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*DAILY*  
**CONVERSATIONS  
IN CHINESE  
MEDIA**



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**ORGANISATION FOR RESEARCH ON  
CHINA AND ASIA**

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## I. Social Media Chatter in China

- **Lockdown continues to lead trends:** #Beijing Epidemic was trending on Weibo. 14.56 million users have read the hash tag with 2057 discussing the same. Few Chinese Netizens were seen posting comments which showed that the situation in Beijing has again turned grave. '#Forbidden City Closed till further notice' was trending on Weibo (May 11) 29.6 million users have read the hash tag with 33 discussing the same. According to the latest situation of epidemic prevention and control in Beijing, the Forbidden City will be temporarily closed from May 12 till further notice to further reduce the risk of spread of the epidemic.
- **Controversy over Weibo account violating One China Policy:** Diba Official Weibo account is claimed to have violated the 'One China Policy, by displaying its IP territory as 'Taiwan', causing huge concern among Netizens as the respective Weibo account is claimed to have sabotaging the atmosphere of cross-strait exchanges, and provoking antagonism between compatriots on both sides of the strait. 'Diba official Weibo account' (帝吧官微-1.542 million followers on Weibo) was originally established by Netizens to ridicule Chinese football player Li Yi, and has now become an active platform on Baidu Tieba, Weibo, Twitter and other social media. It is famous for its members' radical political stance.

## II. News in China

- Li-Ning can be the biggest athletic coffee chain. Emerging as an unexpected competitor in China's coffee market, Li-Ning is China's leading sportswear brand and will have around 7000 stores throughout China. It would compete with major brands like Starbucks and Luckin Coffee.
- More than half of the patients who recovered two years ago still suffer from symptoms like fatigue and sleep issues. Total recovery has not occurred for those who suffered during the virus's first wave. The problem of dealing with long-COVID has become significant as children and teens in China's sensitive demographic stay affected.
- A passenger plane carrying 122 people of China's Tibet Airlines caught fire after an aborted take-off on Thursday morning. It was a subsidiary of Air China and was about to take off from Chongqing airport for Nyingchi in Tibet. The aircraft is supposedly ten year old with a registration code 6426. Around twenty-five people were injured and all the passengers and the crew were evacuated from Airbus A319 which caught fire while taking off from southwestern city of Chongqing.
- Chinese president, Xi Jinping is reportedly suffering from cerebral aneurysm and was hospitalised in the year 2021. It is a condition in which the internal wall of artery of brain becomes thin causing the weakening of blood vessel which have a risk of rupture. He is being treated with traditional Chinese medicines and have

been absent from meetings with foreign leaders and Beijing Winter Olympics.

- The coastal city of Wuxi in China is offering Nobel Prize Winners housing subsidies of around 10 million yuan to retain the top-class talent in the national economy which would otherwise shift to innovation-driven development.
- Joseph Zen cardinal of Hong Kong has been arrested by Hong Kong's national security police. He was outspoken critic of China's communist party and is a senior member of Catholic church was arrested in Hong Kong under China's security law. He was among four other pro-democracy activists arrested. He has been accused of helping protestors in financial matters. If found guilty, he would be given life imprisonment.
- New multi-purpose helicopter AC352 completes its final test of Civil Aviation. A systematic test of 87 subjects which included class A take-off landings, aero velocity indicator systems, flat-fly performance, climbing performance, stability and low-speed manoeuvring etc, it was carried on for 37.25 flight hours.
- Bioeconomy is a powerful engine for new round of development in China. A 14th Five-Year Plan for Bio- economy Development is issued, it establishes national biotechnology which would propagate scientific and technological self-reliance.

## India Watch

- Chinese President Xi Jinping congratulated Ferdinand Marcos Jnr as he won in the Philippine presidential election and vowed to intensify its ties with Manila. China and Philippines are neighbours and bilateral relationship presents good prospects. U.S. President Biden also congratulated him; the two powers are competing for its influence in Southeast Asian nation. U.S. is also hosting a special summit with Southeast Asian leaders in Washington. China does not want to be behind U.S. in nurturing its ties with Philippines, and both India and Japan must take note of this movement especially keeping their South China Sea interests in mind.