

Four killed, 3,000 displaced in renewed Nasarawa herder attacks

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File copy: Herdsmen and cattle. Photo: Saheed Olugbon

By Collins Agwam

Four Tiv farmers lost their lives after sustaining gunshot injuries during an attack by herders in the southern senatorial district of Nasarawa State, while others are still battling for survival in undisclosed hospitals in the state.

The President of Tiv Youth Organisation, Isaiah Audu, who addressed a press briefing in Lafia, the state capital, on Monday, also said no fewer than 3,000 Tiv farmers in the area had been displaced following renewed clashes with herdsmen in the area.

He described the recent attacks on Tiv communities in the Doma, Keana, and Obi Local Government Areas of the state as a ploy by the herdsmen to take over their lands for grazing and farming purposes, lamenting that it had been a recurring incident every farming season.

He said, “The causes of these killings are complicated. We can say it is all about land grabbing. This has been occurring any time the farming season comes. At the moment, over 3,000 Tiv indigenes have been displaced.

“During our last head count, we had 1,851 persons in Kadarko Internally Displaced Persons camp, 401 persons in Agyaragu, 721 in Kpata, and 502 in Idadu IDP camps, among others.

“We gather today with heavy hearts to condemn the recent spate of violent attacks on innocent Tiv farmers in Nasarawa State by armed herders. These senseless and brutal killings have left families traumatised, communities shattered and a palpable sense of fear gripping our rural populace.

“The latest incidents that occurred on Thursday, June 13, 2025, and Sunday, June 15, 2025, at Dooga Ayande of Dooka ward in Doma LGA, Antsa of Kwara Chiefdom in Keana LGA, Tse Yange of Tudun Adabu/Kwaghshir ward in Obi LGA and Tse Akura of Galadima ward in Giza Area Administrative Council among other isolated cases resulted in the tragic loss of many defenceless Tiv farmers, including Mr. Terfa Tswabee, Mr. Sham Kyodo, Zaki Kwaghtagher Ordue and Teryem Aondo Apav with others sustaining varying degrees of injuries.”

The Tiv Youth Organisation’s President further extended the deepest condolences of the association to the families of the victims and prayed for the speedy recovery of those injured.

PUNCH Metro is not able to independently verify the claims by the youth leader. When we contacted the Nasarawa State Police Command on the matter, the Commissioner of Police, Shetima Mohammed, simply said, “I am in a meeting with the governor at the Government House. I will speak with you later.”