

Police kill two bandits, rescue 20 in Kaduna

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POLICE say they killed two suspected kidnappers and rescued 20 victims in two separate operations in Kaduna State.

Spokesman for the force in the state, DSP Yakubu Sabo, said in a statement on Wednesday they carried out the operations in Mararaban

Jos along the Kaduna-Zaria Highway and at Kidandan, Giwa Local Government Area of the state, where three abducted Airtel Communications workers were rescued.

The statement read, "The Kaduna State Police Command succeeded in foiling a kidnapping incident, gunned down some suspected bandits and rescued 11 victims

unhurt."

Sabo said they received a distress call through the DPO in Mararaban Jos on Wednesday that some bandits had blocked the Kaduna-Zaria Highway and abducted eight people from a bus going from Kano to Abuja.

He named the abductees as Aisha Umar, Samira Dakata, Safiya Idris, Hauwa Aliyu, Aisha Yakubu, Ma'aru Adam, Safiya Audu and Yahaya Bello, all from Kano State.

Sabo said, "On receipt of the information, we mobilised to the area to engage the bandits. We gunned down two of them and rescued the eight victims unhurt while many other bandits escaped with bullet wounds."

According to the spokesman, they have launched a manhunt for the fleeing hoodlums.

In the second operation, Sabo said they received a distress call from a member of the public through the DPO of Kidandan in

Giwa LGA on Tuesday that some bandits had invaded Maidaro village and kidnapped three Airtel Communications Company workers.

He said, "We quickly moved to the scene and engaged the hoodlums in a fierce gun duel and rescued the three workers unhurt. They are Henry Agim, Kamal Raman and Shegun Adejimoh."

He added, "Our men also intercepted nine other captives who were passengers of a Morcopolo bus that were attacked along the Kaduna-Zaria Highway on January 14 alongside the convoy of the Emir of Potiskum at foundation village.

"The victims are Abdulhafiz Wakil, Abdul Wasiu Jimmoh, Mujittaba, Hajara Usman, Emmanuela Dimka, Dahiru Isa and three others who were debriefed by the Commissioner of Police and supported to be reunited with their respective families."

Private schools, parents beg Wike

who made this appeal while speaking with reporters in Port Harcourt on Wednesday, applauded the move by the state government to sanitise the educational sector.

Chukwuma called for a time extension for the schools to satisfy the accreditation requirements, adding that owners of private schools should be encouraged to complement the efforts of government in education.

He said, "We call on the government to reconsider the earlier resolution to close down schools, as children, who are our common priority,

will end up the victims at the end of the exercise.

"We request a review of this decision in the light of the economic hardship/unemployment of most parents, who choose to give their children a better education, but cannot afford the exorbitant fees of highbrow schools.

"Government should come out with a proper exit plan that will consider the plight and fears of every stakeholder involved. By doing this, government will be seen as been closer to the masses and the grassroots."