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Titolo	Groundwater Law and Management in India : From an Elitist to an Egalitarian Paradigm / / edited by Sarfaraz Ahmed Khan, Tony George Puthucherril, Sanu Rani Paul
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Nota di contenuto	Chapter 1: Introduction -- Chapter 2: An Enlightened Constitution: From an Elitist to an Egalitarian Paradigm -- Chapter 3: Groundwater Rights and Common Law: Fortifying the Elitist Paradigm -- Chapter 4: Decolonising Groundwater Law: Moving from an Elitist to an Egalitarian Paradigm -- Chapter 5: Elite to Egalitarian: The Plachimada Cases -- Chapter 6: Egalitarianism and the Model Groundwater Bill, 2016 -- Chapter 7: Structure -- Chapter 8: Discussion -- Chapter 9: Conclusion.
Sommario/riassunto	This book presents a comprehensive analysis of the existing nature of India's groundwater laws. In the backdrop of the gravity of groundwater crisis that threatens to engulf the country, the book examines the correlation between the imperfections in the law and water crisis and advocates a reform agenda to overhaul the legal framework. It accomplishes this objective by examining how some of the States and Union Territories regulate and manage groundwater through the legal instrumentality against the backdrop of the two conflicting paradigms:

the “elitist” and the “egalitarian.” The book’s fundamental premise is that despite being an extraordinarily critical resource that supports India’s burgeoning population’s ever-increasing water demands, groundwater is abused and mismanaged. The key argument that it posits is that the elitist paradigm must give way to an egalitarian one where groundwater is treated as a common property resource. To place this message in perspective, the book’s introduction explains the dichotomy between the two paradigms in the context of groundwater. This sets the stage, after which the book is divided thematically into three parts. The first part deals with some of the general groundwater management concerns brought to the fore by the operation of the elitist paradigm. Since water is constitutionally a State subject, the second part analyses the groundwater legislations of different States and Union Territories set against their unique circumstances. As these laws do not dismantle the elitist paradigm that interlocks groundwater rights to land rights, the next part articulates the legal reform agenda where a case is made to re-engineer groundwater laws to reflect a more sustainable basis. The findings and arguments resonate with the situation in many developing countries around the world due to which the book is a valuable resource for researchers across disciplines studying this area, and also for policy makers, think tanks, and NGOs.

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