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# DAILY CONVERSATIONS IN CHINESE MEDIA



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## NEWS IN CHINA

- The control of [Qimingxing 1](#), a small Earth observation satellite was recently handed over to an Artificial Intelligence machine for 24 hours as an experiment by a research team led by Wang Mi of Wuhan University. The experiment was conducted from Wuhan University's State Key Laboratory of Information Engineering in Surveying, Mapping and Remote Sensing, findings of which were published in the Journal of Geomatics and Information Science of the university. The artificial intelligence targeted some areas on the Earth as worth observing. However, the parameters for selecting these areas were not mentioned. Interestingly, one of the target areas was the city of Patna in Bihar, India. Patna is the location of the Bihar Regiment, a unit of the Indian Army that participated in the Galwan Valley standoff in 2020. Other targets included Osaka, a port city in Japan where US Navy ships occasionally dock in the Pacific. Until now, satellites needed a pre-determined target or assignment to function efficiently. Professor Wang and his team have collected a large amount of data from around the world, not for training a language model, but for an undisclosed machine learning purpose. China currently has over 260 remote-sensing satellites in orbit, mostly in 'idle' state. Use of AI can improve efficiency of these satellites and provide valuable information in timely manner.
- On April 15th, 2023, China has published [three books](#) on national security to raise public awareness about national security issues as part of the 2023 National Security Education Day. These books are the third batch of publications compiled by relevant authorities, covering three areas: national overseas interests security, national artificial intelligence security, and national data security. The aim of these books is to promote the importance of China's national security and enhance public awareness of national security issues.

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- The National Natural Science Foundation of China is supporting a major instrument special project to develop the world's first Mid-infrared Observation System for Accurate Measurement of the Sun's Magnetic Field (AIMS) telescope. The telescope has been developed to fill the gap in solar magnetic field telescope in the mid-infrared band globally. The telescope will be stationed at the Qinghai Cold Lake Astronomical Observation Base, located in the Mangya City of Qinghai Province, China, at an altitude of 4,000 meters. The Seshten Mountain, where the AIMS telescope is stationed, has low water vapor value, which makes it conducive to observing the Sun in the mid-infrared band. The AIMS telescope aims to study the generation, accumulation, triggering and energy release mechanism of magnetic energy in solar magnetic field activity by providing more accurate solar magnetic field and mid-infrared imaging and spectral observation data. This data will enable researchers to study the transfer process of matter and energy during violent explosions such as flares, and it is expected to achieve breakthrough heliophysical research results. The development of the AIMS telescope is significant not only for its scientific targets but also in its technological advancements. The development of this telescope will enable China to conduct research in heliophysics (the physics of the Sun and its connection with the Solar System), providing new insights into the Sun's magnetic field and its impact on Earth.
  - A forest fire that raged for five days in southwest China's Yunnan Province has been brought under control by Saturday noon, thanks to the joint efforts of nearly 4,000 firefighters, local residents and authorities. The fire, which started in Jiangchuan District of Yuxi City on Tuesday, spread to neighboring Hongta District, and threatened several villages. Nearly 2,000 residents were evacuated to safety and no casualties were reported. The firefighters used 280 fire engines and three helicopters to control the fire, which was fueled by strong winds and dry weather. The Yunnan Meteorological Service issued a red alert for forest fire on Saturday, warning of high temperatures and low humidity in seven cities in the next five days.
  - After a gap of 30 years, archaeologists in China are starting a new excavation at the Sanxingcun site in Jiangsu Province, in the eastern China. The 5,500-year-old complex was initially unearthed between 1993 and 1998, with an emphasis on its burial grounds. The goal of the new research is to explore the site's residential and burial regions in the hopes that artefacts found there would provide light on daily life in Neolithic China and the early days of Chinese civilization. A painted stone axe and an early example of "cloud and thunder" pattern pottery are among 4,000 objects and animal bones that have previously been discovered at the site. Archaeologists had also excavated over 1200 skeletons from about 1000 tombs, present mostly on the southern part of the village. The new excavation is anticipated to be finished by the end of the year 2023. This site has discovered valuable information about a little-known Shu kingdom that existed 4500 years ago.
  - Global luxury carmakers have set their eyes on China's booming new energy vehicle
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(NEV) market at the Third China International Consumer Products Expo held in Haikou, Hainan province. Volkswagen, including its luxury brands Porsche, Bentley, and Lamborghini, showcased their NEVs, while Lotus exhibited a fully electric SUV. China's NEV sales rose to 6.89 million units last year, almost double the previous year, accounting for over 25% of total automobile sales in China. Hainan has announced a plan to stop the sales of oil-fueled vehicles by 2030. Young customers are particularly keen on all-electric models, and Porsche plans for over 50% of its new vehicle sales to be all-electric or plug-in hybrids by 2025, and further to 80% by 2030. Volkswagen aims to leverage its experience to produce more high-quality NEVs, and Maserati is confident in the Chinese NEV market and will launch new fully electric models soon. By 2025, all Maserati models will have electric versions, and by 2030, the entire range will be electric-powered only.

- On April 16, 2023, early in the morning, China successfully launched a new meteorological satellite using a Long March-4B rocket. The Fengyun-3 07 satellite was launched into orbit from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre in northwest China. The satellite will offer a range of services, such as weather forecasting, disaster mitigation and prevention, climate change response, and ecosystem preservation. The Fengyun-3 07 satellite is a significant component of China's meteorological satellite network and will be essential in delivering reliable weather predictions for the nation. Accurate weather forecasts are essential for efforts to prevent and mitigate disasters

as well as for supporting many economic sectors like transportation, agriculture, and tourism.

## SOCIAL MEDIA CHATTER IN CHINA

- **'Big Data Blue Book' on health of Chinese citizens released:** Netizens on Weibo expressed their admiration for the health report big data blue book. Under the hashtag #Tens of millions of Chinese physical examination big data release# "2022 Health Physical Examination Big Data Blue Book", offers insights based on 1.647 million Chinese physical examination samples. The report specifically focuses on the physical health of Chinese workers aged between 25 and 59. It covers five critical areas of health, including cardiovascular health, endocrine health, respiratory health, digestive health, and urinary and reproductive health. China has never made such a huge sample size available, with a major focus on the labor force population. The report is appreciated by the Weibo users for its wide geographical coverage across 31 provinces of China, and it includes the examination data report of multi-ethnic groups as well. Some users also talked about the need for self-care based on the results from this report.

## INDIA WATCH

- The recent news that China's Qimingxing 1 satellite was watching over the Indian Army's Bihar regiment in Patna has highlighted the growing significance of aerial surveillance and reconnaissance for gathering intelligence in the context of modern warfare. The satellite that was fully controlled by an artificial intelligence for
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intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) marked this area as "worth observing." The use of AI in ISR efforts demonstrates evolution of China's intelligence services. It can neutralize potential threats before they escalate into full-scale conflicts. India needs to employ these technologies pragmatically for its defense requirements in such a contested neighborhood and unsettled border issues. The India geospatial market, was estimated to be worth 28 thousand crores rupees in 2022. It has a large community of creators, users, and providers of geospatial data from a variety of industries, including agriculture, urban planning, disaster management, and defense and security. The use of artificial intelligence (AI) in geospatial intelligence (GEOINT) presents India's intelligence agencies with numerous options. The geospatial industry in India, however, confronts several difficulties, including a lack of coherence in the policy framework, poor data quality, standards, interoperability, and integration. India requires an institutional consolidation for the use of geospatial products in routine GEOINT gathering. India must overcome these obstacles in order to fully utilize the potential of geospatial technologies for its security needs. India also needs to encourage cooperation and innovation across a variety of stakeholders, including the commercial sector, academia, civil society, and government organizations.

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