

## 5 killed in fresh Jos crises

By RAYMOND GUKAS, Jos

At least three people have been murdered in fresh attack in Kwata area of Jos south local government Thursday night bringing to a total of five people killed in two separate attacks in the area in the last three days.

According to information, man was allegedly killed by unknown gunmen on Wednesday. The two attacks in

Gyero village and kwata village came a month after six people were killed in Bassa local government in a pre-dawn attack by unknown killers.

According to the Commander of the special joint-task force on Jos crises (JTF) "operation save haven", Brig. Gen. Hassan Umoru, "I know of two men that were killed and three other men injured in the recent attack in kwata."

"I think it is not the Berom-Fulani kind of conflict, the owner of the house, James Dung, who was is a staff of Grand Cereal and Oil Mills Limited"

"Our investigation so far indicated that the man was the sole target of the attack"

But a member of the community, Bala Dalyop, said, "The attackers must be Fulani's living in neighbouring Sabon Gida village, they came at

about 11pm, forced the door of a house open and after gaining access to the occupants, killed him and moved to the next house where they also killed two other men"

Brig. Gen Hassan Umoru said, "The Fulani man will always be the first suspect of a Berom Man in such incidence due to their suspicious relationship of one another, but our investigation is showing an assassination attack with a target"

## NIPSS cries out over N590m debt

By RAYMOND GUKAS, Jos

THE National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS) Kuru Jos, is crying over a debt profile running to over N590m as it graduates 65 participants in senior course Saturday, the management has disclosed.

The Ag. Director General of the institute, Prof. Tijjani Muhammad-Bande, said Friday, in his office in a pre-graduation press briefing, even as he stated that the debt was accrued over the years.

According to him, the 65 graduates consist of variety of professionals who were enrolled in February 2010 for a nine month intensive studies in the Senior Executive Course (SEC) No.32

The DG said, "The participants have done justice to the theme of this year's research topic, which is 'The imperative of policy sustainability for national security and democratic stability'"

He said, "Accordingly, relevant recommendations has been made to the federal

government to this effect in addition to the fact that the institute is convinced that the graduates are ready and eager to serve their fatherland with greater commitment and skill"

"We have rightly expected them to be role models where

ever they are asked to serve"

The DG also disclosed that "President Goodluck Jonathan has already approved the topic of research for next year SEC 33 participants as "Managing Nigeria's Pluralism for Peace and National Development"

He however, enumerated

the challenges the institute is confronted with such as "Labour strikes, security threats, inadequate funding among other things and commended both the federal and Plateau state government for their assistance to the institute"

## 2011: INEC plans to register per

By JUDE OPARA, Abuja

A S part of efforts to make it possible for physically challenged Nigerians to take part in the electoral process without much stress, the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) said it will soon carry out a mock voter's registration for them before the year runs out.

INEC Chairman, Prof. Attahiru Jega who was represented by the Director, Voters' Education, Alhaji Ibrahim Biu revealed this at a One Day Workshop organized by the Joint National Association of Persons with Disability (JONAPWD), the International Republican Institute (IRI) and INEC in Abuja during the week.

Biu said the existing political

parties have a lot to do to ensure that those persons that are physically challenged were given the sense of belonging by including them in their programmes.

"Parties, for instance, could stipulate specific provisions in their constitutions and other internal regulations to involve these groups in leadership roles. We at INEC have committed ourselves to working with political parties towards achieving this goal, and I am greatly delighted that today's conference involves high level participation by political parties."

"I also want to disclose that before the end of the year, arrangements would be put in place to carry out a mock voters' registration exercise for

our brothers and sisters that are physically challenged to know how we will be including them in our electoral plans."

With the theme, "National Conference on Mainstreaming Persons with Disabilities into Nigeria's Democratic and Electoral processes", the gathering took a hard look at the plights of persons living with disabilities when it comes to exercising their franchise in Nigeria.

Speaking at the event, Country Director of IRI, Mourtada Deme, appealed to political parties in Nigeria to encourage people with disabilities and to support the implementation of manifestos that address their problems as well as to adopt rules that will make it easier for them to seek elective offices.