Meanwhile, bandits have killed 10 people, while five of them were killed in Janbako town of Maradun LGA of Zamfara state in an encounter with vigilante group.

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A resident of the town, Malam Ibrahim Janbako told our correspondent on the telephone that the bandits numbering about 100 came into the town on motorcycles on Sunday.

"After sighting the bandits who were carrying sophisticated weapons, everybody ran helter-skelter, but 10 people were shot dead, while several others sustained serious injuries," said Ibrahim.

Ibrahim added that the vigilante group of the town quickly mobilised to the scene where they faced the bandits.

"In the encounter with the bandits, the vigilante group succeeded in killing five of the bandits".

He, however, maintained that the bandits who were forced out of the town by the vigilante group later returned to the town and took away the dead bodies of their members and ran into the forest.

"We have already buried six people and we are looking into the possibility of burying the remaining four because we fear that the bandits may return to the community for reprisals," said Ibrahim.