

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
FINANCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2772  
ANSWERED ON:30.03.2012  
BRIDGING SERVICE GAP FOR MARGINALIZED  
Ponnam Shri Prabhakar

**Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the National Innovation Council's inclusive fund proposes to support unique/new ideas to bridge the service gap for the marginalized;
- (b) if so, the details worked out in this regard so far;
- (c) the manner and purpose for which the fund has been utilized since its inception; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

**Answer**

Minister of State for Finance (Shri Namo Narain Meena)

(a) & (b) The National Innovation Council is establishing the India Inclusive Innovation Fund (IIIF), as a means of financing 'inclusive innovation'. The IIIF will be a venture capital fund, backing innovation focused on the developmental needs of India's 'bottom 500 million' citizens – in key developmental sectors where many Indian citizens lack access to basic services, like education, health, energy, agriculture, water, sanitation, and so on. In doing so, the IIIF will generate both social and commercial returns.

(c) & (d) The IIIF will receive seed investment from the Government of India and remaining capital from other sources (such as public and private sector organisations, development agencies, etc.). At no point would Government investment exceed 20 per cent of the total IIIF corpus. The IIIF is aiming for a first close at Rs 500 crore. Additional scale-up of the IIIF will depend on how it is able to receive support by institutions in the public and private sector.