

NEWS

One killed as Fulani herdsmen clash with youths

ONE person was reportedly killed and another critically injured in Ofagbe community, Isoko North Local Government Area of Delta State, following an alleged clash between the youths and Fulani herdsmen.

It was learnt that the Fulani herdsmen, who were alleged armed with dangerous weapons, including AK-47 rifles, attempted to forcefully graze their cattle on the community's farm-

From Bolaji Ogundele,
Warri

lands on Sunday.

As the youths moved to stop the herdsmen from entering their farms, the Fulani allegedly shot two of them.

One was said to have died on the spot while the other was rushed to an undisclosed hospital at Ughelli.

One of the victims, Jephthah Inibu, was identified as a palm

wine tapper.

The hostile relationship between the community and Fulani herdsmen had persisted because of the herdsmen's alleged consistent invasion of the community.

This has led to the destruction of the farmers' crops and other valuables belonging to the residents.

The councillor representing Ofagbe Ward at the legislative arm of Isoko North Local Gov-

ernment Area, Mr. Sakardi Ichakor, confirmed the incident to our reporter.

He regretted that such invasions had become seasonal between the herdsmen and the residents, who are mainly farmers.

But police spokesperson Celestina Kalu, a Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP), said she was only aware that a situation between Ofagbe and Fulani herdsmen occurred yes-

terday.

A police source, who pleaded not to be named, also confirmed the development to our reporter.

The source added that the matter was being addressed by the state government.

"I spoke with the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) of the area and he said he had sent his men to the place. But they have not come back with a report," the source said.

Calabar monorail to function before Carnival