

a statement by the State Police, Bashir Makama, worried police in charge of operations suspects.

Bandits kidnap Director of Budget, kill deputy in Zamfara

Attahiru Ahmed | Gusau

SUSPECTED armed bandits have kidnapped the Zamfara State Director of Budget, Alhaji Hamza Salihu and killed his deputy who was an advocacy officer, Kabiru Ismail, on their way to an official assignment in Nasarawa State.

In a statement issued on Monday in Gusau, and signed by the Director-General, Press Affairs to Zamfara governor, Mallam Yu-

suf Idris, he lamented that the victims were on their way to an official assignment.

He said that the state governor, Bello Mohammed Matawallen Maradun, described the incident as terrible and disturbing.

"We are highly disturbed with the abduction of the state's Director of Budget, Alhaji Hamza Salihu.

"It is unfortunate that while efforts were being made to stop armed band-

itry, kidnapping, cattle rustling and other crimes peacefully without any bloodshed, some bad elements that have chosen to remain unrepentant still use security uniforms to stop and kidnap unsuspecting law abiding citizens," the governor lamented.

The governor expressed sadness at the killing of Alhaji Kabiru Ismail, who was the Deputy Director (Budget) in the state, and who was murdered by the gun-

men at the kidnap scene while a lady was left in a pool of blood after she was shot in the leg.

The governor promised to collaborate with his Kaduna State counterpart, Governor Nasir El-Rufai, and all security agencies, to trace the perpetrators and bring them to book.

He condoled with the family of the deceased and prayed to God to give his family the fortitude to bear the irreparable loss.

Four killed as Iukun militia attack Benue