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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

- **Elon Musk trends over Ukraine:** Netizens talked about Elon Musk's announcement to give Ukrainian employees a 3 months advance salary, if they wish to go back to Ukraine to fight in the war. Many believe that his motivation behind this could be to clean up the employees with 3 months' wages, and save the high termination fees.
- **Indian news anchor trends in China:** A video of Indian news anchor Arnab Goswami went viral in China. Goswami was praised by many for talking fearlessly to the Americans and giving them "befitting reply".

II. News in China

- China held two multinational meetings to discuss the economic and humanitarian crisis facing Afghanistan in the ancient town of Tunxi in Anhui province. The motto of the meeting was to help Afghanistan achieve peace, stability and development at an early date. Foreign ministers of neighbouring states were invited as well.
- Russian Foreign Minister Lavrov has arrived in China to attend a multinational meeting on the Afghanistan situation. It is the first time that the Russian minister is visiting key ally China since the Russian invasion of Ukraine. He is expected to attend two meetings on the Afghanistan issue; one with Afghanistan and its neighbouring countries, and the other a separate meeting of the "Extended Troika" with the special envoy on Afghanistan from China and the U.S.
- China and Russia are "more determined" to deepen their bilateral relations and enhance cooperation, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said to media after holding a meeting with the Russian counterpart Sergei Lavrov. He also condemned what they called the illegal and counter-productive Western sanctions imposed on Russia for its actions in Ukraine.
- Chinese media has reaffirmed China's commitment to the Zero COVID policy. It has also ended the speculations of the country's shift from its long-standing strategy of mass lockdowns, testing, and contact tracing to tackle the widespread Omicron outbreak.

III. India Watch

- Amid the ongoing war between Russia and Ukraine, Russian foreign minister Sergei Lavrov has visited China to attend the multinational conference on Afghanistan. There, he also had a meeting with the Chinese foreign minister Wang Yi and the two leaders affirmed their support for each other. Lavrov is now in New Delhi to meet with the Indian Foreign Minister, although this meeting is going to be mainly about business and finding a possible means of trade and payment in light of the huge sanctions imposed on Russia. India needs to be careful in handling the situation with Russia as every move and decision taken by India would have a far-

reaching and long term impact in its future policy. On the one hand India needs to strike a balance between maintaining its relations with both Russia and the US. On the other hand, it also needs to consider its domestic energy needs and overall economic growth.