

WEEKEND ISSUE
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DAILY
**CONVERSATIONS
IN CHINESE
MEDIA**



**ORGANISATION FOR RESEARCH ON
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I. Social Media Chatter in China

- **Resisting the Rat Race:** From China's Buddhist Youth to Lying Flat Movement - In 2021, 'lying flat,' or tng png, became a popular social fad in China. Since then, it has gotten a lot of attention, with some media describing it as a "act of resistance." There appears to be increased pushback to this tendency recently, especially in light of China's campaign against COVID-19, with government media declaring that China's determined, patriotic young should never choose to 'lay flat.'

II. News in China

- In an effort to boost people's faith in Chinese culture, Xi Jinping, general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, advocated efforts to expand the study of Chinese civilization. Xi made the remarks during a group study session of the CPC Central Committee's Political Bureau on a national research programme aimed at tracing the origins of Chinese culture on Friday afternoon. According to Xi, China's ancient and rich civilisation is the cornerstone of present Chinese culture, as well as a treasure trove stimulating cultural creativity. He urged for a deeper grasp of China's 5,000-year history in order to boost the Party's historical awareness and cultural confidence in the collaborative pursuit of national rejuvenation.
- Fiamē Naomi Mata'afa, the Samoan Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, met with visiting Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi on Saturday, with both parties reiterating their commitment to mutually beneficial and win-win collaboration. Fiamē congratulated the Communist Party of China (CPC) on its centennial last year and wished the CPC's 20th National Congress great success during their conversation. The prime minister stated that she has paid several visits to China, which she admires for its development route and people-centered philosophy, and expressed the hope that her nation may share its experiences in economic growth and poverty reduction with China. According to Fiamē, Samoa-China collaboration has yielded outstanding achievements in a variety of disciplines, including the effective improvement of Samoa's infrastructure and the enhancement of agricultural modernisation.
- To better serve to the home buying market and stimulate the growth of the property market, China has aggressively implemented targeted measures such as lifting limitations on purchases or sales, changing housing provident fund rules, and cutting mortgage interest rates. China's real estate market has witnessed contractions this year, owing to reasons such as COVID-19, a predicted drop in personal income, and debt default concerns of certain property developers. Commercial housing sales fell 20.9 percent in terms of floor area and 20.9 percent in terms of value in the first four months of the year. A critical gathering of China's

top decision-makers called for measures to strengthen real estate policy, an essential pillar for the economy, while stressing the premise that "housing is for living in, not for speculating."

- Wang Yi, a visiting Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister, said here Saturday that bilateral relations between China and the United States are not a zero-sum game, and that the United States should approach bilateral ties based on mutual respect, peaceful cohabitation, and win-win cooperation. In reaction to US Secretary of State Antony Blinken's recent policy speech in which he identified China as "the most severe long-term danger to the international order," Wang claimed the US had major misunderstandings about the world, China, and China-US ties. He emphasised the international community's widespread acknowledgment and support for China's Belt and Road Initiative, Global Development Initiative, and Global Security Initiative, as well as the United States' fixation with "Western-centrism," "exceptionalism," and the Cold War mindset.
- The China Manned Space Agency (CMSA) said Sunday that the Shenzhou-14 crewed spaceship and a Long March-2F carrier rocket have been transported to the launch location. The launch site's infrastructure and equipment are in good working order, and several pre-launch function checks and joint testing will proceed as planned, according to the CMSA.
- President Xi Jinping of China met with participants from a conference honouring public security heroes and role models. Xi congratulated the officials and expressed warm greetings to police and auxiliary police personnel from around the country. Both Li Keqiang and Wang Huning, members of the CPC Central Committee's Standing Committee of the Political Bureau, were present. At the Great Hall of the People, Xi exchanged pleasantries with the representatives and posed for a photo with them. Guo Shengkun, a member of the CCP, has been working with public security bureaus around the country to fully execute Xi Jinping's Thought on the Rule of Law and satisfy the Party's loyalty criteria.
- On Wednesday, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang emphasised the need of putting measures in place to stabilise the economy and promote market entities, jobs, and people's livelihoods. At a nationwide teleconference hosted by the State Council, Li, who is also a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, urged efforts to maintain the economy functioning within an appropriate range. In response to problems and challenges posed by unanticipated events this year, Li remarked that a variety of effective solutions had been adopted. He emphasised that growth is the key to overcoming all of China's issues, and he called for immediate action to get the economy back on track.
- The Export-Import Bank of China (China EximBank), a state-owned policy bank,

has boosted financial support to stabilise and enhance overseas commerce, which is a fundamental economic pillar. By the end of April, the bank's outstanding loans to foreign trade were 2.55 trillion yuan (about 377.67 billion USD), up 152 billion yuan from the start of the year. As part of its efforts to reduce financing costs for international trade firms, the lender has increased credit assistance, provided differentiated pricing, and eliminated transaction fees this year. The COVID-19 resurgences and external complexity impacted China's overseas commerce, which declined in April, according to the latest statistics.

III. India Watch

- Wang has stated that China is willing to go to any length to assist developing countries, including Pacific island nations, in accelerating their development and revitalization, and that China has never interfered in any country's internal affairs, added political conditions, or sought geopolitical interests in doing so. China is eager to work with other developing nations to achieve growth and prosperity, making the globe a more equitable place, according to the Chinese official statement. It maintains that, China's cooperation with other developing countries, especially Pacific island states, is not directed at any third party and does not seek exclusive rights or interests. China has been doing this with Asian and African countries, but now it is expanding to the islands as well. China has built a climate change cooperation centre for China and Pacific island countries, and is prepared to continue to assist small island countries in strengthening their capacity development in dealing with climate change through South-South collaboration.