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From Fred Itua, Abuja

NO fewer than six people, including a member of Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF) and five suicide bombers were killed in a bomb attack on a security outpost manned by vigilante in Borno's town of Mafa.

Sources said some female bombers approached a security post manned by the CJTF in Mafa, about 40 kilometres to Maiduguri, Borno State yesterday and blew themselves up, killing themselves and one of the youth vigilante.

Northeast Information Officer of the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), Abdulkair Ibrahim who confirmed the bomb attack in a telephone message said five members of the CJTF were also injured.

Mafa, headquarters of Mafa Local Government East of Maiduguri, was recently liberated from Boko Haram by the military forces which also released many hostages initially taken by Boko Haram insurgents while they held sway in the small town. Thousands of the residents are now displaced persons being resettled at the newly created Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) camps in the town.

Meanwhile, Senate yesterday said five million Nigerians have been displaced by Boko Haram in the North East. The nation's upper legislative chamber also decried Boko Haram attacks and described them as "unfortunate." Senate made its position known when two bills, seeking the establishment of North-East Development Commission which will address devastation caused by insurgency in the region, scaled second reading was read for the second time on the floor of the Senate.

Senate leader, Ali Ndume and Senator Kabiru Gaya sponsored the two bills.

The bills, which were consolidated, seek to, among other things, provide a legal framework for the coordination of activities for rehabilitation of internally displaced persons and reconstruction of infrastructure destroyed in the

North-East.

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While decrying the untold hardship inflicted on people of the North-East, Senator Gaya said from records, over 15,000 lives were lost while over five million people were internally displaced due to the crisis in the region.

In his remarks, Senate President, Dr. Bukola Saraki said the bill, which would be referred to the Senate Committees on Establishment and Special Duties, would be expected back in the Senate in four weeks.

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