

## Kayihura defends Museveni, warns Besigye on night rallies



Gen Kale Kayihura

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**KAMPALA.** The Inspector General of police, Gen Kale Kayihura, has warned FDC presidential candidate Kizza Besigye against holding rallies at night but defended the same act by the ruling NRM party candidate Yoweri Museveni.

Gen Kale Kayihura said Dr Besigye has been adamant to police calls to respect the Electoral Commission regulations on time and traffic and said police were prepared to use force to disperse his crowds.

"We have told Dr Besigye to stop, but he is not bothered. We are not going to allow him to paralyse the streets and highways," Gen Kayihura said last Saturday.

When Gen Kayihura was asked why he is blaming only Dr Besigye for night rallies yet Mr Museveni held two night rallies last week, he said: "Mr Museveni could have had a reason. I will talk to the managers and see why they did it."

The IGP added: "Even the Electoral Commission said Mr Museveni has been abiding by the electoral laws during his campaigns."

Dr Besigye campaigned in Wankulukuku, a Kampala suburb, past 8.30pm last week. In the same week, NRM presidential candidate Museveni held rallies at Entebbe and Makerere University past 7pm.

But Gen Kayihura said Dr Besigye blocked traffic while campaigning in Entebbe area, which caused untold suffering to motorists.

But on the same day, President Museveni also blocked Ggaba Road and played football with teens in the middle of the road but Gen Kayihura didn't comment on that.

Gen Kayihura's warning comes as Dr Besigye is expected to conclude his campaign in the city centre.

Both Dr Besigye and Mr Museveni will end their campaigns at Nakivubo and Kololo in Kampala city respectively.

A joint security committee had earlier banned political campaigns and rallies in the central business district, despite electoral laws allowing candidates to hold rallies at gazetted polling stations.

Earlier, Dr Besigye said he couldn't stop holding night rallies until his rival, the National Resistance Movement candidate, President Museveni, respects the same laws.