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DAILY
**CONVERSATIONS
IN CHINESE
MEDIA**



**ORGANISATION FOR RESEARCH ON
CHINA AND ASIA**

PREPARED BY

Jasmit Kaur (Research Intern)
writetous.orca@gmail.com

I. Social Media Chatter in China

- **American Podcast Star Joe Rogan reiterates US government's warnings about Tik Tok's data leaks:** Podcast host Joe Rogan has warned TikTok users about the privacy and security risks posed by the Chinese-owned social media platform, claiming that their data will eventually end up in the hands of the Beijing regime. On the most recent episode of "The Joe Rogan Experience," Rogan admitted that he had gone "down a TikTok rabbit hole" while reading the company's lengthy terms of service. "This is insane." TikTok is owned by Beijing-based ByteDance, and US officials have repeatedly warned that data collected from American users may be used by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), posing national security risks.

II. News in China

- By emailing the UN human rights chief to share their personal experiences, members of various ethnic groups and occupations in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region have urged her to provide a fair and objective assessment of the human rights situation in the area. Residents of Xinjiang wrote numerous letters to Michelle Bachelet, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, detailing their experiences with terrorist attacks, the lessons they learned from previous education and training facilities, as well as the region's efforts to protect religious freedom and ethnic culture.
- The Communist Party of China's (CPC) 20th National Congress, which is expected to take place in the second half of this year, will set key priorities for the next five years in particular as well as China's two-stage development plan for the middle of the twenty-first century. The comments were made by Chinese President Xi Jinping, who is also the general secretary of the CPC Central Committee and the chairman of the Central Military Commission, during a workshop for provincial and ministerial officials held in Beijing on Tuesday and Wednesday in advance of the important Party congress. At its 19th National Congress in October 2017, the CPC created a two-stage development plan for the years 2020 to the middle of this century.
- The US Chief of Naval Operations Passage Plan Update (NAVPLAN) 2022's main objectives are opposing China, preserving combat credibility, and defending freedom of navigation. Chief of US Naval Operations Admiral Mike Gilday made the findings public on Tuesday. The paper states that this is a crucial decade and that China is the main danger to US Navy's maritime supremacy. America must preserve maritime superiority as international rivals emerge to pose a threat to US interests. "China is undermining international standards by asserting unlawful maritime claims, militarising geographical features in the South and East China Seas, and trying to bully its neighbours out of their offshore resources," the report states. It continues, "This aggressive behaviour endangers US interests and undermines the

rules-based system."

- India said on Thursday that it was aware of reports about the planned visit of a Chinese vessel to Sri Lanka's Hambantota port, which was constructed with funding from Beijing. India is trying to increase its influence in Sri Lanka despite the island's economic problems and is concerned that China is also gaining ground. Refinitiv Eikon's shipping data showed that the research and survey vessel Yuan Wang 5 was on its way to the port in southern Sri Lanka and would arrive there on August 11. Arindam Bagchi, a spokesman for India's foreign ministry, said during a weekly media briefing that the government "closely monitors any events having an influence on India's security and economic interests, and takes all necessary measures to preserve them."
- Comprehensive legislation to support the American semiconductor industry as it competes with China is expected to receive final approval from the US House of Representatives on Thursday. This legislation will provide about \$52 billion in grants as well as an investment tax credit for chip plants estimated to be worth \$24 billion. The bill's initial iteration was approved by the Senate more than a year ago, but it never advanced in the House of Representatives. This \$52 billion fund, which will be distributed over five years, will provide \$39 billion in financial aid to businesses so they can construct, upgrade, or modernise domestic facilities for semiconductor production, assembly, testing, advanced packaging, and R&D.
- Taiwan's military fired flares on Thursday to warn away a drone that "glanced by" a strategically located and heavily fortified island near the Chinese coast, possibly probing its defences, according to the Taiwanese Défense Ministry. Taiwan, which China claims as its own territory, has complained of increased Chinese military manoeuvres in the last two years or so in an attempt to force the democratically elected government in Taipei to accept Beijing's sovereignty. The drone "glanced by" the airspace of Dongyin island, part of the Matsu archipelago off the coast of China's Fujian province and controlled by Taiwan since the end of the Chinese civil war in 1949, according to the ministry.

III. India Watch

- The controversial tour of UN Human Rights chief had stirred up conversations about the Chinese government concealing information from international authorities. The coming forward of testimonials from crisis struck community, perhaps be another attempt of the government trying to regulate the image of the situation.
- The competition for better control of maritime resources between China and US Naval forces continues to impose security threats for the Indo-Pacific region as a whole. The report released by US clearly indicates strong signals from country regarding the disappointment to claims of the PRC over maritime resources.

- The take over of the Sri Lankan Hambantota port is a part of the Chinese aggressive policy of String of Pearls. Therefore, it poses a great threat to the Indian security and the concerned authorities must take immediate action to take the necessary security and prevention measures to secure Indian borders.