LOCUST SITUATION: During the 2nd fortnight of April, 2020, low density II-IV instar Gregarious hopper group at Fazilka, Suratgarh and immature gregarious scattered adults were observed at Jaisalmer adjoining to the Indo-Pak border areas. Out of 85 nos. of spots control operation were undertaken at 31 spots covering 1970 hectares areas.

Control operation
16-30 April = 1970 Ha
Total upto 30th April = 2434 Ha

GLOBAL SITUATION
Spring breeding will cause a further increase in locust infestations in East Africa, eastern Yemen and southern Iran.

Swarm movement: No Swarm movement was observed during the period
Breeding: No breeding was seen
Hoppers: Low density II-IV instar gregarious hoppers were seen during the period
Scattered / Isolated adult/Adult Groups: Immature, gregarious scattered adults were observed
WEATHER AND ECOLOGY: Rainfall estimates (11-20 April) shows light to moderate rainfall in the Scheduled Desert Area. Vegetation is dry except Suratgarh and Fazilka. Soil moisture was observed dry at Barmer, Jaisalmer and wet at Suratgarh, Fazilka.

FAO Update (28 April): Spring breeding will cause a further increase in locust infestations in East Africa, eastern Yemen and southern Iran in the coming months.

SWAC: More hopper groups and bands continue along the southern coast; mature adult groups moved north in Sistan & Baluchistan to South Khorasan and lay eggs. Hopper and adult groups in Baluchistan; hopper groups and bands in Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa; hoppers near the Indian border. Control continues.

FORECAST (India): Keeping in view of control operation against low density II-IV instar hopper/immature adult group and keeping in view of serious and worrisome global situation, strict vigilance will remain continued towards expected invasion of locust in coming days.