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DAILY
**CONVERSATIONS
IN CHINESE
MEDIA**



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I. Social Media Chatter in China

- **#ISIS 宣布对喀布尔爆炸负责 # trends on Weibo:** #ISIS declares responsibility for the Kabul bombing# trended on Weibo in the aftermath of the suicide attacks at Kabul Airport by ISIS-Khorasan. Netizens showed support for the people of Afghanistan while also reacting sharply to US President Joe Biden's comments on the attack especially as most are of the opinion that the 'mess' in Afghanistan is because of Washington's foreign policies.
- **Chinese twitter account uploads notice from Shanghai University:** The notice is ordering its colleges to report whether they have any students who identify as members of the LGBT community. The twitter account says it is confirmed by a student and a staff member of the university.
- **Dong Hong trends on Weibo:** Former Deputy Head of Central Inspection Team was tried in court and has been accused of bribery and amassing 460 million yuan through corrupt means. This news was trending at #2 on Weibo.

II. News in China

- China Economic Weekly (part of China's State-media) published an article about Hangzhou party Chief Zhou Jiangyong, who is under investigation. It says that Zhou Jiangyong's wife is the Deputy Secretary of the Party Committee and Chairman of the Board of Supervisors of the local rural commercial bank in Ningbo for which she used to earn tens of millions of yuan each year but rarely came to work. Zhou Wenyong, business partner of Zhou Jiangyong's elder brother(Zhou Jianyong), has equity shares in more than 13 enterprises, a majority of which are in Ningbo. Some of them received extensive policy and financial support from the local government. The report also said that it is unimaginable for regular companies to work with giants like Hangzhou Metro Group and Ant Technology. At the time of these dealings, Zhou Jiangyong had already been Party chief of Hangzhou for over a year.
- It has been reported that due to the Double Reduction Policy (not allowing off-campus tutoring), many off-campus institutions have now officially closed down. Some of them are facing difficulties in refunding the amounts prepaid by parents. Tier 1 cities such as Shanghai, Guangzhou, Chongqing and Beijing were full of large-scale companies involved in off-campus tutoring who have now ceased to exist in a very short period of time.

III. India Watch

- With respect to the Dong Hong case, non-mainstream HK media reported that he has worked for Wang Qishan, Vice-President of China, for many years and was regarded as Wang's "big housekeeper". When Wang Qishan became the deputy governor of Guangdong Province in 1998, Dong Hong served as the deputy secretary-general of the Guangdong Provincial Government; when Wang Qishan returned to Beijing and became the director of the State Council's Economic System Reform Office, Dong Hong also served in the same office. In 2002, Wang Qishan went south to Hainan as Secretary of the Provincial Party Committee, Dong Hong also served as Deputy Secretary-General of the Hainan Provincial Party Committee. In 2003, Wang Qishan took over as the mayor of Beijing during the SARS epidemic, Dong Hong also served as the deputy secretary-general of the Beijing Municipal Government. After Wang Qishan became a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee at the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, and became the secretary of the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection, Dong Hong also served as a senior disciplinary inspector. This shows that there was a close connection between Wang Qishan and Dong Hong and his arrest highlights a potential break between Xi and Wang as well as between Wang and Dong himself.
- Developments taking place within the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) at present are providing important insight into the future key leadership of the party and about changing equations within the domestic political circles.