

interests, especially States, since they are the primary stakeholders. Further, Chapter 2 discusses the role of judges from different perspectives. First, the authors empirically assess who has been appointed as a judge; such empirical assessment could reveal a judge's subjective choices. Second, critical judicial functions have been analyzed. In the authors' view, treaty interpretation is one of a judge's crucial tasks.

Chapters 3 to 9 subsequently provide lively discussions concerning the roles of international courts and tribunals in several cases. Chapter 3 highlights how provisional measures can play an important role in preserving the parties' rights. Chapter 4 discusses the subject matter of jurisdiction. Next, Chapters 5 to 9 cover a significant number of cases regarding maritime space, maritime boundary delimitation, navigation, fisheries, and the marine environment. Chapter 10 provides the authors' key findings.

Throughout these chapters, judges are shown to have played a significant role in upholding the good order of the oceans by settling disputes between States under the rule of law, thus promoting a peaceful dispute settlement regime. Furthermore, judges are essential to protect and develop the UNCLOS regime by ensuring the coherence of the UNCLOS rules via the practices of treaty interpretation and application.

The authors' analysis, which builds around stakeholder identification theory and the grand objectives of UNCLOS, is eye-opening and persuasive. This ground-breaking work is an excellent addition to the literature on the Law of the Sea and the international settlement of disputes.

**Competing interests.** The author declares none.

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## **A Handbook on Geographical Indications in India**

**by K. D. RAJU. Mumbai: Thomson Reuters South Asia Private Limited, 2021. xiii + 726 pp. Hardcover: INR ₹2,025.00; USD \$30.00. ISBN-10: 939134058X; ISBN-13: 978-9391340582**

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The first geographical indication (GI) registration from India was the iconic Indian product, "Darjeeling tea", in 2004. In 2018, India was among the countries with the lowest number of GI products, having only 320. Germany topped the list with 15,566 GI-tagged products.<sup>1</sup> This is possibly due to the diverse cultural and environmental heritage in India. However, India has since entered a state of progression, with 504 registered GIs to date.<sup>2</sup> This book is one of the first to offer a complete analysis and description of the 370 GIs in India registered up to March 2021, providing details of each registered GI at that time, while other concurrent writings have focused instead on the general scenario of GIs in India.

The five introductory chapters give a good overview of intellectual property protection and GIs, international agreements on GIs, GI protections in countries other than India, GI

<sup>1</sup> World Intellectual Property Organization, "World Intellectual Property Indicators 2019", Report, 2019 at 180.

<sup>2</sup> Intellectual Property India, "Registered GIs" (26 September 2023), online: Intellectual Property India <https://ipindia.gov.in/registered-gis.htm>.

protection in India, and, finally, the registration procedures in India. An annexure to this chapter includes the registration procedure, an application form, all other necessary registration documents, and completed documents for “Sambalpuri bandha saree and fabrics”, prepared by the author himself, which are given as a pragmatic example.

Registered GIs were chapterized based on their state or union territory. They are detailed with their registration details, application number, certificate number, date of filing, certificate date, category of goods, class, geographical area, and applicant details. The description of the good, the process involved, and its uniqueness can also be traced. This classification provides a transparent understanding of the GI data for each geographical territory in India. Images and logos also enhance the breadth of information.

The Indian GI Statute, the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act 1999 and related rules, and the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Rules 2002 can also be found in the book.

The title “handbook” is justified as the extended details and the legal framework are provided together with the legal framework of other countries, so there is scope for comparative analysis.

The efficient use of GI tags can extend the global market for local products. In particular, for countries like India that have a high dependence on the primary sector economy, this global promotion will be a welcomed boost. The author’s initiative to compile the information on these registered GIs of India so that a non-expert can comprehend will increase awareness and encourage registration and value addition in the market.

**Competing interests.** The author declares none.

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## **Utilization of International Watercourses on the Korean Peninsula: Challenges and Prospects**

**by Yeonghwan CHANG. Leiden/Boston: Brill Nijhoff, 2023.  
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Yeonghwan Chang has made a significant contribution to the international transboundary rivers regime through this comprehensive work, which actively re-evaluates and re-analyzes this regime and proposes an effective approach to the cooperative management of water resources between the two Koreas.

The initial chapter presents a narrative account of the historical inspiration behind the regime. Chapter 2 explores the gradual evolution of historical events about the two rivers, namely the North Han River and the Imjin River, and asks: have they also been governed by international water law? The mutually shared watercourses are depicted with respect to their geographical, topographical, and meteorological aspects, which have encountered challenges arising due to the effects of global climate change, particularly in the demilitarized zone. Further, the geographical position is situated within the central region of the Korean peninsula, with its significant wildlife sanctuary, biodiversity, cultural legacy,