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Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

31 July 2024

National and International News

National and International News				
Wagner Group	Why in the news? The Wagner mercenary group from Russia reported severe losses, including a commander, in recent battles with separatist forces in northeast Mali. About Wagner Group: Official Name: PMC Wagner, a Russian paramilitary organization. Nature: A private military company and a network of mercenaries. Origin: Emerged in 2014 during Russia's annexation of Crimea. Operated in Syria and several African countries including Libya, Sudan, Mozambique, Mali, and the Central African Republic. Founders: Yevgeny Prigozhin. Dmitry Utkin, a former special forces officer in Russia's GRU military intelligence. Legal Status: Mercenary forces are technically illegal in Russia. Wagner registered as a "private military company" in 2022. Operations: Closely tied to the Russian military and intelligence community. Services vary based on client needs, including rebel groups and regimes.			
	 Funding ranges from direct payment to resource concessions. 			
Defence Acquisition Council (DAC)	Why in the news? • The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) recently approved amendments to the deal for 31 MQ-9B High Altitude Long Endurance (HALE) UAVs from General Atomics, USA. About Defence Acquisition Council (DAC): • Formation: Formed in 2001 following the Group of			
	Minister's recommendations on 'Reforming the National Security System' post-Kargil War (1999). Objective: Ensure expeditious procurement of the			



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terms		capa	bilities	and	pre	scribe	ed 1	time
frames	•			_				

- Optimize utilization of allocated budgetary resources.
- Composition:
 - Chaired by the Defence Minister.
 - Chief of Defence Staff (CDS)
 - Chiefs of the Army, Navy, and Air Force
- Functions:
 - Approve a 15-year Long Term Integrated Perspective Plan (LTIPP) for defence forces.
 - Accord acceptance of necessity for acquisition proposals.
 - Categorize acquisition proposals as 'Buy', 'Buy & Make', and 'Make'.
 - Address issues related to single vendor clearance.
 - Decide on 'offset' provisions for acquisition proposals above Rs 300 crore.
 - Make decisions regarding the Transfer of Technology under the 'Buy & Make' category.
 - Conduct field trial evaluations.

International Labour Organization (ILO)

Why in the news?

 India, a founding member of the International Labour Organization (ILO), is likely to file a complaint against the UN agency regarding its India Employment Report 2024.

About International Labour Organization (ILO):

- Specialized Agency of the UN: Dedicated to improving labour conditions and living standards worldwide.
- History:
 - Creation: Established in 1919 as part of the Treaty of Versailles after World War I.
 - UN Agency: Became a specialized agency of the UN in 1946.
- **Headquarters**: Geneva, Switzerland.
- Membership: 187 members (186 UN member states plus the Cook Islands).
- Structure:
 - Tripartite Agency: Includes governments, employers, and workers' representatives from 187 member states.
 - UNDP Membership: Part of the United Nations Development Group aimed at achieving Sustainable Development Goals.
- Functions:



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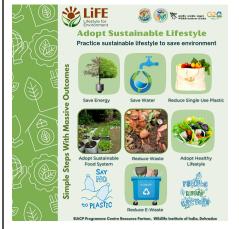
0	Policy	Formulation	: Develops	international
	policies	to promote	human rig	hts, improve
	working	conditions,	and enhance	employment
	opportui	nities.		

- Labour Standards: Creates and supervises the application of international labour standards.
- Technical Cooperation: Implements international technical cooperation programs in partnership with its constituents.
- Training and Education: Conducts training, education, and research activities to support its initiatives.

Recognition:

 Nobel Prize for Peace: Awarded in 1969 for its contributions to improving labour conditions and promoting social justice.

Mission LiFE



Why in the news?

 Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change launches Ideas4LiFE portal for inviting ideas related to products and services for inducing behavioral changes related to environment-friendly lifestyles.

About Mission LiFE:

- Unveiled by Prime Minister of India at the UNFCCC COP26 in 2021.
- Focuses on individual conduct in global climate action.
- Objective: Motivate at least 1 billion people (Indians and global citizens) to take individual and group actions for environmental protection and conservation (2022-2028).
- Vision:
 - Encourage small, everyday actions to drastically halt climate change.
 - Establish an ecosystem through the 'Pro-Planet People' (P3) community to support and sustain environmentally responsible behaviors.

Principles:

- Everyone has a responsibility to live in harmony with the Earth and cause no harm.
- Individuals living this way are designated as Pro Planet People.

Themes:

- Save Energy
- Save Water
- Say No to Single Use Plastic
- Adopt Sustainable Lifestyle





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	Reduce WasteAdopt Healthy LifestylesReduce E-Waste
Digital Arrest	Why in the news? • The "Digital Arrest" scam, a new form of online fraud, involves perpetrators impersonating official authorities to extort money from victims via video calls.
	 About Digital Arrest: The term "Digital Arrest" refers to a sophisticated cyber scam where fraudsters impersonate law enforcement or government officials to extort money from unsuspecting victims. This scam typically involves video calls where the scammers falsely accuse the victim of illegal activities, creating a sense of urgency and fear to compel the victim to transfer money immediately. How It Works:



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