DAILY CONVERSATIONS IN CHINESE MEDIA

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I. Social Media Chatter in China

- 'Weibo supervisor' Ji Haoyang posts shed light on censorship debate: His posts have <u>revealed a system</u> designed to encourage and reward censorship. In 2017, the Weibo community management centre recruited 1,000 community members to report on harmful content. The team expanded to 2,000 in 2018. The Weibo user Ji Haoyang was one of these so-called supervisors.
- Weibo supervisors provoke public anger for completing the "Report KPI": The official WeChat account of Sina Marketing, issued a statement stating that the accusation of Weibo supervisors in online articles did not conform to the facts, what the Weibo account of Ji Haoyang mentioned in the article is entirely his personal behavior and has nothing to do with the duties of the microblog supervisor, Weibo has strictly required all supervisors not to do anything unrelated to the duties of supervisors. This has trended on Weibo.

II. News in China

- Central Conference on Ethnic Affairs was <u>held</u> in Beijing on Friday and Saturday, was presided over by Li Keqiang, and attended by Li Zhanshu, Wang Huning, Zhao Leji and Han Zheng.
- The <u>18th meeting of the Standing Committee</u> of the 13th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference opened in Beijing on the morning of the 30th to discuss and discuss politics on "building a higher level of safe China".
- People's Daily has carried a <u>piece</u> on high-quality development in Jiaxing City, Zhejiang Province. Over the past three years, some 17 investment projects worth 10 billion yuan have been set up in the city, covering areas like integrated circuits, new energy and new materials.
- Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi held a phone <u>conversation</u> with U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken exchanging views on the situation in Afghanistan and China-U.S. ties. The call focused on both parties calling on the power of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) to build on "easing tensions instead of intensifying them, and contribute to a smooth transition of the situation in Afghanistan rather than a return to turmoil".
- Nokia <u>withdraws</u> from U.S.-backed 5G alliance Open RAN technology and "stands with Huawei".
- Minister of Public Security Zhao Kezhi met with North Korean Ambassador to China Lee Yongnan.

III. India Watch

- With respect to the Central Conference on Ethnic Affairs, <u>12 key points</u> were highlighted. These points, along with Xi's speech, build on the narrative that the idea of forging a sense of national community is the only guarantee for national security and stability through the <u>building</u> of "a solid ideological great wall". This shows that to the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) and Xi's focus on ensuring patriotic and ideological unity remains the most important vector shaping domestic outreach in China, especially amidst international backlash over 'ethnic cleansing' in the country.
- Finland's Nokia was long being pitted as the company capable of replacing Huawei's might as the focus on finding alternatives to 5G technology has grown. But with Nokia backing away from the US 5G alliance network, it shows a sign of changing opinions. India's own 5G commercial rollout is at present poised for 2022, even as it battles its own consternations about operators such as Huawei