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I. Social Media Chatter in China

- **Health codes turn red in Henan Province:** People on social media have been reporting about their health codes turning red after they arrived in the Henan province's provincial capital. The red <u>health code</u> indicates that the person is infected with the COVID-19 virus that further prohibits them from traveling and accessing public services. People are claiming that they have not traveled anywhere to catch the virus and somehow the health code turned red.
- **Smartisan founder bids farewell to social media:** Luo Yonghao, founder of a failed smartphone Smartisan and a famous online personality, announced on Weibo about his exit from all social media platforms in order to focus on his new business. <u>Smartisan</u> impressed many citizens for its style and innovation. His shift to a new business - live streaming - was mocked but however, it garnered more than 40 million views in just three hours. His farewell from social media spurred discussions amongst many of his followers.

II. News in China

- Guidelines for <u>diagnosis</u> and treatment of monkeypox have been issued by the National Health Commission. With the surge in the number of cases of monkeypox observed in non-endemic states, China is bracing itself in terms of treating the disease in advance. The host of monkeypox has been said to be African rodents. The disease is most common amongst young children and immunocompromised people.
- China has issued specific guidelines on military actions other than war as it enters the new era. Humanitarian aid, disaster relief, peacekeeping, and the protection of China's national sovereignty and interests are all priorities in this move. Its goal is to prevent hazards and challenges, as well as to deal with emergencies. It was a <u>critical</u> step because it did not entail conflict and included new ideas that the military could use in its operations. Xi Jinping, the president and general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, as well as the Chairman of the Central Military Commission, signed the order.
- The pandemic had a significant influence on China's economy. However, in May, there was a slight improvement, albeit with certain problems and difficulties. From May 2021 to May 2022, <u>industrial output</u> increased by 0.7 percent. With manufacturing and logistics restarting operations, exports surged by 15.3 percent. The banks extended 1.89 trillion yuan in loans, indicating a revival in credit demand. Several steps have been done to stabilize the economy. For example, a package of 33 policies covering fiscal, financial, investment, and industrial policies was announced, as well as steps to smoothen industrial and supply chains.
- The Deep Space Exploration Laboratory's board of directors met via video

conference in Beijing and Hefei to evaluate and approve the board's composition plan. It was constructed by the <u>National Space Administration</u>, Anhui Province, and the Chinese University of Science and Technology, and it concentrates on key engineering jobs in the sphere of national deep space exploration as well as engineering technology research. Director of the National Space Administration, Zhang Kejian, argued that having a force of bright experts capable of promoting technology and the country by facilitating cross-border cooperation and producing technological breakthroughs is critical.

- As an issue of national security, China's Cybersecurity Administration (CAC) established new mobile app rules. The new restrictions make it essential for app developers to include 'fundamental socialist' viewpoints and to keep track of any disinformation. The CAC protects a <u>healthy environment</u> by enacting stronger regulations. According to the CAC, as we move closer to a world of increased technology, concerns related with the use of mobile phones may arise, and some laws must be developed to respond to these developments. App developers must examine what type of content is displayed in these apps and whether it complies with the requirements.

- As the <u>floods</u> hit the South China Pearl River basin, China's Ministry of Water Resources initiated a level-III emergency response. With a four-tier flood-control system, the level-I is operated in the most severe situations. Working groups have been sent to Guangxi and Guangdong as heavy rains have increased the water level in rivers.

- China has started a journey to reflect the country's digitization and carbon peaking by launching 18 new vocations. Its goal is to increase <u>graduate employment</u> and start-ups. After consulting with relevant departments and completing training with specific institutions, the new vocations will be developed. In view of the changing environment, these professions will include robotics engineering technicians, data security engineers, digital solution designers, carbon sequestration assessors, and energy efficiency and carbon neutral building consultants.

III. India Watch

- The violation of health codes has citizens questioning the digital totalitarianism, under the control of the Communist Party. People's rights have been curbed as a result of this unexpected move by the authorities. A human rights lawyer claims that it is falsely treating the epidemic and is not serious about it. Manipulating personal private information is not only a crime on the government's part but also a strategy used to maintain political stability by restricting the freedom to travel. Through this mechanism, citizens can observe that their lives are being monitored and supervised like a puppet whose controls lie in the hands of the Communist Party.