

drugs were also recovered.

... Kill 3, arrest 18 criminal suspects in Benue

From Hope Abah Emmanuel, Makurdi

The police in Benue State have killed three and arrested 18 criminal suspects from various locations in the state.

Spokesperson of the police command, DSP Sewuese Catherine Anene, said the total of 18 suspects so far arrested in the sting operation of the Special Police Squad codenamed, Operation Puff Adder, within the past three weeks of its formation included, suspected cultists, armed robbers, kidnappers, gunrunners and those in possession of illegal firearms.

Anene said the achievements of the special operation were recorded due to support from the general public and the resilience of officers that were selected for the operation.

She noted that the three dead criminal elements fell to the police bullet in a gun duel during an encounter.

She said: "One of the teams of Operation Puff Adder while on patrol along Ihugh-Vandeikya road, encountered a gang of armed robbers operating on the road. On sighting the police team, the robbers engaged the police in a gun battle that led to the death of three of the armed robbers."

Anene said items recovered from the suspects included, six locally made pistols, one locally made AK 47 rifle, charms, 11 ammunitions and 14 live cartridges.