

## SAUDI ARABIA

Saudi Arabia is a desert country encompassing most of the Arabian Peninsula, with Red Sea and Persian (Arabian) Gulf coastlines. Known as the birthplace of Islam, it's home to the religion's 2 most sacred mosques: Masjid al-Haram, in Mecca, destination of the annual Hajj pilgrimage, and Medina's Masjid an-Nabawi, burial site of the prophet Muhammad.

**Capital:** [Riyadh](#)

Nov-Mar is a popular time to visit, when temperatures are mild and there's occasional rain. Al Janadriyah (dates vary, Feb/Mar) is a national festival celebrating traditional culture and heritage

**Currency:** Saudi riyal

India and Saudi Arabia enjoy multifaceted relations reflecting the centuries old economic and socio-cultural ties. India and Saudi Arabia are old business partners; their trade relations go back several centuries in time. Today, the bilateral business ties are being steadily expanded and further strengthened by continuous interaction and cooperation, including regular exchange of business delegations. Besides being a major trade partner, India sees the Kingdom as a major pillar for its energy security and an important economic partner for investments, joint ventures, transfer of technology projects.

The value of India Saudi Arabia bilateral trade during 2015-16 decreased to USD 26.71 billion, a 31.98% fall from USD 39.27 billion last year, as per figures provided by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade. The decline may be attributed mainly to low petroleum and commodity prices and lower global demand. During this period, our imports from Saudi Arabia reached USD 20.31 billion, registering a decline of 22.42% over previous year (USD 28.11 billion) whereas our exports to Saudi Arabia reached USD 6.40 billion registering a decline of 8.61% over previous year (USD 11.16 billion).

### India-Saudi bilateral trade (in million US\$)

Year (April March)	(Imports -from Saudi Arabia)	Exports to Saudi Arabia	Total trade	% increase in bilateral trade	% increase in Indian imports	% increase in Indian exports
2010-2011	20,385.28	4,684.40	25,069.68	19.35	19.23	19.90

2011-2012	31,817.70	5,683.29	37,500.99	45.59	56.08	21.32
2012-2013	33,998.11	9,785.78	43,783.89	16.75	6.85	72.18
2013-2014	36,403.65	12,218.96	48,622.61	11.05	7.08	24.86
2014-2015	28,107.56	11,161.43	39,268.99	-19.24	-22.79	-8.65
2015-2016	20,314.81	6,395.76	26,710.57	-31.98	-27.72	-42.70

(Source: Department of Commerce, GOI)

Major Indian exports to Saudi Arabia include mineral fuels, mineral oils and products thereof, agricultural products, electric machines and equipment, iron and steel, organic chemicals, spacecraft parts, articles of apparel and clothing accessories etc. India's major imports include mineral fuels, mineral oils and its products, organic and inorganic chemicals, plastic and its products, fertilizers etc.

Major Indian companies operating in KSA include Larsen & Toubro (L&T); Tata Consultancy Service(TCS); Telecommunication Consultancy India Ltd.(TCIL); Tata Motors; WIPRO; Dayim Punj Llyod; Shapoorji Pallonji; Infosys; Air India; Godrej & Boyce; Jet Airways; State Bank of India; AFCONS; Kalptaru Power Transmission; Engineering Projects of India Limited (EPIL) etc.

## CLUSTERS

- Automotive
- Minerals and Metal Processing
- Solar Energy products
- Plastics and Packaging
- Home Appliances

## Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Riyadh Chamber of Commerce & Industry