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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

- **Blackisting of social media influencers in China:** China's Association of Performing Arts has issued a blacklist, but Li Xuezheng, a prominent social media influencer has challenged their legal authority to do so.
- **Cigarette butt fell from the sky:** In a video released by the official TikTok account of the Luzhou Public Security Bureau of Sichuan Province, an unextinguished cigarette butt fell from the sky at a place in Luzhou, Sichuan Province, burning through the roof of a child stroller. During the incident, the baby was inside the stroller. Reports have shown that it recognized the DNA of a man from the cigarette. The short video caused heated discussion among netizens on the internet and rushed to the hotlist.
- **Corruption in Construction Bureau:** A post went viral over Weibo that a section chief of the Fire Acceptance Section of the Construction Bureau in Wuhan cheated and threatened an informant. In response to this post, officials have released a statement that the allegations are under review and would be investigated. The report further suggested that it is a section clerk, not a section chief.
- **Taiwanese singer showed evidence of being a Chinese Citizen:** Taiwanese singer Qian Baihui is popular in both China and Taiwan. Her recent post made a sensation as the short video contained evidence that she has been a Chinese citizen for nearly 20 years. She also captioned in the video that 'no matter where I am, my motherland is my strong support, and I am very proud of it.'

II. News in China

- China has sent a summons to Japan envoy over Taiwan remarks by former Japanese prime minister Shinzo Abe. He commented 'neither Tokyo nor Washington could stand by if China attacked Taiwan.'
- Honduras president-elect Xiomara Castro said that she will foster ties with Beijing. Many analysts have observed it as a move to counter the US.
- Three new cases of COVID-19 were confirmed in local cases in Harbin following which travel trajectory was published. Details of two new confirmed cases were published in Shanghai. A total of 1157 samples were collected, of which seven tested positive, 671 were negative, and the rest were under testing.
- A lady in Zhejiang has sued the People's Bank of China in the People's Court of Xihu District, Hangzhou City, Zhejiang Province on charges of infringement of personal rights after a non-payment led the bank publish a poster to humiliate her.
- Death of an independent photographer by apparent suicide has offered a peek into several ongoing social issues in China, ranging from bullying to mental health and toxic masculinity.

III. India Watch

- China's internal debt market is not doing well due to default in payments and as a consequence banks are publishing posters publically to humiliate citizens repeatedly so that through social pressure could relead to repayment of the due amount. Such a strategy is poised to further harm the mental health condition of citizens if they are already suffering from fiscal limitations.
- COVID-19 cases in different parts of China have increase even as the country remains consistent in denying the spread. As Omnicron fears rise, India should review its travel restrictions, quarantine mandates and testing policy beforehand to stay prepared for an outbreak.