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# DAILY CONVERSATIONS IN CHINESE MEDIA

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## SOCIAL MEDIA CHATTER IN CHINA

- **First organ donation between mainland and Hong Kong helps in saving a 4 month-old baby:** Saturday was the first time the two regions transported human organs for emergency medical treatment. 24 mainland departments and 65 medical professionals from Hong Kong and mainland helped match the donated heart, with China's Organ Transplant Response System (COTRS). Hong Kong transplant recipient Cleo Lai Tsz-hei was very unwell with heart failure 41 days after birth. Cleo's mother wanted a donated heart to save her. Hong Kongers sought China's National Health Commission's (NHC) assistance in different ways. "I implore the country to allow, if a donated heart in the mainland meets Cleo's medical needs and there is no suitable recipient in the mainland, it can be smoothly passed through customs and shared with Hong Kong to save Cleo's life," wrote Lo Chung-mau, Hong Kong's Secretary for Health, to the NHC and the General Administration of Customs. The NHC and China Human Organ Donation and Transplantation Committee advised COTRS to establish liaison mechanisms and emergency plans for cross-departmental technical, medical, and management contact. Some mainland netizens questioned why a Hong Kong youngster who had not enrolled in COTRS could obtain a donated heart when the mainland faced a severe organ scarcity. Wang Haibo, chief of the COTRS for medical assistance contact between the mainland and Hong Kong, said emergency exercises by medical teams and customs officials in Shenzhen and Hong Kong reduced customs clearance time to eight minutes, racing against the four-hour restriction for preserving donated hearts.

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# NEWS IN CHINA

- On December 19, the [Zhuhai Market Supervision Bureau](#) conducted a news conference. Huang Jianen, Deputy Bureau Head, said that over 500 city retail pharmacies would start selling antipyretic drugs separately from the 20th. The briefing indicated that after the market supervision department researched the pharmaceutical retail market, Lianhua Qingwen granules, capsules, new crown antigen reagents, ibuprofen, and acetaminophen were in low supply; other drugs however had a stable supply. Although retail terminal demand for antipyretic and cold medications had expanded dramatically, associated producers were steadily boosting production capacity. The Municipal Market Supervision Bureau anticipated these rare items to circulate more soon. The bureau had also recently investigated enhanced business tracking; checked the products of the city's pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturers involved in epidemic prevention and control; established product catalogue accounts; fully explored existing resources and potentials as well as prioritised the supply and use of medicines and devices in short supply. Due to the lack of various medical device items and companies' overtime production, the market supervision department had intensified its monitoring and inspection of major enterprises to protect the public's medical safety. On December 14th and 17th, six medical device makers in low supply, three big medicine wholesale businesses, and 13 chain drugstore headquarters convened to propose an emergency supply assurance mechanism

that local producers would provide for sale and use in this city. To address mass medication demand and maintain market stability, the Municipal Market Supervision Bureau would provide antipyretics to over 500 retail pharmacies in the city starting December 20 after discussing with local medicine makers. The system raises alerts if the purchase exceeds the Bureau's "Zhuhai Market Supervision and Administration Bureau" WeChat limit and provides pharmacy data. The organisation also advised against stockpiling medications.

- The former party secretary and minister of the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, Xiao Yaqing, is currently the subject of a case review and investigation by the National Supervisory Committee of the [Central Commission for Discipline Inspection](#) (CCDI), which was initiated a few days ago with the approval of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC). Xiao Yaqing, upon investigation, was found to have strayed from his original mission, lost his political awareness and party spirit, disregarded the spirit of the eight central regulations, and accepted banquets that could compromise the impartial performance of his official duties. Xiao Yaqing seriously violated the political discipline, organisational discipline, and integrity discipline of the party and constituted a violation of the law, and he did not refrain from these actions even after the 18th National Congress of the CPC. Research by the Standing Committee of the CCDI and approval by the Central Committee of the CPC led to the decision to expel Xiao Yaqing from the party and the nation.
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- On December 16th, the Biological Weapons Convention's Ninth Review Conference wrapped up in Geneva. The conference examined the current state of biosecurity around the world as well as how the Convention was being implemented. They also approved a "results paper" and decided to set up a "working group." The efficacy of the Convention may be improved, and complete compliance can be encouraged via study and the development of legally enforceable measures, etc. According to Mao Ning, the foreign ministry's official spokesperson, China is pleased with the progress made in global biosecurity governance at the Review Conference. As part of the Global Security Initiative (GSI), President Xi Jinping had underlined the need for steadfastly preserving security in both conventional and non-traditional settings, as well as collaborating to solve global concerns like biosecurity. China had taken an active part in this review conference and a great majority of parties, particularly developing nations, share China's desire to create a verification system to assure compliance, promote the peaceful use of biotechnology, and facilitate the sharing of universal benefits read the public statement. As per the communication there was widespread approval of the "Tianjin Guidelines for Scientists' Biosafety Code of Conduct."

- On Sunday, China made its debut on the international market by delivering an ARJ21 passenger airliner to the Indonesian carrier TransNusa. According to the manufacturer, state-owned Commercial Aircraft Corporation of China (Comac), the narrow-body C919 airliner is planned with

95 seats, all in economy class, with the outside painted in blue, yellow, and green. According to a statement on the company's website, the standard ARJ21 has a flight range of between 2,225 kilometres and 3,700 kilometres, making it suitable for flights connecting two or more distant destinations via a single hub airport, as well as flights connecting major metropolitan areas to smaller and medium-sized cities in their immediate vicinity. Significant for China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and dual-circulation strategy, it was noted that "the delivery also has importance" in these areas. The Indonesian low-cost airline was supposed to accept the jet late last year—the first of 30 it was expecting from Comac, according to ch-aviation.com, an aviation information source headquartered in Switzerland. But the delivery was delayed because of the epidemic and the cancellation of TransNusa flights. Based on a claim from the state-run Global Times, China Aircraft Leasing Group Holdings is the true controlling firm of TransNusa. The indirect investment was made by the Chinese corporation in March 2020 for a total cash consideration of US\$28 million, giving it a 35.68 percent interest in the Indonesian airline. Since the ARJ21 began commercial service, about 100 of the planes have been delivered to customers. The airline claims to serve over three hundred different routes and one hundred different cities.

- Explosive growth has already been seen, as China's trade with Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) members soared to \$230 billion, making the Asian superpower the GCC's primary trading partner. For numerous reasons, including the GCC's

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economic and political strength and the similarities between Arab nations and China, a new alignment of global powers is becoming more likely as a result of the GCC's member states working together. The Belt and Road Initiative is China's own worldwide strategy. The Gulf nations are strategically located in the initiative's epicentre and have some of the world's most developed infrastructure. As a result, not only can the Gulf nations supply cutting-edge services and facilities for this Chinese endeavour, but the commerce between the two sides is also expanding. The members of the GCC are at odds with their long-standing allies due to a wide range of changing commitments, which coincides with the integration. There is now more cooperation between the GCC and China as a result of this. Green energy (including green hydrogen and solar energy), information technology, transportation, the medical industry, building, housing, and a host of other sectors have all benefited from the 34 investment agreements inked between Saudi Arabia and China.

military base in Djibouti in 2017, just across from Saudi Arabia. As a result, China is now a player in the Red Sea and the western Indian Ocean. With China and the GCC countries adopting a common position on a wide-range of issues and opportunities from economic recovery, green investments and even conflicts, it is an affirmation that the two sides are in for a permanent run. China and the GCC countries adopted a joint action plan for the period of 2023 to 2027 that would strengthen the two sides' existing strategic partnership and emphasized pushing it toward new horizons in various political, economic and cultural fields.

## INDIA WATCH

- With the recent visit of Xi Jinping to Saudi Arabia, China is growing closer to Middle-Eastern nations, and with time it will be able to wield greater influence on these countries. This is a threat for India, which has been a partner of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) for a long time and is also Saudi Arabia's second biggest buyer of oil behind China. Close ties with Middle-Eastern countries could also put India at risk from a security perspective. Beijing has already established its first overseas
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