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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

- **Xi Jinping sends new Lunar year wishes to all:** During Xi Jinping's visit to Shanxi province on the eve of Lunar New Year, he expressed his wishes to all Chinese citizens, including the 'compatriots from Hong Kong, Macao, Taiwan, and overseas Chinese'.
- **The stock price of Xiaomi hits a new low in a year:** Netizens are sharing their concerns on social media as Xiaomi's closing price fell 54% from its highest point. Xiaomi fell 5.5% to a closing price of HK\$ 35.9 hitting a new low for the year. The news of Xiaomi's lowest ever stock price has been a hot search on Weibo.

II. News in China

- European Union officially launched a dispute against China, on behalf of its member Lithuania, by taking the dispute to World Trade Organization accusing China of illegal trade practices. The diplomatic relations between Lithuania and China are at a critically low and sensitive juncture post Lithuania officially starting diplomatic relations with Taiwan by allowing it to set up an embassy in Lithuania and China downgrading its diplomatic relations with the former. Although China denied boycotting Lithuanian goods, the EU accused China of blocking Lithuanian and as well as other European imports which have Lithuanian components in the goods. EU Trade Commissioner, Valdis Dombrovskis, said that parallel to the WTO negotiations, the EU will work on an amicable solution.
- In a phone conversation between China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi and US Secretary of State Anthony Blinken, Wang Yi spoke about the Ukraine issue pointing out that Russia's security concerns are growing in Europe over Ukraine and the US should not be dismissing the concerns of Moscow in the region. He also added that all the parties should leave the 'Cold-war' mentality and should find solutions through negotiations and forming a "balanced, effective and sustainable European security mechanism".
- China returned the Indian citizen, Miram Tarom, who had been captured by the Chinese Military after going missing near the countries' border in Arunachal Pradesh. He was taken by the military as he was found illegally entering into Chinese territory at the disputed border. Tarom had been handed over by PLA to Indian Army at a border post in Arunachal Pradesh.
- On the eve of the spring festival, Xi Jinping visited Shanxi for investigation regarding the disaster and to further study the post-disaster restoration and reconstruction after the October floods last year. Shanxi was heavily affected by the floods with heavy loss to life and infrastructure.

- A press conference hosted by the Ministry of National Defence responded that China's military is always fully prepared for any external provocations or national emergencies, and will be vigilant during the Winter Olympics, in response to a question regarding the recent US' military exercises.
- China's market regulator has approved the semiconductor group, Advanced Micro Devices Inc's (AMD.O) 35 billion dollars all-stock deal for its peer Xilinx on the condition that AMD and Xilinx do not force a tie in sales of products.
- India performed a drone show at Rashtrapati Bhavan for Republic Day (See Image 1). 1,000 Made in India drones lit up the presidential palace followed by a beating retreat ceremony. This addition of new-gen technology was meant to motivate and showcase the innovation capabilities of India. A similar drone show was also organized by the National University of Defense Technology, China for centennial celebration in December and was covered under our weekend newsletter dated 04.12.21-05.12.21.

III. India Watch

- On the issue of an Indian citizen being returned to India after he was found in Chinese territory by PLA, Colonel Long Shaohua, the spokesperson of Western Theatre Command of PLA, responded that after the Indian citizen was found in Chinese territory illegally he was questioned as per the routine protocol observed in accordance with regulations regarding the border control and was given necessary humanitarian assistance.

Image 1: Pictures from a Drone show at Rashtrapati Bahwan, New Delhi

