

# Buyaga parliamentary race: Candidates make big vows

By Andrew Musinguzi

The parliamentary contest in Buyaga West and Buyaga East, constituencies in Kagadi district, has intensified. Incumbents, party flag-bearers and independent candidates are scrambling for support ahead of the 2026 elections.

In Buyaga East, incumbent MP Eric Musana is facing stiff competition from National Resistance Movement (NRM) flag-bearer Stephen Twesige Rulekere and Brian Asingwire of the National Unity Platform.

In Buyaga West, incumbent Barnabas Tinkasiimire is battling NRM flag-bearer Denis Namara Bindeba and independent candidate Gard Benda.

The Kagadi Woman MP race has also heated up. Incumbent Jennifer Mbabazi Kyomuhendo faces NRM's Margaret Naziwa Rujumba and Prosy Nahwera.

Tinkasiimire said he is seeking another mandate to continue lobbying for improved infrastructure and better social services.



**Mbabazi Kyomuhendo**

"I plan to lobby for the extension of electricity in rural areas, as well as ensuring that every sub-county has a secondary school. I will ensure the elderly honorarium is increased to at least 50,000 per month," he said.

Kyomuhendo said she has intensified household-level mobilisation and accused some NRM registrars of irregularities in the previous election cycle.

Musana said his grassroots mobilisation is gaining traction. He expressed confidence in retaining his seat and pledged to "ensure Kagadi Hospital is elevated to a referral hospital".

## VOTERS MAKE PICKS

Esther Turyasingura, a Kagadi residents, said she will vote for Tinkasiimire, citing his active participation in Parliament and lobbying for electricity, health centres and support for the elderly.

Peter Alinda pledged support for Twesige, saying: "He has a lot of connections with top government leaders."

Rosemary Tuhaise said she prefers Kyomuhendo because "she has helped sponsor children from poor families and orphans to study", adding that the MP has funded women's co-operatives.

Scovia Katusiime supports Naziwa, saying she has "a vision for our district".

Junior Akugizibwe said Namara is his choice because of his experience as an East African Legislative Assembly representative.

Rulekere vowed to fight what he described as divisive politics.

"We are tired of politicians who solicit votes based on tribal and religious sentiments. I will ensure I deliver services to the expectation, especially in areas of health, jobs, water, power and education," the NRM flag-bearer said.



**Buyaga East County MP Eric Musana**