

Seven die in fresh Jos violence

Jude Owuamanam, Jos

NO fewer than seven persons were feared killed on Sunday during an attack on Razat village in Barkin-Ladi Local Government Area of Plateau State.

prevention

contracting the HIV.”

The minister assured that the present administration was committed to revamping and restructuring the nation's education system in line with President Goodluck Jonathan's transformation agenda.

This, she said, would be done in order to ensure that new HIV infection among youths in and out of school was reduced to the barest minimum.

Earlier, in his address of welcome, the Minister of State for Education, Chief Nyesom Wike, reiterated the ministry's commitment to fighting the epidemic.

Two of the attackers suspected to be herdsmen were arrested by security agents. The latest attack was the first major one since security in the state was handed over to the Chief of Defence Staff, Air Marshal Oluseyi Petinrin, and the assumption of Maj.-Gen. Olayinka Osinowo as the commander of the expanded Special Task Force.

Eyewitness said the victims were returning from Bakin-Ladi when the attackers struck at about 7pm with guns and machetes.

The villagers identified some of the deceased persons as Jacob Davou 32; Ezekiel Ishaku, 28; and Ishaya; Bulus, 25.

Two Fulani herdsmen were said to have been arrested by men of the Divisional Police headquarters Barkin-Ladi in connection with the attack.

Parading the suspects, a Police officer, Despan Dariyem, said the suspects were arrested in the early

hours of Monday.

Reacting to the incident, Governor Jonah Jang, through his Special Adviser on Media and Publicity Pam Ayuba, said the government received the news with shock, especially as efforts were being intensified to bring lasting peace to the state.

He said, “Government is very disturbed and very worried. We consider this as another assault on the people of the state. When you think that peace is being attained, that is when our detractors come and start another round of killings, it is sad.

“Government condemns it in totality. We believe this is an act of pure provocation and we will not relent in trying to pursue the part of peace. “People in all part of the state should be vigilant particularly now that we are approaching the festive period and enemies of the state take undue advantage to cause mayhem on innocent people who are tolerant to peace.”