

stations, and other laboratory facilities.

APIN's Oyo State Team Leader Ladi Akinyemi said AIDS was challenging the existence of people and the development of the state at work places, homes etc.

The bill also seeks to define the duties of the state on how to involve the victims and allocate funds for their treatment.

Committee Chairman Mohammed Gamcho Tella described the bill as important, saying HIV/AIDS could be tamed with proactive measures.

Three killed in Gombe

From Vincent Ohonbamu, Gombe

TWO policemen and a gunman were killed in a gun battle at Kagarawul in Gombe yesterday, the Police Command has said.

Police spokesman Fwaje Atajiri said they were still investigating to ascertain the number of the gunmen.

He said his men were on patrol in the area when they were ambushed and shot.

Atajiri urged residents to report any suspicious movements in their neighbourhood.

suspend election in Borno, Yobe and other insurgency flashpoints in 2015 is a defeatist approach and a setback for Nigeria.

His Yobe State counterpart, Ibrahim Geidam, said the plan will give Boko Haram a feeling of triumph.

Their comments followed a statement by the Chairman of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), Prof. Attahiru Jega, that election might not hold in flashpoint states.

But Geidam said the December 28 local government election will go on as planned.

Shettima said he is hope-

Borno is safer now than when the 2011 poll was conducted.

In a statement by his Special Adviser on Communication, Mallam Isa Gusau, the governor said: "One important thing we should not ignore as a sovereign country is that suspending national election on account of Boko Haram activities would amount to making the insurgents supreme over the republic, it will be defeatist on our part as a nation.

"The goal of Boko Haram is to impose its beliefs on us, subvert our constitution and our democracy and replace

economic growth. The governor said the budget represents an increase of N28.1 billion over this

country, we are the majority and a few cannot violently force their views on us.

"I expect that as a strategy, Borno and Yobe and indeed any place so affected by the insurgents, should be the main focus for conduct of the 2015 elections so that we send a clear message to those who want us to go into extinction that we will not cave in to their violent needs, we will move on.

"This is why, governance hasn't for one day, stopped in Borno State. With Allah's help made through the sacrifices, rooted support and prayers of our citizens, we

at the appropriate time. The budget is made up of Recurrent Expenditure of N48.5 billion, which repre-

on Press Affairs and Information, Abdullahi Bego. He said: "There is no reason why Boko Haram should not be routed out by security forces.

"The state of emergency in Yobe, Borno and Adamawa states, renewed for additional six months last November, is due to expire in April.

"By INEC's own estimation, the 2015 general elections will hold in January-February 2015. That's at least eight months after the current state of emergency would have lapsed. Is the INEC National Chairman therefore predicting that the emergency situation will extend indefinitely?