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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

- **Alumni of prestigious colleges in China condemn Russia's invasion of Ukraine:** More than 130 alumni from China's most famous colleges have condemned Russia's invasion of Ukraine, urging China's governing Communist Party (CCP) to uphold a 1994 mutual security agreement with Kyiv. It referred to a cooperative security treaty inked by China and Ukraine, which pledges Beijing to provide security assurances to Ukraine in the case of foreign assault. As video images of civilian and military losses in Ukraine emerged on Chinese social media, this letter started getting circulated.
- **TikTok will stop live streaming and publishing new content in Russia:** Due to Russian legislation to crack down on fake news about the Russia-Ukraine war. TikTok said, "Considering the safety of employees and users, we have no choice but to stop our live video broadcasts and publish new content." The report said that TikTok will assess the changing situation in Russia to determine when to resume services.
- **Prices of aquatic products, for which South Korea is highly dependent on Russian imports, have also risen:** Among them, most of the minnows that South Koreans often eat are imported from Russia, accounting for about 90% of South Korea's imports. It is reported that Russia is South Korea's second largest importer of aquatic products. Affected by the recent situation in Russia and Ukraine, many kinds of seafood in the South Korean product market are facing the risk of short supply. Prices of Russian-produced cod, king crab and other seafood are also under pressure. At the same time, the price of salmon imported from northern Europe has also soared under the pressure of air freight. In the past week, the price of imported salmon in South Korea has soared by about 60%. The three major supermarket chains in South Korea said the inventory of Russian aquatic products can still be maintained for a period of time, but if the situation persists for a long time, the possibility of it going out of stock cannot be ruled out. (See Image 1)

II. News in China

- On Thursday, the 13th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), China's highest political advisory body, concluded its fifth session. Xi Jinping and other Chinese officials attended the closing meeting at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing. At the meeting, Wang Yang, head of the CPPCC National Committee, gave a speech and delivered a work report of the CPPCC National Committee's Standing Committee. A report on how the proposals from political advisors have been handled since the previous annual session, a report on the examination of new proposals, and a political resolution on the 13th

CPPCC National Committee's fifth session were all approved.

- According to a Xinjiang spokesman, women in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region are guaranteed their legal rights, including participation in democratic decision-making and personal reproductive autonomy. At the 49th regular session of the UN Human Rights Council, Aynur Mahsat, president of the Women's Federation in Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, stated that the region "attaches considerable priority to the preservation of women's rights and interests." Women's reproductive rights are legally safeguarded because they can choose whether or not to use contraception, according to Mahsat, who also stated that the government provides safe and reliable maternity care. Women from all ethnic groups in the autonomous region benefit from an ever-improving environment and have played a significant part in driving the territory forward, she said.
- Pfizer Inc and China Meheco Group Co Ltd have agreed to supply the latter's COVID-19 medication Paxlovid in the Chinese mainland in 2022, according to the firm. China Meheco will now be the domestic agent for the new COVID-19 pill. The news was also confirmed on Pfizer's official website and WeChat account. Delivery, payments, quality assurance and assessment, contract termination, and dispute resolution are all included in the agreement. Prices and sales commissions, however, are not published, according to Jiemian, a news portal. China Meheco is a holding company under China General Technology Holding Co Ltd (Genertec), one of China's centrally run State-owned businesses, and is listed on the Shanghai Stock Exchange. Medical sector, pharmaceuticals, and foreign trade are the company's main businesses.
- Following the release of this year's Government Work Report, Chinese analysts observed that promoting the recovery of life service-related consumption such as catering and housing since the COVID-19 epidemic is currently the biggest challenge, and the industry has one of the highest development potentials in China. Due to the epidemic, the country's level of life service consumption is still relatively low. Consumption's contribution to economic growth has continuously increased, and it has emerged as the primary driver of the country's steady recovery. According to the National Bureau of Statistics, China's final consumption expenditure contributed 65.4 percent to economic growth in 2021, pushing GDP growth by 5.3 percentage points.
- This economic goal, according to the international community, is science-based and acceptable, and it mirrors China's initiative. It will assist in guiding public expectations, boosting confidence, and fostering development consensus, as well as promoting China's high-quality growth. While aiming to achieve the growth target, China will continue to contribute to global recovery and growth. When assessing China's contribution to the global economy, the pace and augmentation

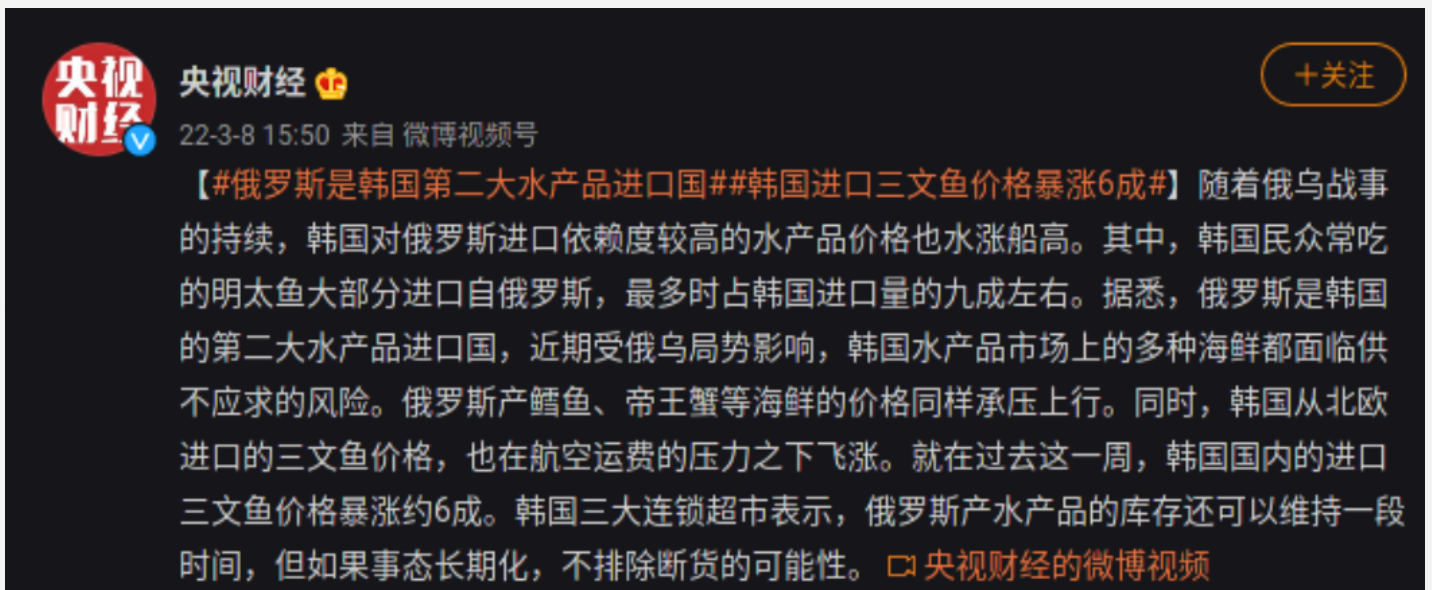
of economic growth are significant factors to consider. China's GDP reached 114.4 trillion yuan (\$17.7 trillion) in 2021, according to the yearly average exchange rate. It is estimated that it accounts for over 18% of global GDP. The country's domestic value added surpassed \$3 trillion, a record in the history of world economic development.


- Wang Qun, China's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Vienna, said on Wednesday that the US, UK, and Australia must address international concerns about the AUKUS deal's nuclear proliferation dangers. Wang made the statements while speaking to the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on the transfer of nuclear materials in the context of AUKUS and safeguards under the NPT (Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons). At China's request, the IAEA board resolved by consensus to include the AUKUS issue as a formal agenda item.
- According to a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman, the Chinese Red Cross Society will deliver humanitarian relief supplies to the Ukrainian Red Cross Society at the request of the Ukrainian side. At a daily press briefing, spokesperson Zhao Lijian said the supplies worth 5 million yuan (about 791,000 USD) include food and everyday needs. "On Wednesday, the first batch of supplies was shipped from Beijing," Zhao said, adding that the rest will be delivered to the Ukrainian Red Cross Society as quickly as possible through appropriate channels.
- The Chinese foreign ministry demanded that the US provide all information about its biological laboratories in Ukraine, and encouraged all parties involved to protect their safety. According to recent media sources, the biological laboratories keep significant numbers of hazardous viruses, and Russia has discovered that the US uses those facilities for biological warfare programmes during military operations. According to spokesperson Zhao Lijian, all parties involved should ensure the safety of those laboratories for the health and safety of people in Ukraine, the neighbouring territories, and the rest of the globe. "The United States, in particular, as the party with the most knowledge of the facilities, should reveal pertinent precise information as quickly as possible, including what viruses are housed and what research has been conducted," Zhao added.
- Experts predict that China's full-year inflation will remain under control in 2022, thanks to the government's efficient steps to assure steady supplies and pricing of bulk commodities. They warned that the government should be aware of imported inflation threats as well as rising global commodity costs as a result of supply fears that geopolitical tensions may drive inflation higher around the world. The National Bureau of Statistics said that China's consumer price index climbed by 0.9 percent year on year in February, the same as a month before. In February, core CPI increase, which excludes food and energy prices, was 1.1 percent, down from 1.2 percent the previous month.

III. India Watch

- The United States, the United Kingdom, and Australia announced the formation of AUKUS in September 2021, under which the US and the UK will assist Australia in the acquisition of nuclear-powered submarines. China has alleged that the aim of AUKUS is the illegal transfer of nuclear weapon materials and has proposed the formation of a special committee, which would be open to all IAEA member nations to continue in-depth deliberations on AUKUS and make recommendations to the agency's board of directors and general conference. China has also suggested that AUKUS should stop all its cooperation and activities till a resolution is reached by the committee. The reason for AUKUS's existence is collective security among these three countries in the Indo-Pacific against China and clearly, China does not want to be challenged. So, as the situation unfolds we might see more and more resistance to this alliance from China.

(Image 1: Weibo post claiming prices of aquatic product has raised in China)



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22-3-8 15:50 来自 微博视频号

【#俄罗斯是韩国第二大水产品进口国##韩国进口三文鱼价格暴涨6成#】 随着俄乌战事的持续，韩国对俄罗斯进口依赖度较高的水产品价格也水涨船高。其中，韩国民众常吃的明太鱼大部分进口自俄罗斯，最多时占韩国进口量的九成左右。据悉，俄罗斯是韩国的第二大水产品进口国，近期受俄乌局势影响，韩国水产品市场上的多种海鲜都面临供不应求的风险。俄罗斯产鳕鱼、帝王蟹等海鲜的价格同样承压上行。同时，韩国从北欧进口的三文鱼价格，也在航空运费的压力之下飞涨。就在过去这一周，韩国国内的进口三文鱼价格暴涨约6成。韩国三大连锁超市表示，俄罗斯产水产品的库存还可以维持一段时间，但如果事态长期化，不排除断货的可能性。 [央视财经的微博视频](#)