

ing indignantly ignored as you have only found it conven-

manager, Public Affairs, Mr. Ola Ogundolapo, had

gers and other airport users.

believe in the PDP and the Obasanjo government."

Expired fish: Community, monarch disagree over compensation

Soni Daniel, Port Harcourt

A meeting called by the elite of Taabaa community in Khana Local Government Area of Rivers State, to deliberate on the dumping of expired fish in the area, ended in a deadlock on Monday.

Our correspondent gathered that the items listed for discussion at the meeting convened by the member representing the area in the state House of Assembly, Mr. Leyi Kwane, could not be exhausted as the paramount ruler of the area, Chief Jonathan Noule, walked out

of the parley in anger.

Trouble reportedly started when the conveners of the meeting asked the traditional ruler to explain why he settled for the collection of N1million compensation from the fishing company, against the resolve of the people of the community.

The elite, made up of members of the Taabaa Youth Council, the lawmaker and the leaders of thought of the community and other members of the traditional council of the Bua Baa, had criticised the two traditional rulers in the area who endorsed the collection of the money, which was consid-

ered as a pittance from the fishing company.

Irked by the effrontery of the lawmakers and the others, Noule reportedly told them to stop meddling in the affairs of his community as he was the paramount ruler recognised by the government.

Efforts to reach Noule for his reaction proved abortive as his phone numbers were not going through.

But the lawmaker representing Khana State Constituency in the Rivers State House of Assembly, Mr. Kwane, a native of Taabaa, explained that he called the meeting to sort out matters

arising from the dumping of the expired fish in the community.

Although he did not elaborate on the outcome of the meeting, our correspondent learnt that the meeting sympathised with the death of one Nule Baridee, who died on Sunday after joining others to bury the expired fish.

Kwane said however that Baridee did not die as a result of the effect of the expired fish.

According to him, there was no linkage between Baridee's death and the dumping of the expired fish.