

Rivers: Militants kill 6 in Ahoada

CHINEDU WOSU, Port Harcourt

SIX persons were killed and several others wounded weekend, when a suspected militant group invaded Ahoada community, Rivers State and engaged the villagers in a sporadic shooting.

The six victims whose identities were still sketchy were killed when the gunmen opened fire on the community.

However, no group, our correspondent gathered has declared responsibility for the incident, in the area.

The killing is coming few days to the re-run House of Assembly election in Ahoada West to be conducted by Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC).

The invasion of the community by unknown militants and the killing had forced villagers to seek for refugee in neighbouring communities, due to insecurity in the area.

Contacted on phone

for comment, the State Police Public Relations Officer, (PPRO) Mrs. Rita Innoma Abbey Deputy Superintendent of

Police (DSP) confirmed the sad incident in the community.

The police spokeswoman also said

no arrest had been made as at press time as the killers were said to have escaped shortly after raiding the village.

Amaechi orders arrest of traffic offenders

Rivers State Government has directed the immediate arrest and prosecution of anyone, including security operatives, bullion van drivers, convoy and security attachés, who drive against traffic in the state.

Commissioner for Information, Mr Ogbonna Nwuke stated this Wednesday while briefing Government House correspondents on the outcome of the State Executive Council meeting in Port Harcourt.

Mr Nwuke explained that the law does not preclude anyone, noting that it is the expectation of the state government that all those, who are responsible for managing men on uniform would advice those under them to obey traffic rules.

The Information Commissioner stated that while the state government was doing its best to remove traffic bottlenecks, some uniformed personnel were busy breaking the traffic rules in the state, which includes

driving against traffic and riding of motor cycles without crash helmets.

"We think that this do not reflect the discipline in the Armed Forces because they are supposed to enforce the laws, and we want to use this opportunity to appeal to residents of the state to obey the laws on traffic in the state.

Mr. Nwuke said the Commissioner for Transport has been directed to ensure the enforcement of traffic laws in the state and anyone apprehended would be presented for prosecution according to the law.

He equally hinted that Exco resolved to restore the street lights in major roads in Port Harcourt to replace the failing solar ones as a way of ensuring absolute security in the state.

Also speaking, the Commissioner for Transport Mr. George Tolofari, said the ministry officials were facing some challenges in enforcing the state traffic law as uniformed personnel

flout traffic rules instead of enforcing the obedience of the law.

On his part, Commissioner for Urban Development Mr. Osima Ginah, thanked residents of the state for their understanding in the on-going demolition exercise as government appreciate the sacrifices made by those affected by the exercise.

Mr. Ginah hinted that his ministry has concluded the study on urban control in areas like old GRA, and Amadi Flats as marking of affected structures would begin soon and advised residents not to occupy government properties illegally.

He urged the public not to buy or develop any property without approval from the Ministries of Urban Development and Lands, adding that government policy on urban renewal was not targeted at any body but to ensure the restoration of the Garden City status.