



'Green Voice' Award

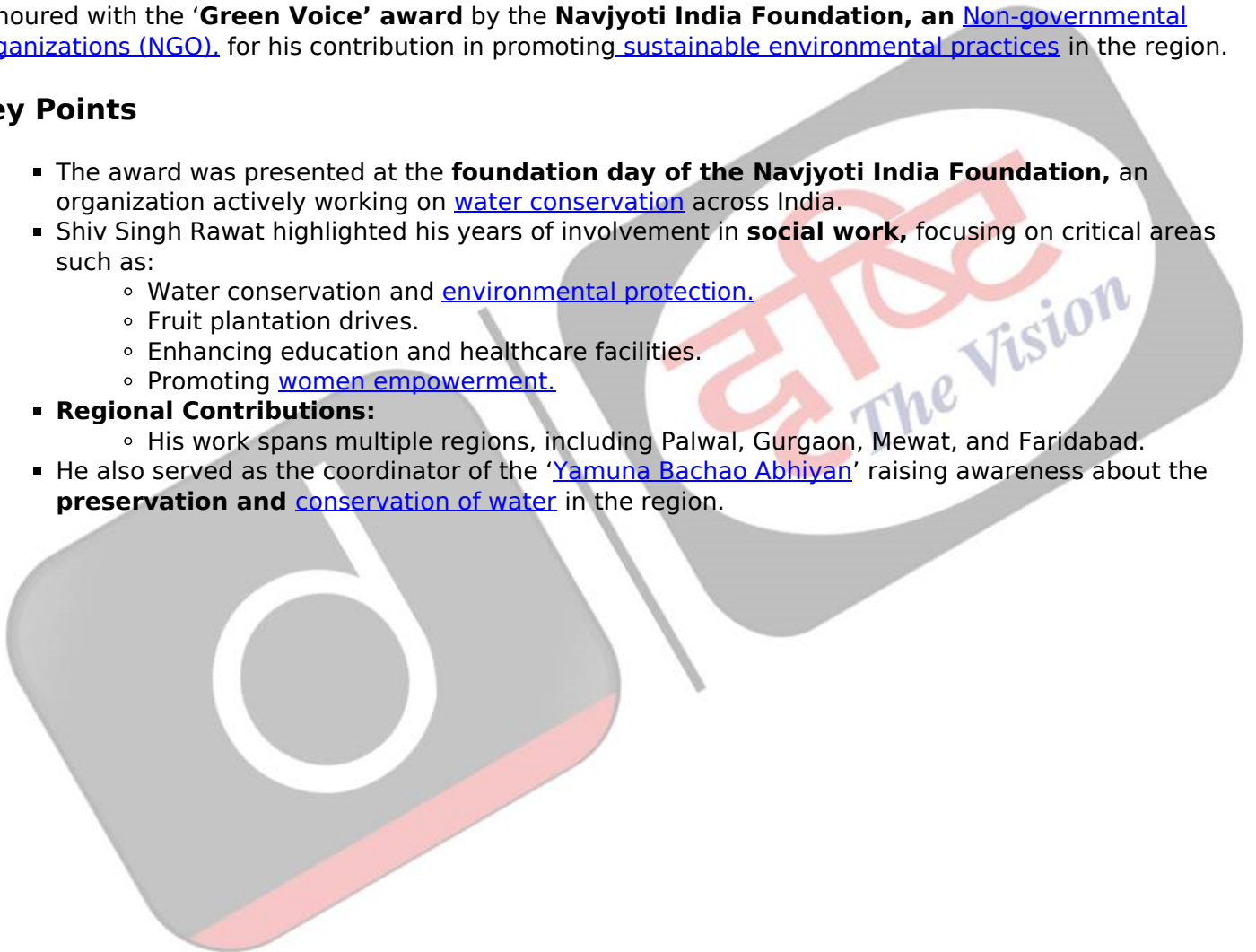
Why in News?

Recently, Former superintending engineer Shiv Singh Rawat at Haryana Irrigation Department has been honoured with the '**Green Voice**' award by the **Navjyoti India Foundation**, an [Non-governmental Organizations \(NGO\)](#), for his contribution in promoting [sustainable environmental practices](#) in the region.

Key Points

- The award was presented at the **foundation day of the Navjyoti India Foundation**, an organization actively working on [water conservation](#) across India.
- Shiv Singh Rawat highlighted his years of involvement in **social work**, focusing on critical areas such as:
 - Water conservation and [environmental protection](#).
 - Fruit plantation drives.
 - Enhancing education and healthcare facilities.
 - Promoting [women empowerment](#).
- **Regional Contributions:**
 - His work spans multiple regions, including Palwal, Gurgaon, Mewat, and Faridabad.
- He also served as the coordinator of the '[Yamuna Bachao Abhiyan](#)' raising awareness about the **preservation and conservation of water** in the region.

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DEVELOPMENTAL GROUPS IN INDIA

Self-Help Groups (SHGs)

- Self-governed peer-controlled information group of people with similar socio-economic backgrounds and interests
 - Members allowed: 5-20 | Registration not required
 - SHGs use savings amounts for giving loans to members
- NABARD's SHG-Bank Linkage Programme (1992)** - To connect SHGs with formal banking institutions
- ~88% of SHGs in India have all-women members
- Success Stories:**
 - Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA) since 1972
 - Kudumbashree (1998) in Kerala

Cooperative Societies

- People-centred** enterprises, owned, controlled, and run by and for their members.
 - Capital raised through shared contributions from members.
- Regulating Acts:**
 - Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 2002
 - State Cooperative Societies Acts
- 97th Constitutional Amendment (2011):**
 - Right to form cooperatives - a fundamental right (Article 19(1)(c))
 - Article 43B (DPSP) - Promotion of Cooperatives
 - Part IX-B titled "The Co-operative Societies" (Articles 243-ZH to 243-ZT).
- Examples:** AMUL, IFFCO and PACS

Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)

- Pursue activities to relieve suffering, promote the interests of the poor, protect the environment, provide basic social services, or undertake community development
- Registered as:**
 - Societies:** Societies Registration Act, 1860
 - Trusts:** Indian Trusts Act, 1882
 - Companies:** Section 8 Companies Act, 2013
- Constitutional Provisions:**
 - Article 19(1)(c)**
 - Article 43**
 - Concurrent List** mentions Charities and charitable institutions

FCRA mandates registration for all NGOs intending to receive foreign donations.

Prominent NGOs:

- NGO Pratham:** Pioneered the **ASER report** to assess the learning levels of children in rural India.
- Akshaya Patra Foundation:** Provided nutritious mid-day meals to school children.

NGO-DARPAN Platform - An interface between NGOs and Government Bodies.

