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DAILY
**CONVERSATIONS
IN CHINESE
MEDIA**



**ORGANISATION FOR RESEARCH ON
CHINA AND ASIA**

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I. Social Media Chatter in China

- **Peng Shuai, China's tennis star player, accuses former vice-premier of sexual assault:** Posted on her verified Weibo account, Peng Shuai accused Zhang Gaoli of coercing her into sex. While the post was quickly deleted, Peng Shuai remained a trending search in China and private groups shared screenshots of her posts.
- **Rush to stock up on supplies causes online frenzy:** With the winter coming and a rise of COVID-19 cases in China, people have rushed to shops to stock up on supplies in case of emergency. Many users took to Weibo to voice out their concerns about the lack of availability of basic goods in shops as they were already bought out.
- **Following other technology giants, Yahoo will also pull out of China:** Citing a “challenging operating environment”, Yahoo has withdrawn its services from China. While most of the services provided by Yahoo were not being used in China due to censorship laws, the recent move by the government to control tech giants may have been the final nail in the coffin.

II. News in China

- Xi Jinping exchanged letters with Pedro Castillo, Peru's president, where he talked about expanding and strengthening ties and maintaining cooperation in trade, investment, tourism, and digitalization.
- Li Keqiang, Premier of the People's Republic of China, spoke at the State Administration for Market Regulation symposium. He spoke about “strengthening market entities to stimulate market vitality and social creativity” and spoke about revising taxes and fee reduction policy so that financial institutions truly contribute to the real economy.
- Wang Huning, Secretary of the Central Secretariat of the Communist Party of China, attended the 90th anniversary of the founding of the Chinese Soviet Republic and the central revolutionary base.
- Han Zheng, Senior Vice Premier of the State Council, inspected the State Grid Corporation of China. He emphasized the need to ensure stable and continuous coal and natural gas supply which would be necessary to ensure a “warm winter for the public”.
- State Council issued new measures to “patch up” weak links in the life services sector. The sectors that saw revision for providing meals for the elderly, urban childcare services, and involving the private sector in these services.
- Sui Dianjun, former party secretary and director of Jilin Provincial Health and Family Planning Commission, was kicked out of the party.

III. India Watch

- China reported its highest number of new locally transmitted Covid-19 cases in almost three months on Wednesday, including nine new infections in Beijing, the biggest one-day increase in the capital this year. The CCP's call to 'stock up' is being viewed in multiple ways; a potential attack to be launched on Taiwan, a more dire COVID-19 situation or a lockdown in lieu of Xi's upcoming third term bid. It remains to be seen whether these developments will lead to a concrete and feasible outcome vis-a-vis policy implementation and connect to reality.