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DAILY CONVERSATIONS IN CHINESE MEDIA



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NEWS IN CHINA

- On May 20, the launch ceremony of the [2023 National Science and Technology Week](#) and Beijing Science and Technology Week was held in Beijing. scheduled from May 20 to 3, this is a brand event for national science popularisation. The theme for this event is “Loving Science and Advocating Science.” It mainly focuses on exhibiting the latest science and technological achievements of China, in the domain of artificial intelligence (AI), biotechnology and double-carbon technology. The Vice Premier of the State Council, Ding Xuexiang, attended the launch ceremony and visited the exhibition area that displayed China’s achievements of innovation in science and technology.
- The Chinese embassy in Myanmar donated relief supplies to the victims of the [Mocha cyclone in Myanmar](#). Chinese enterprises such as POWERCHINA, VPower, Conch Cement, CITIC in Myanmar have also provided relief supplies and financial support to cyclone victims. Furthermore, they also provided assistance for restoration of roads, electricity and other infrastructure in the cyclone-hit areas.
- China launched an archaeological investigation to survey the [two ancient shipwrecks](#) discovered in the South China Sea. With the approval of National Cultural Heritage Administration, this investigation will be held in three phases for about a year. The two ship wrecks are believed to have operated during the Ming dynasty, particularly under reign of Emperor Zhengde and Emperor Hongzhi.
- Chinese military stationed in the South China Sea [evicted an anonymous ship](#) that had attempted to reach near the Fiery Cross Reef, located in the Spratly Archipelago. Two speedboats and three CSK-181 light tactical vehicles were sent to chase the target away. However, the military report did not provide details on the nationality of the vessel, its type and

when the expel mission occurred in the area.

- The 2023 Greater Bay Area Science Forum was launched in Nansha, Guangzhou. This forum has 15 sub-forums, that emphasises on the development of “Belt and Road”, information and communication and supports development of innovation and development of science and technology in the Guangdong province. The theme for the forum is “Wisdom Gathering the Bay Area, the Bay and the World.” Accordingly, the forum will deliberate upon the emerging technologies such as nanoscience, marine science, high-energy physics, and artificial intelligence.
- On May 21, China launched its space science satellite named “Macao Science-1,” from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center. It is the first space science satellite jointly developed by the China National Space Administration and Macao Special Administrative Region Government. It is the 474th launch mission of the Long March carrier rocket series. Macau Science-1 will support the observations of the European Swarm satellites and Zhangheng-1 -- China’s first seismo-electromagnetic satellite. This satellite will enhance the magnetic measurement technology of China. Essentially, this launch serves to be a platform for aerospace cooperation between Mainland China and Macau. This project encourages the open sharing and the application of scientific data. It is believed that, this mission will build dual cooperation with domestic and foreign scientific research institutes.

- On Sunday, the Central Committee of Communist Party of China (CPC) and the General Office of the State Council released a document on enhancing the care services for elderly citizens of China. It is one of the “proactive national strategy” formulated to tackle the upcoming issue of population aging. The elderly care services include material assistance, caregiving services, and nursing. The guideline highlighted five key aspects such as “forming and implementing a list of elderly care services, establishing an active response mechanism for providing the accurate services, enhancing the mechanism that ensures sound elderly care services, improving service capacity and making such services more accessible.” As a part of this, the people-centred approach of China, emphasized on measures to promote and construct the Basic Pension Service System, that would support the senior population of China.

SOCIAL MEDIA CHATTER IN CHINA

- **Chinese tea culture trends on Weibo:** International Tea Day was observed on May 21, 2023. In China, the hashtag #Open International Tea Day with Pop-Up#, attracted the masses by sharing knowledge on evolution of Chinese Tea Culture. The ancient process of preparing tea, its ingredients, and types of tea like mint green tea, yellow tea, white tea, Xinyang Maojian tea, varying according to the dynasties and provinces were displayed. China is believed to be the home of tea, as “drinking tea is both thirst-quenching and health-preserving.” Upon seeing these posts, commentators were amused by ancient tea culture of China; a
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commentator named Arthur stated that he “really wants to travel back to ancient time” to experience the essence of ancient tea.

INDIA WATCH

- Both India and China have begun facing a demographic imbalance due to increased longevity and declined fertility, that drives the growth of aging population. This growth in the population of senior citizens will pose serious challenges, which includes the issues of health, gender gap, income, and housing. However, the approaches of India and China towards these challenges of aging population are vastly different. To tackle these emerging challenges, the Indian government follows a community-based and person-centred care system for its aging population. It has launched beneficial schemes, such as the Integrated Programme for Older Persons, Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme, and Annapurna Scheme to name a few. These schemes assure to provide minimal financial assistance, ration support to senior citizens and widows as well as financial support to NGOs, panchayats and other organisations who work for the welfare of senior citizens. On the other hand, the recent document of the People’s Republic of China on “Opinions on Promoting the Construction of Basic Pension Service System,” projects a service-based approach towards its aging population. This initiative plans to enhance the infrastructure facilities by setting up grass-root level care institutions to aid the senior population of China. It also looks towards easing the accessibility mechanism of age-old services. This recent initiative witnesses a shift in China’s approach from family based to service-

based. Consequently, both nations are taking proactive steps to tackle the emerging issue of aging populations.

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