1. **SUMMARY:** India continued to be free from gregarious and solitary desert locust activity during the 1st fortnight of April 2017. During the fortnight a sum of 132 spots were surveyed against the target of 132 spots (shown in map with “N” means survey undertaken and no locust found) for cross country surveys in the Scheduled Desert Areas (SDA) of Rajasthan and Gujarat.

2. **WEATHER AND ECOLOGY:** As per rainfall estimation map for 1st decade of April 2017, light to moderate rainfall was observed in patches at Suratgarh, Churu and Bikaner district of Rajasthan. The map showing locust situation along with rainfall is enclosed.

3. **LOCUST SITUATION:**

   1. Desert Locust (*Schistocerca gregaria* F) Nil
      
      i) Swarm movement Nil
      ii) Breeding Nil
      iii) Hoppers Nil
      iv) Scattered/ Isolated Adulmms Nil

4. **FORECAST:** Due to high temperature, dry vegetation and dry soil, there is no possibility of presence of locust activity in scheduled desert area of Rajasthan and Gujarat.
5. तैयारी /PREPAREDNESS: India has equipped itself with sufficient trained man-power, operational vehicles, well maintained P.P. equipments, pesticides and 33 working eLocust3 units (total 09 activated units are working out of 11) for locust surveys/ population monitoring and control operation in case there is a locust outbreak/ upsurge.

6. संबंध/CONTACTS: During field survey, surveyors contacted to the villagers including farmers, nomads, NGOs and state functionaries and made aware of the locust activities prevailing at present and were advised to inform the nearest LCO or any other government agencies, if any locust development in their areas is observed.

(Dr. B. S. Phogat)

Add. Plant Protection Adviser
Rainfall estimation map for 1st decade of April & Locust situation for 1st fortnight of April 2017. (N= the place where surveys were undertaken)