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SOCIAL MEDIA CHATTER In China

 Xi Jinping promises global cooperation at the opening of the Shanghai International Trade Show: "The world today is confronted with accelerated changes unseen in a century, as well as a sluggish economic recovery," Xi said while addressing the opening ceremony of the fifth annual <u>China</u> <u>International Import Expo</u> in Shanghai. The Chinese economy is the world's second-largest economy and seeks to attract foreign investments and elevate its free trade zones, stated Xi Jinping. China is working its way to building a stronger domestic market, upgrading trading mechanisms, and increasing imports of quality products.

NEWS IN CHINA

- On November 6th, Taiwan's Ministry of National Defence tracked 46 <u>Chinese military aircraft</u> and 4 naval vessels around the country along with 21 warplanes that entered Taiwan's air defense identification zone (ADIZ), many of which crossed the median line in the southwest corner. The aircraft included: Eight Shenyang J-16 fighter jets, four Shenyang J-11 fighter jets, two Sukhoi Su-30 fighter jets, one JH-7 fighter bomber, two Shaanxi Y-8 anti-submarine warfare planes (ASW), one Shaanxi KJ-500 airborne early warning and control aircraft (KJ-500 AEW&C), one Guizhou BZK-007 reconnaissance drone, one CASC Rainbow CH-4 Unmanned Combat Aerial Vehicle (UCAV) RECCE, and one Guizhou WZ-7 Soaring Dragon reconnaissance drone. All these aircraft crossed the median line, with the exception of the two Y-8 ASWs, the KJ-500, and the WZ-7.
- China is laying the ground for a green investment boom to

fulfill its pledge to help Africa overcome climate change under its Belt and Road Initiative. Last month, China pledged to pursue 'cooperation' with 19 African nations on climate change and green energy development. The potential of this pledge depends on the willingness of local leaders to focus on sustainable outcomes. In a small town 9km (5.6 miles) west of Bangui, the capital of the Central African Republic, a Chinese-funded solar plant is powering factories, schools, and households.

- Lekki Deep Sea, a deep-water port in Nigeria has been completed by a Chinese builder. It is designed to handle 1.2 million 20-foot equivalent units a year, it will be one of the largest deep-water ports in West Africa and help Nigeria meet growing demand from large vessels. The construction and development of the port was undertaken by China Harbour Engineering LFTZ Enterprise, a special purpose vehicle that was awarded a 45year concession by the Nigerian Ports Authority on a build, own, operate, and transfer basis - a model of infrastructure financing that has gained traction in Africa recently as Chinese policy banks become more cautious in their lending for risky projects. The port is one of a growing number of projects funded by Chinese enterprises through a combination of debt and equity in public-private partnership deals as some African countries experience debt distress. Investors in PPPs recover their money from operating the projects or charging fees like road tolls.
- Filipino photographer brought fresh attention to the fortified <u>South China Sea</u>

artificial islands project, Beijing's military reach and power. These islands act as 'unsinkable aircraft carriers' for the PLA to hunt submarines. It has further fortified its artificial islands in the South China Sea. with more buildings, radars, and aircraft hangars to help project power across the Indo-Pacific, analysts said. A refueling KJ-500H aircraft was pictured on the taxiway of Fiery Cross Reef. The KJ-500 is China's third-generation airborne early warning and control aircraft capable of enhancing monitoring in the South China Sea. It is the type of aircraft that has been sent on longrange patrols of the East China Sea and operations in the Taiwan Strait in the past.

• At an <u>airshow PLA Air Force</u> to display three 'firsts'; members in the 20-series aircraft - the J-20 stealth fighter jet and the YU-20 aerial tanker - will be displayed in the sky and on the ground. The highly anticipated Airshow China will be held from November 8 to 13 in Zhuhai. South China's Guangdong Province, with the J-20 scheduled to display its first landing and flight to the public. The GJ-2 drone will also perform a flight demonstration for the first time, said Senior Colonel Shen Jinke, a spokesperson of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Air Force, on Sunday. Military expert Wang Mingzhi told the Global Times on Sunday that the first landing of the J-20 at Zhuhai Airport is the most intuitive way to show the confidence of the PLA Air Force.

INDIA WATCH

 The External Affairs Minister of India, Dr. S Jaishankar, took aim at China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) at the virtual meeting of the <u>Shanghai Cooperation Organisation</u> • (SCO) hosted by Chinese Premier Li Kegiang. He said that connectivity projects should respect the sovereignty and the territorial integrity of countries, in an apparent reference to China's BRI. The BRI is a massive multinational, multi-modal connectivity infrastructure project promoted by China. India does not support the BRI, and has declined to join the project. The arm of the BRI project that links mainland China to the Arabian Sea runs from Kashgar in China's Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region to Gwadar port in southwestern Baluchistan in Pakistan. The project enters Indian territory occupied by Pakistan in Gilgit Baltistan, and traverses the entire length of Pakistan from north to south before reaching the Arabian Sea. This arm of the BRI is called the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. or CPEC, and consists of multiple modern highway and railway projects. It involves the planned rebuilding and upgradation of Pakistan's National Highway 35 - the Karakoram Highway or China-Pakistan Friendship Highway – that goes from the Khunjerab Pass on the Xinjiang border to Hasan Abdal to the northwest of Islamabad via Gilgit and Mansehra, and the upgradation of the highway that links Gilgit with Skardu to the north of the Line of Control (LoC). India has repeatedly voiced its concern and opposition to the CPEC and flagged the violation of international law in its building by China and Pakistan.