

by Senator Enyinnaya Aba-
ribe, also summoned the

Permanent Secretary,
Ministry of Transportation,
Sabiou Zakari, who appeared

to the reason behind the
movement of the loan from
power sector.

44 feared killed in Zamfara

MUHAMMAD SABIU-KADUNA

FOURTY-FOUR people
were reportedly killed,
while several others sus-
tained injuries when gun-
men attacked a truck con-
veying people at Birane
village, in Zurmi Local
Government Area of Zam-
fara State.

A resident of Zurmi, who
simply identified himself as
Muhammad Bello, told the
Nigerian Tribune that
the hoodlums ambushed
and attacked a truck loaded
with women and children,
going for a wedding from

Birane village to a neigh-
bouring village around 5.00
p.m.

The source said the hood-
lums, on sighting the truck,
opened fire at them, add-
ing that 30 of the passen-
gers died on the spot, while
14 others who survived the
gunshots were set ablaze.

It was learnt that among
those killed were one wom-
an identified as Dan Gwaggo
Maifata and her three chil-
dren, who arrived at the
scene on a motorcycle.

Another eyewitness said
the hoodlums asked all the
women inside the truck to

come down after they had
killed the driver and they
slaughtered them one after
the other.

The corpses were said to
have been arranged in the
truck before it was set ablaze.

When contacted, the state
Police Public Relations Of-
ficer, Shehu Muhammad,
confirmed the incident,
adding that members of the
vigilance group, in partner-
ship with local hunters,
were in search of the hood-
lums.

"The command is yet to
ascertain the number of ca-
sualties," he added.

operation be set up to man-
age violent outbreak where
required, while also calling
for more efficient intelli-
gence gathering.

"The sub-committee is
chaired by Ebonyi State gov-
ernor and the NEC Working
Group will give a fuller re-
port at the end of the work
of the sub-committee," he
said.

While noting that there
had been talks about set-
ting up of cattle ranches or
colonies, he said the issue
was actually a problem of
nomenclature.

"So, whichever one a state
government that is key-
ing into the programme
chooses, either a grazing
reserve or ranch, or a live-

beneficiaries - mainly
herders and cooks - are
1,500,000.

According to Uwais
total actual spending c
in 2016 and 2017 wa
15.58 per cent of the bu

NEC was briefed th
of February 14, the ba
in Excess Crude Ac
stood at \$2,317,252,4
stabilisation fund acc
N11,290,664,060.06,
that of natural reso
development fund sto

N123,624,644,411.24.
The Accountant Ge
reported to the Counci
23 states had access t
budget support facility.

Out of the 23, 11 s
he said, received in J
ary, while the remainin
would soon receive.