

# 20 Dead in Bodo-Mogho Communal Clashes

**D**espite the movement of heavily armed mobile police and other security agencies to quell the communal clashes between Bodo and Mogho in Gokana Local Government area of Rivers State, at least 20 persons were killed before the police brought the situation under control while some people that escaped the problem from Mogho claimed that their community has been totally razed down.

However, the arrival of the policemen is said to have abated the clashes which resulted over the dispute of ownership of a large expanse of land though some other interests which people allege were political have been blamed for the problem.

Though the problem is said to have been brought under control, some people who escaped from the area said that there were many dead bodies yet to be picked up while some people as at yesterday were still looking for their relatives. Those that ventured into the battle areas said that Mogho has been deserted with even their local chief in flight.

A man who claimed to have escaped by whiskers from his

## RIVERS

*From Ahametula Ogbu  
in Port Harcourt*

assailants from the area said under condition of anonymity that "now virtually all the surrounding communities, except Bodo, are hosting people that

## Fiscal Bill: Lawmakers Urged on

**M**embers of the House of Representatives have been called upon to emulate their colleagues in the Senate, to ensure quick passage of the Fiscal Responsibility Bill (FRB) pending before the lower House of Assembly.

The call, made by Mr Auwal Musa-Rafsanjani, Executive Director of the Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre (CISLAC), came up only days after the Upper House (Senate) approved and passed the vital Bill.

The Senate had on February 21, approved the Conference Report on the Freedom of Information Bill (FoI Bill)

have fled Mogho. You know, not everybody has a relative or friend to go and stay with in Port Harcourt and the number of those who have stayed in nearby communities is higher than those who went as far as Port Harcourt to seek refuge. So the situation we are currently faced with is that of refugee situation; their health and other conditions".

## LAGOS

*By Abimbola Akosile*

2006, to set the stage for its formal transmission to President Olusegun Obasanjo for his assent; and also passed the Fiscal Responsibility Bill (FRBill).

The FR Bill, as proposed in the National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS) document is central to the implementation and sustainability of a prudent fiscal policy, which can lead to reduction of the risks posed to macro-