

3.8.21

*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

- **Weibo reports Zhang-Zhang on hunger strike:** Chinese twitter accounts have reported that Zhang Zhan, the first Chinese citizen journalist sentenced to jail for reporting the about the covid in February 2020, has been on hunger strike after refusing to plead guilty. According to her lawyer, she has been on a hunger strike since she was arrested. The police used a nasal feeding tube to force-feed her, so her limbs were also tied up for a long time. On 31.7.21 she was hospitalized and is in a very critical state.
- **J20s widely celebrated on Weibo:** On the occasion of PLA day, a picture was uploaded by the PLA with J20s lined up and widely shared on Weibo. Some jets have their numbering visible which might help in assessment of the total number of J-20's that China has (see Image 1).
- **Vaccination news doing rounds on Chinese twitter:** Documents uploaded by a Chinese twitter account suggests that Xicheng District in Beijing is planning to inoculate 12-17 age group with vaccines. The notice also says that the vaccine is safe for the age group 3-17.

## II. News in China

- Wang Dongfeng, the Provincial Party Secretary, was on an inspection tour of Qinhuangdao city on 30.7.21. Beidaihe district (where the Beidaihe meetings are held) is located in Qinhuangdao City in Hebei province. Although the official media says that the inspection was to ensure the development of the city into a first-class tourist city, but he also inspected the safety and security aspects of the city.
- Huai Jinpeng has replaced Chen Baosheng as the Secretary of the Party Leadership Group of the Ministry of Education while Zhang Yuzhuo resigned as Chairman at Sinopec to replace Huai Jinpeng as Party Secretary of China Association for Science and Technology (CAST).
- People's Daily has carried a lengthy piece on the new guidelines on Strengthening the Legal Supervision of Procuratorial Organs in the New Era.
- People's Daily has reported on the State Council's new investigation team to assess the responses to the devastating flood in the central Chinese city of Zhengzhou. Xinhua English tells us that the team will be headed by the Ministry of Emergency Management and include officials and experts from relevant departments.

- China Central Television's (CCTV) post 'raising the bar' to become a star in China has received over 680 views on Weibo in light of growing public outrage over popstar Kris Wu's rape accusations.
- The Cyberspace Administration of China is coming after online fan culture in a move to clean up the country's cyberspace of opinionated netizens.

### III. India Watch

- China in July 2021 had held a World Political Parties Summit; the diplomacy Beijing showed then has borne success for the Chinese Communist Party now. Over 300 political parties, organisations and think-tanks from over 100 countries have submitted a joint statement to the World Health Organisation (WHO) opposing politicization of the COVID-19 origins narrative.
- India's first indigenous aircraft carrier Vikrant (IAC-1) has set out on maiden sea trials; China would be carefully monitoring its performance and capabilities especially as it focuses on building its own domestic aircraft carriers at rapid speed.



**Image 1: China's J-20's lined up with their pilots to celebrate PLA Day**