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DAILY
**CONVERSATIONS
IN CHINESE
MEDIA**



**ORGANISATION FOR RESEARCH ON
CHINA AND ASIA**

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I. Social Media Chatter in China

- **Sexual assault claims silenced on Weibo:** Following Peng Shuai's sexual assault claims on Weibo, the social media company has completely shut down the controversy. Posts and comments related to Peng and Zhang Gaoli have been censored and her account no longer shows up on search results.
- **LGBT group shuts down:** LGBT Rights Advocacy China has announced that it is ceasing its services and closing down its social media account. The announcement was made on WeChat and Weibo, following growing restrictions on social activism.
- **People's Liberation Army quashes rumors:** The PLA took to Weibo to quash rumors that it is calling its military veterans to plan for war against Taiwan. The rumors began after news of the Taiwan meeting European Parliament broke out.

II. News in China

- Xi Jinping spoke at the 4th China International Import Expo (CIIE). He spoke about the need for WTO to take a direction towards true multilateralism, expanding Chinese imports while pursuing balanced development of trade and encourage foreign investments into a new and diverse set of sectors.
- The 2021 North Bund Forum on international shipping was sent a congratulatory letter by Xi Jinping for opening up in Shanghai.
- Xi Jinping presented an award to Gu Songfen and Wang Dazhong, for their contributions to science, technology, and innovation. Gu Songfen worked at the Aviation Industry Corporation of China and was an aircraft designer. Wang Dazhong, a reputed scientist, worked on researching and studying nuclear energy.
- China has started its 38th Antarctic expedition. Its research vessel, called 'Xuelong', started its expedition from Shanghai. The vessel will investigate the hydrology, meteorology, and environment, and monitor microplastics and garbage.
- A year after the Galwan Valley clash with India, the five soldiers and officers including four martyrs, are being honored as the country's ethical role models.
- China launched a Guangmu Earth-science satellite that is dedicated towards the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda. The satellite will analyze energy consumption and provide essential data for sustainable development indicators.
- Following the American nuclear submarine crash in the South China Sea that led to the US firing three senior officers, Chinese experts have called on the US to reveal the details behind the crash and address concerns and questions raised by the global community.

- With the elections of lawmakers in local people's congress, Xi Jinping cast a ballot and voted in the election. He called on the people to take part in elections and ensure people are the masters of the country.

III. India Watch

- PLA's quashing of rumor that it is looking to strategise to attack Taiwan emerges as a potential area of hope for the people of Taipei as well as countries across the globe. This could also be in light of China's directives to citizens to 'stock up' and its attempt to ensure that the same is not read in a manner that reveals its own plans.
- Xi's attempts to sell democracy as the tenent of the regional elections does not sit well with the reality of China's election procedures; as he prepares for a third term, his attempts at quashing rivals via anti-corruption campaigns have re-emerged.