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DAILY CONVERSATIONS IN CHINESE MEDIA

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SOCIAL MEDIA CHATTER IN CHINA

- **Douyin bans live-streams in Cantonese:** Douyin, a Chinese social media platform, appears to have pulled the plug on a live-stream host broadcasting in the regional Chinese language of Cantonese. Live-stream host Fung Siu said that they are not able to [live-stream](#) on the platform because it bans the hosts from live-streaming in the Cantonese language, and sometimes also shut down the host's account. The platform says that they cannot understand the Cantonese language. Fung Siu uploaded this video on Facebook, and it gained a flurry reaction from fellow Cantonese speakers. Fang Yuan, a current affairs commentator, said Douyij'n's ban on the use of Cantonese was likely linked to the current crackdown on all forms of political opposition and peaceful dissent in Hong Kong, in the wake of the 2019 protest movement. He said, "the weakening of Hong Kong and its (ongoing) integration with the mainland also means the weakening of Cantonese."

NEWS IN CHINA

- China's state-sanctioned media have revealed that the volume of the population in Chinese reclaimed and controlled the South China Sea. On Monday, it was reported that a People's Liberation Army Navy (PLAN) hospital ship named Youhao, has just completed an 18-day voyage of about 4,000 nautical miles and had returned to port. It is a 4,000-ton [hospital ship](#) built in China, it has more than 100 beds, three operating theatres, and is well-equipped with a wide range of medical equipment. This ship was commissioned in November 2020,

visiting the 13 South China Sea Islands of the Paracel and Spratly archipelagos, which China calls the Xisha and Nansha islands. The hospital ship provided medical services to over 5000 people on the islands. A Chinese official channel, for the first time, disclosed the number of PLA soldiers on the rocks and reefs that China has reclaimed and developed in the disputed South China Sea. Previously this year, a US-based cybersecurity company had estimated over 10,000 Chinese troops stationed in the South China Sea. China has fully militarised with warehouses, hangars, seaports, runways, and radars, according to the US Indo-Pacific commander Adm. John Aquilino.

- Hong Kong government has decided to temporarily pause the draft of [national security legislation](#) at least until the end of the year and does little to reverse the loss of the city's freedom over the past 10 years under Chinese leader Xi Jinping. Hong Kong executive John Lee discussed the measures that needed to be considered for the future. He said the security laws need to be more effective and require better legal research to review the possible methods in light of recent changes in the international situation. The law should be without loopholes and should consider measures to "prevent" people from leaving the country subjecting to repeated bans, in context to the travel bans being used to stop people from leaving the country in 2021, when the government amended the city's immigration laws.
- Taiwan's Ministry of National Defense tracks 15 [Chinese military aircrafts](#) and four naval ships around the country. The aircraft

including a drone entered the southwest corner of Taiwan's air defense identification zone. The ministry said that it was updating its definition of "first strike" to include the intrusion of military drones into Taiwan's airspace, meaning the area up to 12 nautical miles from the coastline. Taiwan's response in such situations, is Taiwan's military tasked combat air patrol aircraft and naval vessels, deployed land-based air defense missile systems to monitor and respond to the Chinese activities, and issued radio warnings.

- A report looks at China's strategy to control Tibetan religious identity by appointing the leader's successor. Chinese authorities have developed an elaborate public relations strategy to end international support for Tibet after the death of the Tibetan spiritual leader in his place. China intends to co-opt the [reincarnation](#) of the Dalai Lama and name a pro-Beijing leader in his place. Researchers have found out that the death of the Dalai Lama could come as an opportunity for China to "escape its passive situation in communication on Tibet" but this event may also lead to Western countries making even more noise about the Tibet issue.

INDIA WATCH

- India and China are unlikely to resume direct passenger [flight services](#) in the near future unless Beijing modifies its policy of sudden cancellation of scheduled flights every time some passengers tested COVID positive on arrival in Chinese airports. . Direct flights between the two countries have been disrupted ever since the COVID pandemic started. The disruption in flight services has affected hundreds of Indian
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students and families working in China and businessmen who travel back and forth, even though Beijing recently lifted the visa ban after 3 years. Indians are advised to travel through Hong Kong which has daily connectivity from India from where it is easy to take flights to Chinese cities after seven-day quarantine. Indian passengers are currently taking flights to China through Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Myanmar. In 2020, China cancelled almost flights to all countries and later started allowing flights from some countries including Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka in the South Asian subcontinent.
