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DAILY CONVERSATIONS IN CHINESE MEDIA

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NEWS IN CHINA

- Min Qingwen, a researcher at the Institute of Geographical Science and Natural Resources Research of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and a member of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, is dedicated to preserving agricultural cultural heritage and encouraging communication and collaboration between various heritage sites. He provided illustrations of the importance of agricultural cultural heritage. For instance, the first group of critically important agricultural cultural heritage was the Qingtian "Rice-Fish Coexistence System," which was discovered in 2005 and is situated in Qingtian County, Zhejiang Province. The locals have developed an ecological agriculture approach that organically mixes planting and breeding for more than 1,300 years. In addition to producing a double crop of rice and fish, using rice to raise fish and fish to promote rice has substantially decreased the need for chemical pesticides and fertilisers, improving the natural environment of the farmland.
- The performance of Shaanxi Coal Industries, a coal giant with a market value of 100 billion yuan, reached a new high last year, with a net profit of around 100 million yuan each day as the economic cycle of the "black gold" coal business grows. According to Shaanxi Coal Industry's performance bulletin released on the evening of 6th March, the company reported operational income of 169.209 billion yuan for the reporting period, an increase of 11.10% over the same period last year. The final performance is within the range of the forecast's median value, which is consistent with market expectations.
- John Lee Ka-chiu, the leader of Hong Kong, claimed a senior

Beijing official warned him of destructive forces still present in the city and asked him to maintain vigilance and immediately address any threats to national security by clipping them in the bud. After attending political talks in the capital on Monday, Lee said he made a commitment to Xia Baolong, director of the State Council's Hong Kong and Macau Affairs Office, that his administration would put more of an emphasis on risk management and step up its intelligence collecting. Although acknowledging his administration's attempts to unite Hong Kong in the sake of economic prosperity, Lee revealed specifics of his conversation with Xia, saying the director also encouraged local officials to be watchful about potential threats to national security.

- Tan Kefei, the spokesperson for the People's Liberation Army and Armed Police Forces delegation at the First Session of the Fourteenth National People's Congress, responded to inquiries from reporters on March 6. Tan Kefei reported that a total of 281 members of the People's Liberation Army and the Armed Police Force were present for the 14th National People's Congress' opening session. According to Tan Kefei, the Party Central Committee, with Comrade Xi Jinping at its core, has concentrated on achieving the Chinese ideal of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese country ever since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China. According to Tan Kefei, China follows a defensive national defence strategy, adheres to the road of peaceful development, and actively participates in the UN's military expenditure transparency system.

- On March 6, the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs held its routine press conference. A question was posed by a reporter on Taiwan's purported "Minister of Defense". Speaking on behalf of the Foreign Ministry, Mao Ning stated that there is no such thing as a "Minister of Defense" and that "Taiwan is a part of China. Taiwan Strait is entirely Chinese territory. To protect its territorial integrity and sovereignty, China will take decisive action."
- The members of the Democratic National Construction Association and the Federation of Industry and Commerce who attended the first meeting of the 14th CPPCC National Committee were visited by Xi Jinping, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, President of the State, and Chairman of the Central Military Commission, on the afternoon of March 6. He also took part in the joint group meeting to hear their ideas and proposals.

SOCIAL MEDIA CHATTER IN CHINA

- **Argument between flight crew and passenger trends on Weibo:** The video of a disagreement between an AirAsia employee and a passenger went viral on Weibo on March 6. Mr. Bai travelled on March 3rd on AirAsia aircraft AK113 from Guangzhou to Kuala Lumpur. He was informed that his luggage was overweight and that he would need to pay the checked baggage fee when he checked in at Baiyun Airport. Mr. Bai thought the price was too high and was getting ready to record a video to preserve the evidence
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when the other party made a threat that if a video was shot, he would not be allowed to board the plane. This sparked a fight between the two parties. He then paid the consignment cost of 1,807 yuan after recalculating. The opposite side did not stamp the note; it was merely issued in handwriting.

more concerned with maintaining the status quo and maintaining peace across the Taiwan Strait.

INDIA WATCH

- India has a larger interest in maintaining peace and security in maritime Asia and the Indo-Pacific, of which Taiwan is an important component. Today, the Taiwan Strait and the South China Sea together account for a sizable amount of India's trade with the Indo-Pacific area. It is only reasonable for India to be growingly worried about the escalating tensions in this expanded maritime space as well as the Taiwan Strait, given the increasing stakes in the relationship with Taiwan and the stability of the region. In order to create a free, open, and secure Indo-Pacific, India has attempted to cooperate with parties who share its concerns and strategy, such as the QUAD (a partnership between Australia, India, Japan, and the United States). Several voices in the Indian strategic apparatus have advocated for a proactive Indian political involvement with Taiwan in light of the deterioration of India-China relations during the past ten years. Yet, the Indian government has taken care to avoid taking actions in relation to Taiwan that could exacerbate already tense relations with China. It has been a number of years since the Indian government reaffirmed its adherence to the "One China" policy, a term that appears to have multiple meanings. So, it's safe to conclude that India will likely become
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