Malathion insecticide

- HIL (India) Limited, a PSU under Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers and one of the leading manufacturer of insecticides in the country has supplied **25MT Malathion 95% ULV** to Iran under **Government-to-Government initiative** for Locust Control Programme.
- As per the reports of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), the hopper stage population of locust is building up in **Sistan-Baluchistan Region of Iran**, which shall migrate to India in coming months leading to further crop devastation.
- Government of India has taken an initiative to counter the locust menace at its breeding ground itself and approached Iran for coordinated efforts.
- Desert Locust after severe crop devastation in **Horn of Africa, East Africa and Arabian Peninsula** has entered into India in March/April 2020 and it has affected the field crop, horticulture crops and other plantation in the State of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh.
- The country is experiencing worst locust invasion, which was last observed more than 25 years back.