

31.8.21

*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

- **India's first meeting with Taliban trends on Weibo:** India held its first formal meeting with Taliban in Qatar which has trended on Weibo. General netizen outlook has been of the opinion that India is recalibrating its approach to Kabul following its own limited successful outreach in Afghanistan.
- **Removal of celebrity lists continues:** In continued 'wokeness' regarding its celebrity culture, China's Douyin after Weibo has become the next platform to take measures to further regulate chaotic fan culture. The social media platform is removing celebrity and idol ranking lists as well as celebrity topic lists. NetEase Music has also taken steps to clampdown on "chaotic" fan culture. The streaming platform is removing all celebrity ranking lists (music charts will remain) and limiting purchases of digital albums and singles.

## II. News in China

- According to a report by Russia's RIA Novosti, Taliban sources said that Taliban consultations on the formation of a new Afghan government have been completed, and Taliban members will hold key positions in the new government.
- On the question of whether China will provide humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan, Wang Wenbin has stated that while China has long been a major aid provider to Kabul vis-a-vis humanitarian missions and will continue to do so, it is the US that has created 'chaos in Afghanistan'. As per him, Washington must take ownership of its mistakes and "work with the international community to provide much-needed economic".
- Wang Wenbin has also cautioned Japan to be careful with words and actions vis-a-vis military movements. He has said that due to historical reasons, Japan's military security trends have always attracted the attention of Asian neighbors and the international community as Japan has increased its defense budget for nine consecutive years. China hence advises Japan to adhere to the path of peaceful development.
- China has placed strict regulations on young gamers in an effort to curb gaming addiction. Children under 18 will now only be allotted 1 hour of gameplay on weekends (Fri-Sun) and on public holidays. Gaming companies will be required to abide by these restrictions.
- Pakistani anti-terrorist forces carried out a raid on the hiding point in the Moss area of Balochistan; they claim to have killed 11 ISIS targets.

- A huge fire broke out in a high-rise apartment building in Dalian, northeast China's Liaoning Province. Surprisingly, no deaths were reported even as the building is one of the most densely populated residential complexes of the city and the extent of the fire was massive.

### **III. India Watch**

- China's subtle but stark warning to Japan --India's strategic and natural partner --highlights the continued anti-Japan narrative that has been building up in the country. As Japan seeks closer partnerships with the Quad, China-Japan ties are poised to take adverse turns. India must continue building its strong bilateral partnership with Tokyo especially as domestic turmoil in Japan continues.
- As Pakistan and China's anti-terrorism cooperation grows in Balochistan, while official parlance stays focused on ISIS militants, the targets could well be those associated with the Balochi movement. The nationalities of the killed targets has not been revealed. The raid comes in reaction to China pressing Pakistan to hold killers of Chinese nationals who died in the Kohistan suicide attack accountable.