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CONVERSATIONS IN CHINESE MEDIA



ORGANISATION FOR RESEARCH ON CHINA AND ASIA

PREPARED BY

Siddhant Nair (Research Intern) Team ORCA writetous.orca@gmail.com

I. Social Media Chatter in China

- **New Oriental donates equipment to schools:** The company announced on Weibo that it is shifting towards selling agricultural products and <u>donated 80,000</u> sets of school equipment to rural schools across China. New Oriental also announced that nearly 1,500 teaching locations will be closed due to business adjustment.
- **Arcane attracts the attention of netizens:** Arcane, set in the popular video game world <u>League of Legends</u>, <u>attracted Weibo's attention</u> after Edward Gaming's World Championship win during the weekend.
- Panic buying continues in China: Panic buying and hoarding essential goods continue across China as people across China prepare themselves for the upcoming winters and COVID-19 outbreak. Several videos on Weibo show empty shelves and crowded supermarkets as people rush to stock up on supplies.

II. News in China

- New guidelines have been released by the government to <u>tackle pollution</u> <u>nationwide</u>. The guidelines indicate that by 2025, carbon dioxide emissions will decrease by 18%, and increase air and water quality by 87.5% and 85% respectively.
- The 6th Plenum began which summarized the <u>Party's achievements and historical experience</u>. Under Xi Jinping, the Party alleviated absolute poverty, launched anti-corruption campaigns, fought against COVID-19, and promoted high-quality development.
- Xinhua reported that during the <u>31st China Journalism Award</u>, 346 news entries across the country won China's Journalism Award. The news entries extensively covered the pandemic, poverty relief, and other achievements by the Party.
- Tang Guoqing, the former inspector of the Hubei Provincial Public Security Department, was <u>removed from the Party</u> following investigations that found that he violated the spirit of eight central regulations, violated political discipline and accepted money as bribe. Additionally, he was also found guilty of owning shares of non-listed companies.
- As per Ministry of Emergency Management, <u>floods in China from January to October</u> affected close to 60 million people, with 590 people reported dead or missing. The floods caused 240.6 billion yuan in losses and required 3.5 million people to be relocated.
- China Central Television reported that 5,609 people were <u>affected by</u> <u>snowstorms</u> that hit North China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. CCTV reported that due to the snowstorm, one person died.

- A gang headed by Jiang that illegally purchased and sold game accounts to minors, despite regulations in place to curb addiction of minors to video games, was <u>caught by the police</u>.
- The Hong Kong Stock Exchange reported that China's Evergrande cashed out on Hengteng Network shares, <u>making 407 million Hong Kong dollars</u>. Evergrande sold nearly 200 million shares.

III. India Watch

• The focus on video gaming and video game manufacturers seems to be amplyfying in China. Moreover, as the government seeks to curb time spent by youngsters on the same, cases of illegal selling of game accounts seems to be growing in China. Beijing must be prepared for cybersecurity threats arising from illegal buying of games and videos by youth, especially as countries seek to sell the same with spyware attached.