

# Gunmen kill Benue official enforcing anti-open grazing law



•Hyacinth Alia Source: File  
**John Charles, Makurdi**

**UNKNOWN** gunmen on Sunday killed a ward commander of the Benue State Livestock Guard, Jarule Likita, in the Ukum Local Government Area of the state.

The Livestock Guard was established by the state government to enforce the anti-open grazing law enacted by the immediate past governor, Samuel Ortom.

The gunmen were reported to have invaded the Tine-Nune community in the local government area around 8.30 pm and went straight to Likita's house where they shot him in the chest.

Sources said on Monday that until his killing, Likita was the personnel of the livestock guard at the Mbatian council ward.

One of the sources said, "Some unidentified gunmen went to the house of the livestock guard commander of Mbatian ward at Tine-Nune settlement, Jarule Likita, around 8.30 pm yesterday (Sunday) and shot him in the chest several times.

"The assassination of Commander Likita marked the fifth BSLG Commander that has been assassinated by unknown gunmen in the local government area in recent time."

Confirming the killing, the State Commander of Livestock

Guard, Linus Zaki, lamented the killings of his personnel in the local government area in recent times.

Zaki, who spoke to journalists on the telephone on Monday said, "I was just being informed that some armed men attacked and killed him (Jarule Likita).

"He was the only one killed. They have been killing our personnel like that. Three of my men died about two months ago. They will just come, shoot them and go away.

"They call them gunmen, unknown gunmen that is the report reaching me. One of the murdered guards went to pick up his wife and was gunned down so also others. I do not know where these gunmen are coming from."

Contacted, the state Police Public Relations Officer, SP Catherine Anene, said she was yet to receive information on the incident.

# Moto

Ajibade Omape

**M**OTORISTS who ply the Third Mainland Bridge in Lagos are currently lamenting the presence of potholes in some parts of the bridge which is the longest among the three bridges that connect Lagos Island with Mainland.

The about 11.8km bridge starts from the Oworonshoki end of the Mainland and ends at the Adeniji Adele Interchange on Lagos Island.

The bridge had witnessed different rehabilitation works since it was completed in 1990 with the last one carried out on April 2, 2023, by the Lagos State Government.

According to a statement by the state Commissioner for Transportation, Dr Frederic Oladeinde, the government was meant to repair identified failed/peeled asphaltic sections.

The state government said

# Pedestrians aban

Johnson Idowu

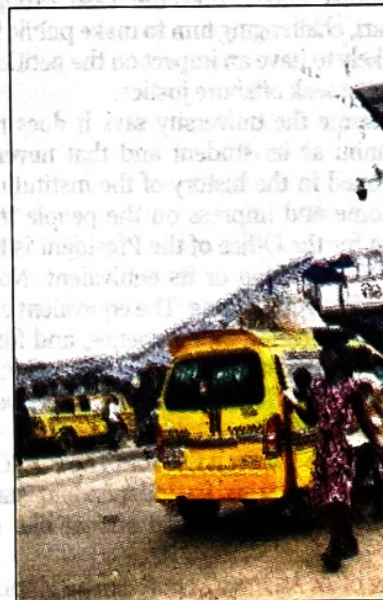
**P**EDESTRIANS in the Ile-Epo area of the Alimosho Local Government Area in Lagos State have blamed the incessant defecation on the pedestrian bridge for the reason why they cross the highway.

The residents who spoke with *PUNCH Metro* on Monday said the fear of contracting disease due to the stench from the faeces on the bridge had made them resort to crossing the highway.

When our correspondent visited the area on Monday, it was observed that road users in the area were seen crossing the highway despite the presence of officials of the Lagos State Kick Against Indiscipline.

A road user, Taoreed Jamiu, noted that he was aware of the dangers involved in crossing the highway, but the bad state of the bridge made him resort to crossing the highway.

"It is not that I am not aware of the dangers of crossing the



•The Ile-Epo Bridge abandoned  
Johnson Idowu

highway, but when you go through that bridge, it is not safe for your health. Using that bridge is like exposing yourself to disease because of the faeces on it, it is always smelling," he said.

A trader, Anike Ajibade,