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# DAILY CONVERSATIONS IN CHINESE MEDIA

Prepared By: Akshara Reddy | Research Intern



[writetous.orca@gmail.com](mailto:writetous.orca@gmail.com)

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## SOCIAL MEDIA CHATTER IN CHINA

- **Day Two of Chengdu's Lockdown:** Following an increase in COVID-19 cases, [Chengdu](#) imposed a semi-lockdown on Thursday. Many people were happy to see that markets were open and deliveries had not been cancelled on Friday. Social media users from Chengdu are relieved by the filled supermarkets and lack of COVID-19 incidents. But many also express annoyances at lengthy Covid testing lines and downed systems. Exit cards allowed Chengdu residents to enter and exit the city for a maximum of two hours. Many people were relieved to discover that marketplaces were open and that the shelves were fully filled, a netizen said.

## NEWS IN CHINA

- According to a Ministry of Commerce official, [China's daily essentials](#) usually are available on the market in sufficient quantities and at slight fluctuation prices. From August 22 to August 28, wholesale prices for grains, pigs, eggs, and vegetables increased by 0.4%, 1.4%, and 4%, respectively. The ministry will constantly monitor the availability and prices of essential items as the Mid-Autumn Festival draws near.
- The price of [Nvidia shares](#) dropped 7.6% to \$139.47 on Thursday morning. Additionally, AMD was issued new license restrictions that will prevent the shipment of its MI250 artificial intelligence chips to China. The US administration is worried that China's military might employ them. About 95% of China's market share for AI and supercomputing chips is held by Nvidia. While domestic start-ups are also engaged in

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R&D, their work is still in its early stages. A spokeswoman for the Chinese Foreign Ministry described the US move as typical of technological hegemony. In 2021, China will sell \$29.62 billion worth of semiconductor equipment, rising 58 percent from the previous year. In addition to its restriction on 10nm devices, the US has allegedly considered limiting access to chipmaking equipment used for 14nm process technology.

- On Thursday, the Shenzhou-14 crew performed its first extravehicular activity. China has been developing extravehicular activity planning steadily. The Shenzhou-12 crew, the first group of taikonauts to board the Tianhe, completed one spacewalk mission. Taikonauts exited the Wentian lab module through the airlock cabin for the first time. About a month ago, the cabin was recently delivered to the space station. According to experts, the mission's success has demonstrated the feasibility of employing the Wentian lab module as the primary exit-entry gate. The five-meter-long tiny robotic arm outside the cabin was tested as part of the mission to ensure its functionality.
- Tropical Cyclone HINNAMNOR had maximum sustained winds of 176 km/h (typhoon) on September 2 at 0 UTC and was centred around 330 km south of the Yaeyama Archipelago in southern Japan. HINNAMNOR is forecast to keep moving north over the East China Sea.
- The largest annual multinational humanitarian relief expedition carried out in the Indo-Pacific is called Pacific Partnership 2022. Amid strengthening ties

with China, the Solomon Islands administration has suspended all foreign naval visits. The mission is to guarantee that military and civilian groups collaborate to ensure community preparedness for disaster response. The action was taken after China and Honiara agreed to a security agreement in March. Uncertainty in the interactions between the West and the Pacific countries is a cause for concern.

- The citizens of China are left with fear and human rights repression as a result of the Covid Zero policy. In order to contain an outbreak of Covid, the administration of Chengdu, China, warned its 21 million citizens that they will be shut down starting at 6 p.m. on Thursday. On September 2 and September 4, residents were notified to attend the citywide mass testing. People were detained for creating panic by disseminating rumors of restrictions.

## INDIA WATCH

- As the countdown to coronation for his third term was set to begin, Xi Jinping faces dissent. A letter was addressed to Xi Jinping protesting China's zero policy, widespread lockdowns, and mass testing rules which might even rise opposition within the party. Citizens in China are calling for the end of Zero Covid. Recently, the words "give me liberty or give me death" were spray-painted on a mass testing booth. The Chinese think tank said that "China's economy is at risk of stalling" due to the "impact of epidemic prevention and control policies". China's Zero Covid Policy and lockdown impacted not only
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China internally, but also India's cut and polished diamond exports, which fell for the first time this fiscal year in July. Exports of these stones fell 13.45% from a year earlier to \$1,933.32 million in July, as demand was muted from China. Some reports recommend that unless normalcy returns in China and learns to live with the virus in reference to the easing of pandemic restrictions like the U.S., Europe and Japan. The Anbound report adds that China needs to "focus on the economic recovery and slowly integrate with the world economy."

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