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DAILY CONVERSATIONS IN CHINESE MEDIA

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SOCIAL MEDIA CHATTER IN CHINA

- **A Chinese mother sparked debate online about sex education in China:** A single mother from Zhejiang province started a public discussion on [sex education](#) in China after discovering a condom in her teenage son's schoolbag. Her son who has never kept secrets from her got embarrassed when confronted and said that it was something "he felt too shy to speak about". The son said that two boys in his class brought a pack of condoms to class and played with one of them by throwing it around, which landed into his schoolbag. The mother, surnamed Xu, later felt that it was important to talk to her son about sex education. "I told my son that a condom is not something that should necessarily make you feel shy. The wrong part of this is that these two students should not play with it in the classroom," she said. She claimed that once she explained how condoms were used to her son, he overcame his timidity and became curious. In the Zhejiang provincial city of Hangzhou, a form teacher named Jin Lingjuan asserted, "I think when the students are aware of sexual knowledge, and their curiosity has been met, they won't make sex jokes any longer." On Weibo, this story has received over 330 million views and thousands of comments. "Nowadays, many children aged 11 to 12 know everything. I think it's better to educate girls about sex early; otherwise, they will be taken advantage of. For boys, they usually learn it without a teacher," wrote one user. "If it were a girl, her parents would be anxious, furious, worried, and frightened, if they found a used condom in her school bag," another person commented.

NEWS IN CHINA

- Xi Jinping, general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee [held talks](#) with Miguel Diaz-Canel Bermudez, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and Cuban president, on Friday. Since the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, the 62-year-old Cuban leader is the first head of state from Latin America and the Caribbean to visit China. Xi expressed his appreciation for China's relationship with Cuba, noting that Cuba was the first nation in the Western Hemisphere to establish diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China, making their ties a model of solidarity and cooperation between socialist and developing countries and added that both nations have maintained constant communication and exchanges at the highest levels of leadership. China's will to work with Cuba to safeguard international fairness and justice and oppose hegemony and power politics will not change," Xi added. China is willing to collaborate with Cuba to implement the Global Development Initiative and the Global Security Initiative, and promote peace and development. A plethora of bilateral documents on party-to-party exchange, the consultation mechanism between the two foreign ministries, Belt and Road cooperation, and practical cooperation were signed in front of the two presidents.
- In the first quarter of this year, the [carbon-neutrality industry](#) saw the largest year-over-year growth in the number of new jobs, increasing by nearly 400%, as China

advances on a path toward sustainable development. The Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security recently released a new edition of China's occupational classifications, which includes 134 green professions, an increase from 127 in 2015. Jobs in the green sector, such as forest ranger and environmental sanitation engineer, are experiencing a golden era of tremendous growth. If the current pattern continues, China would require between 550,000 and 1 million workers in the field of carbon reduction between 2021 and 2025. China has announced it will peak carbon dioxide emissions before 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality before 2060. The Zhuolu forest county is one example of how China's green sector has grown in recent years. With a total forest area of 147,113 hectares, Zhuolu County now has 54.43 percent of its land covered in trees, up from 12 percent approximately 70 years ago. Another example is Henshui lake, which is now home to 332 bird species and 757 insect species after years of effort including expanding submerged plants and building ecological floating islands. China's universities, vocational institutions, and technical colleges are preparing a significant pool of green industry talent. As of 2022, China has 21 undergraduate majors directly relevant to carbon peaking and carbon neutrality.

- The 2022 [China-Japan-ROK Trilateral Media Dialogue](#) took place in Beijing on Friday, and nearly 60 representatives from 27 major media outlets in China, Japan, and South Korea, as well as from the Chinese Foreign Ministry and international organisations, participated. The topics of
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discussion were "Exchanges to Reinforce People-to-People Bond" and "Forge Ahead to Promote Cultural Similarity". The People's Daily served as the event's host. Media professionals from China, Japan, and South Korea produced reports to encourage communication across the three countries, facilitate exchanges to support the development of the three countries' and improve collaboration to defend cultural recognition in order to contribute to the growth of the East Asian community. At the conference, Ambassador Ou Boqian, Secretary-General of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat, stated that the mainstream media should guide public opinion with a rational and objective attitude, show the real world with a balanced and accurate brushwork, and seek answers to problems with a rigorous and responsible attitude. This year celebrates the 30th anniversary of China-South Korea diplomatic ties and the 50th anniversary of China-Japan diplomatic relations restoration.

- Pandemic lockdowns are expanding across China, including Zhengzhou where factory workers clashed with police this week, as the number of Covid-19 cases hits a daily record. Tech giant Foxconn announced that it will provide newly hired workers at the largest iPhone assembly facility in the world, located in the central city of Zhengzhou, the chance to leave with severance compensation after claims of contract fraud and inadequate pandemic control measures caused employee unrest. The Taiwan-headquartered company announced on Wednesday that employees who are prepared to leave will receive 10,000 yuan (\$1,400), roughly equal to the

three-month bonus amount. The notice was made public online after workers began to demonstrate on Tuesday night about 9 p.m. against wage disparities and the business' COVID control tactics. On Wednesday, fourteen employees told Sixth Tone that Foxconn was not paying them the higher compensation than the industry standard that initially drew them to the position. Workers claim that Foxconn later modified some of the terms and told them they had to work until mid-March in order to collect the whole bonus sum. Originally, the business had promised to pay 30 yuan per hour in addition to 3,000 yuan in monthly bonuses. "I was tricked by the shady contract. They tricked me here," said one worker in a WeChat group named "Foxconn, pay me" on Wednesday. But not everyone was ready to leave. "I only want to earn more before Lunar New Year," said one worker who didn't want to be named for fear of retribution. "Foxconn pays the best. If it were not for the pay, who would be willing to come here?"

- According to a November 23 report on the website of Singapore's "Lianhe Zaobao," both China and the US are actively supporting the manned moon landing programme. China has made significant technological advancements and is now able to send three humans into lunar orbit and two astronauts to land on the moon, remarked Zhou Jianping, the project's principal designer. On the 21st, Zhou Jianping stated during the main forum of the 2022 China Aerospace Conference that China's first step into deep space will be to land on the moon. Currently, a new generation of manned spaceflight is being built, important technology research has
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been accomplished, and numerous rounds of programme deepening demonstrations have been conducted. The First Academy of China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation's chief engineer, Academician Jiang Jie, reportedly predicted that China would be able to send a man to the moon by the year 2030. China's manned moon landing still needs to be calm and steady, progressively verifying and overcoming numerous technological hurdles, observers say, despite the country's recent rapid advancement in aerospace technology. The initial planning for orbiting the moon, landing on the moon, sampling the moon, and returning has essentially been finished, and the fourth phase of the lunar exploration project will be put into practise next. The primary objectives of the fourth phase of China's lunar exploration project, according to Wu Weiren, the project's chief designer, are to conduct a scientific exploration of the lunar south pole and create a fundamental kind of lunar scientific research station.

20 carbon dioxide emitters. Developed countries demanded during the first week of the climate negotiations that the top 20 emitters, including India and China, debate drastic emission reductions rather than only the wealthy countries that have traditionally been at fault for climate change. The current state of climate change can now serve as a common ground for developing countries such as India and China to strengthen economic cooperation in order to construct a clean economy that will lead to more sophisticated scientific and technical breakthroughs, boosting the development of rapidly emerging businesses.

INDIA WATCH

- China has vowed to achieve carbon dioxide emissions peak before 2030 and reach carbon neutrality before 2060 while India aims to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2070. While emissions in China will only slightly decrease in 2022, [India's carbon emissions](#) will rise by 6%, primarily due to the usage of coal. During deliberations on the "Mitigation Work Programme" in November at the UN climate summit in Egypt, India, with the support of other developing nations, thwarted a move by wealthy nations to concentrate on all top
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