Similarly, he said the MNJTF also conducted air interdictions in Arege and Malkorony where several terrorists were killed as the headquarters and logistics base of a top ISWAP commander, Abu Talib, was targeted in that operation.

But Sunday INDEPENDENT gathered that the attempt by ISWAP to set up alternative government in the border communities in the Lake Chad Basin and stretching into borders around Adamawa State, is affecting governance in the communities as smugglers, farmers and cattle herders now pay taxes to the insurgents in exchange of peace to do their businesses.

The development, according to peace and conflict experts, further had imperiled counter insurgency efforts of the Federal Government.