



AROUND THE STATES

KADUNA

Military airstrike kills bandits in forest

The Air Component of Operation Thunder Strike, has neutralised several armed bandits at their camp in the Kuduru forest area of Kaduna State, according to the Defence Headquarters.

The Coordinator, Defence Media Operations, Maj.-Gen. John Enenche, disclosed this in a statement in Abuja yesterday.

Enenche said the air strikes were carried out on Aug. 13 on the heels of intelligence reports, indicating the convergence of members of Ansaru terrorist sect-linked bandits, led by

one Mallam Abba, at the location.

He said that an aerial surveillance mission conducted over the area also observed several bandits, with some wielding weapons in the forest.

According to him, the Nigerian Air Force (NAF) jets and helicopter gunships were therefore tasked to attack the location.

"Several of the bandits were killed as the attack aircraft strafed the area, while others attempting to escape were mopped-up in follow-on attacks," he said. (NAN)

ABUJA

'Opaque data questions credibility of beneficiaries of school feeding scheme'

By Taiwo Adeniyi

The Executive Director, Peering Advocacy and Advancement Centre in Africa (PAACA), Ezenwa Nwagwu has said the reliance of the government on opaque socio-demographic data for the implementation of the National Home Grown School Feeding Program (NHGSFP) in the FCT during the COVID-19 lockdown put to question to the credibility of the beneficiary list.

Nwagwu who made this known at the launch of a report titled, "Were the kids fed?" in Abuja, said the program was done without adequate sensitisation while respondents did not get all the food items.

The report presented findings from the feedback implementation of the NHGSFP during the COVID-19 school lockdown collated by the centre from residents in the six area councils of the FCT.

"The scheme relied on opaque social demographic data that puts top question to the credibility of the beneficiary lists," he said, adding that Nigerians cannot log on to the website or anywhere in the ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and find a beneficiary list.

He said the level of mistrust and distrust between the government and Nigerian could be reduced if there are enough data of government activities.

TARABA