KENYA

Sheikh Balala gets Sh6m in citizenship row
Mr Khalid Salim Ahmed, the former head of the Islamic Party of Kenya and street preacher who was popularly known as Sheikh Khalid Balala, has been awarded Sh6 million in damages for violation of his rights by the government in the 1990s, when the state stripped him his citizenship with no explanation. His constitutional right as a Kenyan was also restored. The former preacher, whose political ideologies at the height of the agitation for multi-partyism in the 1990s rattled the Kanu government, said he harbours no bad feelings against the government. DAILY NATION

How car plate led police to sergeant who ran over student
Maureen Wambui Gachagua, 22, a Kenyatta University third-year student was hit by a senior prison officer— who police say was drunk— who then drove three kilometers with her body on the roof of his car before dumping it in South C Estate, Nairobi. An officer investigating the accident said Sergeant Dismus Gitenge Motongwa, after dumping the body, drove to Lang'ata Women Prison's staff quarters, parked the car, unscrewed the hind number plate and took a different car. Nairobi Deputy Police Commander Richard Kerich said the sergeant will be charged with causing death by dangerous driving and driving under the influence of alcohol. DAILY NATION

Relief for Kenya as Comesa team endorses sugar import safeguard
Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (Comesa) committee has recommended that Kenya be granted a two-year extension to limit on sugar imports from the trade bloc's member States, offering relief to local millers that feared competition from cheap producers. unlike previous extensions, Comesa has formed a joint committee that will see the implementation of safeguards and report back to the business bloc on the progress. In 2015, Kenya invoked the infantry clause of Comesa laws to seek protection against blanket export of sugar to Kenya from member States, arguing that it wanted to protect new factories that had just been set up. THE EAST AFRICAN
Mozambique

In Mozambique, classes come alive in local languages
About 50 children sit on a bare classroom floor in front of their teacher in what could be any lesson in Mozambique, except that they are not learning in Portuguese, the country's official language. The class is being taught in Changana, a local language spoken in southern Mozambique and in the capital Maputo that is closely related to Tsonga spoken across southern Africa. News 24

SOMALIA

Are Somaliland, Puntland ready for war over land?
The self-declared republic of Somaliland and autonomous Puntland are locked in a standoff over Sool and Sanaag areas, leading to deadly clashes since the start of 2018 after both sides massed soldiers in the contested areas. Since 1998, Somaliland and Puntland have vied for control of the neck of land stretching from the Gulf of Aden to Ethiopia's border. According to International Crisis Group, the dispute risks creating space for Al Shabaab insurgents and an Islamic State branch in Puntland. THE EAST AFRICAN

TANZANIA

Regional bank to help Tanzania fund SGR, gas plant
Tanzania has secured more than $400 million from the Trade and Development Bank (TDB) to fund part of its standard gauge railway and a 318MW gas plant. Early this year, Dar es Salaam had set aside more than $610 million in the 2018/19 budget for the construction of the 300km SGR between Dar es Salaam and Morogoro; and the 336km Morogoro and Makutopora line. On Tuesday by the TDB President Admassu Tadesse, confirmed that the bank had allocated $200 million for the SGR Central Corridor project and another $200 million that will go towards the gas power plant to help Dar es Salaam push forward with its infrastructure projects. Tanzania will start receiving the funds next year, with $27.55 million over a five year period rising to $60.27 million the following year, $80.28 million in 2021, $88.77 million the year after, $97.26 in 2023 and a final disbursement of $110.88 million in 2024. THE EAST AFRICAN

Zimbabwe

'I'm not in a sexual relationship with a presidential candidate': Zim election boss
The head of Zimbabwe's electoral commission has denied she is in a sexual relationship with one of the country's 23 presidential candidates, an allegation that had raised questions over her impartiality. In a live interview with Harare-based radio station Capitalk Priscilla Chigumba said: "I am not in any sexual relationship or any relationship whatsoever which has the potential or is likely to jeopardise my ability to discharge my functions." She told presenter Ruvheneko Parirenyatwa: "To answer you very expressly: I am not in a sexual relationship with a presidential candidate." News 24

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