

REPORTING PROFORMA FOR COMMERCIAL WINGS
(Data Source: National Trade Statistics of the reporting country)

I. Monthly- Trade in Goods, Tourism & Technologies;

Name of the Mission (Country): Embassy of India, Riyadh

I. **MONTHLY REPORT: December, 2024**

A. Trade in goods

a) Total trade in goods during:

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Trade	Export (US\$ million)	Import (US\$ million)	Status (P) Provisional/(F) Final
Country's trade with India	2431.36	1016.89	P
Country's total global trade	25146.4	21076.74	P

Source: General Authority for Statistics, Saudi Arabia

b) Top 10 items of import from India during:

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S. No.	Commodity	Value (US\$ Million) From World	Value (US\$ million) from India	% share in total import of the commodity
1	Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment	3128.72	196.12	6.27
2	Products of the chemical industries	1783.31	155.03	8.69
3	Machinery and mechanical appliances, electrical equipment, parts thereof	5371.98	148.1	2.76
4	Plant Products	802.43	138.18	17.22

5	Base metals and their articles	1948.36	112.38	5.77
6	Textiles and their articles	567.44	56.86	10.02
7	Precious stones or metals and their articles, jewelry	1215.01	35.94	2.96
8	Mineral products	1153.27	35.93	3.12
9	Plastics, rubber and their articles	695.25	33.29	4.79
10	Animals and their products	582.75	30.25	5.19

Source: General Authority for Statistics, Saudi Arabia

c) Top 10 items of export to India during:

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S. No.	Commodity	Value (US\$ Million) to World	Value (US\$ million) to India	% share in total import of the commodity
1	Minerals	21486.04	1934.42	9
2	Products of the chemical industries	2034.77	240.92	11.84
3	Base metals and their articles	572.89	97.88	17.09
4	Plastics, rubber and their articles	1727.11	87.5	5.07
5	Precious stones or metals and their articles, jewelry	286.89	56.36	19.65
6	Paper, paperboard and their articles	73.55	3.93	5.34
7	Machinery and mechanical appliances, electrical equipment, parts thereof	1053.82	3.75	0.36
8	Mineral products	105.16	1.7	1.62
9	Plant Products	104.29	1.58	1.52
10	Works of arts and antiques	30.52	0.72	2.36

Source: General Authority for Statistics, Saudi Arabia

d) Significant trends in trade and investment:

S. No.	Category	Details of significant trends (Max.200 words)	Analysis (Max.200 words)
1.	Trade	<p>India Saudi bilateral trade</p> <p>India's exports to Saudi Arabia during Apr – Dec 2024 was marked at \$8739.39 million and exports from Apr- Dec 2023 was marked at \$8025.33 million.</p> <p><u>Source- Niryat, DGFT</u></p>	<p>1. December 2024 has seen the highest trade value 8.74 billion USD in FY 24-25 (Apr to Dec). Comparing November (7.32 billion USD) to December (8.74 billion USD), there's an increase of 1.42 billion USD, which is a significant jump.</p> <p>Top Performing Items FY24-25 (Apr- Dec 24)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engineering Goods – \$4,472.77 Mn (78% of target) • Organic and Inorganic Chemicals – \$938.01 Mn (69% of target) • Rice – \$914.68 Mn (67% of target) • Electronic Goods – \$385.62 Mn (76% of target) • Gems and Jewellery- \$109.66 Mn (100% of target) <p>2. As compared with previous year for the same period, April-December, 2024, there is an increase in exports by an absolute value of \$714.06 million which is an increase of 8.9%</p> <p>3. High Performing commodities from Apr-Dec 24 comparing to Apr-Dec 23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gems and Jewellery: Achievement increased by \$41.21million • Drugs and Pharmaceuticals: Achievement increased by \$57.51 million • Coffee : Achievement increased by \$6.56 million

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tobacco : Achievement increased by \$8.46 Mn • Iron Ore: Exports improved by \$7.13 million <p>4. Low Performing commodities from Apr-Dec 24 compared to Apr-Dec 23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Petroleum Products: Decreased by \$497.12 million • Ceramic Products and Glassware: Decreased by \$24.89 million • Oil Seeds: Decreased by \$5.25 million, and efficiency declined sharply • Carpets: Decreased by \$2.46 million • Mica, Coal, and Other Ores, Minerals: Decreased by \$20.80 million <p>5. Observations:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong Growth in Iron Ore, Gems & Jewellery, and Pharmaceuticals, suggesting increased demand • Agricultural commodities (Coffee, Tobacco) showed notable growth • Drop in Petroleum Products, likely due to global price fluctuations and reduced exports. • Manufactured goods (Carpet, Ceramics) faced a decline, indicating lower demand
2.	Investment	<p>(a) Saudi investments in India</p> <p>Investment Volume: By June 2024, Saudi investments in India reached approximately US\$3.228 billion, positioning Saudi Arabia as the 20th largest</p>	<p>Saudi Arabia’s investments in India is diversified and focuses on high-potential sectors. Saudi Arabia investments are in key areas such as telecommunications, agriculture, renewable energy, and technology,</p>

investor in the country.

Key investors and investments:

- **Public Investment Fund (PIF):**
Reliance Retail Ventures Limited (RRVL): PIF invested around **US\$1.3 billion** for a 2.04% equity stake.
Jio Platforms: An investment of approximately **US\$ 1.5 billion**, translating to a 2.32% equity stake.
- **Saudi Agricultural & Livestock Investment Company (SALIC):**
Daawat Foods Ltd.: Acquired a 30% stake in **LT Foods:** Acquired a 9.2% stake in 2022 with an investment of approximately **US\$56 million**.
- **Alfanar:** Invested around **US\$600 million** in renewable energy projects, including a wind plant in Gujarat and a solar power plant in Rajasthan.
- **SABIC:** Established a Technology Centre in Bangalore with an investment of **US\$100 million**.
- **Abdul Latif Jameel :**

Has acquired 38.5 % state in Greaves Electric Mobility, one of India's leading manufacturers of electric two- and three-wheeler. They are also investing in Renewables and Automotive components sector.

- **Petromin:** In collaboration with HPCL, plans set up 1000 service centers in India; and also EV charging stations.
- **Al Jomaih:** Invested in renewable energy projects, including developing a 120 MW solar plant in Gujarat.

Total Saudi Investments in India: Combining direct and indirect investments, the total Saudi investments amount to approximately **US\$7.828 billion**.

Indirect Investments:

Public Investment Fund

(PIF): PIF has shown interest in indirect foreign investments by partnering with SoftBank's Vision Fund I, holding a 45% share. Over the past five years, SoftBank's Vision Fund I has invested approximately **US\$11.25 billion** in Indian companies, with PIF's share amounting to around **US\$4.6 billion**. Beneficiary companies include Lenskart, Flipkart,

		<p>OYO, Delhivery, FirstCry, Grofers, Ola, Paytm, Unacademy, and Policy Bazaar.</p>	
		<p>(b) Indian investments into Saudi Arabia</p> <p>Investment Volume: As of August 2023, Indian investments in Saudi Arabia totaled approximately US\$3 billion, with 2,923 Indian companies registered in the Kingdom.</p> <p>Sectors: Indian enterprises are present in following sectors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction • Telecommunications • Information Technology • Pharmaceuticals • Mining • Manufacturing • Pharmaceuticals <p>Notable Projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vedanta: In November 2024, Vedanta signed an agreement to establish substantial copper facilities in Saudi Arabia, contributing to the Kingdom's Vision 2030 objectives. 	<p>The growing presence of Indian companies in Saudi Arabia reflects the growing opportunities for Indian businesses in the Giga and other projects of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The Kingdom is also encouraging localization in manufacturing and several Indian companies are exploring opportunities for setting up manufacturing plants in sectors such as pharmaceuticals, engineering goods, etc. Further, ARAMCO has a strong localization program called IKTIVA and supports companies which are contractors/vendors to set up localization programs.</p>

B. Market Access on Alerts

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a) Alerts on customs tariff changes: -

Sr. No	Notification no. and date	HS code	Description	Original customs tariff	Present customs tariff	Effective from	Remarks if any	Upload notification (pdf only)
1	<p>NIL</p> <p>On 22 December 2024, the Saudi Ministry of Industry and Mineral Resources announced the upgradation of customs items registered in industrial licenses from the 10-digit Harmonized System (HS) code to a 12-digit format.</p> <p>https://spa.gov.sa/en/N2231717</p> <p>This follows the notification by the GCC Customs Union Authority regarding the first edition of the GCC Integrated Customs Tariff to be implemented from 1 January 2025 by all GCC member states, i.e. Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE). This will expand the tariff code from 8 digit to 12 digits. Saudi Arabia was using integrated customs tariff based on 12 digits from earlier (since 2016).</p>							

b) Alerts on non-tariff measures (SPS/TBT/ import and export procedures/ restrictions/ prohibitions, licensing/ STEs etc.)

Sl. No	Notification no./ date	Measure	Classification / HS CODE	Effective from	Remarks if any
1	<p>Notification no./ date:- SFDA resolution No. 20576 dated 14 March, 2023</p> <p>Measure:- Temporary ban on the import of Shrimps from India</p> <p>Classification / HS CODE:-</p> <p>Effective from:-</p> <p>Remarks if any:- As per the recommendations of the World Organization for Animal Health, Article No. (8) and (9) of the constitution of the Health of Aquatic Animals, the SFDA issued a resolution No. (20576) dated 14th March 2023, imposing a temporary ban on the import of shrimp from India, until the Indian side provides the assurance that the White Spot Syndrome Virus will not be transmitted to the fisheries in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The issue has been raised with Saudi side several times including in meetings of Ambassador with CEO SFDA in June 2024. Embassy facilitated a meeting between SFDA and APEDA & MPEDA in August 2024 in which MPEDA has highlighted safety measures and good aquaculture practices undertaken by farmers in India and requested SFDA to consider lifting the import ban. However, SFDA reiterated their earlier position that as per website of World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH), WSSV is still prevalent in India and the ban will be removed once the WOAH declares India WSSV-free.</p>				

2	<p>Notification no./ date:- G/SPS/N/SAU/338 dated 01/02/2018 Measure:- Suspension on imports of cultured fish originating from India Classification / HS CODE:- Effective from:- Remarks if any:- Kingdom of Saudi Arabia vide SPS notification G/SPS/N/SAU/338 dated 01/02/2018 has issued temporary suspension on import of cultured fish originating from India. The reason for the temporary suspension was unclear health situation of the cultured fish originating from India based on SFDA report.</p>
3	<p>Notification no./ date:- Decision No. (901) dated 16/2/2006 Measure:- Temporary ban was imposed by SFDA on the import of egg and egg products from India Classification / HS CODE:- Effective from:- Remarks if any:- As per Decision No. (901) dated 16/2/2006, a temporary ban was imposed by SFDA on the import of egg and egg products from India due to presence of highly pathogenic avian influenza virus (HPAI) outbreak. The issue has been raised with Saudi side several times including by the Ambassador in his meeting with CEO SFDA in June 2024. In recent developments, the Embassy facilitated a meeting between SFDA and APEDA & MPEDA in August 2024 and September 2024 in which APEDA informed that India has 26 HPAI-free compartments approved by WOAAH and requested SFDA to consider importing poultry products from these compartments. However, SFDA has suggested to first update the country health status with WOAAH so that SFDA may consider lifting the ban.</p>

c) Alerts on standards, technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures:

Sl. No.	Notification no./ date	Standard/ technical regulation/ conformity assessment procedure	Classificati on / HS CODE	Effective from	Remarks if any
NIL					

d) Any other alerts on trade defense measures taken by respective country:
(Safeguards including special safeguard, anti dumping, CVD or anti- subsidy)

S. No.	Details
1.	<p>Notification no. date or other references : GCC Notice on initiation of investigation published on 5.11.2018 in the Official Gazette of GCC Type (initiation, final, prov., sunset, consultations, new shipper review) : The duties have been imposed for a period of 5 years from June 6, 2020 till June 5, 2025. Definitive anti-dumping duty rate between 17.6% to 106% on imports from India.</p>

	<p>Details of products/ sectors affected : Ceramic tiles</p> <p>Description : Anti-dumping duties have been applied against import of ceramic tiles originating from India, China.</p> <p>The Indian companies had given their responses to the final provisional report in Oct 2019. A 6-member delegation led by ADG, DGTR, Ministry of Commerce visited GCC Secretariat on 26 Nov, 2019 and conveyed India's concerns to the GCC Anti-Dumping team.</p> <p>GCC authorities imposed definitive anti-dumping duty against imports of ceramic and porcelain tiles from India for a period of 5 years from June 6, 2020. Concerns of India on the same were raised with GCC and Saudi authorities, including during CIM's bilateral virtual meeting with Saudi Commerce Minister in June 2020 and April 2021, and through written letters. Mission is pursuing the matter.</p> <p>The matter was taken up by HCIM, during his bilateral meeting with his Saudi counterpart in September, 2022, June, 2023 and October, 2023. The matter was also taken up by DG, DGTR with Governor, GAFT during his visit to Riyadh on 24 November, 2022; and by Secretary (CPV & OIA) during visit to Riyadh for first India-GCC SOM on 20 March, 2023; and Ambassador's meeting with Governor (GAFT) in November 2024. There has not been much progress in the matter.</p>
2.	<p>Notification no. date or other references : GCC Notice on Initiation of Investigation published on 05/04/2021 and shared with the Mission through an NV</p> <p>Type (initiation, final, prov., sunset, consultations, new shipper review) : The duties have been imposed for a period of 5 years from October 1, 2022 till September 30, 2027. Definitive anti-dumping duty rate between 17.6% to 106% on imports from India.</p> <p>Details of products/ sectors affected : Automotive batteries of capacity from 32 to 225 Amp</p> <p>Description : The Ministerial Committee formed by the Ministers of Industry in the GCC Council adopted the recommendations of the Permanent Committee to Combat Harmful Practices in international Trade for the countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council, to impose final anti-dumping duties on export engine batteries with a capacity of 32 to 225 amps originating from Turkey and India. However, there is no anti-dumping duty imposed on export from Spain.</p>
3.	<p>Notification no. date or other references : GCC Notice on Initiation of Investigation published on 13/08/2023</p> <p>Type (initiation, final, prov., sunset, consultations, new shipper review) : Initiation of Anti-dumping investigation by TSAIP, GCC Secretariat on import of product of Sanitary Ware made of Porcelain or Chinese Porcelain or others</p> <p>Details of products/ sectors affected : Ceramic Sinks-Wash Basins, Wash Basin Pedestals, Baths, Bidets, Water Closet Pans, Flushing Cisterns, Urinals and Similar Sanitary Fixtures</p> <p>Description : GCC-TSAIP had initiated ADD Investigation on Products of Sanitary Ware made of Porcelain or Chinese Porcelain or others from India on August 13, 2023. [The Mission on request of DGTR had requested GCC for extension of deadline by 5 working days for submitting of representation by Indian exporters. However GCC denied the extension of deadline]. The issue has been taken up with GCC and Saudi side on different occasions.</p> <p>A 4-member delegation from GCC-TSAIP visited India in February 2024 for on-spot verification</p>

of three private establishments regarding anti-dumping investigation of Products of Sanitary Ware. Preliminary Report on the Investigation was shared by GCC on 28 March, 2024. The comments on the Preliminary Report from the Indian side was forwarded to the Secretariat in April 2024. The matter was also raised by Secretary (CPV & OIA) with Secretary General, GCC during his visit to Riyadh in May 2024.

In this regard, DGTR submitted its comments to the secretariat in October 2024 with request to consider correct calculation of margins for determining anti-dumping duties on Indian sanitary ware exports. The issue was further raised by Ambassador during his meetings with GCC Secretary General on 17th November and with GAFT Governor on 18th November 2024 and requested the Saudi authorities for a fair consideration of submission from India during the process of investigation. A meeting between GCC and DGTR was proposed from our side to discuss the matter.

On 11 December, the Embassy of India facilitated a virtual meeting between GCC and DGTR during which GCC Secretariat was requested to consider India's submission regarding quantum of dumping margin that have been determined against Indian exporters.

e) **Alert on services, regulatory regime, qualification requirement, licensing procedures, visa regime, barriers etc.**

Sl. No.	Notification no., and date or other references	Service sectors affected	Modes	Effective from	Remarks if any
1	Visa Regime	All Incoming private delegation to Saudi Arabia	NA	NA	Business Visa: The Saudi business visa is for individuals or companies intending to engage in business activities such as meetings, conferences, or contract negotiations within the Kingdom. Eligibility for the business visa is only through an invitation letter from Saudi Arabia (through a MOFA letter). It is challenging for companies from India who do not have business partnerships in KSA to secure business visas. Saudi Federation of Chambers is a the apex national body which can support business delegations, however, they have not

					<p>facilitated business visas for Indian delegations over the last one year.</p> <p>Tourist Visa: The Saudi tourist visa is for individuals intending to visit the Kingdom for leisure, cultural exploration, or to perform Umrah (excluding the Hajj season). Indians who hold valid UK, US, or Schengen visas are eligible for an on-arrival tourist visa and E-visa. For other applicants, they must fill out the application form through the official website, submit the application, and provide the prescribed documents to the nearest VFS along with their passport.</p> <p>Link to apply for Tourist Visa: https://ksavisa.sa/</p> <p>Link to apply for E-visa: https://visa.visitsaudi.com/</p> <p>Transit Visa: Saudi Arabia offers a 96-hour transit visa for travelers passing through the Kingdom on their national carriers (Saudia, Flynas and others).</p>
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Source:- <https://visa.visitsaudi.com/>

f) Representation of trade issues

Sr. No.	Select Issue Field*	Issues Details	HS Code	Products Description	Reporting Agency (India)	Company/Exporter Name if any	Status of the Issue #	Importing Country Authority Name and
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								Remarks
1.	Honey/ Honey Farm	Indian exporter s have reported delay in registeri ng their product in SFDA			APEDA	Shamee Bee, K.K Naturals Yogi Agro	Pending since 2022/20 23	Saudi Arabia

Importing honey into Saudi Arabia requires compliance with specific regulations set by the Saudi Food and Drug Authority (SFDA). Indian exporters have reported challenges in meeting these requirements, often encountering new stipulations during the registration process, leading to delays.

1. Evolving Registration Requirements:

- Exporters have experienced instances where, after submitting the necessary documentation, additional requirements are introduced by the SFDA, necessitating further submissions and prolonging the registration timeline.

Note

* Issue Selection Fields – Tariff / Non-Tariff Barriers / Trade Remedies / Customs Clearance / Others

Status of Issue Selection Fields – Three fields (forwarded to concerned authority / under discussion / resolved)

C. Stakeholders' Feedback and Action Taken

a) Feedback from major Indian industries/other commercial concerns and Indian trade visitors to that country

Sr. No.	Name of the Firm/Company	Sector	Trade barrier issues if any (incl. HS codes)	General Feedback (Max.200 words)
1.	MSN Laboratories, Tianish Laboratories (and other companies participating in CPHI 2025)	Pharmaceutical	-	Indian pharma companies are in active discussion with Saudi businesses to explore collaboration in the area of pharma, APIs, biosimilars, nutraceuticals etc.

b) Feedback on major trade promotion activities/events

Sr. No.	Activity/Events (trade fair, BSM etc.)	Date and venue	Number of participants from India	Name of EPC/Trade Body coordinating participants	Mission's Feedback (Max.200 words)
1.	Ambassador's meet with Deputy Minister for Political Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Saudi Arabia	01/12/2024			Ambassador Dr. Suhel Ajaz Khan called on H.E. Ambassador Dr. Saud Al Sati, Deputy Minister for Political Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Saudi Arabia. They reviewed bilateral relations and discussed other issues of mutual interests.
2.	Visit of Hon'ble Minister of Environment, Forest & Climate Change to attend Sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 16)	1-2 Dec. 2024			<p>Hon'ble Minister of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Mr. Bhupender Yadav, attended the Opening Session of the 16th session of the COP16 of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification in Riyadh.</p> <p>On the sidelines of COP16, Hon'ble Minister met with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs & Climate Affairs Envoy for Saudi Arabia, H.E. Adel Al-Jubeir and exchanged views on the the issues under discussion UN Convention to Combat Desertification.</p> <p>The Minister of Environment, Haryana, Mr. Rao Narbir Singh,</p>

					also participated in the COP-16 and presented innovative approaches to combat desertification.
3.	Visit of Shri Pankaj Chaudhary, Hon'ble Minister of State for Finance to attend the Zakat, Taxation, and Customs Conference 2024	4-5 Dec. 2024			<p>Hon'ble MoS Finance, Shri Pankaj Chaudhary visited Riyadh along with Chairman CBDT and Member CBIC. They participated in the 'Zakat, Taxation, and Customs Conference 2024' in Riyadh.</p> <p>On the sidelines, the delegation had a meeting with Saudi Finance Minister, Mohammad Al Jadaan on deepening the economic partnership between India and KSA.</p>
4.	Meeting of Chairman, CBDT, with the Governor of the Zakat, Tax and Customs Authority	06/12/2024			<p>On the sidelines of ZTC Conference, Mr. Ravi Agrawal, Chairman, CBDT, met with the Governor of the Zakat, Tax and Customs Authority, Suhail bin Mohammed Abanmi at Riyadh. The Heads of tax administration shared their experiences on progressive tax administration and towards fostering voluntary compliance through technology driven innovative solutions.</p>
5.	CPHI Middle East Exhibition in Riyadh	10-12 December 2024 Riyadh	80		<p>Dr. Suhel Ajaz Khan and Counsellor, Ms. Manusmriti, interacted with Indian companies participating in the CPHI Middle East Exhibition in Riyadh. More than 80 Indian companies participating in the</p>

					<p>exhibition representing expanding India-Saudi cooperation in pharma & healthcare sectors. On the sidelines of the exhibition, they attended the signing ceremony of a joint venture between leading Indian pharma company MSN Laboratories and Saudi Al Hobail.</p>
6.	The first India-GCC meeting on health cooperation	12/12/2024		<p>Ministry of Health & Family Welfare; Department of Pharmaceuticals</p>	<p>The first India-GCC meeting on health cooperation was held online on 11 December as part of the implementation of the India-The Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (GCC) Action Plan 2024-28, which was finalized in September this year. Both sides discussed ways to enhance collaboration in the medical, healthcare, and pharmaceutical sectors.</p>
7.	Internet Governance Forum (IGF)	18/12/2024			<p>At the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) held in Riyadh, the Indian delegation from the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (#MeitY) presented case studies in a workshop on the theme "Challenges and Opportunities for the Multilingual Internet." The delegation highlighted India's success story in developing Integrated Delivery Networks (IDNs) across 22 languages.</p>

8.	Ambassador's meeting with Chairman of Board of Directors of Al Baha Chamber	19/12/2024			Ambassador Dr. Suhel Ajaz Khan, along with Counsellor, Ms. Manusmriti, met with the Chairman of Board of Directors of Al Baha Chamber, Mr. Mohammed Almajabani & other Board members to explore opportunities for enhancing economic cooperation between India & the Al-Baha region of KSA. During his visit to Al Baha region he also met with the Governor of Al Baha Province.
9.	Closed door meet with Ministry of Investment	23/12/2024		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Man Industries 2. Stride Ventures 3. Paytm 4. Essar Capital Limited 5. Vedanta 6. TCIL 7. LT Foods 8. Tech Mahindra 9. ERAM 10. Rossari Biotech Ltd 11. Aster Dm Healthcare 12. MSN Laboratories 13. Prosecure Ltd Co 	Embassy in collaboration with Ministry of Investment, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia organised a closed door discussion with Indian companies present in KSA to bring out the challenges being faced by Indian companies in KSA.
10.	Ambassador's meeting with CEO and Executive Board Member of SABIC	24/12/2024			Ambassador Dr. Suhel Ajaz Khan met with Abdulrahman Al-Fageeh, CEO and Executive Board Member, SABIC. They discussed various areas of cooperation including, agri-nutrients,

					chemicals, research and innovation etc. Ambassador was accompanied by Counsellor, Ms. Manusmriti.
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c) Feedback from local commercial visitors to trade fairs in India, including under RBSM; number of Business Visas issued:

Sr. No.	Activity (trade fair)	Date and venue	Number of participants from the relevant country	List of large/ key participants from the relevant country	Number of Business Visas issued	Mission's Feedback
1.	Rising Rajasthan	9-11 Dec. 2024, Jaipur Rajasthan		Ministry of Investment	15	A delegation from Saudi Arabia led by Ministry of Investment participate in Rising Rajasthan Investment Summit being held in Jaipur. The delegation was joined by businesses from KSA. It is understood that B2B/B2G MoUs were signed during the visit. (details not available with Mission)

d) Trade Queries for Imports/Exports (if not uploaded on the Indian trade portal) (Source: Mission)

S. No.	Enquiry Originator & Company Name	Product	Nature (Import/Export)	Action Taken
<p><i>EoI Riyadh received 233 and CGI Jeddah received 44 trade queries in December 2024. Details of trade queries in r/o Embassy are attached in Annexure 1.</i></p> <p><i>The queries were mainly related to seeking list of importers of food products, coffee, men wears, brass jewellery, spices, honey, fruits and vegetables, ready made garments, rice, handicrafts, industrial products, aluminium foil tissue, frozen food disposable cup tiles, sanitary ware, building hardware and accessories, metal leather, glass etc.</i></p>				

D. Tourism:

a) Tourist / Business Visa Issued by Mission:

Sr. No	No. of Tourist Visa issued during December 2024	No. of Business Visa issued during December 2024
1.	EOI, Riyadh December, 2024: 1333	EOI, Riyadh December, 2024: 130
2.	CGI, Jeddah December, 2024: 72	CGI, Jeddah December, 2024: 60

b) Indian Tourism Promotion Events/Interactions held / organised:

Sr. No.	Details of Event/ Interaction	Theme/Topic	Description / No. of Participants and type of participation (tour operators/ tourism companies/ social influencers etc.)
<p>1. The Embassy of India has been increasingly active in promoting tourism through social media platforms to showcase the diverse cultural, natural, and historical heritage of India.</p> <p>2. Bharat ko Janiye Quiz was actively promoted through the social media platforms.</p>			

c) Any advisory issued by the country for travelling to India:

Sr. No.	Date	Advisory	Reason	Action Taken
<i>NIL during the period</i>				

E. Opportunities in Technology/Investment/Procurement:

a) Opportunities in Technology:

Sr. No	Name of Technology	Sector	Potential opportunity for ToT/ collaboration	B2B partnership possible/ identified companies
1	Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Advanced Technologies	Technology	The Saudi government has committed to investing approximately \$100 billion by 2030 in advanced technologies, including AI, semiconductors, robotics, and smart cities. The establishment of the Saudi Data and Artificial Intelligence Authority (SDAIA) underscores this commitment, aiming to position the Kingdom as a global leader in AI by 2030.	In the technology sector, companies like the Saudi Company for Artificial Intelligence (SCAI) and Alat drive advancements in AI and digital solutions. In the oil and gas sector, industry giants like Saudi Aramco lead sustainable and technology-driven initiatives. The automobile sector, represented by innovators like Lucid, focuses on sustainable transportation and electric mobility. And in telecommunications sector, with key players like STC, Zain, and Mobily, provides robust digital infrastructure and connectivity solutions

b) Out borne opportunities for investments/ assets on offer/major company divestment:

Sr. No.	Sector Name	Particulars of the asset /company	Contact details
1.	Special Economic Zones	Saudi Arabia has established several Special Economic Zones (SEZs) to attract foreign investment and promote economic diversification in line with its Vision 2030 initiative. These zones offer unique regulatory frameworks and incentives tailored to specific industries. Notable SEZs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. King Abdullah Economic City (KAEC) SEZ 2. Ras Al Khair SEZ 3. Jazan SEZ 4. Cloud Computing SEZ <p>To read more:- https://www.pwc.com/m1/en/services/tax/me-tax-</p>

			legal-news/2023/saudi-arabia-establishment-of-four-new-special-economic-zones.html?
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c) Export Opportunities - Information on tender Notices for projects and procurement which are open to Indian project exporters/ suppliers (USD 5 million & above) – Government Procurement (GP) as well as non-GP.

Sr. No.	Tender/ procurement notice No and date	GP/Non-GP	Sector	Value of tender/ procurement
25 tenders from various sectors were downloaded from metenders.com and uploaded on Trade Portal managed by FIEO. The Excel sheet is attached.				

Source: -

d) Any press coverage/notification on new technology/ IPR Regulations:

Sr. No.	Sector	Details	Remarks	Upload Documents
1.				

E. Details of trade research, information dissemination activity of the Commercial Wing

Sr. No.	Nature of activity (trade research, information dissemination, seminars/webinars etc) (Max.200 words)	Details of Seminar/ webinar conference (date/ venue, no of participants) or research (Max.200 words)	Details of trade research (title of the report, executive summary, date of publication) (Max.200 words)
1.	Meeting with Al Hobail Medical Company	Counsellor (Commerce) met with representatives of Al Hobail Medical Company on 8 December, 2024 and had detailed discussion on challenges and opportunities for Indian pharmaceutical products in KSA Market. On 11 December, Ambassador along with Counsellor (Commerce) attended the signing ceremony of Joint Venture between the India-based MSN Laboratories and Al Hobail Group on the sidelines of CPHI Middle East, which was attended	

		by prominent dignitaries from KSA including representatives from Ministry of Health.	
2.	Meeting with Ministry of Health	On 24 December, 2024, Counsellor (Commerce) met with senior officials from the Ministry of Health to discuss their proposed action plan for 2025 under the JWG on Health. Both sides also discussed opportunities for Indian healthcare companies in KSA and supporting delegation from India; and investment opportunities for KSA companies in India.	
3.	Meeting with TASC	Counsellor (Commerce) met with representatives of TASC on 10 December, a KSA based consulting firm, and discussed opportunities for easing entry of Indian businesses into KSA market and strengthening India-KSA business corridor.	
4.	Meeting with NTPC	Counsellor(Commerce) met virtually with representatives of NTPC Ltd on 12 December to discuss their ongoing co-operation with Saudi Arabia and explore opportunities for collaboration in power and energy sector.	
5.	Meeting with Reddington Group	Ambassador met with senior leadership of Reddington Group on 23 December to discuss their operations in KSA and plans for expansion.	
6.	Meeting with Content Flow Studios	Ambassador met with Mr. Bobby Bedi of Content Flow Studios and had discussions on opportunities in the area of film and media for Indian companies.	
7.	Meeting with PDH Chamber of Commerce	On 16 December, 2024, Counsellor (Commerce) had a virtual meeting with PHD Chamber of Commerce to discuss visit of their technology and healthcare delegation to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.	
8.	Meeting with Invest India	On 17 December, 2024, Counsellor (Commerce) had a virtual meeting with Invest India to discuss outcomes of their visit to Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in November and follow-up action.	
9.	Meeting with the Chairman of Saudi Bugshan Group.	On 2 December, 2024 Consul General, met Sheikh Khalid Bugshan, Chairman, Saudi Bugshan Group, one of the largest conglomerates in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Discussions, inter-alia, focused on ways and means of further enhancing trade and investment linkages of the Group with India in various sectors including Healthcare, airport management, IT and more.	
10.	Meeting with the Chairman of Al Musbah Group	On 2 December, 2024 Consul General met Mr. Ahmed Al Musbahi, Chairman, Almusbah Group. They discussed opportunities of further strengthening economic and commercial linkages of the compan ²⁴ th December, 2024 Consul General H.E Fahad Ahmed Khan Suri met H.E. Dr. Saleh bin Ali Al Oqala, Vice Chancellor of the	

		Islamic University of Madinah. During the meeting, both sides discussed matters of mutual interest, particularly potential opportunities for collaboration between this prestigious university in Madinah and universities in India, including through joint academic research, student and faculty exchange programmes, participation in academic conferences/symposium, and so on. with India.	
11.	Meeting with Senior Managing Director. Public Relations & Media Affairs, Abdul Lateef Jameel Group.	On 3 rd December, 2024 Consul General met Dr. Ibrahim Mohammed Badawood, Senior Managing Director, Public Relations & Media Affairs, Abdul Latif Jameel Group and discussed, inter-alia, various means to enhance trade and investment linkages of the group with India, and other matters of mutual interest.	
12.	Meeting with the CEO of Sharbatly Group.	On 8th December, 2024 Consul General met with Mr. Khaled Sharbatly, CEO, Desert Technologies. During their meeting, they discussed potential bilateral opportunities in the fields of Renewable Energy, Healthcare, and Start-ups. The meeting was to strengthen the cooperation between India and Saudi Arabia, particularly in emerging sectors that hold significant growth potential.	
13.	Meeting with the Vice President of National Committee for precious metals and gemstones.	On 8th December, 2024 Consul General met Sheikh Ali Saleh Baterfi Al Kindi, Vice President of the National Committee for Precious Metals and Gemstones and other members from the local Gold Souq. They discussed matters pertaining to trade and investments in the domain of Gems and Jewellery, and other topics of mutual interest.	
14.	Meeting with the Chairman of SAMACO Trading.	On 10th December, 2024 Consul General, met Sheikh Mohammed Ibrahim Sharbatly, CEO of the SAMACO Trading cluster under Al Nahla Group on 10th December, 2024. Discussions focused on ways and means of enhancing trade linkages and exploring prospects of forging newer bilateral partnerships in various sectors.	
15.	Meeting with the head of IJEX from GJEPC	On 12 th December, 2024 A delegation comprising of Mr. Nirav Bhansali, Board Member and Convener, National Exhibitions, Mr. Sridhar Iyengar, Director International Events and Mr. Ashish Sakhardande, Head of IJEX from Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC) had a call on with Consul General, Mr. Fahad Ahmed Khan Suri, in his office, today. The visit is part of the ongoing efforts to	

	enhance the partnership of the Indian Gems and Jewellery industry with their counterparts in Saudi Arabia.	
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F. Details of activities conducted out of Trade promotion budget:

BE for current financial year	RE for current financial year	Amount utilized	Details of Activity (Max. 200 words)
Rs. 19,00,000 EoI Riyadh	-- Rs. 19,00,000	Rs. 16,13,623.34	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchase of market data base • B2B engagements for Indian businesses • Purchase of ODOP products • Translation of documents • Printing of brochures and Tourism forex boards
Rs. 1,050,000 CGI Jeddah	--	Rs. 13,029.58	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Payment towards custom duty for the catalogue coming from India to be showcased in sweet catalogue show to be held in Jizan on 28-29 August, 2024 and others • Hiring of professional photographer to cover the inauguration event of the Indian Pavillion Jeddah Construct Expo on 29th September, 2024

G. Action taken on Complaints from foreign/ Indian Buyer/Supplier:

No. of Trade complaints received	From Local companies	From Indian Companies	Description/ No. of complaints on which Action is Taken
E/I Riyadh 07 trade complaints	NIL	07	Complaints received from Indian companies have been forwarded to General Authority of Foreign Trade.
CGI Jeddah 2 trade complaints	02	01	Action taken on both the complaints received by the Consulate General of India, Jeddah
