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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

- **JP Morgan's comments draw criticisms:** Criticising JP Morgan's <u>comments</u> about his bank outliving the Chinese Communist Party, the GlobalTimes chief editor, Hu Xijin, tweeted that the CCP will outlive the United States.
- **As China undercounts children, women criticize one-child policy:** After the Strait Times <u>reported</u> that more than 10 million children were undercounted between 2000 and 2010, women took to Weibo to criticize the one-child policy and how their bodies are being used by the government for population control.
- Flare up of COVID-19 cases in Shanghai: As per the local government's Weibo account, new asymptomatic cases were <u>reported</u> by Shanghai and its neighbouring city of Hangzhou.

II. News in China

- Xi Jinping chaired the <u>Central Committee for Deepening Overall Reform</u>, which introduced a plan for reforming the Science and Technology System, guidelines on national unified power market system, cultural relics and expanding Chinese cultural influence internationally.
- As the world starts transitioning to electrical vehicles (EVs), China stands in prime position of the "battery arms race". The Chinese battery-maker CATL has control of 30% of the world's EV battery market. Additionally, China supplied upto 85% of the world's battery-ready cobalt.
- The United Kingdom parliament announced the <u>diplomatic boycott</u> of Beijing 2022 games.
- The Chinese Table Tennis Association, the US Table Tennis Association and the National Committee on United States-China Relations organized an event celebrating the 50th anniversary of ping-pong diplomacy.
- The study finds the top 97 popular VPN run by 23 parent companies used such as VPN360 and VPN pro are <u>linked to</u> China.
- Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison <u>sent peacekeeping forces</u> to the Solomon Islands after riots target Honiara's Chinatown.
- <u>Eight Chinese companies were sanctioned</u> by the US to prevent them from acquiring military-grade equipment that will help China in developing quantum computing applications for its military.
- The Central Committee also released guidelines on a national strategy to <u>address ageing population</u>, while maintaining their health, welfare and happiness. The guidelines called upon local governments to create model institutions for elderly care, while providing financial assistance to them.

- Li Zhansu, the Chairman of the Standing Committee met the President of the House of Representatives of Cyprus. He spoke about <u>strengthening cooperation</u> under the Belt and Road Initiative framework and appreciated Cyprus' adherence to the one-China policy.
- Speaking at the Standing Committee session of the CPPCC National Committee, Wang Yang, Chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, stated that it is the <u>responsibility of the Standing Committee</u> to guide and ensure implementation of the spirit and principles of the 6th Plenum.

III. India Watch

 After India imposed a ban on Chinese applications last year that included some popular games, a significant number of people in the Gaming community had switched to using VPNs to continue playing. These games include PUBG and Mobile Legends, and users made use of VPN's for the process. Contrary to information they were privy to, most of these were secretly owned Chinese VPNs. Interestingly, these VPNs owned by China are discontinued by China for its own market. It is important to conduct awareness drives for the same amongst youth in the country.