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# DAILY CONVERSATIONS IN CHINESE MEDIA

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## SOCIAL MEDIA CHATTER IN CHINA

- **China's plan to ban hormone drugs worries trans women discussed on social media:** China's new plan to restrict the online sale of the two most used hormone drugs namely, estradiol and cyproterone by transgender women to induce feminization, have raised questions on the country's path to achieving equality. A [draft](#) published by the Office of Drug Regulation listing a category of 'high-risk drugs', included the two hormone drugs and has been opened for public opinion since last month, the deliberations of which might be taken into consideration in the [new amendment](#). However, citizens and the LGBTQ+ community fear that the new plan, when put into full action, will assumably aggravate existing price hikes and low accessibility of the drugs at the black market. Medical professionals have also been outspoken with the high risk of fatality when self-dosing the drugs. The existing stigma over the LGBTQ+ community in China along with the new laws have been brought into discussion on social media. Many members of the trans and the queer community have taken to messaging and online platforms like Weibo and WeChat to urge citizens to dissuade the proposal. While some have agreed, many have considered the proposal to ban the drugs as a blessing in disguise.

## NEWS IN CHINA

- On Wednesday, China's special envoy for climate change, Mr Xie Zhenhua [stated](#) the country's support to vulnerable developing countries that have been facing the brunt of climate change for the last decade in the form of

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- biodiversity and economic loss and damage. The support came after the call for compensation to Asian powers like India and China from the island nations at the much-awaited COP-27. Xie hoped for collaboration and cooperation between developing countries to peacefully tackle the ongoing environmental calamity, while also supporting the decision to fuel cooperation between developed countries and private firms to raise investments worth 2 trillion dollars for poor countries in the fight to reduce climate change and switch to sustainability. China also took the platform to mention its achievements in reducing carbon footprint, the steady progression towards green energy and also hoped that the international community will work together in alleviating the distress and adhere to the commitment of providing 100 billion dollars towards climate finance.
  - As per reports on Wednesday, director of Aerospace Center Hospital in Beijing, Du Jichen on Monday, mentioned the research and development of a space hospital to be set up to ensure the safety of Chinese astronauts. The statement came right after the recent in-orbit assembly completion of the Tiangong space station. The plan aims to project the development and advancement of China's medical technology, according to Du. The efforts are developed to reduce the supposed vulnerability of the nervous system and musculoskeletal to long stays in space. Astronauts must rely on on-ground medical support, but with the new development they can self-examine themselves and opt for self-diagnosis. Plans for developing a medical space-station or a small 'medical complex' to keep astronauts fit and healthy have been going on for quite some time and the new, sustainable approach can be seen as a new feat for the medical industry.
  - Wednesday saw the upsurge of COVID-19 cases in the mainland. The National Health Commission reported an alarming 1133 new locally transmitted cases. As of Wednesday, an additional 7691 local asymptomatic carriers were identified along with the total discharge of 343 COVID-19 patients from hospitals across the mainland. While the new upsurge saw no deaths, the rising numbers are a clear indicator of the aggravating situation in China, despite strict zero- COVID policies.
  - The National Bureau of Statistics, on Wednesday commented on the gradual stabilizing of the economy with inflation falling to its slowest pace in the last seven months, in October, due to high comparison base and softer consumer demand. The country's consumer price index – a main gauge of inflation – hiked by 2.1% year-on-year in October, down from 2.8% in September, the NBS data showed. On a month-on-month basis, the CPI growth also slowed to 0.1%, compared with 0.3% in September as more demand in the consumer market, largely for food products, fell after the National Day holiday. The Bureau mainly attributed the fall in producer prices to last year's high comparison base, adding that the Producer Price Index rose by 0.2% on a monthly basis in October as demand increased in some industries, following a 0.1% decline in September.
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- The fifth China International Import Expo (CIIE) closes tomorrow, 10th November and as per [reports](#) on Wednesday has seen a total admission of 461,000 people at the venue. The intended turnover is estimated at 73.52 billion dollars, an increase of 3.9% from the last session, deeming the fifth CIIE a success. With a total of 145 countries, regions and international organizations participating in the Expo, new technologies and products were displayed, exceeding the scale and grandeur of the previous expos. The expo also incorporated its first digital platform and attracted 368 technology and equipment companies in a virtual setting. The success of the event is a clear indicator of China's ongoing popularity as a strong market for development and investment, despite strong struggles at home.

responsible to pay in the fund like developed countries. Delegates at the conference agreed to deliberate over the matter of loss and damage onto the formal agenda for the first time in the history of international climate negotiations. This statement clubbed the two nations together in any international setting for the first time, and while India has provided reports claiming its comparably less carbon emissions to China, China has issued efforts to cooperate towards sustainability after claims from the US and EU on its heavy carbon emissions as the world's largest greenhouse gas emitter.

## INDIA WATCH

- The much-awaited Sharm El-Sheikh Climate Change Conference or the COP-27 kickstarted on the 6th of November in Egypt and has already seen the deliberations and future plans for tackling the ongoing calamity to the environment. On Monday, Prime Minister of the island nation, Antigua and Bardua, stated that highly-polluting emerging economies like China and India should make payments to a climate compensation fund to help developing and poor countries rebuild from climate-change induced calamities. Prime Minister Gaston Browne, speaking on behalf of the Association of Small Island States (AOSIS) negotiating bloc, told [reporters](#) that the world's first- and third-biggest greenhouse gas emitters, although still-emerging economies, are equally
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