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*DAILY*  
**CONVERSATIONS  
IN CHINESE  
MEDIA**



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**ORGANISATION FOR RESEARCH ON  
CHINA AND ASIA**

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*PREPARED BY*  
Gautam Tiwari (Research Intern)  
writetous.orca@gmail.com

## I. Social Media Chatter in China

- **China social media uproar under the hashtag of Great translation movement:** Chinese web users are sharing a wide range of views on the occasion of Russian invasion of Ukraine. A new movement on Chinese social media under the hashtag of great translation movement where users are posting translations of nationalistic posts from China's social media that are supportive of Russia's invasion with posts that are pro-war, pro-violence and anti-semitic. One user who participated said that "Chinese with conscience" need to let Western media know the "Nazi-fication" of China and that this is the only way to save China. Another said that the world needs to know what China's domestic propaganda is like so they know "the real China". China's stance on the war remains ambiguous. But the pro-Russia, anti-West voices have been given almost free rein online. There are many who call for peace or are critical of Russia. But they are either not mainstream or have been censored.

## II. News in China

- China service sector sales increased at the slowest pace since September, with demand for services decreasing for the first time in half a year amid a surge in local COVID-19 cases. The Caixin service purchasing managers index fell to 50.2 in February from 51.4 in January. The experts argue that the reason behind this sharp fall is the extreme measures taken by the government to curb the pandemic.
- China's top political advisory body, the Chinese People Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) is holding its annual session from March 4 to 10 March 2022. CPPCC functions under the leadership of the Communist Party. The main functions of CPPCC are political, consultation, supervision, participation in discussion and handling of state affair.
- China's wheat prices on March 3 topped to 3000 yuan per ton due to ongoing Ukraine crisis amid the shortage of its domestic supply however the demand supply chain gaps are also a key factor
- Chinese embassy in Ukraine said that its evacuation process has been nearly completed. Embassy said the remaining students are in the eastern part of Ukraine like in Kharkiv or Sumy city.
- Web service company Yahoo closed its email service in China after closing all the others the services in November 2021. This announcement can be seen through the prism of China's growing crackdown on free internet. Yahoo is citing the "new privacy regulation act" for their departure from the Chinese market.
- Several local governments in China have announced plans to implement the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) in a sign that the country is taking steps to further open up its market to other Asia-Pacific member countries.

Signed in November 2020, RCEP aims to reduce tariffs to zero percent on more than 90% of the goods traded among its members — 10 Southeast Asian countries and five other Asia-Pacific nations including China, Japan and South Korea.

- Guo Shuqing of China Banking and Insurance Regulatory Commission pointed out many important points during a press conference on Ukraine stating "China will not participate in western sanctions, and China will continue to maintain normal economic, trade and financial exchanges with relevant parties".

### III. India Watch

- China is actively promoting its soft power and national interest abroad. The statement of CPPCC spokesman must be seen in this regard. He said that till now China has provided around 2.1 billion doses of COVID-19 vaccines to more than 120 countries and that China is going to scale up its humanitarian assistance to developing world.
- China has endured as Africa's largest trading partner for 12 consecutive years. Data released by the General Administration of Customs of China confirmed this progress, with the total bilateral trade between China and Africa in 2021 reaching 254.3 billion U.S. dollars with a year-on-year increase of 35.3 percent. In this, Africa exported 105.9 billion dollars of goods to China which was a year-on-year growth of 43.7 percent. China has also maintained its position as the largest investor in Africa over the last 10 years, according to a new report by Swiss-African Business Circle released recently. Such overtures highlight China's inroads in African economy which ORCA also covered in an Insight.