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Gunmen kill seven policemen, one guard in Jigawa attack

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By **Abubakar Sharada**

Reporter, Dutse

Bandits who invaded Gwaram town in the Gwaram Local Government area of Jigawa on Wednesday attacked a police station, a bank and a Sharia court, leaving seven policemen and a civilian dead at the end of their operation.

Assistant Inspector General of Police (AIG) Zone 1, Tambari Muhammed, disclosed this to newsmen in Dutse, the state capital.

Muhammed said four mobile policemen, three conventional policemen and one civilian guard were killed in the attack.

According to him, about 200 attackers entered the town with motorcycles and cars at about 1.00 a.m.

The AIG described the situation as unfortunate in the state that had been enjoying peace for long.

He added that from the information made available to them, the bandits used explosives to attack the bank,

the police station and the court.

Muhammed said no arrest had been made but more armed policemen had been deployed to the area.

The News Agency of Nigeria reports that the same bank was attacked in Gwaram in 2012.

Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) Governors Forum (PDPGF) in a related development condemned incessant killings of innocent individuals and destruction of properties in some parts of the country as a result of farmers and cattle rearers conflicts.

Chairman of the forum and Akwa Ibom State Governor, Godwill Akpabio, made thw condemnation at the end of the Governors meeting in Dutse.

According to him, the forum symphonised with the victims and governments of the affected states over the incidents.

Apkabio explained that the forum resolved that the Northern Governor's Forum should convene a stakeholders meeting with farmers and herdsmen's leaders to deliberate on ways of resolving the crisis.

Meanwhile, Governors of Adamawa, Borno and Yobe states, facing the challenges of Boko Haram insurgency on Wednesday urged the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) not to postpone the 2015 general elections in the states.

The call was contained in a statement jointly issued in Maiduguri by their spokespersons.

The statement urged INEC to disregard calls by some politicians for the postponement of the elections due to the security situation in the states.

It urged INEC to take a cue from war-ravaged Afghanistan where elections were recently held in spite of threat of attacks by the Taliban terrorist group.

"INEC should take a cue from Afghanistan's Independent Election Commission which courageously held the country's presidential and provincial election last Saturday despite strong threats issued by the Taliban.

“Afghanistan was celebrated worldwide for liberating herself from the scourge of fear, thereby sending a strong signal that no threat would prevent them from choosing their leaders through democratic processes,” it said.

The statement further pointed out that the Afghan government provided adequate security for the conduct of the polls, urging the Federal Government to do same.

“INEC should as a matter of counter insurgency approach, ensure that no part of Nigeria is excluded from the election.”

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