

# Bandits kill 11, abduct over 100 persons in Sokoto communities

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SOKOTO

**G**unmen have killed 11 persons and kidnapped over 100 others at the Dan Gari and Gatawa Communities of Sabon Birni Local Government Area of Sokoto State.

The member representing the area in the Sokoto State House of Assembly, Hon. Aminu Almustapha Boza confirmed that bandit's attacks are currently a daily routine in Sabon Birni, Goronyo and Gada Local Government Areas of state.

Also, the Goronyo Local Government Chairman, Abdulwahab Yahya Goronyo said the insurgents recently attacked the communities in the night and about 60 people were kidnapped in different villages of the local government.

The Chairman expressed worries that in recent times, a reasonable number of people have been abducted and the number of victims cannot be ascertained due to reoccurring attacks in the area.

Also in Gada, a neighbouring local government area to Goronyo, a member of the State House of Assembly representing the area, Hon. Kabiru Dauda said within three days more than 50 people were also taken away from there by the bandits.

It could be recalled that Sokoto East Senatorial Districts was the worst affected by the attacks of the bandits, while rustling, kidnapping for ransom, armed robbery and other criminal activities have been

the order of the day.

Local sources in the area disclosed that communities have been witnessing an increasing report of cases of insurgent activities.

However, the State Police Commissioner, Muhammad Usaini Gumel said the Command had recorded success in the fight against insurgency and assured that the command is working out modalities towards ensuring security and peaceful conduct of 2023 general elections in the state.

CP Gumel said this at the end of the year conference with police tactical and operational commanders in the state.



Bandits

## 4 Poly students kidnapped on Christmas Eve regain freedom

Babatope Okeowo,  
AKURE

**F**or students of the Kogi State Polytechnic, Lokoja, who were abducted few hours to Christmas celebration have been released to their families by their abductors.

The students, who were said to be returning home from school for Christmas, were abducted alongside their driver by unknown gunmen along Akunnu-Ajowa Road in Akoko North West Local Government Area of Ondo State.

The students, said to be returning home for the yuletide were waylaid at Ago Jinadu Axis, an area noted for criminal activities, especially kid-

napping.

The students alongside their driver identified simply as Monday Momodu had earlier been warned not to take that route which is noted for kidnapping and armed robbery, but he insisted.

Since the route was notorious for kidnapping, travellers always take Akunnu-Ikaram-Gedegede road to Ajowa for fear of the miscreants.

The suspected abductors demanded for N16 million as ransom from the family of the victims before they would be released.

However, there was wild jubilation in the border town of Ajowa Akoko in Ondo State as the four female students were released after spending days in captivity.

A former Majority Leader in

Akoko Northwest Local Government, Hon Soji Ogedengbe who is from the area who broke the news, confirmed that all the victims were released on Tuesday night.

The released students are Obadero Florence, Aregbesola Oreoluwa, Ahmed Ifeoluwa, Olarotimi Omotoyosi and the driver Mr Monday Momodu.

It was gathered that an undisclosed amount of money was paid as ransom for the release of the victims.

Some residents of Ajowa community warned travellers to desist from passing through the deadly short route of Akunnu to Ajowa rather they should endeavour to pass through Akunnu-Ikaram-Gedegede to Ajowa for safety.