

ing many of the major centres. Trucking is the main mode of transport employed for shipping goods within Saudi Arabia.

A railway system connects the port of Dammam on the Arabian Gulf with Riyadh, a distance of approximately 400 km. Transit time is about 4 hours. There is daily passenger service in each direction.

## **Hotels**

There are many international-standard hotels to accommodate business visitors to the major cities. However, during the Pilgrimage and the holiday season it is advisable to make reservations at least four weeks in advance. Cheques are not widely used and credit card usage is limited to the major hotels. Cash payments are expected unless other arrangements have been made. Visitors should not bring Canadian currency to Saudi Arabia as it is extremely difficult to exchange. U.S. travellers' cheques are convenient and easily negotiable in hotels, banks, and at money changing establishments.

Hotel rates are government regulated. The categories are as follows, based on single occupancy:

- (1) Deluxe — 250-340 (SR)
- (2) A(1) — 150-225 (SR)
- (3) A(2) — 75-125 (SR)

Major hotels are listed in Section VII.

## **Tipping**

- (1) Deluxe and first category hotels add a 15% service charge. Other categories add a 10% surcharge.