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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

- **Ukraine admits limited progress in security negotiations with China:** Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said that Ukraine has not received security guarantees from anyone, including the United States. CNN reported that the United States and its allies are unlikely to ultimately provide Ukraine with the legally binding security guarantees it demands, according to multiple people familiar with the matter. David Allahamia, chairman of the parliamentary group of Ukraine's ruling People's Servant Party, disclosed that Ukraine is negotiating with many countries on security issues, including China. But he admitted that progress in negotiations with China was more limited and the same has trended on Weibo.

II. News in China

- China's central bank revealed plans to spread its digital Yuan to additional Chinese cities. The government declared that it will be available to 12 more cities in the following phase. Since its introduction in 2019, the digital yuan has been available in a number of regions, including major cities such as Beijing, Shanghai, and Shenzhen, as well as the Hainan province.
- Despite the fact that numerous nations across the world have lifted Covid-19 pandemic restrictions, China is currently dealing with one of the deadliest outbreaks. On 3 April 2022, the Shanghai government declared a two-phase lockdown to force its inhabitants to stay at home.
- Hong Kong's leader, Carrie Lam, announced her resignation following a five-year tenure. She has stated that she is stepping down from her position due to familial obligations. Under her administration, the 2019 demonstrations occurred, and she also attempted to seek extradition of criminals to mainland tribunals controlled by the CCP.
- Pakistani Foreign Minister Qureshi got a message from China's Foreign Minister saying, "China has always protected Pakistan's sovereignty and territorial integrity and would continue to do so." China has publicly stated its support for Pakistan's sovereignty, indicating to the US that they will not tolerate a coup in their neighbourhood without repercussions.
- Prior to the Russian incursion, China coordinated thousands of cyber-attacks and hacking attempts on Ukrainian official websites. According to reports, China hacked Ukraine's official websites just days before Russia's invasion. Thousands of hacking attempts were made against over 600 websites belonging to Kyiv's defence ministry and others.
- Russian Foreign Minister Lavrov has said India and China are close partners of Russia across many international formats, including the BRICS, SCO, and those developing around ASEAN as well as the RIC (Russia- India-China).

- Amidst the discovery of a new omicron variant in Shanghai, the People's Liberation Army (PLA) of China dispatched over 2,000 military physicians to the region on Sunday to assist civilian colleagues in testing the city's entire population amid a Covid-19 outbreak.
- Argentina's defence minister hailed China for its assistance in the Falkland Islands dispute. Argentina regards the Falkland Islands as part of its territory. This comment is significant since this year marks the 40th anniversary of Argentina's invasion of the Falkland Islands.

India Watch

- At a routine news conference, a Chinese spokeswoman stated that both China and Pakistan are willing to take cooperation in many sectors to a new level and to inject new energy into the two countries' all-weather strategic alliance. The Spokesperson stressed that China and Pakistan are all-weather strategic cooperating partners, sincere friends, and iron brothers who share both good and bad times. China is eager to collaborate with Pakistan in order to hasten the establishment of a closer China-Pakistan community of shared destiny in the new era. India must closely watch the political situation in Islamabad in context of China's partnership with Pakistan.
- After the announcement of Tunxi declaration Chinese foreign minister Wang Yi has given indication to recognise the Taliban regime. He said that China believes that diplomatic recognition to Taliban regime will come naturally at right time.