DAILY CONVERSATIONS IN CHINESE MEDIA

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I. Social Media Chatter in China

• **Patriotism surges on Weibo as India-China briefly face-off at LAC:** Older images of PLA soldiers circulated on Chinese social media and presented PLA soldiers with injured Indian army men & equipment. These images appear to be of and around the <u>Galwan valley incident</u>.

II. News in China

- Some Chinese soldiers of a large patrol team were detained for few hours by the Indian Army after such teams of the sides were engaged in a minor face-off and clashed near Yangtse in Tawang Sector of Arunachal Pradesh.
- Counternarrative in China shows that according to <u>sources</u> in the Chinese army, the Chinese border guards carried out a routine patrol of the Dongzhang area on the Chinese side of the Sino-Indian border. They were unreasonably blocked by the Indian side.
- <u>European Parliament</u> exhibited its renewed political concern for peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait voted by the plenary session, with 550 votes in favour, 83 votes against. The high vote passed The "future of EU-US relations" resolution. The resolution affirms that the EU must seek consensus and cooperation with the United States on protecting the human rights of Chinese ethnic minorities and reducing tensions in the South China Sea, the East China Sea, Hong Kong and the Taiwan Strait.
- U.S. National Security Adviser <u>Sullivan, after-discussions with Yang Jiechi</u>, Director of the Office of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Central Committee of CPC in Switzerland, communicated that the meeting would avoid returning the vicious words of March and more numerous talks will serve to prevent the prospect of bilateral conflicts
- <u>CCP's "zero clearing" strategy</u> in its epidemic prevention policy makes it difficult for companies to operate from Hong Kong. Hong Kong European Business Association (represents companies from France, Germany and Spain) stated that numerous European companies are considering withdrawing from Hong Kong and restructuring their business in other countries.
- United States secretary of state Blinken after a meeting of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in Paris said in an off-site interview - commented that China's behaviour is provocative, and it could be destabilizing.
- Carrie Lam recently issued a <u>policy that addresses people's livelihood issues</u> and aspires to promote the integration of Hong Kong and Shenzhen by forming the "two cities and three circles" of Hong Kong and Shenzhen.

- The Fifth (2021) China Energy Industry Development 'Annual Conference and Innovation Achievement Exhibition' was held in Beijing.
- <u>Chinese electric vehicle companies enter the European market</u> and have begun or are planning to sell their company's electric vehicles to continental Europe, including Aichi, BYD, SAIC, Dongfeng Lanto and Great Wall Euler.
- Border defence regiment of the <u>Kashgar Army Division of Xinjiang</u> used a helicopter and flew to the Plateau border defence line with an altitude of more than 5600 meters to carry out patrol missions and used telescopes to observe the situation of the defensive zone and the border.
- <u>China's mining deal worth \$6 bln with Congo</u> faces uncertainty after a report commissioned by a global anti-corruption body of governments, companies and activists urges the government to canel the same.
- A well-known market Research institution 'Kant Point Research Company' (Counterpoint Research), released data show that China's smartphones seized 50% of the market share of Vietnam's market.

III. India Watch

- Leaping forward from experiment to forcefully assimilating ethnic minorities in remote regions, CCP has driven subtly but decisively to make <u>cultural</u> <u>assimilation</u> the central doctrine of its policy for managing minority communities nationwide. The time for India's 'Tibet policy' to take concrete shape is emerging fast.
- To deal with drone bee colony tactics, both China and the United States are accelerating the advancement of new equipment such as laser weapons, electromagnetic pulse weapons, and high-power electronic jamming equipment. India will be upgrading 'Bofors L70' anti-aircraft artillery to make them "deadly drone killers".
- As France-China ties seem adversely impacted, Indo-France bilateral must engage at a more active speed especially as France's resentment vis-a-vis the AUKUS threatens to offset the growth Paris-New Delhi have made to their traditionally strong ties this past year.