

8 feared dead as bandits sack 30 villages in Sokoto

Eight persons are feared killed while no fewer than 30 villages were sacked when bandits stormed the Danchadi District of Bodinga Local Government Area of Sokoto State.

The incident displaced scores of residents, leading to the rustling of over 1,000 livestock.

The report of the attacks which was signed by the District Head of Danchadi, Alhaji Lirwanu Mafaran Kuwarun Sarkin Musulmi, and addressed to the Chairman of Bodinga Local Government Area of the state had reported that six persons were killed in the attack.

However, a follow up report yesterday by Alhaji Lirwanu Mafaran Kuwarun Sarkin Musulmi, disclosed in a telephone interview that the death toll had risen to eight.

He said investigations conducted after the attacks confirmed that eight residents were killed, while several others were displaced.

"Based on our investigation, eight people were killed in communities under my district during the attacks, and several residents have been displaced," he said.

He said the attacks were the first recorded in the district and alleged

that the assailants infiltrated the area from neighbouring Zamfara State through Tureta Local Government Area.

"This is the first time we have experienced such an attack. We suspect the bandits came from Zamfara through Tureta. The attack was devastating," he said.

The district head described the humanitarian situation as dire, saying many residents were still traumatised by the attacks.

"My people are living in fear and confusion. Some women are still searching for their husbands after the attacks," he added.

He said the affected communities are Gidan Gadanga, Gidan Dan Bube, Dutsin Mai Gunya, Batsauje, Sire Modi, Gwantsi, Kore Maiganga, Bangi Rafi, Bangi Dutsin, Yabawa, Lageji, Bille, Goin Gari, Wumumu, Chohi, Saran Malan, Wure Yal'dde, Gidan Hodi, Dabugi, Rukusawa, Tunga, Lakes, Maikataru, Dutsin Toka, Karaje, Kwantsi Buga, Yan Gidaje, Runbuki, Kwantsi Tunga and Lau Gari.

At the time of filing this report, efforts to reach the State Police Public Relations Officer, DSP Ahmad Rufa'i, proved abortive as he neither picked nor returned telephone calls.