

# Nandala promises to end water woes

By John Musenze

Forum for Democratic Change (FDC) presidential candidate Nathan Nandala Mafabi yesterday took his charm offensive to Sembabule district, where he pledged to end the area's water woes.

Sembabule, a predominantly

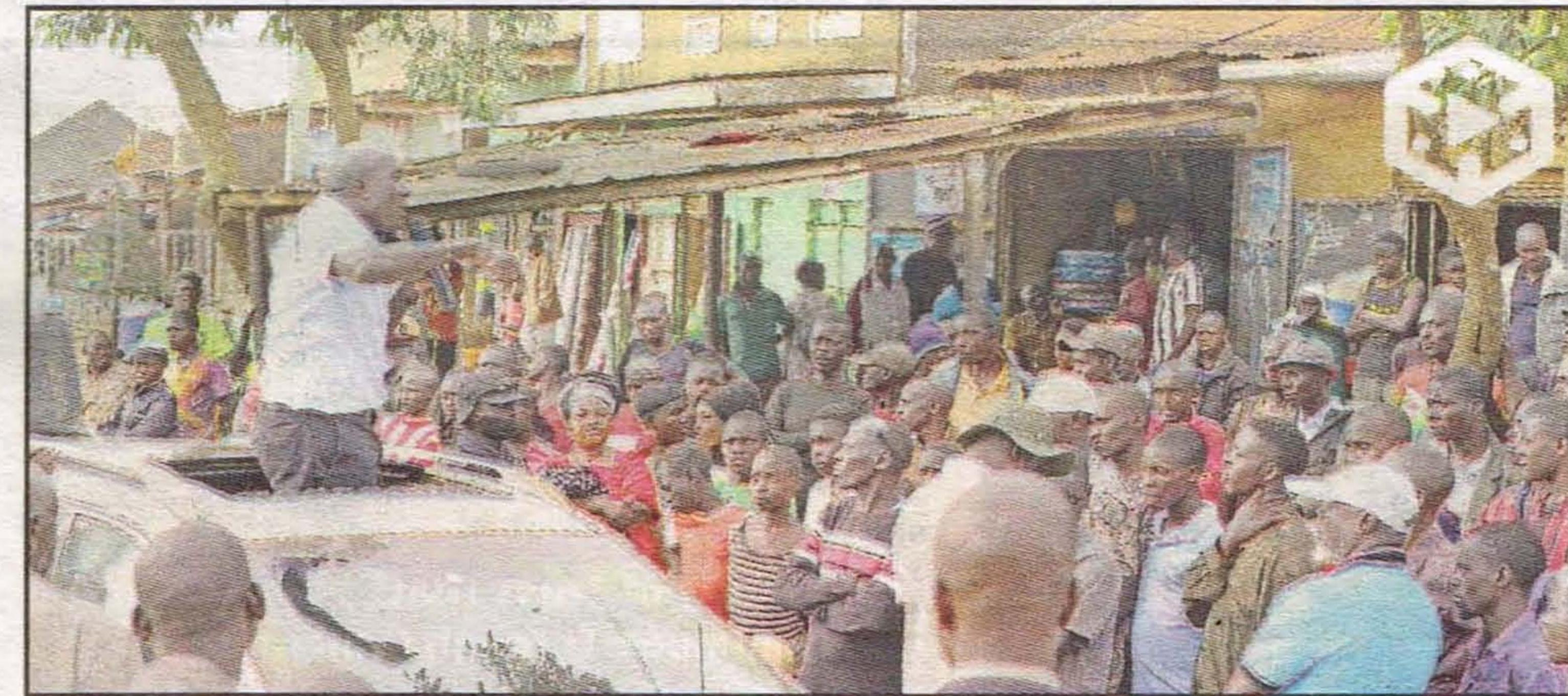
cattle-keeping district, has for years grappled with water shortage problems, among other issues.

Nandala, who addressed six rallies across the district, promised to improve access to safe water.

"We plan to extend piped water to this district and

supplement it with other water sources to help our people thrive. Without water, there is no life, farming or dignity," Nandala told residents.

The FDC candidate said his administration's water availability strategy will also involve sinking boreholes and establishing valley dams.



**Nandala (standing through car sunroof) speaking to voters in Mijwala sub-county, Sembabule, yesterday.** (Scan picture using the Vision Digital Experience to watch video)

On markets, Nandala promised to revive co-operative unions to increase farmers' bargaining power.

The FDC stalwart linked the region's struggles to wider governance failures, including land disputes, insecurity and neglect of social services.

"This district has given loyalty to politicians like Sam Kutesa, but all it has received is neglect," he said.

Earlier, Nandala had campaigned in neighbouring Bukomansimbi district, where he addressed two mid-morning rallies on his way to Sembabule. Even though the heavy morning rain disrupted the programme, his supporters gathered to hear his message.

## ELECTION VIOLENCE

Speaking to journalists, Nandala directly challenged the Electoral Commission to move beyond statements

## **NOTERS' VOICES**

For most Sembabule residents, the water crisis remains the most immediate concern.

"Children often wade through contaminated water. Long distances to water sources expose women and girls to attacks," Henry Karuhanga from Lwebitakuli sub-county told *New Vision*.

Ivan Muganga, a resident of Mateete sub-county in Sembabule, appealed to the next government to create opportunities for young people in rural areas.

and take firm action against electoral violence, which he said has become normalised in the cattle corridor.

"For a long time, we have observed what happens here when the army and those in power intimidate others. This is not only in Sembabule; it is happening across the country," he said.

## EDUCATION, HEALTH

Nandala said his administration plans to build at least three schools of different levels in every sub-county and establish a health centre IV in each sub-county across the region.

In Bukomansimbi's Misanvu trading centre in Kibinge sub-county, Nandala urged voters to elect leaders who prioritise their welfare.

Tomorrow, the FDC candidate will traverse Masaka district and Masaka city, the political capital of Greater Masaka. The region has historically leaned towards opposition parties, making it a strategic target.