

The group, according to him, did not obtain permission for the demonstration.

Protest claims 7 in Asaba

In Asaba, the clash by the police with members of IPOB claimed seven lives.

In the ensuing shootout between the police and the Biafra agitators at Cable Points and Abraka area of the state capital, two policemen were confirmed dead, while IPOB lost five of its members.

Residents in the area had to close their shops and doors as they scampered for safety.

Report from Asaba said IPOB members carried their flags and placards in a procession to celebrate Biafra Day, which later turned violent as the protesters damaged a police patrol van belonging to Ibusa division as well as a military vehicle.

The development was said to have infuriated armed policemen positioned at strategic locations in the area.

Witnesses said some persons, including policemen, who were injured in the fracas, were taken to the Federal Medical Centre, Asaba.

A nurse at the FMC, who pleaded anonymity, confirmed to **News Agency of Nigeria (NAN)** that some of the injured were brought to the hospital.