

IS claims attack on Borno gov's convoy

How the attack occurred — Gov

ISLAMIC State (IS) has claimed responsibility for the attack on the convoy of Governor Kassim Shettima of Borno State on Tuesday.

Shettima's convoy was travelling from Maiduguri, the Borno State capital, to Gamboru-Ngala, when the insurgents struck, dividing his convoy into two and raining gunshots on the one behind.

The incident occurred between Dikwa and Ngala highway, and a security source

told *Sahara Reporters* that the governor was billed to campaign at Gomboru town before the incident occurred.

According to Reuters, IS claimed responsibility for the attack via a statement on its Amaq news agency, giving the figure of casualties as 42.

However, there has been no official confirmation of the actual number of people killed in the attack.

Meanwhile, the governor has given details of how the Boko Haram insurgents ambushed his convoy.

In a statement issued by his Special Adviser on Communication and Strategy, Isa Gusau, the governor also commiserated with the families of the deceased, as he planned to meet them later today.

The statement said the governor was still expecting full security briefing to get accurate information on the incident.

"Tuesday's incident happened while the governor was on his way to Gamboru, in continuation of campaigns

for the presidential and National Assembly elections coming up on Saturday.

"The governor had left Maiduguri, the state capital, on Tuesday morning and stopped for campaigns in Mafa and Dikwa local government areas, before heading to Gamboru, where he passed the night and returned to Maiduguri on Wednesday.

"He had, on Monday, travelled to Damasak, headquarters of Mobbar Local Government Area in northern

Borno. Before then, he had previously held campaigns in most parts of northern Borno, including Monguno, where he spent the night.

"He had also been to all the nine local government areas of southern Borno, including Chibok, Gwoza, Askira-Uba and Biu, where he spent days, before the attack," Gusau stated.

The statement said the governor would meet families of those affected by the attack, adding that he would also meet some security

heads to review the incident, and more importantly, to continue his collaboration with all the security agencies and volunteers on the need to remain committed to the ongoing fight against Boko Haram.

The incident, he said, would not make him have doubt over the capacity of gallant and patriotic personnel of the Nigerian armed forces "who have dedicated their lives to fighting for peace and freedom of the Borno people."