

# Four dead as suspected terrorists bomb bridge in Niger community

Aliyu Mohammed Hamagam April 6, 2026



Terror struck again as four persons were killed in an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) blast suspected to have been planted by terrorists along the Babanna axis in Borgu Local Government Area of Niger State.

The explosion, which occurred on Sunday, targeted the same bridge that had been bombed barely two weeks ago, indicating an organised campaign of destruction aimed at crippling movement and deepening fear across neighbouring communities.

There are conflicting reports over the casualty figures, with sources indicating that one of the victims may not have died from the blast but was instead gunned down while attempting to cross the scene on a motorcycle.

A source familiar with security matters disclosed that the repeated bombing of the only access road linking Nigerian border communities to the neighbouring Benin Republic is a deliberate strategy by the terrorists to block any form of emergency response.

An eyewitness painted a grim picture of the explosion. A resident, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the vehicle caught in the explosion was conveying yams to the Babanna weekly market when it ran into the deadly device.

"The Lumma-Babanna road is the only lifeline for these communities. If this wave of terror continues unchecked, we will be completely cut off from the rest of Nigeria," he lamented.

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For over five months, communities in the area have been under siege, with residents living in constant fear as terrorists carry out sustained attacks marked by killings, arson and destruction.

The latest bombing underscores the audacity of the attackers, raising concerns over the need for urgent and decisive intervention to stop the escalating terror.

Contacted, the spokesperson of the state Police Command, SP Abiodun Wasiu, confirmed the incident, saying, "The miscreants shot one motorcyclist dead on the road, while a truck en route to Wawa stepped on another IED, which exploded, damaging the vehicle, and the driver was affected."