## Herdsmen kill 15 in Benue - Ortom

## •No killing in Benue —OPWS commander

Adimbola Alawemo, during the opening of a new thyo i ming station in Alaka at

O fewer than fifteen people have been killed in Benue State in a renewed crisis between herdsmen and farmers in Benue State.

The killing occurred in four local government areas of the state which include, Makurdi, Guma, Logo and Gwer West.

Governor Samuel Ortom who disclosed this to newsmen in Makurdi on Friday also hinted of the influx of cows and the herders into the state.

Ortom said that the herdsmen have no settlement in any part of the state, but that they came into the state to. Kill and maim.

"As I talk to you, almost everyday we have records of killings in the state, killings are going on in some places within the state.

"Three days ago, four people were killed in Gwer West, two people were killed right here in Makurdi, three killed in Guma and six people were killed in Logo.

"The herdsmen also kidnapped people including livestock guard, adding, "I am yet to get the total figure because the council chairmen are yet to give methe details."

"But despite all this, I appreciate the operations of Whirl Stroke in curtailing the activities of these

herdsmen in the state," Ortom said.

But in a swift response, the force commander of Operations Whirl Stroke in the state, Major General Adeyemi Yekini denied the claim, saying that no killing has ever taken place in Benue in the past few months.

Yekini said that in all the

places mentioned by the governor, there are troops there adding that, 'none of them have reported any one injured or killed in the past few months.'

The force commander who admitted that herdsmen have been coming into the state noted that they were not armed.

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subscribers in December. This has pushed Airtel infrastructural overhauls and optimizations.

The company had, in a