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CONVERSATIONS IN CHINESE MEDIA



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I. Social Media Chatter in China

• Subway incident trends on Weibo, leads to banning of accounts: In the Xi'an subway incident, 6952 Weibo accounts were banned or closed to intensify conflicts deliberately. Weibo said these accounts carried out geographical attacks, provoked gender opposition, and even appeared in irrelevant topics to brush quantity control and attack the irrational behavior of the National Games.

II. News in China

- US visas issued to Chinese students have returned to pre-pandemic numbers; the US Embassy in China has issued 85000 students visas during May to August. These numbers are equal to 2019, same month period.
- On the top of a mountain at 3,816 meters above sea level on the Qinghai-Tibet plateau is the China Global Atmosphere Watch Baseline Observatory the world's highest center to monitor ozone and greenhouse gases. Huang Jianqing and his colleagues for the last 28 years have been collecting data for the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). The decades of monitoring greenhouse gases, particularly carbon dioxide (CO2), has now helped develop the "Waliguan Curve." The observatory is one of the WMO's 31 global atmosphere background observatories and the only land-based one in continental Asia. Zhou Xiuji, an atmospheric physicist at the Chinese Academy of Sciences, says the data collected at Waliguan helps support the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.
- President Xi Jinping has <u>addressed</u> the opening of a training session for young and middle-aged officials at the Party School of the CPC Central Committee (National Academy of Governance). He has spoken about how cadres "are born and live in a great era" and that they are a critical force for the cause of the Party and the people. He wants young cadres to "strive for the honour of being stationed in harsh and remote places."
- Covering the ongoing intelligence-spying conflict between Canada and China, as per Global Times, Canadian Michael Spaver had taken many photos and videos of Chinese military equipment at different times during his stay in China. Some of the photos are illegally provided to overseas personnel. After identification, the relevant photos and videos are all confidential state secrets. Michael Spaffer is also an important intelligence source for another Canadian defendant, Michael Kovrig, who has long provided all kinds of information.

III. India Watch

Being a country and people that are known for speaking in idioms, Xi's speech to the young party cadres highlights his plans for the future of China. Xi has said that "Knives must be sharpened on stones," and cultivate skills of "investigation and research," work on the "front lines" to learn about development. Importantly, Xi highlighted that the Party places cadres in various posts with the goal that they act as officers, and not become office holders enjoying comforts. 党把干部放在各种岗位上,让每个人都当军官,而不是当官享受幸福. Xi then railed against the idea of being "Mr. Nice Guy" 好好先生; such people according to Xi don't necessarily have public interest at heart, lack integrity and are fundamentally selfish. For the Communists, he said, what matters is struggle. In this regard, the next breed of Party cadres that Xi plans on building are poised to be intelliegence assets with ultimate loyalty to the Party; the plan is to build them as the logictical backbone of the country with a foreign policy and China's rise outlook.