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DAILY
**CONVERSATIONS
IN CHINESE
MEDIA**



**ORGANISATION FOR RESEARCH ON
CHINA AND ASIA**

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I. Social Media Chatter in China

- **Amidst Henan floods, flooding in India's Maharashtra gains traction:** Many Weibo posts are highlighting the deaths in Maharashtra as a result of flooding in the state. This comes amidst censorship within China that is not allowing for posting of death tolls, casualties and more in Zhengzhou.
- **Jingguang tunnel in Zhengzhou continues to receive focus:** Chinese twitter accounts have estimated that the actual death toll in the tunnel could be more than a thousand, but heavy policing in and around the area continues to keep citizens away. Meanwhile, hashtags like "HELPING OUT FOR HENAN" (Hashtag: #河南暴雨互助#) have hit 15 billion views on Weibo.
- **Military observer accounts post Hongjian 12 (HJ-12) anti-tank guided missile:** First unveiled in Zhuhai in 2014, military observers have been sharing images of a PLA soldier carrying the same; this hints that the equipment has now been formally inducted. (see image 1)
- **Military observer account posts of CaiHong(CASC Rainbow)- T1 being ready for batch protection:** The cruise flight of this can reach Mach 0.65 (i.e. 802 km/h) and the endurance time is 1.5 hours, which means that the operation radius of this UAV in the blocked sea area can reach 300 to 600 km, and the range for torpedo attack can reach 1200 km.
- **China's Olympic wins:** With the Tokyo Olympics 2020 beginning, Chinese news and social media has shared pride over China's 3 gold medals on the first day of sporting. Simultaneously, Chinese netizens have been discussing the opening ceremony of the Olympics, arguing that it failed to show Japan's true culture.

II. News in China

- Xi's erstwhile 'secretive' Tibet visit is now beginning to take up more space on front pages, pushing coverage of the floods to the later pages. For instance, the Henan Daily's front page was covered by Xi's photos in Lhasa with very little information about the floods visible.
- The remains of nine Chinese who died in a terrorist attack in Pakistan on their way to the China-Pakistan Dasu hydropower project returned China on a chartered flight. 9 Chinese and 4 Pakistanis were killed in a shuttle bus blast on July 14 in Kohistan region in northern Pakistan.
- Pakistan's Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi met Chinese counterpart Wang Yi : areas of focus were the joint probe on the Kohistan

attack, the Kashmir issue and the situation in Afghanistan.

III. India Watch

- The Kohistan blast which killed 9 Chinese and 4 Pakistanis was confirmed to be a terrorist attack on July 16, and China and Pakistan kept close exchanges over the incident. As per [Global Times](#), Pakistani Taliban and Balochistan terrorists are possible forces behind the attack; the state-run news outlet has also hinted that a “third-party force—an intelligence agency from a third country” could be behind the attack.
- Pakistan and China’s ‘iron’ brotherhood and all-weather strategic partnership is increasingly focusing on Afghanistan; India must broaden and improve its own outreach to Kabul.



Image 1: PLA soldier carrying HJ-12