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Title: Need to take necessary steps to increase the production of arhar dal in the country.

SHRI ANIL SHIROLE (PUNE) : It has been noticed that the country is importing large quantities of arhar to meet the protein needs especially of the poorer population. While surplus production of wheat, rice, sugarcane etc. is taking place on superior agricultural lands.

It is true that, of late, the Government have been increasing the minimum support price for pulses and oil seeds.

However, it is noticed that the production of arhar has not been increasing satisfactorily. I urge the Union Government to take all necessary steps to increase the production of arhar in the country.