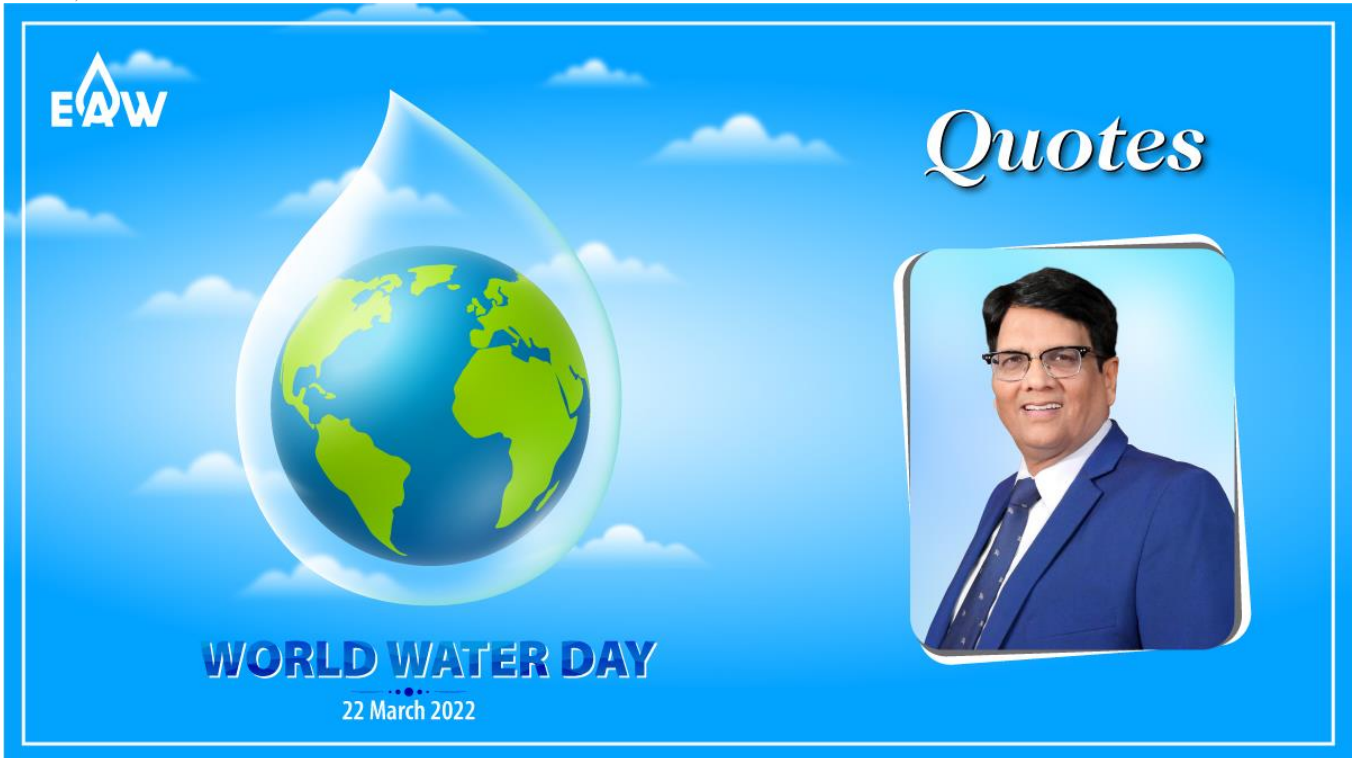




## Groundwater: Diminishing & Stressful Resource

Mar 22, 2022 eawater



World Water Day 2022 quote By **Subhash Sethi, Chairman, SPML Infra Limited**

India with second largest population in the world and very high agriculture practices – uses more water than many other countries. It is the largest freshwater users in the world and also the largest user of groundwater. It uses an estimated 230 cubic kilometers of groundwater per year – over 25% of the world total. More than 60% of irrigated agriculture and 85% of drinking water supplies are dependent on groundwater.

Around 65% of India's total water demand is being met from groundwater sources which plays an important role in shaping the nation's economic and social development. Therefore, with growing demand for water and depletion of the available resources, assured supply of good quality water is becoming a growing concern in the country.

Groundwater in India is a critical resource. However, an increasing number of aquifers are reaching unsustainable levels of exploitation. If current trends continue, in 20 years about 60% of all India's aquifers will be in a critical condition says a World Bank report. This will have serious implications for the sustainability of agriculture, long-term food security, livelihoods, and economic growth. It is estimated that over a quarter of the country's harvest will be at risk. There is an urgent need to change the status quo. SPML Infra Limited has been promoting sustainable water use practices and created robust water supply infrastructure in the country that has helped in providing clean drinking water facilities to over 50 million people per day in the country thus reducing their dependence on groundwater sources.