

Herdsman attack: Death toll in Taraba rises to 11

Terna Chikpa | Jalingo

DEATH toll in an attack by suspected herdsmen on communities in Bali Local Government Area of Taraba State has risen to 11, according to local sources.

While six people were reportedly killed on Thursday, Sunday Tribune gathered that two people were killed along Yelwa to Jatau road in an ambush in an attempt to flee the attack, while another three people were killed in Borno Kurku on the border between

Bali and Donga Local Government Areas.

It was also gathered that several houses were burnt and thousands fled the series of attack which started on Thursday.

Those who fled the attack have flooded makeshift camps in Bali town, headquarters of Bali Local Government Area.

Chief David Gbaa told Sunday Tribune that over 4000 people are taking refuge at the Tiv Traditional Council Hall, NKST Church, the Legisla-

tive Hall and other locations in the town.

"The population of IDPs is overwhelming and there is no shelter to accommodate them. It just stopped raining here since yesterday, and many of them have been drenched.

"My worry is even with the children and pregnant women we have here. There is no food to even go round. The situation is so pathetic. We have held series of meetings to check the escalation of the attacks and I am trusting God that peace will soon return.

"In the interim, I want to appeal to the government and spirited individuals to come to the aid of these people and help solve the humanitarian crisis we have at hand," he appealed.

When contacted, Taraba State Police Command's spokesman, ASP David Misal said three people were killed in the attack on villages around Gazabu and Utsua Daa. He added that some people remain missing but peace has been restored in the area.