

## Goyal to visit Saudi Arabia, trade ties on the agenda

COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY minister Piyush Goyal will discuss ways to increase cooperation with Saudi Arabia in areas such as renewable energy, digital infrastructure, and manufacturing during his two-day visit to the Gulf country beginning Tuesday, according to an official statement.

The commerce and industry ministry said Goyal will participate in the Future Investment Initiative in Riyadh, a crucial platform that brings together global leaders, investors, and innovators. On the sidelines of the FII, the minister will engage with prominent global investors. "These interactions aim to strengthen investor confidence, facilitate investment flows, and promote India as a preferred global investment destination," it said. He will also hold bilateral meetings with key Saudi ministers to discuss collaborative efforts in energy transition, digital transformation, and trade facilitation.

Further, he will co-chair the second ministerial meeting of the Economy and Investment Committee under the India-Saudi Strategic Partnership Council, focusing on sectors like agriculture, food security, energy, technology, and infrastructure.

India is the second-largest trade partner for Saudi Arabia whereas Saudi Arabia is India's fourth-largest trading partner.

—PTI