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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

- **Eight-year old corrects the planetarium documentary:** An eight-year old Chinese boy, Yan Hongsen, went viral on the internet when he was seen pointing out the errors in an science educational video about China's Long March rockets in a planetarium. The child appeared incensed at the false information being spread in such locations about important topics. The planetarium was condemned while the child's expertise was commended.
- **Hunan Provincial Party responds to Netizens' inquiries about Dongting Lake:** On April 3, internet users used their platforms to draw attention to the Dongting Lake and the environmental repercussions of its ongoing neglect and degradation. The Hunan Provincial Party Committee's Supervision Office acknowledged the issue. Resources used by the ecosystem were wasted when the lake was abandoned. The paper industry's presence and the dangers posed by its emissions were also made known to the government.

II. News in China

- A recent high-altitude test of the PCL191 advanced rocket launch system was conducted. China made this action in response to the protracted social border dispute with India in order to bolster and demonstrate its firepower and battle capability for any type of conflict. According to reports, the rocket has been placed at a high height so that it can perform its tasks effectively, and its range has been increased to 500 miles. Anywhere in the state, PCL 191 is deployable and can pose a serious obstacle to the Indian border issue.
- The Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Trade Deal, a recent free-trade agreement between China and 14 other Asia-Pacific nations, is expected to internationalize the yuan. This agreement covers 30% of the world's GDP, which will rise to 50% by 2030. The use of yuan will grow globally as financial market obstacles are reduced. Given that Indonesia, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Singapore, and Chile have agreed to make contributions to the yuan reserve pool, the internationalization of the yuan has begun to pay off.
- With heightened tensions looming around the issue of unemployability among the recent graduates, Vice Premier Hu Chunhua has called for more effective measures to stabilize the situation. In June, the unemployment rate for people aged 16 to 24 was 19.3%. One of the main explanations is ascribed to a number of variables, including delays in offline recruitment and a decline in recruitment demand. The strict zero covid policy of China is to blame for both the declining economy and the scarcity of jobs for graduates. Instead of implementing lockdown, one option to boost job availability is to decrease the transmission of illnesses.
- Following a heated summit between the EU and China in April, high-level

negotiations are reportedly taking place between China and the EU. The economy, the escalating conflict in Ukraine, and the mistreatment of Uygur Muslims in Xinjiang province will be topics of discussion. Josep Borrell, a high official for the EU, referred to the summit as a "dialogue of the deaf" because of the conflicting views on the current state of affairs in Ukraine, where China is blaming the West for the sanctions imposed on Russia.

- IPAC (Inter-Parliamentary Alliance on China) members from 25 different nations have resolved to blacklist some Chinese firms for aiding Russia's invasion of Ukraine with military hardware. These allegations were refuted by China, but the customs records show otherwise. Antenna parts were shipped to the sanctioned Russian defense business Almaz Antey by the China Poly Group, a significant Chinese arms manufacturer and exporter. These components are utilized in air missile systems and radars that were used to invade Ukraine.
- On Tuesday, Manolo Blahnik, a famous Spanish shoe brand won a legal battle for using its trademark in China. China has 'first to file' jurisdiction which dictates that anyone who would file for trademark first will have a stronger hold. In this case, Blahnik took actions against Fang Yuzhou for using the 'Manolo Blahnik' name. China also has different intellectual property (IP) restrictions as compared to the rest of the countries. Here, a company has to prove its intent to use its trademark before registering. After 22 years of claiming its name, Manolo Blahnik can finally access the market in its own name.
- The Urumqi International Land Port Area, situated in the Xinjiang province, will enrich the Belt and Road Initiative as 23 projects are set to open up here. It includes an international grain and oil trading center, 5G technology land-based port management system, and cold chain warehouses. As the majority of trade will flow through this region, it will eventually turn into a hub of commerce and transportation. Over 340 firms and 30 billion yuan in investment have come to the area.
- As Ms. Nancy Pelosi, speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, decides on making a Taiwan, Chinese officials are, on the other hand, are threatening Ms. Pelosi if she visits Taiwan, a self-governing country which has a longstanding dispute with China. Zhao Lijiang, spokesperson of the Foreign Ministry, claimed that the visit can undermine the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the region. It has threatened to annex the region by force if necessary.

III. India Watch

- Although the US and Taiwan do not have diplomatic ties, the latter upholds the "strategic ambiguity" concept, according to which it will help Taiwan in all situations because it is a democratic country. This visit would be unique since Nancy Pelosi would be the senior-most official to travel to Taiwan, and it might broaden the

conversation from specific concerns to more general ones like US-Taiwan military and diplomatic relations.