

16.9.21

DAILY
**CONVERSATIONS
IN CHINESE
MEDIA**



**ORGANISATION FOR RESEARCH ON
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I. Social Media Chatter in China

- **Financial giant "Lucky Cat" out of service:** This builds on China's focus on Fintech securitizations to ensure achieving 'common prosperity'. After the Weibo "Share Community" was permanently banned, the WeChat account "Zhao Cai Da Niu Mao" has also shut down. Brokerage China reporters found that the top-tier financial giant "Lucky Bull Cat" public account has not been updated for two days. The official account shows that the current official account has blocked the automatic reply function due to violation of the WeChat public platform operating specifications. In addition, a large number of articles in its official account have been deleted by the publisher. At present, there are only 32 original articles, and the retained content has nothing to do with finance and economics but involves coverage of social events and life talks.
- **Fujian COVID outbreak and response trends on Weibo:** As highlighted in our report from 15.9.21, the new outbreak in Fujian has been widely debated on Weibo especially as young children have been affected. Now, a video of one of the youngest cases, that of a 3 year old (some reports identify the child as aged 4), being forced into solitary confinement has received backlash on Weibo.

II. News in China

- The Central Propaganda Department has held a press conference with four representatives of party members of the court system to talk about how to practice "justice for the people".
- At the opening of the National Games, President Xi was accompanied by Ding Xuexiang, Liu He, Xu Qiliang, Sun Chunlan, Chen Xi, Cai Dafeng, Lu Zhangong and He Lifeng. This highlights that these high-ranking individuals are at present high on personal rapport with Xi, as this was a technically non-official public appearance.
- India made its first anti-dumping sunset review final ruling on China-related hot-rolled steel products suggesting to continue to implement five- year anti-dumping measures on the products involved.
- Central Commission for Discipline Inspection and the State Supervision Commission issued a public notification on 10 typical cases of violations of the eight central regulations. These highlight the extremely strict anti-corruption norms Xi has focused attention on; accepting banquets and travel arrangements that may affect the fair execution of official duties is a common theme.

- Xi has sent a congratulatory letter to the 2021 Belt and Road Great Wall International Folk Culture and Arts Festival. In it, he has said that in the 8 years since he proposed BRI, it has achieved positive results.
- Xi's Shaanxi tour has seen renewed emphasis on Party building, influencing young cadres and "freeing the mind, carrying out reform and innovation" to usher in high quality development.

III. India Watch

- As trilateral security partnership between the United States, Britain and Australia builds, China-Australia ties have hit a new all time low. Concurrently, India and Australia have recently vowed to deepen their security cooperation, especially following the Taliban takeover in Afghanistan and the 20th anniversary of 9/11. This was decided when Indian EAM S. Jaishankar held talks this past week with his Australian counterpart Marise Payne wherein Myanmar and international maritime disputes involving China were also issues discussed. Meanwhile, Indian Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has said the two countries have decided to expand military engagement and he invited Australia to participate in the production and development of defence equipment in India. With the Quad Leadership Summit poised to be held later this month, and India-Australia ties seeing rapid growth, New Delhi will have to balance strategically its Canberra policies while maintaining power-partner parity with China.