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DAILY CONVERSATIONS IN CHINESE MEDIA

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SOCIAL MEDIA CHATTER IN CHINA

- **Chinese netizens use 'Disco Dancer' song to protest against COVID-19 curbs:** In China, a superhit song of a Mithun Chakraborty film from 1982, is being widely viewed and shared on short video sites as a song of protest against the government's stringent Covid-19 regulations. The song is transliterated into Mandarin as "Give me some rice? Who can give me? I ran out of it. No need to give much rice; my family has only a few members." The song's various versions have been viewed millions of times on social media, particularly Douyin, China's version of TikTok. Netizens are shown dancing to the song with empty vessels in their hands in the videos, with several swaying to the rhythm while wearing improvised saris.

NEWS IN CHINA

- According to official data, China's shipbuilding sector led the world in the first three quarters of this year, with the most extensive worldwide market share in output and new and holding orders. According to the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, the country's shipbuilding output reached 27.8 million deadweight tonnes over time, accounting for 45.9 per cent of the total internationally. Furthermore, new orders in China's shipbuilding sector amounted to 53.6 per cent of total global orders, while holding shipbuilding orders accounted for 48 per cent of total global orders. The China Association of the National Shipbuilding Industry stated that the industrial production of the country's 75 essential shipbuilding businesses was 291.3

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- billion yuan (approximately 40.59 billion US dollars) during the same period.
 - Chinese President Xi Jinping congratulated Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva on his election as President of the Federative Republic of Brazil on Monday. Xi stated in his speech that China and Brazil, both significant developing countries and vital emerging economies, share many mutual interests and responsibilities. Since China and Brazil established diplomatic ties 48 years ago, bilateral relations have seen long-term development, with collaboration in numerous spheres delivering positive outcomes, thanks to the concerted efforts of the two countries' successive administrations and all sectors of their societies.
 - According to the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC), the US is planning to "deploy" up to six nuclear-capable B-52 bombers in northern Australia in a provocative move that analysts believe is exclusively targeted at China. In response to a query from a Reuters reporter, spokesman Zhao Lijian said at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs regular press briefing on October 31 that the relevant US activities have increased regional tensions, gravely damaged regional peace and stability, and may spark a regional weapons race. China urges all parties to renounce the obsolete Cold War zero-sum attitude and narrow geopolitical ideas and to do more to promote regional peace, stability, and mutual trust among all parties.
 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Zhao Lijian held a routine press briefing on October 31, and some reporters questioned the SCO Council. Zhao Lijian stated that the SCO has always followed the "Shanghai Spirit" has continuously enhanced good neighbourliness and friendship among SCO countries, has continued to deepen cooperation in different fields, and has played a crucial role in maintaining the safety and stability of the Eurasian continent, as well as fostering the growth and prosperity of countries in the region. Zhao Lijian stated that he believes this meeting will help the region better deal with various risks and challenges, boost economic recovery and development, and provide more real advantages to the region's people.
 - A total of 15,109 relics, 4,060 of which are undamaged, have been discovered in the Sanxingdui Ruins site in southwest China's Sichuan, according to Lei Yu, curator of the Sanxingdui Museum, at a seminar on Saturday. Excavation reveals that objects from different pits can be mixed, implying that many of these pits developed simultaneously. After 3,000 years of separation, the Sanxingdui study team declared in June that a bronze sculpture showing a figure of a human head and snake body found from the No. 8 pit effectively matched the remains of the bronze bird foot image from the No. 2 pit. Various other artefacts from different pits have matched each other, and experts speculate that four sacrificial pits were formed in the same era. Lei stated that more secrets surrounding Sanxingdui would be revealed in the future.
 - At 3:37 p.m. CST on Monday, China launched its space station lab module Mengtian atop a Long March-5B Y4 carrier
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rocket from the Wenchang Spacecraft Launch Site in south China's Hainan province. Mengtian will dock with the Tianhe core module, which was launched into space in April. By the end of this year, it will have joined the Tianhe core module and the Wentian lab module to form a T-shaped complex. Its primary purpose is to research microgravity and conduct experiments in fluid physics, materials and combustion science, and fundamental physics.

INDIA WATCH

- Mengtian's launch is significant for China as it further pushes away China's reliance on the International Space Station to conduct its ground-breaking research. India can immensely benefit by collaborating with China regarding space research. While India has the chance to use the ISS' research to study space, it will soon be decommissioned within a few years, leaving no alternatives. Collaborating with China will ensure that India receives the right amount of research while helping the scientific community in the country grow and helping ISRO to grow as well. Research from the Mengtian will help China in the long run, and India cannot miss out on the opportunity to collaborate with China. In the past, China has collaborated with various nations to help launch their space ambitions and help them progress in the space race. If India begins to collaborate with China, there is a good possibility that India will increase its funding to ISRO and perhaps even develop its space station. While India may seem highly dependent on China in the short run, it will push India to improve its space and scientific program and become independent.
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