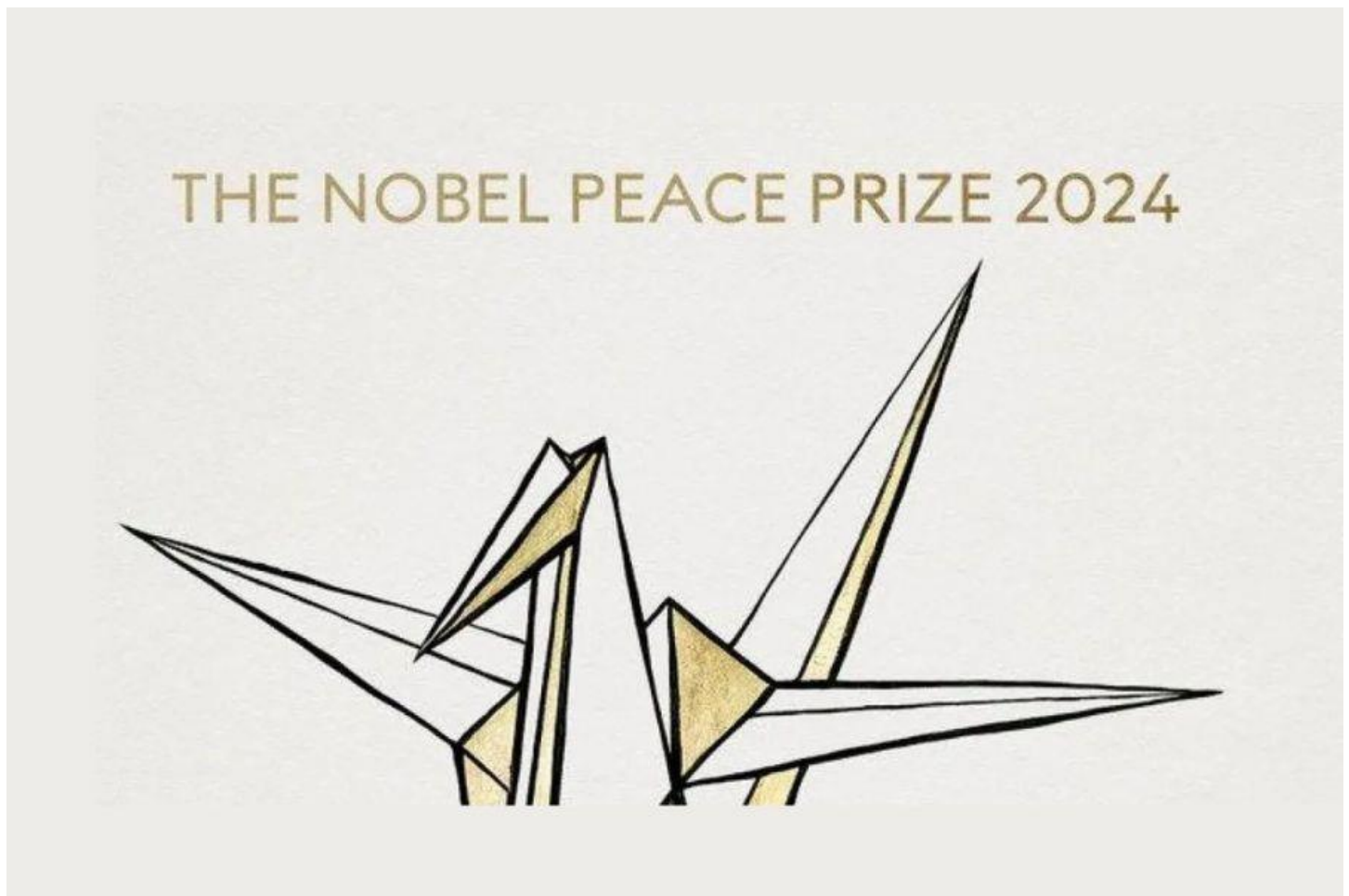




### **World Standard Day : 14 October :-**

Annually on October 14, the world celebrates World Standards Day (also known as International Standards Day). The day commemorates the efforts of thousands of professionals who develop voluntary standards inside organizations that set standards. In 1946, delegates from 25 nations met in London and decided to form an international association to promote standardization. The first World Standards Day was not observed until 1970, despite the fact that ISO was established one year later. Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) celebrating World Standards Day 2024 on the theme "Shared Vision for a Better World: Standards for Sustainable Development Goals".



### **Nihon Hidankyo Wins 2024 Nobel Peace Prize :-**

Nihon Hidankyo, a grassroots movement of survivors of the atomic bomb from Hiroshima and Nagasaki, received the Nobel Peace Prize as a warning to countries with nuclear weapons not to use them. Several survivors of the only two nuclear bombs ever used in combat, known as "hibakusha" in Japanese, have committed their lives to the fight for a nuclear-free world. The Norwegian Nobel Committee said in its citation the group was receiving the Peace Prize for "its efforts to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons and for demonstrating through witness testimony that nuclear weapons must never be used again".



### **Army looks to hire civil choppers for logistics on northern borders :-**

The Indian Army is trying to employ helicopters from civil agencies to perform a variety of tasks along the country's northern borders, including logistics supplies, transporting troops to forward locations, and casualty evacuation when necessary. It intends to deploy these single-engine helicopters in select areas of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, including Drass, Kargil, Batalik, Doda, Kishtwar, and Gurez. Barring the specific sectors, the helicopters will be mostly deployed during the winters — from November to April — for stocking of ration, fuel, other stores and operational purposes.



### **Successful IAF C-295 Landing at Navi Mumbai Airport :-**

The Navi Mumbai International Airport achieved a key milestone when an Indian Air Force C-295 aircraft made its first landing at the facility. A Sukhoi-30 fighter jet flew overhead during the trial. The first phase of the airport, which is being built jointly by Adani Airports and CIDC, is slated to be finished in March 2025. The aircraft landed on the recently finished 3,700-metre runway, a significant milestone in the airport's development. Officials reported that 75% of the terminal building has already been constructed.





### **Global Biodiversity Declines 73% Since 1970 : WWF :-**

The average size of monitored wildlife populations fell by 73% in just 50 years (1970-2020), based on WWF's Living Planet Report (LPR) 2024. The report cautions that, as the Earth approaches critical tipping points that pose serious hazards to mankind, a massive communal effort will be required over the next five years to address the simultaneous climate and natural crises. The Living Planet Index (LPI), provided by ZSL (Zoological Society of London), includes almost 35,000 population trends of 5,495 species from 1970-2020. The strongest decline is reported in freshwater ecosystems at 85%, followed by terrestrial at 69% and marine at 56%.



### **India ranks 105th in Global Hunger Index 2024 :-**

India ranks 105th out of 127 countries in the 2024 Global Hunger Index. The nation is one of 42 countries rated as "serious" in terms of hunger, along with Pakistan and Afghanistan. "With a score of 27.3 in the 2024 Global Hunger Index, India has a level of hunger that is serious," according to the study. The report, which India rejected last year, indicated that more than 35.5% of the country's children under the age of five are stunted, with about 18.7% being wasted. Meanwhile, over 13.7% of the population is undernourished. In contrast, South Asian neighbors like Bangladesh, Nepal, and Sri Lanka have achieved better GHI scores, placing them in the "moderate" category.





### **India's Bird Population Declines Significantly, Vultures Hit Hardest :-**

It is no surprise that India's bird population has been declining, but a recent analysis stated that a drop in the numbers of vulture species was most noticeable between 1992 and 2002, and the overall bird population from open environments has fallen significantly over the last 50 years. Between 1992 and 2002, the numbers of the white-rumped vulture, the Indian vulture, and the slender-billed vulture decreased by 98% and 93% respectively. The decline in the population of these apex aerial predators was compared to their populations from the 1980s, according to the *Living Planet Report, 2024*.



### **Telangana Appoints Commission for Scheduled Castes Sub-Classification :-**

The Telangana Government has nominated Justice Shameem Akhter, a former Telangana High Court Judge, to lead the one-man committee established by the committee of Inquiry to investigate sub-classification within Scheduled Caste reserved categories and give recommendations to the government. It may be noted that the Cabinet sub-committee, led by Irrigation Minister N Uttam Kumar Reddy, recently proposed that the government create a one-man Commission of Inquiry under the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952 (Central Act-60 of 1952) to investigate all elements of SC sub-categorisation.





### **India's Vaccine Regulatory System Declared 'Functional' by WHO :-**

The drug regulator CDSCO and India's National regulation Authority have passed the World Health Organization's benchmarks for a functional vaccination regulation framework. From September 16 to 20, a team of foreign specialists from several nations, led by the World Health Organization (WHO) headquarters in Geneva, assessed India's vaccine regulating system, according to a health ministry statement. Safety, efficacy, and quality were the three basic parameters of assessment of vaccines, it said. India retains maturity level 3 with highest marks in several functions.



### **India Digital Agri Conference 2024 :-**

The India Digital Agri Conference 2024 was held in New Delhi to investigate the revolutionary possibilities of digital agriculture. Speaking at the event, Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Secretary Dr. Devesh Chaturvedi emphasized the importance of the digital mission in harnessing technology and data-driven solutions to modernize Indian agriculture. The Agriculture Ministry stated that the conference aimed to promote knowledge exchange, highlight cutting-edge developments, and boost cross-sector collaboration. It also said that by bringing together policymakers, industry experts, entrepreneurs, academicians, researchers and farmers the conference paved the way to shape the future of agriculture in the digital era.