Title: Regarding non-aviability of SIM Card of BSNL in Kerala and other parts of the country.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (MAVELIKARA): Hon. Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise a very important issue which is agitating the people of Kerala, Lakshadweep and other parts of the country. ...(Interruptions)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : रमेश जी, आप बोलते रहिए।

… (व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप भाग तो अच्छा करते हैं, लेकिन कितना समय लेते हैं।

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Hon. Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise an issue which is agitating the minds of the people of Kerala, Lakshadweep and other parts of southern India. This is regarding the non-availability of SIM cards of BSNL telephones. In Kerala, prepaid SIM cards of BSNL were given to 70 thousands people. According to the statistics of BSNL, in Kerala, two lakh people are waiting to get them. The entire Lakshadwip area and other southern parts in India are not at all covered by the BSNL SIM cards. People of Tamil Nadu are also raising the same issue. This seems to be a conspiracy to help the private mobile telephone operators.

Why are people asking for BSNL SIM cards? It is because the coverage of BSNL is good, cheap and the people of more number of areas can get this connection. That is the reason why they are insisting on getting BSNL SIM cards. However, the BSNL authorities and other responsible officers, are not taking enough measures to issue more SIM cards to the people who are really in need of them.

I, therefore, urge upon the Minister through you, Sir, to see that the Government takes necessary steps urgently to provide more BSNL SIM cards to the people who are really in need of them.

^{*} Not Recorded