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Bandits kill 7 in Kaduna, Niger

● Kidnap 18 passengers along Tegina-Minna Road

SIX persons were reportedly killed in isolated banditry incidents in Igabi and Kauru local government areas of Kaduna State.

This came as 18 passengers were, yesterday, abducted by armed men in Kundu village along Tegina-Minna Road in Rafi Local Government Area of Niger State.

Kaduna State Commissioner of Internal Security, Mr Samuel Aruwan, yesterday, said security agencies reported that in Igabi Local Government Area, bandits barricaded the Birnin Yero-Tami road and killed one Hussaini Suleiman Dari.

He said: "One Dahiru Saidu was left injured and is now receiving treatment in a hospital. At Gwada village, Igabi Local Government Area, an attack by gunmen left two persons, Yahuza Sale and Garba Sule, dead.

Aruwan said in another incident, armed bandits invaded Ungwan

Kure where they killed two residents, Mohammed Sani Suleiman and Yahuza Sale.

Similarly, bandits attacked Amawan Dadi Rugan Jauru settlement in Kauru Local Government Area. A resident known simply as "Likita" was shot dead.

Governor Nasir el-Rufai noted the reports with sadness and sent his condolences to the families of those killed and prayed for the repose of their souls. He also wished those injured quick recovery.

18 passengers kidnapped along Tegina-Minna road

It was gathered that the passengers in three buses were flagged down by the bandits on the

ever-busy highway about 2 am after they had blocked the road.

A senior government official, who pleaded anonymity, confirmed the incident, saying nothing has been heard from the bandits to enable the authorities know the identities of those kidnapped.

"We are aware that bandits struck again early this morning (yesterday) but we are yet to ascertain the exact number of people involved and their whereabouts," he said.

He, however, said that government and security agents are monitoring the situation.

One killed in Shiroro LGA

In another development, one person was confirmed killed while several others were kidnapped in

Manta town in Shiroro Local Government Area of the state, Monday.

The bandits were said to have stormed the town in their numbers and started shooting sporadically during which the middle-aged man was killed.

The number of those abducted could not yet be ascertained at press time but an insider said "those kidnapped were many."

Besides the death and kidnapping, the bandits had free time to themselves as they moved from house to house to raid and succeeded in stealing cash, foodstuffs and other valuables.

Efforts to get Police reaction on the two incidents proved abortive as its spokesman, Wasiu Abiodun, could not be reached.