

Israel's chemical and pharmaceutical industries can be grouped into the following sectors:

**Inorganic Chemicals.** This sector extracts potash, bromine and magnesium chloride from Dead Sea brine. Phosphate deposits mined in the Negev Desert are exported as natural raw material, calcined phosphates and DFP, or processed for local fertilizer production. Other inorganic chemical products include potassium nitrate, urea, ammonium sulphate, granulated super phosphate, liquid fertilizers, chlorine, caustic soda and phosphoric acid.

**Organic Chemicals.** Production is based on Israel's highly developed oil-refining facilities and includes ethylene, polyethylene, carbon black, PVC, methanol, ammonia and aromatics.

**Crop Protection Chemicals and Pesticides.** This sector has developed together with Israel's highly advanced agriculture. Many active compounds have been formulated to meet differing geographical and climatic conditions for use in crop protection and as agricultural and household pesticides.

**Other Chemical Products.** This sector includes detergents, paints, bitumens, glues, soaps, cosmetics and chemicals for the construction, furniture, textile, food and metal industries.

**Pharmaceuticals.** Manufacturers in this sector produce some 2 000 sophisticated medicinal products for all fields of drug therapy, as well as veterinary use. Israeli pharmaceutical companies also manufacture disposable devices, and fine chemicals for laboratories, diagnostics and biotechnological applications.

## **Food Industries**

The activities of this sector cover the entire range of food and tobacco processing, accounting for 21 per cent of Israel's total industrial production by value, 8 per cent of industrial exports and employment of 17 per cent of the country's industrial work force.

Israeli food products are stocked by the world's leading retail food stores, indicating their high level of quality and presentation. These foods include canned fruits and vegetables, poultry, meat and fish products, wines, spirits, beers, coffee and tea, pasta and bakery products, matzos, chocolates, candies, dairy products, edible oils, margarine, and a wide range of frozen and prepared food items that have won an international market.