LOCUST SITUATION: India continued to be free from solitary as well as gregarious desert locust activity during the 2nd fortnight of May, 2018. Routine surveys were conducted in the entire Scheduled Desert Area of Rajasthan and Gujarat. Observations were recorded at 127 nos. of localities which are plotted on map.

Swarm movement : Nil
Breeding : Nil
Hoppers : Nil
Scattered / Isolated adult : Nil
WEATHER AND ECOLOGY: Rainfall estimation map for 2nd dekad of May, 2018 indicates light rainfall in the North East of Rajasthan and Bhuj district of Gujarat. As per the observations of survey teams, general vegetation was found green in some places of Suratgarh, Barmer and a few places of Jalore and Bhuj, whereas remaining places of Scheduled Desert Area were observed dry/drying. Soil moisture is almost dry in the entire SDA.

FORECAST: Considering the unfavourable ecological conditions viz.; no locust population, dry soil moisture and almost dry surface vegetation in the SDA indicates that locust activity is not expected during the ensuing fortnight.

PREPAREDNESS: India is equipped with sufficient trained man-power, operational vehicles, P.P. equipments, pesticides and 11 activated eLocust3 units for locust surveys/population monitoring and control operation for any locust outbreak/upsurge.

EVENTS: FAO-SWAC sponsored two days National Training Workshop was organised during 19th & 20th May, 2018 at Locust Warning Organisation, Jodhpur, where 21 trainees and 4 resource persons have participated.

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