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*DAILY*  
**CONVERSATIONS  
IN CHINESE  
MEDIA**



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**ORGANISATION FOR RESEARCH ON  
CHINA AND ASIA**

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## I. Social Media Chatter in China

- **CPPCC member calls for outlawing fake news in China:** Former scholar and current Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) member Jia Qingguo called for outlawing fake news in China about the west. He said that the uncontrolled spread of fake news and information in China is fueling hostility against foreigners and polarising public opinion. He also added that the rampant sharing of fake information has a serious impact on the interest of China and he favored laws banning the sharing of such type of misleading information.

## II. News in China

- Chinese president Jinping participated in the Inner Mongolia delegation's deliberation at National People's Congress. He used seeds in a pomegranate to describe how all ethnic groups can stick together. He stressed that ethnic unity is the lifeline of all ethnic groups in the country and a strong sense of community is key to ethnic unity.
- CCP China has banned all religious activities in monasteries of Tibet, on the occasion of Tibetan Lunar New Year citing COVID-19 prevention. The ban bars Tibetans from performing all the major religious activities that are usually observed ahead and during the new year. This is another attempt to deprive the Tibetan people of their religious freedom by Chinese authorities.
- China wants its people to work longer to make up of dropping birthrates and a swelling number of retirees. But many peoples older than 35 find hard to find a job in government or private sector. For example, a mid-level employee at a multinational company in Shanghai was laid off in the summer of 2020 due to an economic downturn caused by the coronavirus pandemic. Searching for work for over a year, she could not find a job until a few months ago, at a much smaller domestic company. She is 40 years old, and she said her age was one of the biggest obstacles she had to overcome during the hiring process.
- China foreign trade continued to grow in the first 2 months of 2022. Its trade with economies along the Belt and Road hit 1.92 trillion yuan during the period, surging 18.3% from a year ago, 5% higher than the nation's total foreign trade growth, which stood at 13.3 %.
- Premier Li Keqiang announced Chinese government's environmental position at the fifth session of the 13th National congress stating that the country will continue to improve its ecological environment by promoting green and low carbon development. He also added that China will make more efforts to prevent and control pollutants in the air, soil and water.
- China plans to build over 600,000 new 5G base stations in 2022 to boost network

coverage in key areas such as industrial parks and transportation hubs, and promote network popularization in counties and townships according to Chinese Ministry of Industry and Information Technology.

- China will improve measures for the three-child policy, according to a government work report submitted to the national legislature for deliberation. Care expenses for children under three will be included in the special additional deductions for individual income tax. The country will develop public-interest childcare services to ease the burden of raising a family, the report said.

### III. India Watch

- The Chinese government has announced its military budget which has increased by 7.1 percent in 2022. Chinese security analyst are saying that the proposed budget growth is reasonable at a time when China need to modernize its military capability to safeguard its national sovereignty and territorial integrity. On the other hand Indian military experts are worried and conscious about this development. They emphasize that India's current defence budget is around of 70 billion dollars that is inadequate for Indian military modernization.
- Prime Minister Scott Morrison of Australia described the war in Ukraine as a “moment of choice” for China. He warned of a “new arc of autocracy” threatening the global order, accusing China of giving Russia an economic lifeline from sanctions arguing that China must act on its declarations of promoting world peace and join the effort to stop Russia's invasion of Ukraine.