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DAILY CONVERSATIONS IN CHINESE MEDIA



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NEWS IN CHINA

- China awarded 1,035 workers with National May 1 [Labor Medals](#) for their outstanding work performance and contributions to the nation's manufacturing and industrial development. Among the winners, 412 were manufacturing workers, 235 were skilled front-line and community workers, and 176 were migrant workers. Flexibly hired workers such as ride-hailing drivers, couriers and food deliverymen were also honored for their contributions to battling COVID-19. The federation encouraged local authorities and companies to recommend more migrant workers and flexible employees with the spirit of craftsmanship for the National May 1 Labor Medals.
- Chinese State Councilor and Defense Minister [Li Shangfu](#) met with his Indian counterpart Rajnath Singh in New Delhi during the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Defense Ministers' Meeting. Li emphasized the need for both countries to view bilateral relations and each other's development from a comprehensive, long-term, and strategic perspective and to jointly contribute to world and regional peace and stability. He stated that the border situation between China and India is stable on the whole and called on both sides to take a long-term view and put the boundary issue in an appropriate position in bilateral relations. He expressed hope for the promotion of the China-India border situation to be under regular control at an early date and for the continuous enhancement of mutual trust between the two militaries to make due contributions to the development of bilateral relations.
- [China Telecom](#) has built a digital service platform for rural revitalization in Zhouqu County, Gannan Prefecture. The platform provides full-scenario digital services and uses data to improve the refinement of rural revitalization work. The platform has covered 25,000 townships and 360,000

administrative villages across the country, serving more than 350 million villagers. The platform focuses on three main lines of "infrastructure construction, industry cultivation and development, and information services for the benefit of the people." It creates a unique model of rural revitalization "Zhouqu" to comprehensively serve the efficient promotion of rural revitalization in Zhouqu and broaden villagers' participation in governance. The platform has become a benchmark for the whole state and helped upgrade the rural production mode, change the governance model, and improve the way of life. Villagers can access convenient services such as issuing certificates and applying for scholarships on the digital village service platform.

- Shanghai International Airport Co. Ltd. released its 2022 annual report and first quarterly report for 2023. Last year, the operating income decreased by 8.32% compared to the previous year, and the net loss attributable to shareholders of the listed company decreased by about 78.89 per cent year-on-year. However, in the first quarter of 2022, the operating income increased by 54.18 per cent year-on-year, and the net loss attributable to shareholders of the listed company decreased by about 5.04 per cent year-on-year. The change in revenue is mainly due to the decline in aviation business volume at the two airports operated by the company. The company has achieved a monthly turnaround in March 2022 due to the rapid recovery of its main business volume and the significant increase in inbound and outbound passenger flights. Shanghai Hongqiao and Pudong airports

have also recovered rapidly, and the domestic market has returned to the pre-epidemic level. The company has expressed confidence in the recovery of the civil aviation transport market in 2022. Shanghai Airport is expected to handle a total of 650 million passengers this year, an increase of nearly 2889 per cent compared to 2021.

- The Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee analyzed and studied the current economic situation and economic work in China. They emphasized that the recovery of the economy is mainly restorative, and internal driving forces are not strong enough. Economic transformation and upgrading are facing new challenges, and promoting high-quality development still requires overcoming many difficulties and challenges. The meeting also emphasized the need to implement the spirit of the Central Economic Work Conference, fully implement the new development concept, accelerate the construction of a new development pattern, deepen reform and opening up, and promote the effective improvement of the economy. The meeting also discussed the importance of expanding demand to promote economic recovery, strengthening fiscal and monetary policies, increasing the income of urban and rural residents, and stimulating private investment. Other topics discussed included reform, opening up, and risk prevention in key areas, protecting and improving people's livelihoods, strengthening employment, safe production, and ecological governance.
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- The General Office of the Ministry of Education in China has launched the 2023 National Preschool Education Publicity Month Activities with the theme "Listen to Children, Grow Together". The focus of this year's activities is on promoting child-oriented kindergarten education and showcasing grassroots kindergarten teachers' efforts in understanding and supporting children's learning and development. The Ministry of Education is urging localities to conduct flexible and diverse public welfare activities and utilize excellent video cases of kindergartens to create a good atmosphere of understanding, respecting, and supporting children's healthy growth. The Ministry will also select and showcase outstanding video cases on various education platforms.

SOCIAL MEDIA CHATTER IN CHINA

- **Anime movie becomes box office success, trends on Weibo:** The First Slam Dunk, an anime movie based on the popular manga series, has been a box office success in China, generating 380 million RMB within its first week of release. Nostalgia is a significant driving factor in the film's success, with Chinese millennials who grew up watching the anime series making up a majority of the audience. The netizens enjoyed reminiscing with one commenting "It brought back a lot of memories and made me feel young again," and another user on Weibo writing "I used to wonder why people were so into basketball before I watched Slam Dunk. After finishing the whole series, I ended up joining the women's basketball team at my school." Basketball is also a beloved sport

in China, and many Slam Dunk fans credit the anime series with inspiring them to take up the sport. The success of Japanese animation in China is challenging Hollywood dominance in the foreign sector of the country's film industry. It continues to be a popular topic among the netizens with #灌篮高手# trending on Weibo.

INDIA WATCH

- India and China have different approaches to their early childhood education systems. In India, the main delivery platform for pre-school education is the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), which provides six basic services, including pre-school education, through anganwadi centers. The government has also adopted the National Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Policy, with a National ECCE Curriculum Framework and Quality Standards. In July 2020, the Ministry of Education released the new National Education Policy, which includes ECCE from age 3 and recommends four models for implementation of quality ECCE. In contrast, China has a centralized preschool education system with a focus on promoting quality and access to preschool education in rural areas. The government provides funding to kindergartens, and the curriculum and teacher training are standardized. China has also launched a "Two Basics" strategy, which aims to improve the coverage and quality of preschool education in the country. Although both countries have recognized the importance of early childhood education and are working to improve access and quality, their focus areas differ. India's focus is on providing early
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childhood education through community-based centers, while China's focus is on promoting quality and access through centralized kindergartens.

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