

Zamfara: 12 Civilian JTF members killed in ambush



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Bandits have killed 12 Civilian Joint Task Force (JTF) members in Shinkafi Local Government Area of Zamfara State during an ambush.

A source from Shinkafi town, the headquarters of the local government area, told our correspondent that on Monday about 40 Civilian JTF members from Kurya and Kware villages, coming back from a joint meeting of Civilian JTF in Shinkafi, were ambushed by bandits.

The source added that 12 members of the Civilian JTF were killed while several others sustained gunshot wounds.

According to the source, the bandits, who were about 20, rode on motorcycles and carried sophisticated weapons.

The source said the wounded victims were taken to the General Hospital, Shinkafi, where they were receiving treatment.

The state government recently recruited 8,500 Civilian JTF members drawn from the 14 local government areas of the state to assist the security agencies in fighting the bandits, kidnappers and cattle rustlers terrorising the state.

When contacted, the state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), SP Mohammed Shehu, said the command had received a distress call on the attacks on vigilantes from Kurya and Kware villages in Shinkafi Local Government Area while going back to their respective villages.

He said on receipt of the report, a combined team of Police Mobile Force (PMF) and Critical Tactical Unit (CTU), led by the DPO in charge of the area, quickly moved to the scene, where the police recovered one body while two other victims who sustained gunshot injuries were rushed to the General Hospital, Shinkafi, for treatment.

Shehu added that several motorcycles were recovered at the scene with some of them already burnt.

The PPRO said combing of the surrounding bush and rescue operations were ongoing.

He, therefore, called on the public to always remain conscious of their personal safety and protection.