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# DAILY CONVERSATIONS IN CHINESE MEDIA



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## NEWS IN CHINA

- China Securities Regulatory Commission (CSRC) approved 34 corporate bond projects. The projects proposed by the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), aims to utilize the funds for the development of capital infrastructure within China, including public transportation; industrial parks; residential buildings; rural-industrial integration; urbanization; 5G Smart Cities; and for environmental reforms. The total funds that will be issued from bonds stands at 54.2 billion yuan (approximately 7.88 billion USD).
- The Chinese embassy in Khartoum, Sudan asked Chinese citizens stuck in the ongoing violence between Sudanese Armed Forces if they wish to stay or return to China as the situation between the conflicting parties keeps worsening, leading to concerns over the safety of foreign nationals in the country. The embassy has offered a direct channel of communication to Chinese citizens in Sudan. The contact details of individuals hailing from Hong Kong, Macau, and individuals holding Taiwanese passport are being collected by the embassy as a part of increasing its outreach. The recent violence in Sudan has resulted in the deaths of hundreds of people, mostly civilians.
- China's top legislative body, the Standing Committee of the 14th National People's Congress (NPC), began its second session on Monday with a three-day agenda to review draft laws and reports. The session will focus on discussing draft revisions to the Counter-Espionage Law, a draft law on ecological conservation in the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, and a draft law on creating a barrier-free environment. Lawmakers will also review reports on the state of the environment, environmental protection targets for 2022, and the status of Chinese nationals overseas. Additionally, the session will review a draft list for the NPC Standing Committee's

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chairperson, vice chairpersons, and members of the credentials committee.

- China [released panoramic images](#) of Mars, taken by the Tianwen 1 orbiter. These stunning color images, with a spatial resolution of 76 meters, include the Robinson projection, Mercator projection, Azimuth projection, and Orthographic projection of the Eastern and Western hemispheres of the Red Planet. The images were unveiled at a ceremony in Hefei, the capital of Anhui province, on Space Day, which is celebrated on April 24 each year in honor of China's first satellite launch in 1970. The panoramic images were created by processing 14,757 images taken by the mid-definition camera mounted on the Tianwen 1 orbiter during its 284 remote-sensing maneuvers from November 2021 to July 2022. These high-quality images are expected to provide a better base map for scientists and engineers around the world, facilitating their research and planning for future Mars expeditions. Chinese scientists have studied images and data from Tianwen 1 and identified many geological bodies surrounding the landing site of the Tianwen 1. They have named 22 of them after Chinese villages with renowned historical and cultural heritages.
- China's National Intellectual Property Administration's head Shen Changyu stated that [7,98,000 invention patents](#) were issued in 2022. This converts into 9.4 high-value invention patents per 10,000 people. On top of that, China has witnessed 70,000 international applications filed under World Intellectual Property Organization's (WIPO) Patent Cooperation Treaty in 2022. The total

import and export of intellectual property royalties reached upto 387.25 billion yuan (approx. to \$56.26 billion USD) for the year 2022. The export volume of royalties has gone up 17 per cent year on year. Thanks to a shortened review period to 16.5 months for Invention Patents and four months for Trademark Registrations, the pace of patent processing has significantly increased. Other than that, certain vigilant measures such as 44,000 cases of illegal acts in patent and trademark approval and 58,000 cases of administrative adjudication cases about patent infringement disputes have been handled in 2022 to keep the standards of Intellectual Properties issued from China high. This adds to the total value of China's patent-intensive industries by 17.9 per cent from previous year. In 2021, the industry stood at 14.3 trillion yuan and in 2022 it accounts for 12.44 per cent of China's GDP.

## SOCIAL MEDIA CHATTER IN CHINA

- **Does working on holidays affect work efficiency? Weibo netizens react to the poll by China Newsweek:** Recently, a [Weibo poll](#) conducted by China Newsweek asked netizens if they believed that working on holidays affected their work efficiency. The poll garnered a total of 8.3 million votes, with nearly 89 per cent of participants stating that working on holidays made them feel tired and sluggish, affecting their work efficiency. In contrast, only 4 per cent of respondents claimed that holiday work did not affect their work efficiency. Many netizens commented that working on weekends without sufficient rest affected their

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motivation and work enthusiasm. Some even compared it to a "23.5 unhappy" situation, which means working in a state of dissatisfaction. Many Chinese netizens are not in favor of working on holidays and feel that it impacts their productivity. This sentiment may have implications for companies that require their employees to work on holidays, as it could lead to lower employee morale and decreased productivity. Furthermore, with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, many employees are already facing increased workloads and stress levels, making rest and relaxation more important. As such, it is crucial for companies to strike a balance between maintaining operations and ensuring their employees' well-being.

## INDIA WATCH

- India has seen a significant increase in the filing of intellectual property (IP) patents over the last five years, according to the [Economic Survey 2022-23](#). The government has been working to promote innovation by providing support for incubation, mentorship, funding, and industry-academia partnerships. As a result, India has seen a 46 per cent growth in domestic patent filings between 2016 and 2021, indicating a shift towards a knowledge-based economy. The previous survey reported that India had 58,502 patents filed in 2020-21, a considerable increase from 45,444 in 2016-17 and 39,400 in 2010-11. The government's [Startup India initiative](#) offers incentives, including up to 80 per cent rebate on patent filings and 50 per cent rebate on trademark filings, to encourage startups to file more patents. However, despite the increase in patent

filings, India's patent granting process is still slower than other countries. The average time taken for a [final decision on granting patents](#) in India was 42 months in 2020, which is much higher than 20.8 months taken in the US, 16.5 months in China, 15.8 months in South Korea, and 15 months in Japan. India's low expenditure on research and development (R&D), which stood at 0.7 per cent of the country's GDP in 2020, has contributed to this disparity. Moreover, procedural delays and complexity have deterred many from filing patents in India. Despite the challenges, India's innovation ecosystem has been making progress. The latest survey mentions that 138,000 patents were filed between 2015 and 2021, with over 85,000 filed in emerging technologies. The government has also strengthened its IPR regime by modernizing the IP office; reducing legal compliances; facilitating IP filing for start-ups; and curbing illegal patents to encourage genuine entrepreneurs to come forward to file more patents. Overall, India's innovation landscape is evolving, and the government's efforts are making a positive impact.

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