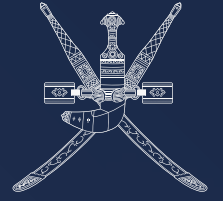




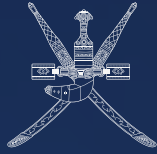
وزارة المالية
Ministry of Finance



Social Protection Initiatives

8 April 2021

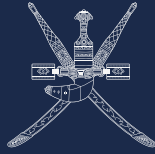




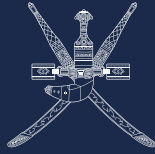
As part of His Majesty the Sultan's keenness towards social aspects of all citizens, and in reflection of the priorities of Oman Vision 2040 aiming at providing a decent life for everyone, His Majesty the Sultan has endorsed a set of initiatives, proposed by various relevant authorities to develop social protection system, worth more than RO 100 million. Such initiatives aim to mitigate the implications arising from current global economic situation, and alleviate the immediate effects of measures taken to enhance the efficiency of public finance.

Moreover, His Majesty has directed to enhance and stabilize labour market, in order to ensure effective participation of the private sector in leading the economy in line with Oman Vision 2040.

The endorsement of His Majesty for these initiatives comes as a continuation of stimulus measures to address social and economic aspects. The initiatives will be in place until the completion of social protection system, which would act as an umbrella for existing and future social security networks and schemes.

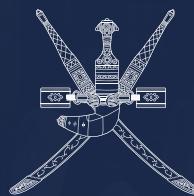


- 01** ➤ Maximize the subsidy allocated for the schemes provided by the Ministry of Social Development for vulnerable cases.
- 02** ➤ All citizens whose salary below RO 350 will be exempted from repaying housing loans provided by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning.
- 03** ➤ Exempt all citizens enrolled as beneficiaries of Sanad and Mawareed Alriezq programs from repaying the outstanding amounts.
- 04** ➤ Financial facilities with no interests or fees will be provided by Oman Development Bank for self-employed persons, including street vendors, mobile stalls, home-based businesses, taxi drivers; that are licensed to operate in hotels and airports; women's business, and fishermen in accordance with the rules and principles to be laid down by the bank.
- 05** ➤ Authority of Small and Medium Enterprises Development shall launch an emergency funding program for entrepreneurs (holders of Riyada cards) in accordance with the rules to be announced by the Authority.



- 06** ➤ Extending the duration of job security benefits for eligible persons until the end of current year. In addition to the acceptance of late applications.
- 07** ➤ Expand food items list, which is subject to VAT at 0%, from 93 items to 488 items.
- 08** ➤ The Government will incur the costs of VAT imposed on electricity and water services for all citizens, who have two accounts or less for residential purposes only. This includes households already entitled to water and electricity subsidy.
- 09** ➤ Increase the volume of subsidized fuel from 200 liter to 400 liter monthly for every national subsidy card holder. Moreover, the Government will incur the costs of VAT to be imposed on this quantity so as to maintain the price at 0.180 baisa per liter.
- 10** ➤ The Ministry of Commerce, Industry & Investment Promotion, along with relevant authorities, will assess the conditions of companies affected by the current economic situation, in order to help such companies overcome their challenges.

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