

...for collection of taxes in the state.

The state government was also said to have directed all banks collecting money and taxes on its behalf to, within the same period, integrate into the new e-payment system and ensure that all monies and taxes are promptly paid into the state government account for automatic revenue receipts to payers.

It also frowned against alleged delay in the sweeping or remittance of money collected on behalf of the government by banks, saying that the delay in posting revenue collected on behalf of the government through e-payment system into the general revenue account, impedes flow of income.

Lar varsity to begin course in counter-terrorism

From Isa Abdulsalami Ahovi, Jos
PLATEAU State University (now Solomon Daushep Lar University, Bokokos), named after the first civilian governor of the state, is to commence academic activities in protection and counter-terrorism as soon as proposals to that effect receive the blessings of the authorities concerned.

As a first step, the university has accepted proposals to

From Njadvara Musa, Maiduguri
VIOLENCE erupted again in Borno State, as gunmen suspected to be of the *Boko Haram* sect, attacked a wedding ceremony at Tashan Alade Village in Hawul Local Council Area of the state, killing seven persons by 11 pm on Saturday.

The gunmen, according to an eyewitness, stormed the village while people were making preparations for the wedding, which was to have taken place yesterday in a local church.

Tashan Allude is border village with Adamawa State, 226 kilometres, south of Maiduguri, the state capital.

Confirming the incident in Maiduguri, the Commissioner for Religious Affairs and Special Education, Alhaji Usman Durkwa, in a telephone interview yesterday, said the suspected gunmen last night attacked one

of the villages sharing border with Adamawa State and killed seven celebrants of a wedding that could have held yesterday at Tashan Alade.

"The celebrants of the wedding travelled all the way from Maiduguri here to the village to attend a wedding at Tashan Alade, but gunmen suspected of *Boko Haram* sect members, thwarted the wedding, by killing seven of our people at between 11pm and midnight yesterday. I am making contacts with security agents and the police on how the suspects attacked this village, before submitting our report to the state government tomorrow (Monday).

"The bodies of the slain celebrants have been deposited at the Maiduguri Hospital for identification and autopsy before they are released to family members for appropriate interment."

Borno State Police Commissioner, Alhaji Lawan Tanko, also said seven people were feared dead at a wedding ceremony at Tashan Alade of southern part of the state.

He said no arrests have been made by either the troops of 7th Division of the Nigerian Army or Police as at yesterday.

Early last month, gunmen suspected to be *Boko Haram* insurgents, ambushed a wedding convoy making its way back to Maiduguri on the Bama-Banki highway and shot dead at least 30 people, including the bridegroom and his family.

Eyewitnesses to the attack spoke of scenes of carnage and described bodies riddled with bullets and covered in blood lying by the roadside.

Bodies of the victims were later taken to the General Hospital in Maiduguri.

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A source at the hospital was quoted then as saying: "We have received the bodies of over 30 people suspected to have been killed while coming from a wedding. Most of them wore wedding uniforms. We are yet to ascertain who is behind such a deadly attack."

Late September, gunmen also suspected to be *Boko Haram* terrorists killed four people at a wedding ceremony in Maiduguri.

The gunmen, whose number could not be ascertained, stormed the residence where the wedding was taking place behind the Green House along West End.

An eyewitness, a photographer, told journalists: "They started shooting sporadically and I was there as a photographer. I jumped into a ditch and sustained minor injury but four people were hit by bullets."

Members of the Catholic Men Organisation (CMO) of Christ the King Catholic Church, Akowonjo, Lagos, during the Nine Lessons and Carols of the parish.

Gunmen kill seven at wedding in Borno