

**PROCEEDING OF THE FIRST DESERT LOCUST BORDER MEETING BETWEEN THE LOCUST OFFICERS OF PAKISTAN AND INDIA HELD AT KHOKHROPAR / MUNABAO BORDER POINT AT 0900 HOURS (PST) 0930 HOURS (IST) ON 04<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2018**

The first Indo-Pak desert locust border meeting of the year 2018 between the Locust Officers of Pakistan and India held on 04<sup>th</sup> July, 2018 at Khokhropar/ Munabao border point (Pakistan side) at 0900 hours (PST) / 0930 hours (IST). The following officers participated in the meeting:

**PAKISTAN**

1. Mr. Muhammad Hussain Dars, Assistant Entomologist (Locust), Mirpur Khas
2. Mr. M. Shahbaz, Assistant Entomologist (Locust), HQs, Karachi
3. Mr. Jawed Iqbal Khan, Locust Assistant / Desert Locust Information Officer, Karachi.

**INDIA**

1. Mr. Debasis Roy, Assistant Director (WS), FSIL, Bikaner
2. Mr. Pawan Kumar, Plant Protection Officer (WS), LCO Phalodi
3. Mr. Om Prakash, Plant Protection Officer(E), LWO Jodhpur
4. Mr. Chandra Shekhar Sharma, Assistant Plant Protection Officer (PP), Jodhpur

**DESERT LOCUST SITUATION (01<sup>st</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> June 2018)**

The routine fortnightly locust surveys were carried out in the summer-monsoon breeding areas of Nara and Tharparkar deserts in Sindh, Cholistan desert in Punjab and Khuzdar & Uthal in Balochistan during the reporting period. A total number of 284 localities were surveyed. No gregarious locust activity was found anywhere in Pakistan. However, isolated mature solitary adults were seen only at one locality i.e. Mugrian area (281758N-712229E) in Bahawalpur of Cholistan Desert with a density of 12 adults/hectare on 25-06-2018.

Distant and cross country locust surveys were conducted in the 253 localities by 11 Locust Circle Offices in their respective jurisdictions. Based on the survey data and observation, it has been inferred that India has continued to remain free from gregarious as well as solitary desert locust activities.

**ECOLOGY AND WEATHER**

As per the rainfall estimation map for the third decade of June 2018, light to heavy rainfall occurred in locust potential breeding areas in Pakistan and light to moderate rainfall in SDA of India. Surface vegetation and soil moisture were almost found not suitable for locust activities, except some places where rainfall occurred during the reporting period in the desert areas of both the countries.

**FORECAST**

Keeping in view of the monsoon season, further rains are expected in the locust potential areas of both countries, ecological conditions may become favourable and solitary adults may further be increased. Therefore a constant vigilance is required by undertaking intensive locust surveys by both the countries in their respective jurisdictions.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Fortnightly desert locust situation bulletins, recent FAO bulletin, RAMSES map showing locust situation, green vegetation and rainfall estimation for the reporting period of both the countries were exchanged and discussed during the meeting.

**VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> border meeting of the year 2018 will be held at Munabao/ Khokhropar border point on 2<sup>nd</sup> August, 2018 at 0930 hours (IST)/ 0900 hours (PST) on India side.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Locust Officers of both the countries expressed their deep and sincere thanks to the Pakistan Rangers and Border Security Force of India for extending their full cooperation and support for making necessary arrangements for the meeting at Khokhropar Meeting Hall (Pakistan). Delegates from both the countries thanked each other for their cooperation for smooth conducting of the meeting. Indian delegation thanked Pakistan side for cordial welcome and hospitality extended during the course of the first border meeting of the year 2018.

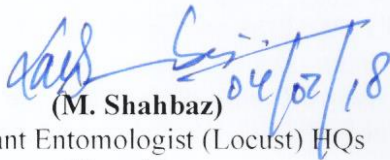
Place: Khokhropar Meeting Hall, Pakistan  
Date: 04<sup>th</sup> July, 2018

## PARTICIPANTS

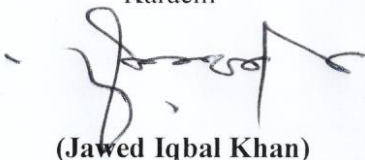
### PAKISTAN



(Muhammad Hussain Dars)  
Assistant Entomologist (Locust)  
Mirpur Khas

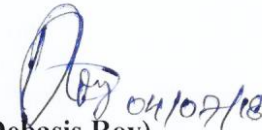


(M. Shahbaz)  
Assistant Entomologist (Locust) HQs  
Karachi



(Jawed Iqbal Khan)  
Locust Assistant/  
Desert Locust Information Officer  
Karachi

### INDIA



(Debasis Roy)  
Assistant Director (WS)  
FSIL, Bikaner



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Plant Protection Officer (WS)  
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