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# DAILY CONVERSATIONS IN CHINESE MEDIA

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## SOCIAL MEDIA CHATTER IN CHINA

- **Discussions on social media intensify as residents of Beijing struggle with frequent lockdowns:** Beijing's Ditan Hospital in Chaoyang had admitted 608 COVID-19 patients, including 431 mild cases and 171 asymptomatic ones. The hospital had reported the death of one COVID-19 patient with underlying medical conditions the day before - Beijing's first COVID-19 death in months. Residents were asked not to gather, to stay at home as much as possible, and not to leave the district, resulting in a "semi lockdown." On November 19, Beijing's Haidian District issued a similar statement, stating that the current COVID-19 situation in Haidian was at a "critical stage." Fengtai District administration also advised residents to go out only when absolutely necessary. A resident expressed his frustration over yet another round of "working from home" and "home quarantine" on social media: He posted, "I recently visited a hospital, but I had to stay at home because there was a Covid positive patient there." Then my neighborhood learned of a confirmed case, making me stay at home even longer. Another internet user stated that the company had just informed them that they needed to stay at home. "My stay at home is extending more and more!" Another person said, "Once the company goes into lockdown after the dorm lockdown, my hometown goes into lockdown after the company goes into lockdown." When will I be able to go home again? On Chinese social media, there are a lot of questions floating around regarding lockdown at the moment.

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# NEWS IN CHINA

- Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Techo Hun Sen met with Chinese State Councilor and Defense Minister Wei Fenghe on Sunday. PM Hun Sen congratulated the Communist Party of China (CPC) on the successful convening of the 20th National Congress and Xi Jinping's re-election as General Secretary of the CPC Central Committee. He said that China's achievements in the last ten years have gained epoch-making historical significance, adding that China is a major country with a strong influence in the world, and the Chinese nation is advancing with unstoppable momentum toward rejuvenation. The Chinese and Cambodian militaries have dealt with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic over the last two years through pragmatic cooperation in areas such as high-level exchanges, mechanism building, joint exercises and training, and personnel training, according to the Chinese defense minister.
  - Taiwan unveiled its Chien Hsiang "suicide drones" last week, announcing plans to produce 104 of the hovering munitions by 2025. Chi Li-ping, head of the National Chung-Shan Institute of Science and Technology's (NCSIST) Aeronautical Systems Research Division, stated at a press conference on Tuesday (Nov. 15) that the Chien Hsiang anti-radiation drone has a range of up to 1,000 kilometers and can reach speeds of 500 to 600 kph when in the dive phase towards the target. The NCSIST created the Chien Hsiang, which debuted at the 2019 Taipei and Aerospace and Defense Technology Exhibitions in 2019. The unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) is available in two configurations: an anti-radiation weapon and a "decoy."
  - The biggest aviation and military trade show in China was held in Zhuhai, Guangdong. The event, which took place from November 7 to 13, offered an unusually comprehensive look at the advancements made in military technology across a range of categories. The show featured everything from small arms to commercial shipping technology, but the advancements in missile, radar, unmanned systems, and fighter technology really stood out. Undoubtedly, the weapons on display at this year's show indicate what the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), and ultimately the People's Liberation Army (PLA), hold in high regard when it comes to flexing its military might in the future. The YJ-21E anti-ship ballistic missile is carried by an H-6K bomber. The SLC-18 P-Band radar was displayed alongside the PL-17 long-range air-to-air missile by the China Electronics Technology Group Corporation (CETC). Highlights of the 2022 Zhuhai Air Show included the FH-97, J-20, WS-10 turbofan engine with binary vector nozzle, and AEF1300 turbofan engines.
  - On Tuesday, local authorities confirmed that 36 people were killed and two are still missing after a fire broke out at a plant in central China. A plant in Anyang city, Henan Province, in central China, caught fire on Monday afternoon, according to reports. "Public security, emergency response, municipal administration, and power supply units rushed to the scene at the same time to carry out emergency rescue work," it said, adding the fire was put out by 11 p.m. Two additional people
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are hospitalized with non-life-threatening injuries in addition to the deceased and missing. Authorities claimed that "criminal suspects" had been detained in relation to the fire.

- According to the most recent national data, Shanghai is closely behind Beijing in terms of average annual salaries on the Chinese mainland, which are close to 200,000 yuan (\$27,920). Finance, the digital economy, and the services sector all have high levels of wage competition among the major industries. The National Bureau of Statistics of China recently published a list of average salaries of workers in urban non-private units and urban private units in 31 provinces and regions in 2021. Urban non-private employee salaries on average surpassed 100,000 yuan in 2021 for the first time and increased by 9,458 yuan from the year before. Furthermore, it was more than two times the amount of 46,769 yuan in 2012.

## INDIA WATCH

- The "Zero Covid" policy in China has disrupted Chinese citizens' lives in many ways, including their level of income, mental health, and many other things. The supply chain, however, has been most negatively impacted. Given that major corporations have established manufacturing facilities in China, which is referred to as "the world's factory", the zero-covid lockdown and worker quarantines have had a significant impact on production. Manufacturing industries in China have also been impacted by the power shortage. Additionally, businesses are unable to predict when the Chinese

government's policy will change.

Additionally, this has not only hurt manufacturing; it has also hurt Chinese stock markets, causing them to collapse. India, however, has benefited from this because businesses with sizable manufacturing facilities are considering India as their new manufacturing location. Major companies like Apple have already begun manufacturing in India and are indicating that more such investments will be made in the coming years. Investors are also transferring funds from China to India's stock market, which is boosting the market's outlook. India seems to be gaining favorability as a result of China's opaque policy.

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