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# CONVERSATIONS IN CHINESE MEDIA



## ORGANISATION FOR RESEARCH ON CHINA AND ASIA

## PREPARED BY

Siddhant Nair (Research Intern) Team ORCA writetous.orca@gmail.com

### I. Social Media Chatter in China

- **Discussion over discontent regarding the marriage leave system:**Netizens from Sichuan Province have expressed their <u>discontent</u> on Weibo over the fact young people have no time to get married at all as leave duration in the province (and many others) is for three days only. Sichuan Provincial Party Committee responded on Notice Board that it is adjusting the marriage leave system and will release the latest change in due course.
- Warning to 88 Internet personalities for Bad Behaviour: Chinese Association of Performing arts has issued a <u>notice</u> to 88 internet personalities following which these celebrities will not be able to make a live video on any social media platform. It is the ninth such list since the first list came out in Feb 2018.

### II. News in China

- Xi Jinping, <u>speaking at the China-ASEAN 30th Dialogue Relations</u>, praised the relations between the two as one based on a "win-win cooperation". He also spoke about the diversity and inclusiveness they share. Furthermore, he supported ASEAN's nuclear-weapon-free zone and China's donation of 150 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines to ASEAN countries and assistance in development through \$1.5 billion in development funds.
- After the China-ASEAN summit, Wu Jianghao, the Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs, stated that the <u>two reached a consensus on</u> establishing a comprehensive strategic partnership, combatting the pandemic together, common development, economic recovery, green and sustainable development, emphasizing non-alignment and ensuring regional peace and stability.
- Presiding over the 13th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, Wang Yang discussed the 6th plenum and its guiding principles. Wang called upon the leaders of the Standing committee to align themselves with the principles of the 6th Plenum. He said principles and outcomes of the 6th Plenum meeting are being read by the armed forces. Additionally, the spirit and principles of the 6th Plenum meeting were discussed by the International Liaison Department with leaders of neighboring countries such as Nepal's Vice President Nanda Kishor Pun, Sitaram Yechury, leader of Communist Party of India (Marxist), Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena, Sri Lanka's Speaker of the Parliament, to Dilip Barua from the Communist Party of Bangladesh (Marxist-Leninist).

- Kalashnikov Group, Russian light weapons manufacturer, stated that by early 2022 it will start <u>producing AK-203 assault rifles with India</u>. A previous arrangement between India and Russia was made in 2019, however, since then it has not been put into production.
- India <u>plans on resuming its export of vaccines</u> to neighboring and poor countries.
- Li Keqiang, along with Shanghai Party Secretary Li Qiang, Shanghai Mayor Gong Zheng, Jilin Governor Han Jun, Hubei Governor Wang Zhonglin, Guangdong Governor Ma Xingrui, and Guizhou Governor Li Bingjun, met in Shanghai to discuss the economy. The meeting emphasized ensuring energy and electricity, protecting small-scale enterprises, reducing taxes and costs.

### III. India Watch

• In Sichuan Province, there are only 3 days of <u>marriage leave</u>; in Beijing, Shanghai, Chongqing, Tibet, and other places are 10 days, Fujian and Hebei are 15 days, and Henan is 21 days. Some time ago, Jiangxi also revised the number of marriage leave days from 3 days to 18 days. Marriage leave in China is only 3 days (the same goes for funeral leave). Citizens in Sichuan are using the local leadership board in an attempt to change that especially with regards to the post-pandemic work-from-home culture abroad. Such a local narrative shows discontentment continues in China overwork culture norms (as covered in our CiCM report from <u>September</u>) targeting the long-held 996 patterns.