

burial after a post-mortem as ordered by the Rivers Chikwenye Maduku said their national assignment.

Troops gun down suspected female bombers

THE Nigerian Army on Friday said it had averted another blast in Borno State following the interception of two suspected suicide bombers near Maiduguri.

Colonel Sani Usman, the Acting Director of Nigerian Army Public Relations, said this in a statement issued in Maiduguri.

Usman said that the interception was done in collaboration with the local vigilantes, popularly known as civilian JTF.

"The ever alert and vigilant troops of 7 Division Garrison based in Maiduguri, in conjunction with Civilian JTF, averted yet another suicide attack on the innocent citizens in Borno on Friday.

"The troops intercepted 2 female suicide bombers at about 1.20 this morning, almost 100 metres south of Umurari village, outskirts of Maiduguri," he said.

Usman added: "However, one of the suicide bombers, on sighting our troops detonated her explosive device, killing herself instantly, while the second bomber, in an attempt to escape, was gunned down by one of the Garrison snipers."

"The combined team of Nigeria Police and Nigerian Army's Explosive Ordinance Device team safely detonated the unexploded Improvised Explosive Devices strapped on the gunned down suicide bomber.

"It is important to state that there was no casualty beyond the two suicide bombers. Presently, the troops and the Civilian JTF deployed in the village are now combing the general area to forestall further breach of security.

"The situation in the area is calm and law-abiding citizens are going about their normal activities

without fear," the statement read in part.

Meanwhile Captain A.O. Fadare, the Public Relations Officer of 28 Task Force Brigade Mubi in Adamawa, said some of the women abducted by insurgents in Madagali had been rescued.

Fadare told the ***News Agency of Nigeria (NAN)*** in a telephone interview that soldiers rescued the women while pursuing the insurgents.

Fadare, who did not give the number of the rescued women, however, said he was still trying to verify.

"I am still trying to verify from Madagali as you know, the operation is still on," Fadare said.

NAN recalls that about 16 women who went to fetch firewood in the forest around Sabongari village of Madagali on Wednesday were kidnapped by insurgents.