

18.04.22

*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

- **First line of the Chinese national anthem censored on Weibo:** The Chinese Internet is monitored by government agencies and the information shared on social networks is also filtered and censored by the services they belong to. This time Chinese social media platform Weibo is censoring posts containing the Chinese national anthem. The hashtag Chee Lai (arise), we who refuse to be slaves, the first line of 'March of the Volunteers is banned on the website, citing relevant laws and regulations. It was being used by those protesting the Shanghai lockdown.
- **Censors remove list of people who died in Shanghai:** Chinese communist party-backed censors have removed lists of people who have died due to the strict lockdown in Shanghai and blocked the URL after internet users saved it to a blockchain-based site.

## II. News in China

- Thousands of people in the Pudong district of Shanghai broke out of their homes to protest and show anger against the communist government-backed lockdown. Residents were angry because their community building was taken forcibly and it was converted into a community quarantine centre.
- Shanghai officials have announced three deaths from COVID-19. These are the first deaths officially attributed to the coronavirus during this outbreak in the locked-down city.
- China's unemployment rate stood at 5.8 per cent in March. In February, the unemployment rate in urban China touched 5.5 per cent, exactly what it was in the corresponding month a year ago. A total of 2.85 million new jobs were created in this period.
- Greens Senator Jordon Steele-John, the party's peace and disarmament spokesman has declared China poses no threat to Australia.
- China's foreign minister Wang Yi has said that China is looking to organize the first batch of international cooperation programs onboard the China Space Station by the end of 2022. China is welcoming foreign astronauts to visit the space station and make a greater contribution to the shared future space.
- Chinese President Xi Jinping praised the role of Saudi Arabia in the middle east. He also added that the Saudi's response to Yemen crisis is also important and praiseworthy.
- BRICS officials finalised that the next summit is likely to be held at the end of June.
- The Boao Forum for Asia will hold its annual conference from April 20 to 22 in Boao, South China's Hainan Province. This time focus of the summit will be on the post-pandemic development agenda for the Asia and World.

- Chinese foreign minister on 18 April 2022 said that the escalating Palestine-Israel situation once again reminds us that the Palestine question should not be marginalized. The international community, especially major countries, should face up to the crux of the Palestine question and based on the two-state solution, facilitate the early resumption of peace talks between Palestine & Israel. He added that China will continue to play a constructive role.

## **India Watch**

- At the BRICS summit, India, China and Russia will share a stage with Bangladesh and South Africa but also bilaterally on the side-lines. The opportunity to discuss the LAC and the Ukraine invasion on an international platform must be utilized strategically by Delhi; despite recent comments about human rights issues in US, India remains a key partner to Washington and hence will have to balance ties at BRICS stringently.
- Chushul Councillor Konok Stanzin has in a tweet claimed that after completing the bridge over Pangong lake, China has installed 3 mobile towers near China's hot spring. This development can be harmful for Indian strategic interest as the tower can be used for surveillance of the Indian Territory.