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Font size: [Isaac Ombe-Yenagoa, Bayelsa and Nwanosike Onu,](#)

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Police

ONE person was feared dead in a clash between the police and mercenaries alleged hired for the ongoing voter registration in a community in Bayelsa State.

The mercenaries were said to have been imported from one community

to register in another.

Sources said communities in riverside and motorable areas send out vehicles and boats to Yenagoa, the state capital, and other communities to convey the mercenaries to their communities for the exercise.

It was learnt that the mercenaries are paid between N300 to N5000.

Sources said the deceased was killed in Tungbo, Sagbama Local Government, during a clash

between the police and the mercenaries.

An eyewitness said vehicles and registration materials were destroyed during the confrontation, which lasted for over three hours.

The governorship candidate of the Action Congress of Nigeria (ACN), Kemela Okara, urged the people to rise against the mercenaries.

Okara spoke after registering in Bomoundi, his country home, on Saturday.

He said: “The exercise appears to be going on well, except for complaints that some politicians are hiring people from other places to register in their communities.”

The aspirant urged the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to fish out persons that have registered more than once.

↓ The absence of Direct Data Capture machines (DDCM) has stalled the registration of voters in some parts of Anambra State.

The areas include Nibo in Awka South, Fegge in Onitsha and Ihembosi in Ekwusigo local government.

Ten days into the exercise, residents of these communities are yet to register because of unavailability of DDC machines.

The traditional ruler of Nibo, Igwe Ugonwanne Ngene, said: “INEC has refused to send any machine to the area, despite complaints.”

State Chairman of the All Nigeria Peoples party (ANPP) Chukwuemeka Orjiako said over 15,000 voters in Nibo had not been registered.

The people of Nteje protested at INEC office in Awka at the weekend.

Resident Electoral Commissioner (REC) Prof. Chukwuemeka Onukogu said the machines were recalled because they were faulty.

The machines were returned to Nteje on Sunday and the exercise has begun.

Onukogu appealed to the other affected areas to be patient. He assured the people that they would all be registered.



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