

NATION

02 | MUSCAT DAILY

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2025



Airport-Ruwi bus fare revised to RO1

Our Correspondent
Muscat

Passengers using the bus service between Muscat International Airport and Ruwi have noted a recent revision in the fare, which has been increased from 500Brs to RO1.

Commuters said they came to know of the change only upon reaching the bus stop, many late at night after arriving on flights. Some passengers sought clarification from drivers regarding the new fare, citing the absence of advance notice.

Mohammad, a Bangladeshi passenger, said the bus service is essential for many travellers. "Buses are meant for common people. Many of us depend on the service, especially after late-night flights," he said.

Another regular user of the route, Rashid Alami, from Bangladesh, said that while the revised fare may appear modest, community support is important. "RO1 may not seem significant to some, but for frequent travellers it adds up. Advance information would have helped," he said.

Passengers highlighted the importance of public transport for airport connectivity, particularly for blue-collar workers and low-income travellers who rely on buses considering taxi fares are higher during peak hours and at night.

An official at Ruwi bus stand confirmed the revision, stating, "Yes, the price for the direct bus service from the airport to Ruwi has been increased recently. Fares vary by route, and this particular service is now RO1."

Minister reviews disability services as MoSD advances national strategy

Our Correspondent
Muscat

H.E Dr Laila bint Ahmed al Najar, Minister of Social Development, visited the Association for Children with Disabilities on Monday to review its services, rehabilitation programmes and efforts to support children with disabilities and promote their integration into society.

The visit reflects commitment

of the Ministry of Social Development (MoSD) to strengthening

the social services system and

encouraging the role of civil-society

organisations in the care and em-

powerment of persons with dis-



The Association for Children with Disabilities currently serves 361 children. It offers specialised programmes, including physical and occupational therapy, as well as psychological and behavioural support

interactive educational tools tai-

lored for children with disabilities.

Khadija bint Nasser al Saati, Chairperson of the Board of Di-

rectors of the association, de-

scribed it as a leading institution

in the care and rehabilitation of

children with disabilities, cur-

rently serving 361 children. It of-

fers specialised programmes,

including physical and occupa-

tional therapy, psychological

and behavioural support, as

well as educational and voca-

tional initiatives aimed at em-

powering children and enabling

them to become active mem-

bers of society.

the committee.

The committee examined a proposal to develop the strategy which is expected to serve as a guiding framework for policies, programmes and services targeting persons with disabilities in the coming phase.

Members also discussed ef-forts to introduce ability-based assessment mechanisms for persons with disabilities, as well as mechanisms to ensure efficient and organised provision of assistive devices and support aids to eligible beneficiaries.

Discussions covered reconstitu-tion of the National Committee for Persons with Disabilities in accordance with the Law on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities issued via Royal Decree No 92/2025, in line with the updated legislative framework gov-erning the sector.

National disability

strategy for 2026-2030

Oman is moving towards formu-lation of a national strategy for

the disability sector for the

2030 period, as part of ongoing

efforts to enhance the rights of

persons with disabilities and

quality of services provided to

them.

The announcement was made

during a meeting of the National

Committee for the Care of Per-

sons with Disabilities held on

Sunday, chaired by H E Najar,

who also serves as chairperson of

the committee.

The meeting concluded with

a presentation summarising the ninth annual meeting report of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for

Western Asia (ESCWA) Expert

Group on Disability, held in

Cairo last year, highlighting key

regional experiences and rec-

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The meeting concluded with

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