

## 1. PM Modi Co-Chair of AI Summit held in Paris

### Introduction

The President of France Emmanuel Macron has chaired the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Action Summit in Paris held on February 11. Prime Minister Narendra Modi co-chaired the Summit.



### India at AI summit

The invitation to India to co-chair the AI Summit is being seen as a recognition of New Delhi's approach to AI, and its expanding role in the domain of new and emerging technologies. While China is a global leader in this breakthrough technology, the choice made by Paris signals the importance it attaches to shared

values and convergences. India will share its views on the democratisation of AI, and on bringing its benefits to the Global South.

### Previous AI Summits

The Paris Summit will seek to build on the two summits held in the United Kingdom in November 2023 and South Korea in May 2024.

The Bletchley Park Declaration (UK) signed at the AI Safety Summit, which was attended by 28 countries, affirmed that AI should be designed, developed, deployed, and used in a manner that is safe, human-centric, trustworthy, and responsible.

The Seoul Summit, co-hosted by the UK, was attended by 27 nations. The Seoul Declaration reaffirmed their commitment to international cooperation on AI, and to addressing the challenges and opportunities presented by the new technology. The Seoul Summit also proposed a network of AI Safety Institutes.

### Theme of Paris Summit

The Paris Summit has five main themes: Public Interest AI, Future of Work, Innovation and Culture, Trust in AI, and Global AI Governance. It will aim to leverage existing initiatives and fora on AI, including by the United Nations.

The Summit will launch concrete initiatives to place AI at the service of the common good, with specific focus on the needs of the Global South.

### New Delhi's focus

India has put forward the example of the IndiaAI Mission. The Rs 10,371 crore program of "Making AI in India and Making AI for India" aims to democratise AI innovation and ensure that its benefits are equitably distributed to all citizens.

On the global cooperation on AI, India is focused on three main areas:

**GPAI:** Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence is an OECD-supported multi-stakeholder initiative to guide the responsible development and use of AI. As a founding member and lead chair of GPAI for 2024, India has been working towards making GPAI the nodal partnership for global cooperation on AI.

**BRIDGING THE AI DIVIDE:** India is pushing for inclusive AI Governance focused on bridging the widening AI divide between countries, and democratising AI globally.

**GLOBAL SOUTH PRIORITIES:** India is advocating the empowerment of voices from the Global South in the discourse around cooperation on AI, spotlighting the unique challenges, opportunities, and requirements of the developing world.

Relevance: GS Prelims & Mains Paper II; International Organisations

Source: Indian Express

## 2. India-France ties

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### Previous Co-Chairs

India's Strategic Partnership with France is its oldest, and the two countries have stood together in addressing a range of global issues.

of the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI).

In 2015, they launched the International Solar Alliance on the sidelines of the Paris climate conference, and they are co-chairs

### Frequent Meetings

The Prime Minister's visit will be an occasion to further deepen the India-France strategic partnership. The PM shares a warm personal equation with President Macron, and the two leaders met thrice in 2024, with the President attending the 2024 Republic Day celebrations as Chief Guest.

### Defence Cooperation is Crucial Part

Strategic ties between the countries have traditionally pivoted on areas such as defence, security, space, and civil nuclear energy collaboration. In particular, India and France have a strong and robust defence partnership with an increasing indigenous element.

Their defence cooperation is reviewed under the Annual Defence Dialogue (Defence Minister level) and the High Committee on Defence Cooperation (Secretary level).

Major ongoing defence-related projects include the purchase of Rafale aircraft and the P-75 Scorpene Project. The two countries are discussing buying 26 Rafale-M fighter jets for the Indian Navy's aircraft carriers and three more Scorpene-class conventional submarines.

The French have always assured that the element of "Make in India" and "transfer of technology" that they offer is something their competitors don't. What adds a layer is that Paris is also training Indians to use the technology at the optimum level, and not just handover the blueprints of the technology shared.

Other potential areas of collaboration being pursued are co-development of next generation engines for fighter planes. An office of DRDO has also been opened in the Indian Embassy in France in 2023 for strengthening the technology cooperation between India and France.

### India-France Innovation Year, 2026

The bilateral ties are also now expanding into the sectors of tech, innovation, renewable energy, trade, economy, supply-chain partnership, and people-to-people relations. The logo of India-France Innovation Year, 2026, has been unveiled during the PM's visit.

Relevance: GS Prelims & Mains Paper II; Bilateral Relations

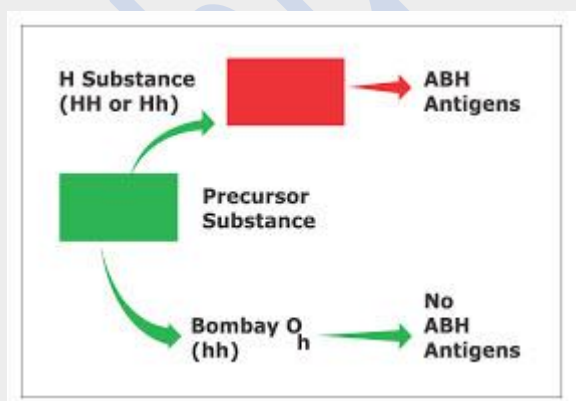
Source: Indian Express

## 3. Cross-blood transplant performed on a patient with Bombay blood

### Introduction

In mid-2024, the patient underwent a kidney transplant. Though he was relatively young for a transplant, that's not where he stands unique. He had the extremely rare Bombay blood group, which prevented him from receiving organs or even blood transfusions from anyone who didn't have the same blood group running through their veins.

His mother donated her kidney, though she did not have the Bombay blood group.



### The Bombay blood group

The Bombay, a.k.a. HH, blood group is a rare blood group first discovered in Mumbai in 1952 by Y.M. Bhende. The key differences between the Bombay blood group and the common ABO blood groups lie in the presence (or absence) of the H antigen, which is the fundamental building block for the ABO blood group system.

In normal individuals, the H antigen serves as the base structure for building A and B antigens. In Bombay blood group individuals, the gene responsible for producing the H antigen is mutated or absent, so neither A nor B antigens can be formed.

Therefore, these people cannot receive blood transfusions from any ABO group, including type O, which has the H antigen. They can only receive blood from another Bombay blood group donor. Its prevalence is about 0.0004% (one in 4 million) of the total human population. While it drops to one in a million in the European population and one in 10,000 in Mumbai, the act of finding a donor is still daunting.

### **How was Transfusion made possible?**

The Transfusion was made possible through a special procedure called double filtration plasmapheresis (DFPP). The procedure has been developed by the Japanese. Double filtration plasmapheresis (DFPP) is a blood purification technique that removes pathogenic molecules from the blood. It's a semi-selective process that uses two filters to separate plasma from blood cells and fractionate the plasma into different components.

Relevance: GS Prelims; Science & Technology

Source: The Hindu

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