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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

- **Shanghai sees long lines of people:** On June 1, Shanghai's residents were seen lined up outside coffee shops, bars, and restaurants when the city reopened after a two-month lockdown. However, the longest lines were seen outside COVID-19 testing booths. The tests have been kept free until the end of June, and they regulate people's mobility. A negative nucleic acid test result from within the last 72 hours is required to board public transport or enter any venue such as parks and malls. The city's health code app displays one testing booth at every 200 meters. "It's been very hot recently, several people passed out when standing (in line)," one Weibo user wrote. Other said that they were turned away from hospitals Wednesday, as they still required a negative nucleic acid test result from the last 48 hours instead of the 72 hours.
- **Twitter accounts attack Chinese female journalists:** Chinese state associated "Spamouflage" network of Twitter accounts previously linked to the Chinese government is targeting female journalists of Chinese heritage who work for western news outlets in a campaign of online harassment, according to a new report. Apparently, the campaign is a part of the Chinese government's efforts to silence criticism of Beijing abroad through coercion, intimidation, and retaliation. Since 2019, the Chinese government has used Twitter, YouTube, Facebook, and other western social media platforms that are banned in China to endorse state propaganda and to engage in disinformation and harassment campaigns.

## II. News in China

- On June 02, Canada's military accused Chinese warplanes of harassing its patrol aircraft as they monitor North Korea sanction evasions, sometimes forcing Canadian planes to divert from their flight paths. Canadian Armed Forces said in a statement that between April 26 to May 26, aircraft of the People's Liberation Army Air Force (PLAAF) approached a Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) CP-140 Aurora long-range patrol aircraft. PLAAF aircraft did not adhere to international air safety norms," the statement said. "These interactions are unprofessional and/or put the safety of our RCAF personnel at risk."
- On June 02, a Chinese delegation of medical experts who went to North Korea to advise on COVID-19 containment strategies has returned to China. RFA reported last month that the 13 doctors and medical technicians were in Pyongyang to help train North Korean medical personnel. They passed on the experience and technology that China has gained about quarantine and response to the coronavirus to North Korea," the source said.

- On June 02, a Chinese envoy criticized the United States and Britain for groundless accusations they levelled against China at the UN Security Council. Dai Bing, China's deputy permanent representative to the United Nations, said that "The United States and Britain are afraid that their "cooked-up lies" about Xinjiang "are seen through" by the international community, so they come up with more lies to discredit China, hoping "to continue misleading the international community,".
- On June 02, China and the Cook Islands pledged efforts to deepen bilateral practical cooperation and promote closer relations. Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of the Cook Islands Mark Brown and Chinese State Councillor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi made the pledge during a meeting via video. The comprehensive relationship and close cooperation between the Cook Islands and China stand as a strong pillar of China's vision of treating small countries sincerely and practicing mutually beneficial win-win cooperation, Brown said.
- On June 03, visiting Chinese State Councillor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi said that restarting bilateral ties between China and Australia requires concrete actions. Wang made the remarks when meeting the press during his visit to Papua New Guinea. Wang emphasised that the crux of the problem lies in the fact that some political forces in Australia insist on treating China as an adversary rather than a partner, and portraying China's development as a threat rather than an opportunity.

## India Watch

- Wang Yi, the Foreign Minister of China, is currently on an eight-day visit to ten Pacific Island Countries (PICs), and has co-hosted with Fiji the Second China-Pacific Island Countries Foreign Ministers Meeting on May 30, 2022. Though China and 10 Pacific Island nations on Monday failed to reach "consensus" on a region-wide deal covering free trade, police cooperation and disaster resilience proposed by the Beijing. However, instead of looking at it as China's failure, it should be looked upon as an achievement as it succeeded in bringing small island nations together which any other nation failed to do. China has been successful in exploiting the absence of any major cooperation between small islands. This will eventually help China in having strategic stronghold in the region.