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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

- **Combat exercises held by People's Liberation Army:** The PLA's combat drills were top trending on Weibo, sparking conversations over reunification and patriotism.
- **Peng Shuai allegation used as a tool by Xi?:** Many famous Chinese dissidents, such as Cai Xia and "Sumerian", stated on their twitter accounts that Xi Jinping orchestrated the entire post in order to scare his opponents and rivals into submission.
- **Buffalo rampage injures several people:** A buffalo was killed by the local police in South China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region after it injured several people on its rampage. A video circulated on Weibo that showed a bicyclist getting rammed by the buffalo.

## II. News in China

- The United States lawmakers visited Taiwan, angering China. Tan Kefei, the spokesperson for Ministry of Defence responded by stating that China would respond appropriately and smash Taiwan independence plots.
- The General Office of the State Council during the 14th Five-Year Plan discussed preserving cultural relics and related technological innovation. The State Council released a plan that covers building a database for cultural relics, technology that integrates preservation, academic research, unleashing innovative potential of museums and making competent professionals.
- With the upcoming winter, the People's Liberation Army at the India-China border have upgraded infrastructure and logistics. As per reports, living and working conditions of the soldiers at the border have been improved, boosting morale and strategic capability of the soldiers at the border.
- As North and Northeast China are hit with the harsh winters, multiple provinces issued a total of 27 red alert for incoming snowstorms and blizzards. Many researchers at Tongliao stated that the weather is random and extreme, indicating that future winters will not be the same.
- The Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Carrie Lam, stated that the mainland government and Hong Kong government are working together to reopen the border without the need for a quarantine. Additionally, the two governments are discussing methods for a "circuit-breaker mechanism" should there be a resurgence of COVID-19 cases.
- Wang Yi, Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister, stated that oceans should not be used to seek power and should not be used as a tool to infringe on sovereignty rights of a country.

- Chinese-made ECMO devices are being used successfully in clinics in China, breaking the monopoly of foreign companies in the medical field. This was announced by the First Affiliated Hospital of Xi'an Jiaotong University.
- Xi Jinping and Michel Aoun, the president of Lebanon, celebrated the 50th anniversary of diplomatic ties

### **III. India Watch**

- The recent “strengthening” of border troops indicates tensions are to remain in the near future between India-China. With the harsh winters arriving, both India and China are used to retracting troops from extreme locations in a mutually respected manner. However, with the current flareup in ties being at a high, winter could become a new theatre of conflict. India must invest heavily in drone technology to ensure proper guard and safety of its troops along the LAC during winters.
- China’s statement that oceans should not be used to flex muscles comes at a time when its own belligerent activities in the South China Sea and Taiwan Strait continue. Moreover, most Indo-Pacific and Western powers at present have ships deployed in the Indo-Pacific region.