

**31.05.22**

*DAILY*  
**CONVERSATIONS  
IN CHINESE  
MEDIA**



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**ORGANISATION FOR RESEARCH ON  
CHINA AND ASIA**

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***PREPARED BY***

Kishmish (Research Intern)  
writetous.orca@gmail.com

## I. Social Media Chatter in China

- **Despite establishing full recovery, a Chinese teacher claimed she was sacked after contracting the virus in Ukraine:** The video, which had over 8 million views by Tuesday morning on Weibo, sparked a heated debate over prejudice towards recovered Covid-19 sufferers, which has been a recurring issue in China since the pandemic began.
- **After requiring its students to take an obligatory swimming exam 'online' before graduating, Shanghai University in China has become the topic of witty internet satire:** The decision has been fodder for the meme world since it went viral. Laughter has erupted on the internet as a result of the university's bizarre choice.

## II. News in China

- 30 Chinese aeroplanes have been rushed to Taiwan's air defence zone. The intrusion on Monday was the most serious since January. It happened only days after US Vice President Joe Biden cautioned China against invading Taiwan, and on the same day that a senior US diplomat paid a visit to the island to discuss security with local authorities. In recent months, China has increased the frequency of its aviation flights, saying that they are training drills. Such actions have enraged Taiwan and heightened regional tensions.
- Thousands of individuals have been confined after a man in Beijing tested positive after violating the quarantine. After visiting a "high-risk" shopping centre, a man in his 40s violated an order to isolate. COVID-19 was found in both the guy and his wife later on.
- The United States has long been India's greatest market for services exports, but recent trade figures reveal that abroad sales of product items to India have surpassed China, making it Asia's third-largest economy's largest bilateral trading nation. Beijing's tough zero-Covid policy, which is already affecting its global commerce, might further reshape trade lines, as advanced and emerging economies suffer significant losses owing to raw material shortages and supply chain problems.
- With more than 20 million people suffering from a fuel and energy crisis and no foreign reserves to fall back on, Colombo is now attempting to strike a balance with Beijing on the one hand and New Delhi on the other. "On security, we have an India first strategy," said former Sri Lankan foreign secretary Jayanath Colombage. But we also want to establish economic ties with China." Between Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi's visit in January and External Affairs Minister (EAM) S. Jaishankar's visit in March, Sri Lanka's endeavour to define its connections with India and China had been clear for months.

- Fiji and the other ten Pacific island nations rejected China's proposal for a broad regional security treaty on Monday, citing concerns that the idea was intended to draw them into Beijing's circle. In a high-profile diplomatic loss for Beijing, talks between Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi and leaders of the tiny island nations in Fiji failed to achieve an accord. China has offered to dramatically increase its activity in the South Pacific, thereby threatening the US and its allies' dominance in the strategically important region.

## **India Watch**

- China, which has done everything it can to envelop Nepal in its sphere of influence, is now cautious of the Himalayan country's resolve to expand ties with India and the US. Beijing's anxiety at the Sher Bahadur Deuba government's firm will to get India's ties back on track, as well as its growing closeness with Washington, was clear during a recent meeting between top officials from both countries. China was able to subjugate Nepal under the leadership of communist Prime Minister Khadga Prasad Sharma Oli, and ties with India worsened substantially. Last week, during the 14th meeting of the Nepal-China Bilateral Consultative Mechanism, the Chinese side allegedly urged Kathmandu to stick to its One China policy and avoid any influence from "internal or foreign causes."