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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

- **Short film on a disabled man goes viral; inspires millions:** A 11 and a half minute short film went viral as it inspired millions in the state. The film centers around a 66-year old disabled carpenter, Eriju, talking about his day and how he takes care of his 88-year old mother. The film is titled “How Erjiu Cured My Mental Friction after Being Back in the Village for Three Days”. The film is the most watched video in a video app, Bilibili.
- **Bridge cracks open with rising temperature:** The harsh effects of climate change were experienced by the citizens of Quanzhou when a bridge cracked open due to rising heatwaves and increasing temperature. A clip of the same went viral on the internet. The twitter account of Now This news posted the video.

## II. News in China

- On Tuesday, Croatia opened the bridge which links to Dubrovnik, crossing the Bosnian territory. The responsibility for the funding of the bridge was taken up by the China Road and Bridge Corporation (CRBC). This is the first time that any Chinese company has been chosen to win a bid for a EU-based project. The Chinese premier, in a video, claimed how the project is likely to facilitate better relations between China and Croatia, further strengthening relations between China and EU. Remarked as a historic project, the bridge will attract more tourists, boost the field of tourism, and strengthen business and trade.
- Anti-Japanese sentiments fuel after a woman enshrined photos of four Japanese war criminals in the Xuanzang Temple. The woman, now, has been detained by the police and has been accused of provoking quarrels, a crime in which one can be sentenced to ten years of imprisonment. The National Religious Affair Administration commented by requesting all regional authorities to urge the religious organizations to conduct an inspection in order to avoid such mishaps. The task force by the Nanjing government later showed that the woman had paid 3,000 Yuan.
- In a display of soft power and the attempt to display the deepening relationship between China and Indonesia, China's first lady, Peng Liyuan, hosted the Indonesian counterpart, Iriana Joko Widodo. The pair enjoyed watching a folk performance. In a meeting, Peng described the two countries as “important neighbours.” The diplomatic relations between the two can strengthen in multiple fields.
- As Chinese military influence expands in the Indo-Pacific region, defence chiefs across this region met this week to counter the growing campaign. 26 nations will participate with China backing out due to its unavailability. A free and open Pacific will be under threat as the Chinese military will try to dominate the region. Gen. Mark Milley, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff discussed making the

technology stronger and militaries more interoperable. Discussions are still looming in the issue of the US increasing its presence in Australian waters.

- Amidst the Russia-Ukraine conflict and the returning of coal in Europe, China will continue with its green energy transition. It will revamp its failing economy by focusing on its commitment to bring the emissions to a peak. The conflict has raised the prices of natural gas and thermal coal. From 2026, China has vowed to cut down on its coal use gradually. The transition of the global energy system is irreversible and there won't be any power cuts.
- On Wednesday, China launched six satellites in space successfully. The satellites are new solid propellant rockets which are said to make their debut and are the largest in the state. The ZK 1A, one of the strongest, was a part of one of the satellites. These test satellites are said to probe the atmospheric density.
- Hong Kong is said to prosper in the next five years with the "East meets West" policy, along with the "One country, two system" policy. In the South China Morning Post, the chief executive delivered a speech conveying how far Hong Kong has become the third largest financial center in the world. The issue of housing shortage, poverty reduction are amongst the top issues that will be resolved as Hong Kong has stepped into its 25th year.
- China is persistent in threatening the U.S. with military action if Nancy Pelosi makes a visit to Taiwan. On Tuesday, Sr. Col. Tan Kefei, spokesperson of the Ministry of Defence, reiterated that China will not sit by if Pelosi plans on making the visit. This visit has created tensions amongst the policymakers both in the U.S. and China. Biden is said to have a conversation regarding this, among other issues, with Chinese President Xi Jinping this Thursday in a telephone call. The U.S. military says that it is not a good idea to send Pelosi right now amidst rising tensions.

### **III. India Watch**

- Current heightening tensions regarding Pelosi's visit to Taiwan reveals the certainty of a war taking place between China and the U.S. A war that seemed remote or unlikely is becoming certain with talks of this event taking place. The U.S. is centering its policies around Taiwan and making it one of its allies. China is wary of this policy as it believes that it will be surrounded with American influence and hence, the opposition. China is struggling with developing new strategies at protecting this region.