



31 July 2024

National and International News

Wagner Group	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Wagner mercenary group from Russia reported severe losses, including a commander, in recent battles with separatist forces in northeast Mali. <p>About Wagner Group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Official Name: PMC Wagner, a Russian paramilitary organization.• Nature: A private military company and a network of mercenaries.• Origin:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 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:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Yevgeny Prigozhin.○ Dmitry Utkin, a former special forces officer in Russia's GRU military intelligence.• Legal Status:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Mercenary forces are technically illegal in Russia.○ Wagner registered as a "private military company" in 2022.• Operations:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Closely tied to the Russian military and intelligence community.○ Services vary based on client needs, including
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ rebel groups and regimes. ○ Funding ranges from direct payment to resource concessions.
<p>Defence Acquisition Council (DAC)</p>	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 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. <p>About Defence Acquisition Council (DAC):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Formation: Formed in 2001 following the Group of Minister's recommendations on 'Reforming the National Security System' post-Kargil War (1999). ● Objective: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ensure expeditious procurement of the armed forces' approved requirements in terms of capabilities and prescribed time frames. ○ Optimize utilization of allocated budgetary resources. ● Composition: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chaired by the Defence Minister. ○ Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) ○ Chiefs of the Army, Navy, and Air Force ● Functions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 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.



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<p>International Labour Organization (ILO)</p>	<p>Labour</p> <p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● 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. <p>About International Labour Organization (ILO):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Specialized Agency of the UN: Dedicated to improving labour conditions and living standards worldwide.● History:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 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:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 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:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Policy Formulation: Develops international policies to promote human rights, improve working conditions, and enhance employment opportunities.○ 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:
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Nobel Prize for Peace: Awarded in 1969 for its contributions to improving labour conditions and promoting social justice.
<p>Mission LiFE</p> 	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 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. <p>About Mission LiFE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Save Energy ○ Save Water ○ Say No to Single Use Plastic ○ Adopt Sustainable Lifestyle ○ Reduce Waste ○ Adopt Healthy Lifestyles ○ Reduce E-Waste



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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:**
 - **Initial Contact:** Victims receive a video call from scammers posing as authorities.
 - **Creating Fear:** Scammers use intimidating tactics, such as false accusations of criminal activities.
 - **Demand for Payment:** Victims are pressured to pay a large sum to avoid supposed legal consequences.

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