

DAILY
**CONVERSATIONS
IN CHINESE
MEDIA**

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I. Social Media Chatter in China

- **Students fighting in China:** A video of "dozens of students fighting in groups" was trending on Weibo. Live video showed some students in school uniforms gathered around the playground. Another video showed that many students were beaten together and the scene was chaotic.
- **Old man in the middle of Road:** Video of "An old man in Yiyang, Hunan, moving a stool in the middle of the road on a rainy day" caused a heated discussion among netizens on old-age healthcare in China. Some netizens speculated that "the old man may have been hit and sat in the middle of the road." Some netizens were worried about the behavior of the elderly, leaving a message saying, "If there is a car accident, who is responsible."
- **Tesla's ten new Charging Stations:** According to the official Weibo of Tesla's China Charging Team, Tesla's ten supercharging stations and 66 supercharging piles were launched this week. The locations of the 10 new supercharging stations are Jiamusi City, Heilongjiang Province, Jinyang City, Quanzhou City, Longnan City, Gansu Province, Guancheng City, Suizhou City, Hubei Province, Xuchang City, Henan Province, Yanji City, Jilin Province, Yancheng City, Jiangsu Province, Yancheng City, Sanming City, Yubei district of Chongqing.

II. News in China

- A village in Shanxi got soaked by water beside a tributary of the Fen River. Shanxi has recently encountered a round of extreme precipitation. Floods have trapped the animals and poultry in the same place. Coordinating rescue teams from Mengzhou, Xinxiang, and Pingdingshan in Henan is expected.
- Passengers have also received COVID-19 tests at Xi'an Railway Station after two new cases were detected in the capital city of Shaanxi province amidst floods.
- China and Russia participated in the sea and airspace exercise near the Gulf of Peter the Great, Russia. In the exercise named "Sea Joint-2021", the two sides carried out multi-subject combat drills to maintain the safety of strategic maritime channels. This reflects the growing high level of a comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership between China and Russia.
- The USA "Dewey" guided-missile destroyer and the Canadian "Winnipeg" frigate sailed across the Taiwan Strait. The Eastern Theater of the Chinese People's Liberation Army organized the entire sea and air forces to follow the alert.
- Answering questions about the Taiwan issue, Russian President Putin commented 'mainland China does not need to use force and can achieve its goal of national reunification by relying solely on economic strength.'

- Shenzhou thirteen, China's manned spacecraft launched from Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center. The rocket has successfully isolated and entered its orbit. It is China's sixth mission in the key technology verification phase of the space station, and it is also the last mission in this phase. The main objective is to leave three astronauts at the space station.
- On backdrop on continuing exercise by China and Russia, Russian monitoring equipment found that a target (American B- 1B strategic bomber) was close to the Russian border over the neutral waters of the Sea of Japan. Russian warplanes accompanied them to prevent them from violating the Russian border.
- China's smart home equipment market shipped about 100 million units in the first half of the year and will be responsible for 21.4% of the compound annual growth rate (CAGR) as it continues to grow until 2025.
- In a new sign of deteriorating China-Australia relations, Australian lobsters are currently stranded at Chinese airports and are facing delays in customs clearance from Chinese customs. Exporters worry that their lobsters will not be able to reach restaurants and shops before they go bad.
- The mainland law enforcement agencies and Hong Kong Customs have freshly mutually detected three cases of Australian lobster smuggling and seized about 5300 kilograms, the market value of about 3.475 million billion yuan. It supplemented the arrest of 13 people and, the consignment will be brought to mainland China.
- An event denoting the 100th anniversary of the birth of modern Chinese archaeology. was held on Sunday in Sanmenxia City, central China's Henan Province. The event aimed to promote the ecological protection and development of the Yellow River Basin, further explore the value of the Yangshao Culture, present the Chinese civilization and carry forward traditional Chinese culture.

III. India Watch

- China is going through a severe flooding situation (starting with the July-August Henan floods) and has at present further impeded the crisis in energy sector. As the regional energy crises worsens (India too is facing severe coal shortages) it will be adversely impactful on China and its growth aspirations. With recent rise in energy crises China is becoming less attractive for investment. Yet, at present China's home equipment market is booming while India must look to focus more on Research and Development to meet its own demands for sustainable sources of energy.

- China's relations with Australia are at all time low and China is using its upper hand in trade to negotiate terms of the relationship. The relations are even more tense since formation of AUKUS. The recent instance of lobsters being seized for smuggling and rise in inspection level of the same is a potent example. Lobsters are perishable items and need to reach fresh to market and if there is unreliability in supply chain, the vendors start looking for alternatives to mitigate risk. Moreover, being an island country, Australia is heavily dependant on its seafood for a balanced economy driven by trade. Thereby, Chinese overtures especially as Beijing remains Canberra's largest two-way trade partner will also have a long term impact on Australian exports. However, such a narrative might bode well for the India-Japan-Australia led Supply Chain Resillience Initiative (SCRI). As Australia looks to diversify supply chains, especially as it is becoming increasingly clear to Canberra that Beijing will extort economic influence to win the broader tiff between the two, SCRI can receive a more urgent and important push.