

**25.10.21**

*DAILY*  
**CONVERSATIONS  
IN CHINESE  
MEDIA**



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**ORGANISATION FOR RESEARCH ON  
CHINA AND ASIA**

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## I. Social Media Chatter in China

- **Launch of CCTV Olympics Digital Platform:** On the occasion of the launch of the CCTV Olympic Channel and its digital platform by China Central Radio and Television, Xi Jinping sent his warm congratulations which trended. The Olympic Channel is an important result of the cooperation between China Central Radio and Television and the International Olympic Committee, including TV channels and digital platforms and is setting the pace for the Winter Olympics which has begun to trend.
- **'Sam's Club' under attack on Weibo:** Netizens commented on the official Weibo of Sam's Club, questioning whether the Sam's Club has a monopoly in China. Sam's West, Inc. is an American chain of membership-only retail warehouse clubs owned and operated by Walmart Inc.
- **XMD confrontation drill:** Official Weibo account of Xinjiang Military district posted on Weibo that recently a regiment of the XMD carried out a confrontation drill with red and blue two teams under actual combat-like environment and complex weather conditions. The images uploaded along with it suggest that tanks and drones were also used in this drill.
- **Meng Wanzhou returns to work at Shenzhen Huawei:** On the birthday of Huawei's founder Ren Zhengfei, Meng Wanzhou, who was under house arrest and has just returned from Canada to Shenzhen has returned to work after her "quarantine period"; this was trending at number 1 on Weibo and was viewed 210 million times.

## II. News in China

- Chinese state media reported that the former China-North industries group corporation limited (NORINCO) party secretary and chairman, Yin Jiashu was arrested on suspicion of accepting bribes and illegally making profits for relatives and friends. His case is being further processed. NORINCO is a Chinese state-owned defense corporation that manufactures a diverse range of civil and military products. It contributes to China's Belt and the Road Initiative also through civil construction works and military defense.
- Jiangsu Provincial Commission for Discipline Inspection and Supervision issued a notice on October 24 that Chen Yizhong, Former deputy secretary of the Party committee of Jiangsu Provincial Public Security Department and the Deputy director-general of Jiangsu Provincial Public Security Department, was suspected of serious violations of discipline and law and is currently under review.

- Xinhua News published an article titled “Ten Questions on China’s Economy” which is an interview with an “Authoritative Figure” on China’s economy. Non-mainstream HK media has reported that this is not the first time that "authoritative figures" have appeared in China's important state media. According to rough stats, since the Mao Zedong era, there have been more than 1,600 articles with "authoritative figures" in the People's Daily. This gradually faded after Mao Zedong's death. But since 2015, whenever China's economy encounters major challenges, "authoritative figures" will appear in the "People's Daily" to answer questions.
- The notional period for the 7th Hong Kong Legislative Council election will begin on October 30 and end on November 12, and elections will be held on December 19 with more than 620 general polling stations in 10 constituencies of Hong Kong.

### **III. India Watch**

- Vis-a-vis China's 'authoritative figure' interviews, it can be speculated that the authoritative person who frequently appears in the state media may be Liu He, Vice Premier of the State Council of China, one of Xi Jinping’s most trusted people, and one of the main leaders of China’s economy, but the views presented represent Xi Jinping's own economic and political views. These “authoritative figure” articles are mostly published on the front page of the State media. In the Chinese political context, this represents the extremely high political status of the interviewee.
- Chen Yizhong is the subordinate of Wang Like, former member of the Standing Committee of the Jiangsu Provincial Party Committee and former secretary of the Political and Legal affairs Commission of Jiangsu, who was expelled from the party and public office for “formation of factions within the party, and engaging in political opportunism in seeking personal promotion.” Wang Like was involved in the planning of the conspiratorial activity against Xi in Nanjing. This basically means that the probe that was extended has led to Wang Like’s subordinates also.