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CONVERSATIONS IN CHINESE MEDIA



ORGANISATION FOR RESEARCH ON CHINA AND ASIA

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I. Social Media Chatter in China

- Launch of Shen XIII celebrated in Latin America: Latin American netizens congratulated Beijing on the successful launch of "Shen XIII". The hashtag and subsequent posts titled "You are unparalleled!" received praise from a large number of Latin American netizens. The total number of views of related reposts exceeded 200,000, and the total number of likes exceeded 3,500. Latin American netizens praised and congratulated China for its achievements in the field of manned spaceflight, and hoped that China and Latin America could deepen cooperation in the field of space exploration.
- TV series "Dream of Hexia in the Cool" aired on the screen: The series caused thousands of netizens to burst into tears, and everyone paid their respects on social media, and related topics appeared in hot searches on Weibo. The series used a letter written by Yuan Longping (Chinese national agronomist and member of the Chinese Academy of Engineering known for developing the first hybrid rice variety who passed away in May 2021) to his mother during his lifetime to frame the whole story.
- Satire on Internet Platforms popular on Social Media: A <u>vignette called</u> "Internet Physical Examination" has been circulating on the Internet. It reads as 'After the needle is inserted, you need to download the APP to start the blood draw; when drawing the blood, you need to purchase an acceleration package to speed up.' It illustrates the grievances and anger of users vis-a-vis censorship and state control over posting.

II. News in China

- Speaking at the 2021 National Mass Innovation and Entrepreneurship Week in Beijing, <u>Li Keqiang stated that</u> China is still at the primary stage of socialism and will continue to develop, reform and innovate through market-based methods. He spoke about guaranteeing job security, basic living needs, operations of market entities, food and energy security, stable industrial and supply chains, and the normal functioning of primary-level governments.
- The <u>NPCSC meeting in Beijing</u> is discussing family education law, land border law, and audit law; it will be sending the reports to the Standing Committee for approval.
- Vice Premier Han Zheng discussed <u>key economic tasks for Q4</u> at the NDRC meeting; from increasing coal production capacity while ensuring environmental protection, regulate hoarding, ease pressure on power entreprises and implement policy to expand floating range of coal prices, incentivize conserving energy use and upgrading energy reserve capacity.

- Speaking at the <u>World Conference on VR Industry</u>, Wang Yong spoke about improving the systems, standards, policies and environment of the industry.
- Wang Yi spoke to his Nepali counterpart, Narayan Khadka, appreciating Nepal's continued adherence to the one-China policy and supporting China's interests.
 He also stated that Nepal will always be supported by China in safeguarding its national sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity.
- With the upcoming elections for the Beijing Municipal People's Congress next month, more than a dozen rights activists have stated they will <u>stand as candidates</u>, using their experience as they campaigned for family members of human rights lawyers that were detained.
- Hoping to sustain humans on the moon sometime in the future, China has begun researching ways to <u>extract oxygen from the soil</u> of the moon using a small reactor. China's Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation has stated that they had "some progress".
- Xi speaking at the 34th collective study session of the Politburo stated the necessary development and roles the internet, big data, cloud computing, and Al plays; especially in a digital economy.

III. India Watch

• A Chinese military observer account has posted two images; one is of students in Ladakh protesting and demanding employment and the other is an image of a 5th generation house built in Dianjiao Village, Zhaxigang Town of Ga'er County, Ali Prefecture, Tibet. The post states that young people in India-occupied Ladakh took to the streets to protest against unemployment with slogans such as "Give us job or give us a bullet" and at the same time boasts the housing facilities for the border villagers in the other side of the border. (See image 1 and 2)



Image 1: Students in Ladakh protest



Image 2: Dianjiao Village in Tibet, China