

on it, and punishing officers.  
"The punishment for the

that some of the policemen  
who embarked on the illegal

investigation.

positions went to the APC,  
while PDP got 45 slots.

## Oyo CP meets herdsmen, farmers

OLUFEMI ATOYEBI

POLITY

THE Oyo State Commissioner of Police, Leye Oyebade, met leaders of the Fulani herdsmen and farmers in Ibarapa area of the state on Thursday, warning that anyone caught in the act of breaking down law and order in the state would be severely dealt with.

The CP, who met the groups at the palaces of the Eleruwa of Eruwa, Oba Samuel Akindele, Onilala of Lanlate, Oba Olawuyi Olagoke and Olu of Igboora, Oba Jacob Oyerogba, said no effort would be spared in the fight against constant clashes between Fulani herdsmen and farmers in the areas.

Constant clashes between the two groups

have led to loss of lives while the farmers accused the herdsmen of raping their wives and daughters as well as grazing on their farmland. A policeman was also killed recently while mediating in a clash.

Oyebade said, "The resident Fulani herdsmen should warn their visitors that grazing on farmland is hereby prohibited. Any herdsmen caught with AK 47 gun will be arrested and charged to court. One of my men was killed by Fulani herdsmen in Ayete but this will no longer be accepted. To further check the activities of erring herdsmen, there will be no more grazing at night.

"Farmers and the herdsmen have lived together

for decades without a fight. From now on, no one should harass the other or rape any women. I appeal to farmers not to poison streams and pool of water where the cattle drink. Anyone caught going against these directives will be arrested and dealt with according to the law."

The CP said a copy of the agreement reached at the end of a meeting between the two groups in Ibadan would be available to all parties in preferred language for easy understanding.

While also proffering solution to the frequent violence in the areas, the Eleruwa said that the constitution must be looked into in order to address the menace, while also calling for the establishment of more police stations and

redeployment of more policemen to man the troubles spots.

He said, "The issue of Fulani herdsmen destroying farmlands is a real problem. Unfortunately, it's giving the leaders bad names with the accusation that the herdsmen offer bribes to escape penalties when their cattle destroy farmlands. This is not true. The issue is beyond what we are looking at.

"We are running away from the reality. We should do something about our constitution. We do not have the power to stop them (herdsmen) from coming or staying here, but the constitution can address the issues relating to their stay here. No one should allow his own economic activity to disturb others, especially the hosts," he said.