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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

- **Concerns regarding prostitution in China:** In Guangxi, police raided a famous five-star hotel unannounced. On the top floor of the hotel, every room had suspicious 'premium packages' which offered elite businessmen and even politicians access to 'models'. Usually in such hotels in China, visiting cards are distributed at the night for 'premium' service. The hotel was not doing well for a long and now after the raid will have to wind up its business. Netizens discussed that such hotels reflect poorly on Chinese culture and expressed concern towards prostitution in Chinese society and overall female security.
- **Spoof parody video targeting US and democracy released by Embassy of China in France:** The Chinese Embassy in France released a music video on social media titled 'Ameri-crazy' in which it refers to the US as a 'human rights cop'. The lyrics contained 'Use democracy as a cloak, Ameri-crazy rules the world'. With the tune of the popular song "The Wellerman", the video depicts a Chinese woman wearing a top with several angry animals playing instruments. The video is a part of an ongoing anti-democracy, anti-US campaign by China.

II. News in China

- Through the latest threat assessment, the Defence Minister of Taiwan has conveyed that Taiwan is "not easy to occupy". He has further added that Taiwanese Defence forces have complete control over its airports and port. This statement has come in light of debate over whether there has been successful and permanent air space violation by the PLA Airforce.
- In the wake of rising tensions between Russia and Ukraine, President Putin and President Xi are set to meet on Wednesday. Both the countries are currently facing the western front - Russia is being condemned for its military action against Ukraine and China is facing sanctions along with diplomatic boycott of Winter Olympics. For China, as Russia-India ties grow, it becomes all the more important to ensure Russian support.
- China is set to expand its military bases in continuation of its offshore military base in Djibouti. Some of the options which China is considering are - UAE, Equatorial Guinea and Cambodia. The Chinese are already developing a commercial port in Equatorial Guinea and it can likely be used for military purposes, and the same efforts are being made in UAE after reports suggested that the Chinese were trying to build some secret military establishment in one of the UAE ports. Meanwhile, China is already in talks with Cambodia for a naval base.

- In response to the recent sanctions imposed by the US Treasury Department on grounds of Human Rights violation, the Chinese Foreign Minister Spokesperson warned the US that it would “strike back” and has called this sanction “interference in internal matters”.

III. India Watch

- There is a drastic increase in ‘anti- democracy’ content in Chinese newspapers after the Global Democracy Summit organized by the USA. Chinese newspapers carry multiple stories which point out flaws in liberal democracies; such content is backed by selective facts. A report titled ‘ten questions for American democracy’ was also released by the Chongyang Institute for Financial Studies of the Renmin University of China. The report argues that the US has used democracy as a tool to maintain hegemony, involve itself in human rights violations, and undermine the international order. It claims that the only people that have a say in the US are ‘Money-crazy, Gun-crazy, White-crazy, Media crazy, Militia-crazy, and Drug-crazy’. The Propaganda Department meanwhile is creating such narratives backed by selective facts to raise absurd questions about liberal democracies. Democracies should be mindful of such literature as the battle regarding mode of governance intensifies.