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DAILY
**CONVERSATIONS
IN CHINESE
MEDIA**



**ORGANISATION FOR RESEARCH ON
CHINA AND ASIA**

PREPARED BY

Team ORCA

writetous.orca@gmail.com

I. Social Media Chatter in China

- **Chinese e-commerce giant Alibaba fired an employee who accused her boss of rape:** In August, Alibaba was rocked by sexual molestation charges after a women employee posted on the internet that she was molested by her colleague and client during a business trip. Recently, Alibaba has fired her for spreading false information about the assault and about the company not handling the case properly. This comes amidst growing calls in China against its policies of dealing with harassment in the professional domain, highlighted internationally by Peng Shui.
- **Cold Wave in the Tibet region:** A Twitter account posted that the temperature in central Tibet is frigid after a rare snowfall. Temps have almost touched the -40 mark after several years of mild winters. Cold is expected to continue into the week while the minimum temperature in Ladakh also has dropped to -20.2 Such change in temperature is poised to have an impact on the stalemate in border negotiations vis-a-vis Eastern Ladakh.
- **Protest against Chinese trawlers in Gwadar:** A Twitter account posted that people of Gwadar are protesting on the streets for the past week against Chinese trawlers illegally fishing in their waters. As per social media chatter, Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan has "looked the other way" to please the CCP. (see Image 1)

II. News in China

- China completed 20 years in WTO; it became a member of the on 11 December 2001.
- The US, China and 84 other WTO members have agreed to align their economies in areas such as online consumer protection and paperless trading. India is the biggest economy to oppose the initiative amid a policy to become self-reliant.
- Times of India published an article on how the CPC propaganda of overhyping its tech industry can backfire. The article also talks about the talent pull in and the opportunity cost of developing technology- a comparative analysis between USA and China.
- The Financial Secretary of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government Chen Maobo has recently written an article praising the "one country two systems" and has also pointed out the "administrative-led" governance system by CPC has provided a stable environment and efficient government. These views of the Financial Secretary come in the backdrop of Hong Kong's continued crackdown against dissent vis-a-vis the CPC.

III. India Watch

- As cold waves strike the Tibet - Ladakh region, conducting routine activities becomes difficult as logistics are badly affected. A significant area becomes inaccessible due to heavy snowfall. In our Newsletter [dated 11.11.21](#), we covered that PLA has maintained sufficient stocks of food, infrastructural buildups and other necessities that are crucial for operational continuity.
- India's decision to stay out of the WTO digital trade deal could lead to implications for its wider strategic goals, especially as it already remains outside the purview of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP).
- Pakistan has sought to keep the Chinese authorities and individuals pleased to an extent as opposed to protecting the rights and interests of its own citizens. Thereby the already fragile support for Imran Khan has turned to further outrage, surging especially in Gwadar resulting in extensive protests. A significant number of people living in Gwadar rely on fishing for their daily employment and food, but Chinese trawlers are extensively fishing in the region infringing the interest of local residents. It should also be noted that between Chinese trawlers and local nationals there lies a massive technological gap which only furthers anti-China resentment in the region.

Image 1: Protests near Gwadar Port

