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DAILY CONVERSATIONS IN CHINESE MEDIA



writetous.orca@gmail.com

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NEWS IN CHINA

- Chinese [Foreign Minister](#) Qin Gang and Pakistani Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari reaffirmed their strong and enduring partnership as they co-chaired the fourth round of the China-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue in Islamabad on Saturday. [In a joint press release](#) released by both the parties, they emphasized the importance of addressing counter-terrorism measures. They discussed enhancing connectivity through the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor and stressed the need for robust security measures to protect Chinese nationals, projects, and institutions in Pakistan. China expects Pakistan's unwavering support in various multilateral forums, including the SCO, Organization of Islamic Cooperation, and United Nations with special emphasis on Chinese initiated Global Security Initiative, Global Development Initiative, and Global Civilization Initiative. Bilawal acknowledged the widespread consensus in Pakistan's political establishment for strengthening the China-Pakistan relationship, given the significance China holds in Pakistan's economy.
- [Heavy rainfall](#) in eastern China led to the relocation of 300,000 in Jiangxi province. The possibility of landslides is likely in Jiangxi, Fujian, and Guangdong as notified by China Meteorological Administration along with thunder and high winds. The flood control headquarters has announced level 4 emergency response in Jiangxi. A flood dyke was destructed in Yichun, one of the most affected areas, early on Saturday and major four downstream villages have been particularly affected by the flood. More than 200 residents have been evacuated from the location. Weather forecasters have warned about likely flooding within the middle and the lower reaches of the Yellow River along with Hai and Songliao in the north as well as Pearl River basin in the south.
- The state-run media think tank, [New China Research](#), has

recently published a book titled "Toward Modernization: The Value of Xi Jinping's Economic Thought." This publication follows a long-standing tradition in Chinese internal politics, dating back to the Mao Zedong era. The book, printed and distributed by Xinhua Publishing House, offers intriguing insights through its chapter titles. These include "Opening New Horizons of Marxist Political Economy - Distinctive Features of Xi Jinping's Economic Thought" and "Comprehensively Promoting a Chinese Path to Modernization with High-Quality Development - The Implementation Strategy of Xi Jinping's Economic Thought." The chapters delve into the significance of Xi Jinping's economic thought, highlighting China's emphasis on wealth redistribution within the framework of Marxist principles as a means to achieve modernization.

- The Shandong Navy Ship aircraft carrier group recently concluded a month-long combat readiness exercise in far-sea waters. This comprehensive exercise involved simulating various actual combat scenarios, including joint search operations, anti-submarine surveillance, joint fire strikes, and coordination among rocket forces, land-based aviation units, and surface combat groups. The primary objective was to showcase regional air supremacy and enhance coordination between the air and naval commands of the People's Liberation Army. Notably, the aircraft carrier squadron entered the airspace east of Taiwan island, serving as a show of force against growing cooperation of Taiwan and the Philippines with the USA. The exercise is also aiming to

establish strong deterrence in the South China Sea.

- Gangsu province and Ningxia Autonomous Region agreed to establish a feasibility study group to evaluate the proposed development plan for the Yellow River Black Mountain Gorge and the Yellow River Black Mountain Gorge Water Conservancy Hub Project. This study group will carefully assess various aspects of the project, including land acquisition, population resettlement, environmental impact, and urban and rural planning for the construction site. Additionally, the group will consider the potential risks to social stability. Before implementation, the project must receive approval from several key departments, including the National Development and Reform Commission, the Ministry of Ecology and Environment, the Ministry of Natural Resources, and the National Earthquake Administration. If all necessary approvals are granted, the project is expected to be completed within a timeframe of 8 to 12 years.
 - China has improved its medical bill settlement policy to ensure better governance and timely payment for migrant populations. The new policy allows for cross-provincial and on-the-spot approval and reimbursement of medical bills. This applies to the State-sanctioned basic insurance scheme, which covers rural migrant workers and elderly individuals who have relocated with their children. The process has been streamlined through a single window clearance system. The settlements are approved by designated hospitals in all county-level areas across China. From January till March 2023, total
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cross-provincial settlements of medical bills reached to 2.1 million as per the figures released by National Healthcare Security Administration.

- In a bid to provide credit for county level development, the Agricultural Bank of China, the country's biggest of four state-owned lenders announced greater reimbursement of 8.05 trillion yuan done till the month of March 2023. Other than agriculture credit, the support also includes provision of innovative products and services. The greater financial provision has been provided in agricultural activities for spring plowing. The amount reimbursed for it exceeded by 200 billion yuan compared to March 2022.
- Domestically developed third-generation nuclear power reactor design, Hualong One, has successfully passed the assessment tests conducted by the regulatory authority of nuclear energy power in China, China Nuclear Power Corporation (CNNC). The project is located at the Fuqing Nuclear Power Plant in Fuzhou city, Fujian province. Construction of Unit 5 began in May 2015, while Unit 6 started in March 2022, highlighting China's rapid progress in nuclear power generation. Song Lin, the general manager of CNNC Fujian Fuqing Nuclear Power Corporation Ltd, emphasized the project's cost-efficiency, operational safety, and its potential to meet global demand.

SOCIAL MEDIA CHATTER IN CHINA

- **Weibo Netizens moved by stories of PLA soldiers' heroism and sacrifice:** Chinese

netizens on Weibo have been showing immense support and solidarity with the People's Liberation Army (PLA) as stories emerge about their contributions and sacrifices made by Chinese soldiers. One particularly heartbreaking incident involves a Chinese national who served as a Wagner soldier in Ukraine. This individual was subjected to gruesome torture by the Ukraine military in Bakhmut. The shocking details of this incident have stirred emotions among netizens, igniting a sense of indignation and a renewed appreciation for the PLA's commitment to safeguarding their citizens. Alongside this story, other uplifting accounts have captured the nation's attention. For instance, Zhang Yuanjie, a female soldier serving in China's first peacekeeping infantry battalion in South Sudan, has become a symbol of bravery. Her remarkable act of courage, maneuvering through fierce artillery fire to rescue a two-year-old child and his three brothers, has garnered widespread admiration and evoked a profound emotional response on Chinese social media. These stories showcase the deep bond between the Chinese people and their heroic soldiers, fostering a collective spirit of unity and support.

INDIA WATCH

- China and India are both pursuing nuclear energy, a way to transition to a cleaner and more sustainable source of power. China sees its nuclear capabilities as a strategic advantage and a means to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal of clean energy transition. As a member of the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG), China has access to the world-class nuclear power

generation technology and fissile material for energy generation. India, on the other hand, has developed its own indigenous nuclear capabilities with an installed capacity of 6780 megawatts of energy. However, developing nuclear energy capabilities also has its challenges. Nuclear energy, unfortunately contributes to only 3.45% of India's total energy basket. Currently, there are 22 operational nuclear reactors in India. Parallel to this, the data about total nuclear energy production in China is closely guarded. However, the eleventh five-year plan in China had particularly focused on developing nuclear energy capabilities. Post reform, China was particularly dependent on crude imports for its energy needs. Till 1993, China was a net importer of energy. It was not until 2010, that crude oil consumption started phasing out that provided China with a strategic space to focus on other sources. China has 53 nuclear power plants with net generation capacity of 50034 megawatts. However, China also imports nuclear energy technologies and material to African nations under its own operation. Chinese state owned nuclear energy producer has agreed with Kenya, Sudan, and Uganda in areas of cooperation and training for development of nuclear energy. Both China and India recognize the importance of nuclear energy in their pursuit of a cleaner and more sustainable future. While China has established itself as a major player in nuclear energy with its strategic advantages and technological advancements, India is still in the process of expanding its nuclear capabilities.

Prepared by: *Nisarg Jani | Research Intern*
