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CONVERSATIONS IN CHINESE MEDIA



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I. Social Media Chatter in China

- Arrest warrant issued for Macau's Suncity Group CEO: According to a notice issued by the Wenzhou Municipal Public Security Bureau on the evening of November 26 on Weibo, an arrest warrant has been issued for Macau's Suncity Group CEO Alvin Chau accused of running illegal cross-border gambling activities and setting up casinos in China.
- India's Jewar International Airport's poster trends due to wrongly sharing Beijing airport as its own: A Chinese current affairs commentator has posted on Weibo that the Jewar International Airport's (also known as Noida International Airport) poster has the image of Beijing Daxing Airport on it. This has been posted by a large number of netizens as well. (Image1)
- Misinformation over WeChat Alipay's personal collection code: New rules for personal collection barcodes led to a heated discussion after People's Bank of China issued notice on 'Strengthening the Management of Payment Acceptance Terminals and Related Businesses'. The notice revealed that a single barcode will be mandated concerning accepting payments for individuals with obvious business activities.

II. News in China

- On May 11, 2021, Pan Jiahua, a senior official of the Chinese Communist Party and the former disciplinary inspection team leader of the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection in the State Tobacco Monopoly Administration, was investigated; on November 13, he was expelled from the party; on 26.11.21, he was arrested. Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, including Zhao Hongshun, deputy director of the State Tobacco Monopoly Administration, more than ten senior officials in the tobacco system have been dismissed one after another. There are huge amounts of profits in this industry due to high demand and consumption in China.
- Non-mainstream HK media has reported that since Xi Jinping's authorities launched a second wave of cleansing campaigns in the political and legal system in February this year, 1,972 officials in Jiangsu Province, the hometown of former party leader Jiang Zemin, have been filed for investigation or review. On October 8, Guo Shengkun, Secretary of the Central Political and Legal Affairs Commission of the Communist Party of China, gave a speech in which he mentioned that since the deployment of this education and rectification campaign, the central political and legal organs and relevant local departments have conscientiously implemented the Party Central Committee's decision-making and deployment with Comrade Xi Jinping at the core.

III. India Watch

• Xi Jinping has cleaned up Jiangsu's (former hometown of former CCP leaderJiang Zemin) officialdom and overpowered the liang faction in liangsu step by step. In July last year, the Xi Jinping authorities launched the first wave of cleansing campaigns in the political and legal system. Up till now, in addition to 1,972 officials who have been filed for investigation and review, 5,718 officials have been dealt with, punished, demoted, or transferred from their original positions. Such efforts only show that Xi's consolidation of his power is only growing and now, it is also targeting removal of previous leaders as 'stalwarts' to instead highlight his sole value to the country. It is believed that since Wang Like, a staunch liang faction follower and former secretary of the liangsu Provincial Political and Legal affairs commission, took the initiative to surrender on October 24 last year, Xi Jinping opened the prelude to the cleanse of Jiangsu's officialdom. On November 19, the CCDI stated in a communique that "cleaning out Wang Like" and other people's pernicious influence is the focus of the work of the Jiangsu Provincial Commission for Discipline Inspection" and "this campaign will not stop, but will only continue to increase the intensity of case handling". On the surface, it looks like Xi Jinping is cleaning up the political and legal system, but in fact, he is further cleaning up Jiang faction members.

Image 1: Jewar International Airport's poster, which has Beijing airport on it, shared across Weibo

