

From **Geoffrey Anyanwu, Enugu, George Onyejiuwa, Owerri, Okey Sampson, Umuahia**

THERE was total compliance with the sit-at-home order in Enugu, yesterday, as markets, banks, fuel stations, motor parks, departmental stores and both government and private offices did not open for business, while all roads were deserted.

Daily Sun went round the capital city and observed that yesterday's compliance with the sit-at-home order by the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) on Mondays, superseded the previous ones in Enugu.

It, however, turned violent as a man was shot dead around Umu-eze Awkunanaw, in the morning, with a gory picture of the victim in a pool of his blood going viral on social media. Another, a yet to be identified staff of the University of Nigeria Teaching Hospital (UNTH), Enugu, was also shot on his way from work in the morning around 4 Corner, Nkanu West Local Government Area.

Governors and leaders of the zone had, in their eight-point communiqué at the end of their meeting at the Government House Enugu, among other things, condemned killings in the region and the sit-at-home order.

Those who complied with the sit-at-home order said the threat by the governors and leaders to end the order without a mention of the IPOB leader, Nnamdi Kanu's plight, triggered yesterday's total compliance in Enugu.

The UNTH staff, said

Sit-at-home: 1 dead, another in Enugu hospital

• Imo residents comply with order

to be a security officer at the College of Medicine at the hospital, in a video watched by Daily Sun, said that he was on his way home after his night shift, in his tricycle (eke), when he was accosted by three masked men on a motorcycle,

who shot him at close range, but that he miraculously survived and was responding to treatment.

The news of the two incidents brought fears on the people and made those who were preparing to go out to

remain indoors.

Meanwhile, residents of Owerri, the Imo State capital, yesterday, observed the sit-at-home order by IPOB as they remained indoors.

Daily Sun went round the metropolis and discovered that all major markets in the capital city were closed, just as all commercial banks along the

Bank road/Okigwe road and Wetheral road were all closed. Also, the usual busy Douglas, Tetlow, Wetheral and Okigwe roads were all deserted by commuters.

At Tetlow, a resident who identified himself as Chuka, said they decided to remain indoors to avoid being harmed.

...Tension in Umuahia as gunmen enforce order

THERE was tension in parts of Umuahia, the Abia State capital, yesterday, as gunmen stormed the city to enforce the sit-at-home order.

It was learnt that the gunmen invaded the capital city from the Uzuakoli axis of the state, and started shooting indiscriminately to disperse people who came out for the day's business. The gunmen forced some people who went to work in some establishments to return home.

The action of the gunmen, believed to be hoodlums, spread like wildfire to the entire city, causing pandemonium as people scamped for safety. Shop owners, who had earlier opened for business,

were forced to shut down, while commercial buses and tricycle operators immediately withdrew their services, leaving tens of passengers hurrying home to be stranded. Banks and other public institutions were also shut down yesterday. Schools and filling stations which opened in the morning hours shut down after the gunmen struck.

However, after about two hours, few shops which had closed reopened, and commercial vehicles returned to the roads to provide skeletal services to commuters.

In Aba, the commercial city remained a ghost town, as there was total compliance to the sit-at-home order. The

gates of schools, banks and filling stations were locked as school children and their teachers stayed at home.

In Abakaliki, the Ebonyi state capital, and many parts of the State, business and commercial centres, yesterday, opened for services as the state continued to bounce back from the effects of months of compliance with the sit-at-home order on Mondays.

Yesterday, except for the popular Mechanic Village and building materials market, all other markets in the state capital opened for buying and selling. Also, banks in the state capital opened and attended to customers.

Daily Sun moved round the

city and observed that filling stations within the capital city were open for businesses. Motorcycle and tricycle operators were seen on the streets conveying people to their various destinations.

Government offices at Ochudo Centenary City and Old Government House were also bubbling with people and government officials were everywhere doing their normal official duties.

A joint security patrol team in a convoy were seen patrolling round the capital city to maintain law and order.

There was no incident of attack or killings in any part of the state as at the time of filling this report.

Why we're implementing asset declaration for bank executives —EFCC

THE Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), yesterday, explained that its directive to bankers to declare their assets was not a "witch hunt" but aimed at sanitising the banking sector, according to new monitored from the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN).

EFCC Chairman, Abdulrasheed Bawa, made the clarification in Abeokuta at the opening of a two-day capacity building workshop for security agencies organised by the Nigeria Deposit Insurance Corporation (NDIC).

The theme of the workshop

is "Effective Investigation and Prosecution of Banking Malpractices in Nigeria".

The EFCC had, in March, directed all bank executives to declare their assets latest by June 1. The anti-graft agency said that the directive was in line with the bank employees, ETC. (Declaration of Assets) Act 1986, enacted to ensure adequate measures in sanitising the nation's financial system.

Represented by Mohammed Ghali, EFCC Lagos Zonal Commander, Bawa said that the clarification became necessary because many

people had misconstrued the measure for a "witch hunt".

Bawa declared that in carrying out the responsibility of ridding Nigeria of corruption, as mandated by the EFCC Establishment Act, he had realised that "there is a slew of corrupt practices going on in the banking sector".

He, however, reiterated the agency's commitment to ridding the banking sector of the malpractices.

He explained that the situation had prompted the EFCC, under his watch, to intensify engagement with bank executives, more than ever before.

He assured that the anti-graft agency, through its Bank Fraud Section, would continue to prevent fraudulent practices in the banking sector and prosecute perpetrators of such fraud.

Bawa described the EFCC and the NDIC as co-runners on the anti-corruption tracks, racing to improve the image of Nigeria in the international community.

He assured that the activities of the two agencies would create an economically enabling environment that would boost foreign investors' confidence in the country.