

17 MARCH 2023

# DAILY CONVERSATIONS IN CHINESE MEDIA

Prepared By: Praveen Krishna | Research Intern



[writetous.orca@gmail.com](mailto:writetous.orca@gmail.com)

## Explore our other verticals:

- [CiCM Insights](#)
- [Opinion Pieces](#)
- [Issue Briefs](#)
- [Backgrounders](#)
- [Expert Speak](#)
- [Mapping China](#)
- [Infographics](#)
- [Podcast: The ORCA Files](#)
- [Projects](#)

## NEWS IN CHINA

- A Chinese defence spokesperson urged the US to immediately stop disparaging the Chinese military and making careless remarks about it. Tan Kefei, a spokesperson for China's Ministry of National Defense, responded to a media question about recent remarks made by the US Department of Defense regarding the Chinese military by saying that the Chinese military has always handled air and maritime encounters with foreign military forces in accordance with laws and regulations and has been a steadfast force for international peace. The spokesperson stated that, as stated in the white paper titled "China's National Defense in the New Era," China firmly upholds the freedom of navigation and overflight by all nations in accordance with international law and protects the security of sea passages. Tan argued that the U.S. side is the biggest threat to world peace and stability because it has been using its hegemonic military power to wage war, impose lockdowns, and other forms of coercion around the globe.
- Chinese President Xi Jinping stated that global market turbulence caused by the Ukraine war has demonstrated that agriculture is a "national security issue of extreme importance," while making a strong call for food self-sufficiency. According to a full transcript released on Wednesday by the official Qiushi journal, at the annual central rural work conference in December, Xi stated that agriculture is the foundation of national security and that weak links, such as low productivity, must be addressed. China faces increasing pressure to feed its 1.4 billion people, as well as "mounting external containment and uncertainty," he said in a speech to agriculture department officials. Despite the fact

---

that China proudly feeds a fifth of the world's population on just 9% of the planet's arable land, worries about food security have increased recently due to threats from climate change and deteriorating relations with the United States and its allies, many of whom are major agricultural suppliers. Beijing has enacted a policy of self-sufficiency in food and set a "red line" to preserve the amount of arable land. Since 2015, China has produced roughly 660 million tonnes of grain annually, and in 2021-22, it produced 680 million tonnes, setting a record.

- China intends to construct a new facility in the Middle East to assist the region in developing talent and technology in the space sector. Origin Space, based in Nanjing, the United Arab Emirates University's National Space Science and Technology Centre, and the University of Hong Kong's Laboratory for Space Research signed a letter of intent last week in Abu Dhabi to establish a joint research and development centre. Researchers and engineers from China and the UAE will collaborate at the new centre to build remote-sensing satellites and space telescopes, as well as pursue deep space exploration missions, according to Origin Space founder and CEO Su Meng. The UAE is becoming a regional and global leader in space exploration and commercialization. "From here, we are very excited to enter the Middle East market," Su said on Friday. The centre, with an initial investment of 30 million yuan (US\$4.3 million), will be located near Khalifa Port in the China-UAE Capacity Cooperation Demonstration Park, a landmark project under China's global infrastructure plan, the Belt and Road

Initiative. In recent years, space has become a national focus for the UAE as the country seeks to rebrand itself from a major oil producer to a hi-tech hub.

- Huai'an City has completed the pilot project of opening and sharing park green spaces in all counties and districts, with the first batch of 22 shared park green spaces opened in the city consisting primarily of lawns and understory spaces. The terrain of the 22 shared park green spaces is understood to be relatively flat, equipped with relatively complete garbage bins, toilets, safety monitoring, and other service facilities, and emergency protection is also relatively perfect, allowing citizens to play with confidence. Huai'an will use the first batch of 22 shared park green spaces as a pilot to develop a number of urban park green space open and sharing demonstration areas, create replicable experience, and lead the gradual implementation of open sharing in other regional park green spaces.
  - According to a report in Science and Technology Daily, Chinese researchers have created a vacuum storage cabinet to keep quantum chips fresh and have used it in the nation's first quantum chip manufacturing line. The storage cabinet was created by researchers from Origin Quantum Computing Technology Co., Ltd. in the Anhui Province of east China using high-vacuum storage technology. This environment can provide the perfect storage for quantum chips to maintain their computing capability. According to Jia Zhilong, head of Origin Quantum's chip R&D team, "the superconducting material in quantum chips is highly sensitive to the
-

---

environment and easily reacts with oxygen and water in the air, just like food is oxidised and decays when exposed to air. "If quantum chips are not properly stored, they cannot be used. Like a fridge can keep food fresh, the storage cabinet can give them a high-vacuum environment" Jia, who is also the vice director of the Anhui Province's Quantum Computing Engineering Research Center, furthered. The fundamental building blocks of quantum computers are quantum chips. Quantum chips, in contrast to conventional chips, must go through difficult manufacturing procedures. Such processes can be impacted by various elements, including the temperature of the environment, noise, vibration, electromagnetic waves, and small contamination particles.

- According to the Ministry of Commerce on Thursday, China will step up efforts to encourage high-quality development in border and cross-border economic cooperation zones. According to the ministry, a circular containing 15 measures in this regard was released in collaboration with 16 other government agencies, including the National Development and Reform Commission and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The circular emphasised the significance of border and cross-border economic cooperation zones for China's efforts to promote high-quality joint construction of the Belt and Road Initiative while also deepening relations with its neighbours. The zones are crucial for the border regions' social and economic development. The circular urged increased efforts to create platforms for high-level opening-up by integrating border trade,

processing, and manufacturing, producer services, logistics, and procurement in border and cross-border economic cooperation zones.

## SOCIAL MEDIA CHATTER IN CHINA

- **Chinese boy embraces his baby sister in an emotional reunion after a three weeks of separation:** A video of a little boy in China crying while hugging his baby sister after being separated for 20 days went viral on Chinese social media. Their mother, Han, from Shandong province in eastern China, filmed the touching reunion after the toddler had been away at her grandmother's house and posted it on Baidu, where it quickly went viral, according to Star Video. The little girl is seen in the video standing by her front door, waiting for her brother to return. She calls out as soon as she sees him open the door, and he breaks into a big smile and bends down to hug her. He then bursts into tears, causing his younger sister to cry as well. "I really missed you," the boy says to his sister. The mother of the kids claimed that while she was aware of the two's absence, she did not anticipate such a touching reunion.

## INDIA WATCH

- In terms of accessibility, affordability, and quality and safety of food, India performance has been below average. Ironically, the country with the largest amount of arable land in the world (with 142 million hectares of agriculture land) is still experiencing food insecurity despite having extensive agro-ecoregions that
-

---

allow for three seasons' worth of farming. In terms of food security, India is ranked 107th in the world, behind the United States of America and China. When comparing the levels of food security among nations, affordability, quality and safety, and availability are the main criteria taken into account. Since gaining its independence, Indian policymakers have adopted several measures to achieve food grain self-sufficiency. Nevertheless, India continues to have challenges towards its goal of food security. To tackle these issues, India should implement food security as a crucial policy priority and undertake sustainable agricultural practices, universalise Public Distribution System (PDS) and allocate more funds in its Budget, not only for agricultural activities but also in technology, research and development.

---