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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

- **Chinese state media running ads on Meta promoting pro-Russia, anti NATO views:** Ads from Chinese state broadcaster CGTN are running on Meta-owned Facebook, targeting global users with pro-Russian talking points about Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Meta advertising library, which is supposed to provide a transparent record of all ads running on meta-services, does not specify how much CGTN spent on the ads or which countries it targeted and the company declined to provide that information.
- **Weibo social media post accused U.S. for giving financial aid for the study of biological weapons in Ukraine:** No.1 topic trending today on Weibo is "Russia reveals materials of US executing military biological plans in Ukraine." No.7 is "US has directly paid for biological weapon study in Ukraine". The topic is hosted by People's Daily and has attracted over 260 million views. Popular comments under People's Daily's post of the news include: 1) "American Virus" 2) "This is very serious crimes against humanity" 3) "COVID was probably manufactured by the US" 4) "Ukraine is like a colony of the US". Some also called for sanctions against U.S.

II. News in China

- FM spokesperson of China stated his government's position on the development of India-China relations. He said that China and India boast broad common interests & huge potential for cooperation, have historical missions of improving livelihood & accelerating development. The two countries should be partners for mutual success instead of adversaries of mutual weakness. He further stated that China-India relationship is matured and multi-dimensional and border disputes does not represent the whole of China India relationship.
- Chinese Foreign Minister called on the United States to release all-around details of its biological laboratories in Ukraine , and urged relevant parties to ensure their safety. Spokesperson Zhao Lijian said at a daily press briefing that for the health and safety of people in Ukraine, surrounding areas and the whole world, all parties concerned should ensure the safety of those laboratories. He said, "in particular, the United States, as the party that knows the laboratories best, should release relevant specific information as soon as possible, including what viruses are stored and the research that has been carried out".
- China plans to launch a space-tourism-use suborbital spacecraft in 2022 and works to make space travel possible for the public by 2025 when 7 passengers could be sent into space for 3-5 minutes via a rocket with three self-developed 20-ton thrust engines. China plans to join the space tourism industry that is pioneered by the U.S. Companies.

- China has donated its third batch of sinopharm COVID-19 vaccines to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, bringing the country's total vaccine aid to Palestinian refugees to 200,000 doses.
- Chinese smartphone makers are reducing the exports of their smartphones shipments to Russia due to western sanctions and ruble's collapse.
- Russian aviation industry is facing hardship after western sanctions due to ongoing Ukraine crisis. Officials of Russian Aviation Ministry said that China refuses to supply aircraft parts after Boeing and Airbus halted its supply of components. This action by China shows its unwillingness to violate western sanctions especially in those sectors that are not lucrative for them and officials added that they will turn to India and Turkey for missing components.
- Chinese securities regulator CSRC said it respects overseas regulators' measures to strengthen regulation on accounting firms to improve quality of financial information of listed firms, but it opposes some forces politicising securities supervision. This statement is important because U.S. security and exchange commission asked five Chinese companies to face audit or to face delisting from Wall Street.

III. India Watch

- Chinese and Indian military will hold the 15th round of China-India Corps Commander Level Meeting on March 11 to de-escalate tension due to boundaries dispute. It is another attempt to resolve the 22 months long standoff. According to some reports the talks will take place on the Indian side of Chushu Moldo meeting point. The main focus of the talks is expected to be on the completion of the stalled disengagement process in the Hot Springs friction point.
- Reductions by Chinese smartphone companies were mainly conducted by ventures like Xiaomi and Huawei and explains that the effort made by Xi Jinping and his counterpart Putin to build a personal relationship are not protecting Chinese business groups from the economic fallout of the war. Chinese companies comprise about 60 percent of Russian smartphone market. These sanctions are making it difficult for Chinese companies to exploit opportunities that are created by the exit of the western companies from the Russian market.