge between the French and Indian luxury ecosystems.”

— **Payal S. Kanwar, Director General, IFCCI**

“Luxury is one of the most powerful languages of cultural diplomacy because it carries memory, skill, identity and imagination. India and France both understand that excellence is not built overnight; it is transmitted across generations. This partnership allows us to connect two cultures of savoir-faire, while giving India’s designers, artisans and creative entrepreneurs a stronger voice in the global luxury dialogue.”

— **Srimoyi Bhattacharya, Chairperson, IFCCI Luxury Committee and Founder, Peepul Advisory**

## PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE

Beyond the signing, the programme mapped the structural, creative and cultural forces shaping India’s luxury ecosystem. The sessions covered policy and legal frameworks, India’s role in the global luxury value chain, couture, retail infrastructure, consumer insight, digital influence, talent development, handloom innovation and future Indo-French exchange. *See appendix for the full programme summary.*

**ENDS**

**ABOUT IFCCI AND IFCCI LUXURY COMMITTEE** | The Indo-French Chamber of Commerce and Industry (IFCCI) is one of the most active chambers within the global CCI France International network, which spans 125 chambers across 95 countries. It has seven offices in Mumbai, New Delhi, Bengaluru, Chennai, Pune, Hyderabad and Paris. IFCCI launched its Luxury Committee in November 2022. The committee brings together leading French and Indian luxury and premium brands. As India’s luxury market expands, the IFCCI Luxury Committee provides companies in this segment with a platform for knowledge-sharing, advocacy, dialogue and the promotion of ideas.

**ABOUT COMITÉ COLBERT** | Founded in 1954 by Jean-Jacques Guerlain, Comité Colbert brings together French luxury maisons, cultural institutions and European luxury maisons. Its mission is to promote, sustainably develop and transmit French savoir-faire and creation, while championing French art de vivre on the world stage.

## MEDIA CONTACTS

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## Appendix: Programme summary

TIME / PROGRAMME SEGMENT	FOCUS	SPEAKERS / DETAILS
12:30 PM - 2:00 PM <b>Networking Lunch</b>	Informal networking and welcome for guests before the formal programme.	Delegates, speakers and invited guests
2:00 PM - 2:02 PM <b>Opening remarks</b>	Opening context for the programme and the IFCCI Luxury Committee's vision for Indo-French collaboration.	Srimoyi Bhattacharya, Chairperson, IFCCI Luxury Committee & Founder, Peepul Advisory
2:02 PM - 2:05 PM <b>Special Video Message</b>	Government perspective on industry, commerce and India's evolving luxury landscape.	Shri Amardeep Singh Bhatia (IAS), Secretary, DPIIT, Govt of India
2:05 PM - 2:15 PM <b>Presentation: Advocacy &amp; Policy Dialogue - Enabling Luxury Growth in India</b>	Policy, trade and institutional enablers for the next phase of luxury growth in India.	Nicolas Dross, Trade Advisor, European Commission
2:15 PM - 2:45 PM <b>Panel 1: India: On the Front Row or Behind the Scenes?</b>	India's place in the global luxury value chain - from craft and production to design, authorship and brand creation.	Moderated by Anurag Tyagi, Vice-Chairperson, IFCCI Luxury Committee & Founder, Sôka House; with Ankit Mehta, Founder, Unsaid & Maison Aneka; Arun Jothi, Founder, Amal Embroideries; Dhruv Kapoor, Designer; Florence Louisy, Creative Director, Aequo
2:45 PM - 2:52 PM <b>Opening remarks</b>	Shared institutional vision from Comité Colbert and IFCCI for collaboration in luxury, craft and culture.	Bénédicte Epinay, President & CEO, Comité Colbert; Payal S. Kanwar, Director General, IFCCI
2:52 PM - 3:02 PM <b>Keynote Address</b>	Global luxury perspective and the role of India-France exchange in the future of the sector.	Marc-Antoine Jamet, Secretary-General, LVMH Group
3:02 PM - 3:12 PM <b>Special Address</b>	India-France partnership and the role of cultural and luxury-sector exchange.	H.E. Mr. Sanjeev Singla, Ambassador of India to France and the Principality of Monaco
3:12 PM - 3:22 PM <b>Special Address</b>	France-India partnership, international cooperation and the role of cultural exchange.	Ms. Éléonore Caroit, Minister Delegate for Francophonie, International Partnerships and French Nationals Abroad
3:22 PM - 3:27 PM <b>Signing Ceremony</b>	Signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the IFCCI Luxury Committee and Comité Colbert.	IFCCI Luxury Committee; Comité Colbert
3:27 PM - 3:37 PM <b>Presentation: A Framework for French Luxury Growth in India</b>	Legal and business framework for French luxury maisons seeking to understand India's growth opportunity.	Akshay Jaitly, Founding Partner, Trilegal
3:37 PM - 4:07 PM <b>Fireside Chat on the Rising Voice of Couture</b>	Indian couture, global fashion systems and the growing international recognition of Indian design.	Moderated by Divia Thani, Global Editorial Director, Condé Nast Traveller; with Gaurav Gupta, Couturier & Celebrity Designer; Pascal Morand, Executive President, Fédération de la Haute Couture et de la Mode

	FOCUS	SPEAKERS / DETAILS
<p>4:07 PM - 4:57 PM</p> <p><b>Panel 2: The Indian Luxury Market - New Developments &amp; Growth Drivers - Discussing Retail Infrastructure</b></p>	<p>Retail infrastructure, real estate, mall formats and the operating environment required for luxury growth in India.</p>	<p>Moderated by Anurag Tyagi, Vice-Chairperson, IFCCI Luxury Committee &amp; Founder, Sōka House; with Pushpa Bector, Group Executive Director and Business Head - DLF Retail; Sujal Shroff, CEO, JSW Realty; Rajneesh Mahajan, CEO, Inorbit Malls (Raheja Group); Samir Gadhok, Director, Burgundy Brand Collective, India; Claudio Grillenzoni, Head of Malls, Reliance Group (Jio World Plaza, Jio World Drive)</p>
<p>4:57 PM - 5:27 PM</p> <p><b>Panel 3: Insights on the Indian Consumer as seen across Luxury Categories</b></p>	<p>The evolving Indian luxury consumer across categories, with emphasis on aspiration, experience, taste and behaviour.</p>	<p>Moderated by Shefalee Vasudev, Editor-in-Chief, The Voice of Fashion and Atlas of Affluence; with Karishma Swali, Creative Director, Chanakya International and Chanakya School of Craft; Founder and Chair, Chanakya Foundation; Co-Founder &amp; Creative Director, Chorus; Vikram Goyal, Founder, Vikram Goyal Studio; Rohan Vaziralli, General Manager, The Estée Lauder Companies India</p>
<p>5:27 PM - 5:42 PM</p> <p><b>Fireside Chat: From Influence to Aspiration: How Digital Voices Are Shaping Luxury Demand</b></p>	<p>How digital voices, cultural tastemakers and content-led aspiration are shaping luxury demand.</p>	<p>Moderated by Srimoyi Bhattacharya, Chairperson, IFCCI Luxury Committee &amp; Founder, Peepul Advisory; with Masoom Minawala, Content Creator, Global Influencer &amp; Entrepreneur</p>
<p>5:42 PM - 6:02 PM</p> <p><b>Panel 4: The Talent Question: Navigating Opportunity, Education, Partnership, Diversity, Development and Leadership</b></p>	<p>Talent, education, partnership, diversity, development and leadership within the luxury and creative industries.</p>	<p>Moderated by Payal S. Kanwar, Director General, IFCCI; with Dhaval Gandhi, Co-founder, The School of Luxury Retail; Jamie Gill, Founder, The Outsiders Perspective; Gianni Nembrini, Fashion Design &amp; Fashion Product Program Leader, Istituto Marangoni Paris</p>
<p>6:02 PM - 6:07 PM</p> <p><b>Presentation: Project Indian Weaves - Culture, Heritage and the Future of Handloom Innovation</b></p>	<p>India's textile and weave traditions through a contemporary couture lens.</p>	<p>Vaishali S., Designer &amp; Founder, Vaishali S. Couture</p>
<p>6:07 PM - 6:12 PM</p> <p><b>Presentation: Art de Vivre à la Française 2027</b></p>	<p>French art de vivre and future-facing lifestyle initiatives.</p>	<p>Aurelien Sostaponti, Director of Mumbai Office &amp; Lifestyle, Healthcare &amp; Services Department, Business France</p>
<p>6:12 PM - 6:17 PM</p> <p><b>Closing Remarks</b></p>	<p>Conclusion of the programme and next steps for collaboration.</p>	<p>Shweta Pahuja, Regional Director (Western Region), IFCCI</p>