In a related development, bandits operating in Sokoto State have ambushed members of Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF) killing nine of them with several others sustaining varying degrees of injuries, according to sources briefed by Daily Trust.

The incident occurred last Sunday in Isa Local Government Area, known to be a stronghold of bandits and a dangerous zone for security operatives.

According to a reliable source familiar with the situation, three CJTF members were abducted by the bandits during the ambush.

"Our members encountered the ambush while responding to a distress call to assist security forces," the source recounted. "Tragically, we lost nine brave comrades in the attack, with many others wounded. Additionally, three of our members were abducted.

Since the beginning of the year, following a call from the state government to reinforce security efforts against banditry in the northwest, CJTF members have been actively engaged in supporting the troops.

"This latest loss adds to the toll of 19 gallant members who have fallen victim to bandit attacks in Sokoto State alone," the source lamented.

This marks the second ambush targeting CJTF members in Sokoto State in a span of two months.

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