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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

- **Beijing paralympics opening ceremony:** The Paralympics were opened with a rendition of the national anthem sung together. Hearing differently abled people sing the national anthem in sign language, netizens were moved and one of them reacted "when I saw the sign language version of the national anthem with the national flag being raised, I was moved." Further, he said, "even in the silence you can still sing your love for the motherland". Li Duan, a visually impaired athlete, lit the torch of the Beijing Winter Paralympics. One of the netizens reacted, "Although he is unable to see the light, he lights up the sky for us".
- **Chinese professor comments RMB recognized by Russia as international currency for buying:** Han Fuling, Professor at Central University of Finance and Economics of China and CCTV commentator, posted on Weibo RMB recognized by Russia as an international currency that can buy oil and gas. Russia officially announced that all international energy transactions in Russia will only accept gold, RMB and rubles. This is equivalent to Russia's domestic energy cutting off all currency transactions with the United States and Europe.

II. News in China

- The "Opening Ceremony Media Guide" stated that the theme of the opening ceremony of Paralympics will be self- improvement, self- breakthrough, and disability integration. "Bloom of Life" will be the name as well as the core content of the opening ceremony.
- According to an Ethiopian official, the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is gaining momentum in Africa through its infrastructural development such as the Addis Ababa-Djibouti Standard Gauge Railway. In a recent interview with Xinhua, Tilahun Sarka, the general manager of Ethiopia-Djibouti Standard Gauge Railway Share Company (EDR) said that the Addis Ababa-Djibouti railway is "a living example of China's Belt and Road Initiative in Africa, set to linking Djibouti in the east to Senegalese capital, Dakar in the west of Africa through railway."
- In the fifth session of the 13th National People's Congress, the spokesperson Zhang Yesui said that mutual respect, peaceful coexistence and win-win cooperation should be the right approach to serve the fundamental interests of China and the US and that seeing China as a rival will only undermine the mutual trust and cooperation.
- The international Paralympics committee called for peace as the Winter Paralympics Games in Beijing were officially inaugurated. The Russian and Belarusian athletes will not be allowed to compete after the international Paralympics committee banned them from participating. The 54-strong delegation from Ukraine managed to reach Beijing before the games began on 24th February,

despite the Russian invasion.

- By the end of 2022, China's space station is expected to bring 6 astronauts back to Earth from 2 space ships . The astronauts from Shenzhou-13 have been orbiting for 140 days and have successfully completed all the planned tasks.
- Russian President Vladimir Putin has said that Western sanctions did damage some cooperation projects, but they did not prevent Russia from achieving its goals. In the long run, Russia could even benefit from these sanctions. "We have said many times and are ready to stress again that if anyone is unwilling to cooperate with us within a unified framework of cooperation, doing so will hurt themselves and of course us." Putin went on to say, "We will have to make some adjustments in some programs to get additional competencies, we've done that on some of the other programs as well, including in aviation." Putin stressed that Russia will eventually solve the problems it is facing now. "In any case, we will solve these problems. More importantly, in the long run, we can even benefit from it, because we can acquire additional capabilities. We have the capability to solve these problems," Putin said.
- During the 2022 National People's Congress, Zhang Xinghai, a representative of the National People's Congress and chairman of the Xiaokang Group, said that in recent years, food delivery, e-commerce, and online live broadcasts have attracted a large number of young people for employment, and even the express delivery industry is "involved" in competition for graduate students. Many young people are reluctant to go to work in factories, resulting in the phenomenon of hollow of industrial workers. Zhang Xinghai suggested that the government, society, enterprises and other parties should work together to encourage and support young people to become industrial workers, so as to alleviate the difficulty of recruiting and employing workers in the manufacturing industry.

III. India Watch

- According to the chief designer of China's manned space program, China is expected to host two spaceships with six astronauts by the end of 2022. China is going to launch two manned spacecraft, two cargo spacecraft and two lab modules for the space station. Mr.Zhou , member of 13th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference said that the crew of Shenzhou-14 will be witnessing the arrival of two lab modules during thier stay in orbit. Before the end of this year, the Shenzhou-15 crew will join the shenzhou-14 crew in space. Large number of high-level space experiment devices covering fields such as the biological science,life sciences and many more will be carried by the space station.