

Key Indo-French business news

September 2025

EDF strengthens smart metering in India with Hitachi and AWS

EDF International Networks has signed a strategic agreement with Hitachi Systems India and Amazon Web Services (AWS) to support Gujarat's Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) project. The collaboration involves deploying AWS cloud services, with Hitachi acting as Managed Service Provider, ensuring a robust IT backbone.



Engie India signed a 300 MW Solar PPA with NTPC

ENGIE India signed a 300 MW solar power purchase agreement with NTPC at a price of ₹2.55/kWh, following REC's auction for ISTS-connected projects. The partnership aims to boost India's clean energy transition, support its 500 GW non-fossil fuel target by 2030, and enhance grid resilience and energy security.



India becomes BlaBlaCar's largest market

With over 100,000 passengers per day and more than 20 million users expected by the end of 2025, the company built its Indian community through word-of-mouth and trust. Its growth is driven by the demand for affordable intercity travel and localized app features.



Dassault Aviation acquires majority stake in JV with Reliance Group

Reliance Infrastructure transferred 2% stake in Dassault Reliance Aerospace Ltd (DRAL) JV to Dassault for Rs 176 crore, increasing Dassault's stake to 51% and making DRAL its subsidiary. It enhances Dassault's control over Rafale and Falcon 2000 manufacturing in Nagpur. The first made-in-India Falcon 2000 is expected by 2028.



Empire Foods introduces Candia to the Indian market

Empire Foods has introduced Candia's premium dairy products, including butter and whipped cream, to the Indian market. The launch was celebrated with a live culinary demonstration at the French Embassy in New Delhi, led by Chef François Galtier and attended by industry professionals and the French Ambassador.



Tata Consultancy Services and CEA collaborate on Physical AI research

TCS and CEA have partnered to develop Physical AI solutions combining robotics, AI, and intelligent systems. They will focus on industrial robots, human-robot collaboration, and socially assistive robotics to strengthen French and European industries, with TCS Pace Port™ Paris driving PoCs, training, and scalable innovation.



DRDO and Safran advance AMCA fighter engine program

India and France plan to advance joint development of a 120 kN engine for the AMCA fighter, combining Safran's expertise with DRDO's R&D. After years of delay, the Modi government pushes for approval, highlighting the project as a strategic priority. This marks a milestone in India's defense self-reliance and Indo-French aerospace.



Safran expands partnerships to support India's aerospace ambitions

Safran Aircraft Engines expands collaboration with India's aerospace sector through new supplier agreements with Titan Engineering & Automation, Godrej Enterprises, and Azad Engineering. They diversify Safran's supply chain, scale up CFMLEAP engine and defense production, and support the "Make in India" initiative.



Delhi Metro partners with Alstom to modernize core lines

DMRC signed a 6-year contract (extendable by 2 years) with Alstom for OEM support, upgraded data systems, and spare parts to modernize Red and Yellow lines. It also awarded Alstom a 10-year, €42m maintenance contract for trains and depot equipment at Badli to ensure long-term efficiency, reliability, and passenger comfort.



Pluxee buys ProEves, India's leader in employee childcare benefits

Pluxee has signed an agreement to acquire 100% of ProEves, the leading Indian provider of employee childcare benefits and digital childcare platforms. The acquisition strengthens Pluxee's multi-benefits offering in India, a fast-growing and underpenetrated market, while supporting gender equality and work-life balance initiatives.



India's Tamil Nadu signed an MoU with France's Centre-Val de Loire

The Tamil Nadu government has signed an MoU with France, effective for 5 years, to promote tourism, focusing on cultural exchanges, heritage preservation, and joint promotional campaigns. The agreement aims to attract French visitors to Tamil Nadu while strengthening bilateral cooperation in the travel and hospitality sector.



IndiGo signs a 11-year maintenance contract with Thales

Thales will provide IndiGo repair services through its 'Avionics-By-The-Hour' and 'Repair-By-The-Hour' programs, ensuring the availability of critical components and minimizing downtime, at its new MRO facility in Gurugram. IndiGo also renewed a 5-year contract with AvioBook to continue using its electronic flight bag solution.



TotalEnergies ends partnership with Adani Green, selling entire stake

TotalEnergies plans to sell its stake in Adani Green Energy and exit its Indian renewable joint ventures, part of a broader move to divest renewable assets outside the US, Brazil, and Europe. The stake, bought for \$2 billion, is now valued near \$8 billion.



Michelin to boost India sourcing for global manufacturing supply chain

Michelin will expand sourcing from India for materials and components, including steel, carbon black, chemicals, and machinery, for global manufacturing. It also launched its first Made-in-India passenger car radial tyre, a milestone for local operations. These moves position India as a key hub in Michelin's worldwide supply chain.



Airbus and Air India launch world-class pilot training centre in Gurgaon

Airbus and Air India launched a pilot training centre in Gurugram to train 5,000+ pilots for A320 and A350 aircraft. The 12,000 sq m facility features 10 Full Flight Simulators, classrooms, and briefing rooms, with DGCA and EASA approved courses. The JV aims to support India's aviation growth and upskill pilots with institutions like IITs and GSV.

