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## SOCIAL MEDIA CHATTER IN CHINA

• 20th Central Committee of the CPC trends on Weibo: The entire 20th Central Committee of China and the Politburo Standing Committee are being discussed widely across Weibo. After the 20th Party Congress, China's new leadership for the following five years was made public. On October 22, the 20th Central Committee's new full and alternate members were all revealed. The following day, on October 23, the new seven-member Politburo Standing Committee was presented. Xi Jinping will continue serving as president for a third fiveyear term, as was generally predicted. On Chinese social media, the lists with the names of the new members became popular. Within just two days, the hashtag "20th Central Committee Members List" on Weibo alone attracted an astounding 580 million clicks. Other hashtags, such "The Resumes of the New Politburo Standing Committee Members," were also popular on the weekend of the 20th Party Congress' final session.

## **NEWS IN CHINA**

• Former President Hu Jintao's abrupt forced withdrawal from the end of the Communist Party Congress sparked intense conjecture among China observers in a nation where events are meticulously choreographed and politics is shrouded in secrecy. According to custom, Hu, 79, was already positioned on Saturday to Xi Jinping's left while he was securing a third term as president, which was officially verified on Sunday. Xi strengthened his hold on power during the Congress by appointing a Standing Committee made up only of his supporters and leaving out the three most senior members of



- Hu's formerly-dominant Communist Youth <u>League faction</u>. Many analysts claimed that the symbolism at least alluded to the Youth League's and China's heritage of collective leadership's extinction under Xi's progressively authoritarian government. Hu was shown in pictures and recordings of the event going for a red folder on the desk in front of him, being stopped by China's top lawmaker Li Zhanshu, and then being escorted off the platform of the Great Hall of the People in Beijing by two attendants shortly after. Hu had been feeling sick, according to China's official Xinhua news agency's two Englishlanguage tweets posted late on Saturday.
- Xi Jinping won a third term and filled the government with obedient "minions." In a concentration of personal authority not seen in Beijing since the personality cult around Mao Zedong, China's current Communist Party leader Xi Jinping took office on Sunday for a third five-year term. He stuffed the all-powerful Politburo Standing Committee with his closest political supporters. Xi was re-elected to the position of general secretary at the inaugural plenary session of the party's 20th Central Committee, defying decades of political tradition by being given a third term whereas his predecessors were only allowed two. As Xi's deputy and the most likely candidate for premier, former Shanghai party head Li Qiang has replaced outgoing economic reformer Li Kegiang, while Xi supporters Zhao Leji and Wang Huning continue to serve on the sevenmember Politburo Standing Committee. Hu Jintao, under whom Xi worked as vice president for five years prior to taking over the party's leadership at the 18th congress

- in 2012, was unmistakably recognised as Xi's successor. At the annual meeting of the National People's Congress in March 2023, Xi's third term as president is most likely to be approved.
- On October 23, representatives from all political parties called to send letters of congratulations to Xi Jinping for being chosen as the General Secretary of the Communist Party of China's 20th Central Committee. Please offer his heartfelt congratulations on Xi's reelection as General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, said Russian President Putin. The fact that the Communist Party of China's 20th National Congress was held successfully demonstrates both his high political standing and the organization's high level of cohesion under his leadership. Araujo, the head of the Brazilian Social Democratic Party, Les Jongard, the chairman of the Socialist Combat Movement of Mauritius, and others also offered congratulations. Such as Koroma, the general secretary of the Sierra Leone People's Party, Orbán, the prime minister of Hungary and head of the Hungarian Citizens' Union. Shabazz. the leader of the Pakistan Muslim League (Sharif group), Presidents Sherdal Berdymukhamedov of Turkmenistan, Presidents Zaparov of Kyrgyzstan, President Tokayev of Kazakhstan. President Lukashenko of Belarus, President Kiir of South Sudan, and President Lukashenko of Belarus, President Ramaphosa and Fernández, the leaders of the Justice Party of Argentina and the African National Congress of South Africa, respectively. This comes in contrast to countries like the USA, India, Australia and

Japan.

• On Thursday, a Chinese representative vehemently denied unfounded allegations against China's human rights, arguing that the world does not want patronizing comments or the politicization of human rights. Dai Bing, charge d'affaires at the Chinese Permanent Mission to the United Nations, stated at a meeting of the UN General Assembly's Third Committee that "what the U.S. and a small number of Western countries really care about is not interfering in China's internal affairs under the pretext of human rights with the aim of suppressing and containing China, safeguarding their own hegemony." Dai urged relevant nations to take decisive action in order to overcome their grave human rights issues. Dai said that the world needs justice and equality and that the Third Committee is a forum for cooperation and communication rather than conflict. He made this statement during the Third Committee of the UNGA on Wednesday. The envoy stated that "there is no reason for a 'teacher' to order about other countries." At the Third Committee meeting, Dai also delivered a joint declaration on behalf of 25 nations that demanded the immediate and total abolition of unilateral coercive actions. According to Dai, unilateral coercive measures continue to be used against developing nations and their people, contravening the goals and tenets of the UN Charter, international law. multilateralism, and fundamental principles of international relations.

US, in contrast to countries like Japan and Australia, therefore President Xi's consolidation of power during his third term is not a good omen for India. Hu Jintao's forced departure from the Great Hall of People during the concluding session of the twice-decadent party congress on October 22 was a harsh display of power by the middle kingdom's core leader. None of the 2300 delegates there made a sound. It appeared as though Hu was being taken to his political death by party enforcers. Although Chinese propaganda media depicted former leader Hu's unceremonious departure due to his health, the entire ceremony was carefully planned in front of the world media with a signal to all 96 million Communist Party of China members. The globe is now more uncertain as a result of President Xi's third term victory and the election of his key allies to the all-powerful Politburo standing committee. Xi is now similar to Chairman Mao in terms of his ability to consolidate political power in China. President Xi effectively rules China alone or as an absolute dictator, which has major short and long-term consequences for India and the rest of the globe.

## **INDIA WATCH**

• India lacks a security partnership with the