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DAILY
**CONVERSATIONS
IN CHINESE
MEDIA**



**ORGANISATION FOR RESEARCH ON
CHINA AND ASIA**

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I. Social Media Chatter in China

- **LinkedIn post highlights propaganda team:** A Chinese citizen, currently living in the UK uploaded a post on LinkedIn. The post illustrates that the Southern Theatre Command is forming an internet media and political propaganda team in response to the Taiwan issue and that it will consist of 45 members (Image 1). The date on the document is not very clear but the document appears to be dated May 12th 2022.
- **Tanks seen in Beijing, China:** On June 1st, a Twitter account uploaded a video that shows tanks being transported in Beijing's Fengtai District.
- **Shanghai citizens celebrate as COVID restrictions eased:** With Covid-19 restrictions eased in Shanghai, people were seen celebrating across all Chinese social media platforms. Some neighbourhood party committees organised barrier-breaking ceremonies wherein the barriers set up during lockdown were broken by hammers amid celebrations.

II. News in China

- A Hong Kong-listed real estate company, Fantasia stated on May 30th that it had been petitioned for liquidation due to its inability to repay its \$149 million debt. Furthermore, it may face liquidation after a wind-up petition in the Cayman Islands over the outstanding loan of US\$149 million. The company was founded by Zeng Jie, niece of Zeng Qinghong, the former vice-president of China, who has close links to Jiang Zemin. It can be observed that companies linked to CPC dignitaries such as Fantasia used to enjoy political privileges but the political climate has changed in China, since.
- Cheng Jiandong, the former deputy director of the Jiangsu Provincial Public Security Department, was fired on the suspicion of serious violations of discipline and law. During his tenure, he served as the deputy director and is an old subordinate of Wang Like, the former director of the Jiangsu Provincial Public Security Department. Wang Like was also fired, after which two other department-level cadres were also asked to step down— Zuo Suofen, the former deputy secretary of the Party Committee of the Jiangsu Provincial Public Security Department, and Chen Yizhong, the former deputy secretary and deputy director of the Jiangsu Provincial Public Security Department.
- CCTV released its annual Social Responsibility Report on May 28. It notes that The China Media Group—a state-holding media enterprises comprising of CCTV, China National Radio, and China Radio International) currently has 29 internal institutions, 39 dispatched institutions and 2 affiliated institutions. There are 51 TV channels under its jurisdiction, 31 public channels and 20 paid channels. 23 domestic broadcasting frequencies are established; 44 languages are used for communicating externally; and has 30 news media clients such as CGTN and

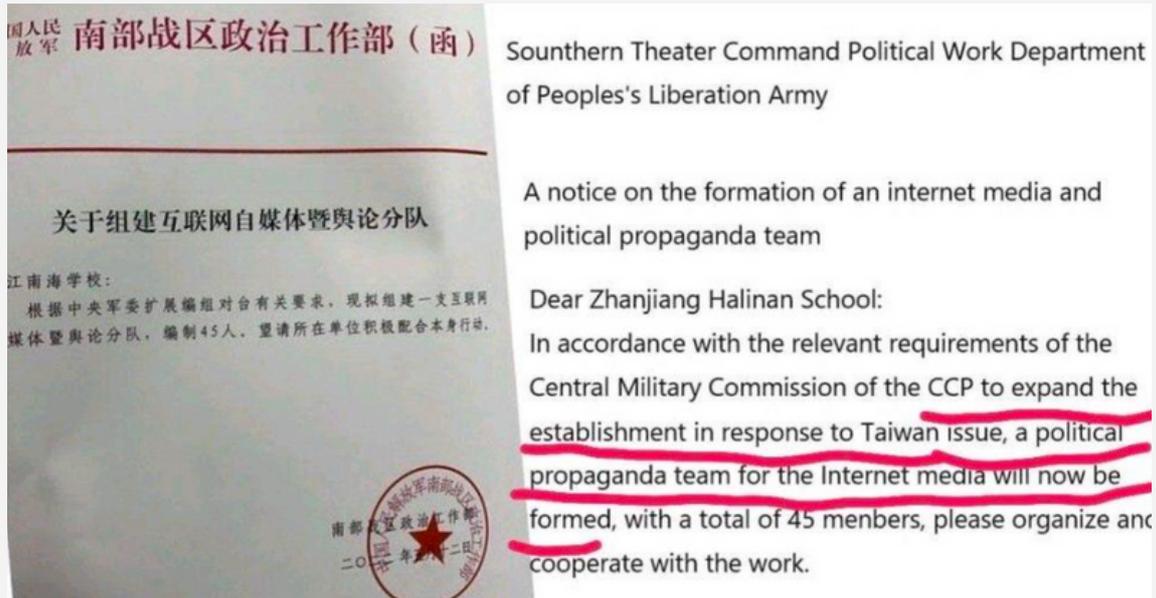
YunTing, among other websites.

- Chinese President Xi Jinping appointed nine new ambassadors in accordance with a decision by the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress. Accordingly, Sun Haiyan was appointed China's ambassador to Singapore, replacing Hong Xiaoyong. Li Minggang was replaced by Zhang Jianwei as the ambassador to Kuwait. Zhang Yiming became the ambassador to the United Arab Emirates, and Wang Xuekun was appointed ambassador to Rwanda. Li Jian was replaced by Rao Hongwei. Lu Shan as ambassador to Burkina Faso, and Zhou Qian became the appointed ambassador to Georgia. Similarly, Han Chunlin was appointed ambassador to Romania, Tongqing was appointed ambassador to Finland, and then Daojiang was appointed ambassador to Jamaica.
- People's Forum, a part of People's Daily uploaded an article titled "Rejecting Yes-Man Doctrine, Forever keeping the spirit of struggle" on May 26th. The article addressed Xi Jinping and Mao as "leader" (领袖 lingxiu). It says "When leaders have requirements, the whole party must take action... We must stand firm on issues of principle, be clear about right and wrong, and dare to show our swords and fight in the face of wrong words and deeds". It has been noted earlier that Xi Jinping has been called "leader" on various occasions and this title may be officially given to him in the 20th Party Congress.
- Official data revealed China's foreign trade bounced back in May as total imports and exports went up 9.6 per cent year on year to 3.45 trillion yuan. China's trade with its top three trading partners -- the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, the European Union and the United States -- expanded by 8.1 per cent, 7 per cent and 10.1 percent from a year ago, respectively. In the first five months of 2022, China's trade with Belt and Road countries jumped by 16.8 per cent year on year to 5.11 trillion yuan.

III. India Watch

- Under the title "Effectively carry out public opinion struggle", CCTV's annual Social Responsibility Report claims ownership over how CGTN targeted "countermeasures" against "American democracy" and the Xinjiang Uyghur issue and effectively reversed the trend of international public opinion. The CCTV, a major channel of CPC's propaganda department has always guided all its work with Xi Jinping's thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era. The CCTV notes that it has always faithfully fulfilled the party's ideological mission and reaffirms that the China Media Group will play the role of the main force of the party's propaganda and reporting.

Image 1 (See in Social Media Chatter in China, point 1)



Southern Theater Command Political Work Department of People's Liberation Army