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## SOCIAL MEDIA CHATTER IN CHINA

- Job ad in China seeks women with "Good Figure And Facial Features", faces backlash: A subsidiary of China's state rail operator had put out the advertisement in south eastern China's Jiangxi last month requiring the female candidate to have a "good figure" and "good facial features". The role description said the successful applicant was expected to wait tables and that only good-looking women could apply. The sexist and discriminatory ad draws drew fierce and widespread online criticism after screenshots of the ad went viral on social media. Many said that women are still subjected to sexual objectification in mainland China.
- Netizens claim canned yellow peaches can cure COVID-19:
   As the country battles through relaxed COVID-19 measures,
   canned peaches have sold out in many stores throughout
   China. Canned yellow peaches are considered a good source of nutrition due to their high Vitamin C content which many believe helps to fight off cold like symptoms. The topic about "canned peaches sold out across the country" got more than 17.92 million views on Weibo.

## **NEWS IN CHINA**

On Dec 14th, President Xi Jinping delivered a written <u>speech</u>
 at the opening ceremony of the 15th China-Latin America
 Business Summit. Xi Jinping noted that China will stick
 cohere to its national policy of opening up to the outside
 world to promote the construction of an open world economy
 and firmly pursue its objective of economic globaliszation to
 provide new opportunities for the world, including Peoples of



- all countries, including Latin America and Caribbean countries. China-Latin America Entrepreneurs' Summit was established 15 years ago and has played an important role in promoting China-Latin America trade cooperations and deepening their ties.
- Chinese President Xi Jinping addressed the opening ceremony of the second part of Conference of Parties (COP15) to the UN Convention on Biological diversity via video link on Thursday which is being hosted in Montreal, Canada. Huang Runqiu, China's Minister of Ecology and Environment also the president of COP15 said in a press conference, "The COP15 has caught worldwide attention as it is expected to agree on a global biodiversity framework for the coming decade. China as a host country hopes that all the goals and commitments achieved at this conference will be acceptable to all parties and stand the test of time."
- · Hong Kong's security chief Chris Tang Ping-Keung criticised Google for refusing to change its search results to display Chinese national anthem rather than a protest song saying that, "Google's refusal claim was unbelievable and represented a clear double standard." Tang further said. "Google own an explanation to people in Hong Kong and the HKSAR will do everything we can to correct the situation." The controversy broke out during the Rugby Sevens Tournament in South Korea when the unofficial anthem of the prodemocracy movement started playing out. The Asia Rugby association blamed a "simple human error" of playing a song downloaded at the top of search results.

- China launched a new remote sensing satellite into space from the Xichang Satellite launch Centre in the southwestern province of Sichuan, China. A Long March-2D carrier rocket lifted the Yaogan-36 satellite at 2:25 am (Beijing Time) on Thursday. The Yaogan satellites are designed for scientific experiments, land research, and agricultural yield assessment, as well as for disaster prevention and mitigation. The satellite entered the planned orbit soon after the launch. The flight marked 455th flight mission of the Launch March carrier rocket series.
- According to a statement released by the Beijing Institute of Space and Technology Information on Wednesday, China's <u>Bei</u> <u>Dou</u> Navigation Satellite System (BDS) overtookakes Global Positioning System (GPS) to become the top guidance service provider for domestic Gaode Map.
- According to the provincial department of commerce, an estimate of 34.7-billion-yuan (approximately 5.37 billion USD) worth of deals were reached at the just concluded Global Digital Trade Expo held in east China's Zhejiang province. The expo themed "Connecting Digital Trade to the World" was held from Sunday to Wednesday in Hangzhou, capital of Zhejiang. The event showcased 315 new digital products and gathered more than 800 leading companies from home and abroad. It was attended by government officials, scholars and guest exhibitors of more than 50 countries and regions to discuss global digital trade, mutual cooperation and put the opening up of the digital economy on the fast track.

 China's agricultural sector has achieved a bumper harvest making positive contributions to stabilising global food prices. Amid mounting concerns about food security, China's grain production has emerged this year from devastating droughts, floods and pandemic obstacles for another bumper harvest, official data showed. Grain production this year reached a record 1.37 trillion jin (686.53 billion kg), up 0.5 percent or 3.68 billion kg from 2021, the National Bureau of Statistics said Monday. This is also the eighth consecutive year that China has maintained grain production of more than 1.3 trillion jin (686.53 billion kg) (China is the world's largest grain producer and major exporter). Against the backdrop of an imminent global food crisis, Beijing is stepping up its efforts to ensure food security. A bumper harvest — especially for wheat and rice — is crucial for China to control inflation, which can also help curb the rise in global food prices.

provides China a platform to showcase its commitment and actions on biodiversity protection. On the other hand, with India assuming the G20 presidency it is a crucial opportunity for India as well to showcase its commitment to numerous international pledges it has taken on climate change. As both the countries are regional powers, they hold credibility in their actions which will help the other nations in the region to follow suit and work in cooperation to build a better future. However, the border issue has long overshadowed India-China ties. As long as border dispute exist between the two countries, the chance of on-site friction is difficult to eliminate completely. It is important that the two sides focus on the bigger picture of solving the climate crisis and focus on strengthening cooperation rather than guarding against each other.

## INDIA WATCH

• Representatives of 196 countries, including India have gathered in Montreal to hammer out an agreement that will aim to build a more sustainable relationship between humans and nature. India being a member of High Ambition Coalition (HAC), a group of 113 members that aims to protect 30 per cent of the land and sea areas by 2030 has already achieved about 27 per cent of the area under conservation, according to J Justin Mohan, the Secretary of the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA). It is the first time China has overseen major intergovernmental negotiations on the environment and this