

Our Mandate

The goal of FICCI's Arab division is to develop vibrant economic, social and cultural bonds between India and the Arab countries. FICCI acts as a catalyst and facilitates in strengthening these traditionally friendly ties. The division has been mandated to extend a conducive and enabling platform to Indian and Arab business communities to interact and explore numerous business and investment opportunities in each others regions.

The division has been entrusted the task of implementing the Government of India's Arab policy to further promote the long-standing economic and cultural ties with the Arab World. The division is actively engaged in identifying sectors of mutual interest, and projects in which it would be feasible for India and Arab countries to invest.

For the promotion of bidirectional investments and flow of technology, the division has institutionalized its efforts by organising first of its kind "India-Arab Investment Projects Conclave" on annual basis. At the same time, the division has created a niche for itself in extending following assistance to prospective investors. That includes:

Providing relevant platform(s) like the above mentioned Conclave and Joint Business Council(JBC) meetings. And also organising bi-directional business delegations to and from India and Arab countries

- Identifying appropriate partners and sector specific projects open to business tie-ups
- Providing information on regulatory framework governing sector-specific investments
- Organising one-to-one business meetings between Arab investor(s) and Indian businesses

The division works closely with the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MOC&I), Govt. of India and League of Arab Nations headquartered in Cairo, Egypt. It also boasts of well established ties with all Arab Missions in New Delhi including the Mission of League of Arab States in India, and with Indian Missions in Arab Countries. The efforts have enabled the division to meet its intended goals of promoting trade and investments between India and the Arab world.

Key Accomplishments

Over thirty eight (38) MOUs have been signed with the leading Chambers of Commerce and other apex organisations of the Arab League.

In order to identify bottlenecks and accelerate the pace of economic and commercial relations between India and the Arab countries, the division organises Joint Business Council (JBCs) Meetings with select Arab countries on a regular basis.

Key objectives

- Facilitate Corporate Enterprises of India and the Arab Countries to seek:
 - Markets
 - Technology
 - Skills
 - Global Sourcing
 - Management
 - Joint Ventures
 - Investments
- Identify major bottlenecks that hinder the growth of business between Indian and Arab Enterprises, and try to mitigate or remove the bottlenecks as far as possible.
- Sensitize all stakeholders including the Government of India to policy changes that must be made so that the investment environment becomes less cumbersome for foreign investors.
- Enhance economic, commercial and financial cooperation between India and the Arab countries.

Publications/ Occasional papers /Reports

- India-Arab Trade & Investment: Trends and Opportunities (released in Jan '08)
- FICCI-KPMG Knowledge Paper (released during First India-Arab Investment Projects Conclave; April '08)
- Paper on Iran (for 9 th India-Iran Joint Business Council, held at Tehran; Nov '08)
- Book containing Compendium of Articles from Arab Countries (released during First India-Arab cultural festival - Dec '08)
- Paper on Oman (for india-Oman Symposium, held at Muscat - Jan '09)
- Report on 1 st India-Arab Investment Projects Conclave
- Country Reports