DAILY CONVERSATIONS IN CHINESE MEDIA



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I. Social Media Chatter in China

- Volunteers in award plaza performed in traditional Chinese dress: In the award plaza of the Beijing Winter Olympics, etiquette volunteers were <u>dressed</u> in traditional Chinese costumes. Netizens in China discussed and praised the emotions, steps and commented on every move was strictly trained and perfected.
- Special discussion and judgment for the safety precautions of the Lantern Festival: Recently, the Office of the Provincial Safety Committee and the Provincial Emergency Management Department <u>conducted</u> a special discussion and judgment for the safety precautions of the Lantern Festival for the early 10 days of March. It also reminded all localities, the public, and the departments to pay attention to the rules while celebrating.

II. News in China

- Chinese state media reported that recently the organs of the CMC have studied and issued "Regulations on the Work of Military Training Materials for the Military". Media reports note that for the first time, a regulation has been adopted to uniformly standardize the teaching materials of military training, college education, and vocational education. Among other things, the formulation of the regulations focuses on "meeting the current needs of the construction of military training teaching materials, focusing on giving play to the normative and guiding role of training teaching materials, highlighting the characteristics of the times, and meeting the urgent needs of the military and promoting long-term development". The news report also highlights that it provides a scientific basis for the planning, compilation, research and development, publication and distribution, use and management of military training textbooks.
- The "Regulations" have 9 sections and 49 clauses, focusing on achieving the following objectives: Reshaping the military training textbook system, standardizing the military's training, college education and vocational education textbook work with one regulation for the first time, and coordinating the construction, management and use of military training textbooks at all levels and in all fields of the military; Highlight the characteristics of the times in the compilation of teaching materials, not only inherit the compilation experience of traditional paper teaching materials, but also advocate the R&D and use of new forms of teaching materials, and establish the guidance of encouraging innovation; Strictly control the quality of teaching materials, strengthen the evaluation of rights and responsibilities of personnel; strengthen the trial inspection, opinion feedback, revision and update of teaching materials, and improve the authority and practicability of teaching materials; Promote the digital

construction of teaching materials, regularly publish and update the catalog and list of military training teaching materials of the whole armed forces, establish and improve the digital teaching material database, unclog the information query and application channels of the troops and colleges for the required teaching materials, and maximize the learning (from other's experiences), open sharing and mutual exchange;

- Zhao Fei, former member of the Standing Committee of the Tianjin Municipal Party Committee and Secretary of Tianjin Political and Legal affairs commission, was transferred to the post of deputy director of the Tianjin Municipal People's Congress Standing Committee on 14.2.22. The news of Zhao Fei's job transfer was announced at the Third Plenary Session of the sixth session of the 17th Tianjin Municipal People's Congress. The transfer from a powerful organ to the deputy director of local people's congress is considered a demotion. Non-mainstream HK media believes that Zhao Fei is close to Li Hongzhong(current party secretary of Tianjin), the then secretary of the Hubei Provincial Party Committee when he was also posted in Hubei. Zhao Fei's transfer to the National People's Congress comes at a delicate time. If Li Hongzhong fails to become a member of the Politburo Standing Committee at the 20th party congress, then by extension Zhao Fei's political career could also come to a standstill.
- On the Politburo Standing Committee (PBSC) leaders being absent from public view recently, the PBSC members have not appeared in public but have been giving instructions: Li Keqiang sending out instructions for a national work conference on Spring agricultural production(report dated 14.2.22); Xi Jinping giving instructions to support Hong Kong's fight against the epidemic(reported by Wen Wei Po Newspaper of HK on 16.2.22).
- With the closing of the two sessions (the National People's Congress and the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference) in Tianjin, which was postponed due to COVID-19, all 31 provincial-level and local level two sessions in China have ended. It was reported that by the Tianjin meeting that in 2021 the region has an year-on-year increase of 6.6%, completing the 6.5% target set in the previous year. However, the government work report released on February 12 showed that Tianjin's economic growth target for 2022 was adjusted to above 5%.

III. India Watch

 HK media believes that the drafting of the report of the 20th Party Congress and the consultation over personnel arrangement have begun quietly because the upcoming party congress is the biggest priority for the party leadership right now. According to the custom followed in the previous party congresses, the head of the drafting committee of the report (to be presented at the Congress) is not the current General Secretary himself but the successor, so there is a high probability that this time also Xi himself is the head of the report drafting committee for the upcoming party congress. If all of this is being done right now, there will be a general outline of the personnel arrangements by the time of the Beidaihe Meeting in August this year.