

(GDF15)

- The majority of pregnancies (70%) are affected by nausea and vomiting, which can progress to a severe form known as hyperemesis gravidarum (HG).
- The hormone growth differentiation factor 15 (GDF15) has previously been implicated in morning sickness in previous literature; however, the underlying mechanism has yet to be described.
- The Hindu

Health tax

Improving health outcomes using sin tax

Currently, sugar sweetened beverages (SSB) attract 28% GST plus a 12% cess, while high fat, salt and sugar (HFSS) products only attract 12% GST

■ While the global average consumption of sugar is 22 kg per person per year, it is 25 kg per year per person in India

■ Free sugar consumption in India is five times the WHO recommended threshold

■ For SSBs, a health tax of 10-30% could result in 7-30% decline in demand

■ For HFSS, 10-30% health tax could result in 5-24% decline in demand

■ If sugar costs ₹100 base price, with current GST at 18% it costs ₹118. With a proposed additional tax increase of 10-30%, estimated price to consumers will be ₹128-148

Precedent:
Up to 70 countries have imposed a health tax on SSBs and HFSS products.

■ For SSBs with a ₹100 base price, current GST at 18% plus 12% additional cess, the price to consumers is ₹140. This will increase to ₹150-170 with a proposed additional tax of 10-30%

■ For HFSS products with a ₹100 base price and GST at 12%, the price to consumers is ₹112. This will increase to ₹122-142 with additional tax of 10-30%

ta, confectionery manufacturers purchase up to 55% all other factors driving the demand remaining are currently taxed differently. While sugar c

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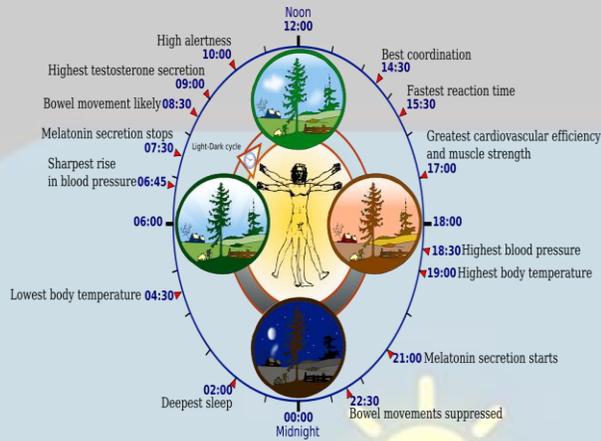
Colour variation in frogs

- Ambient light does not only allow us to see, it also influences our sleep-wake rhythm.

- A study in mice in 2019 suggested that yellowish light has a stronger influence on the internal clock than bluish light.
- In humans, the main effect of light on the internal clock and sleep is probably mediated via the light sensitive ganglion cells.
- To understand the effects of the different light stimuli on humans, in the sleep laboratory the researchers determined whether the internal clock of the participants had changed depending on the colour of the light.

- The study found that the human circadian clock is relatively insensitive to shifts in light colour towards warmer colour temperatures at constant melanopic illumination.

- Melanopic illuminance defines the magnitude of human circadian light responses under a wide range of conditions.



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India's position on the waterfront

India's position

- India's positions, which are largely aligned with those of the Global South, are driven by both its specific interests and the larger trends it sees in the global dynamics.
- In the case of Ukraine, it condemned the war and called for talks and a ceasefire without naming any party.
- Even under heavy pressure, it was careful not to let the crisis affect its multifaceted strategic partnership with Russia.
- In the case of Gaza, it repeatedly condemned the Hamas attack on Israel, an important bilateral partner, while also reiterating its traditional position in support of the two state solution.

- , India joined the global chorus calling for a ceasefire.

- The U.S. seems less in control of the geopolitical developments unfolding in its spheres of interests Europe and West Asia.

- Its efforts to weaken Russia are not rewarding and it is unable to control a vengeful Israel, which is affecting its reputation in the Arab World, and the Global South in general.

- China is focused on its immediate periphery and is wary of risks. Russia is the weakest among the three great powers.

- So India, itself a strong proponent of a multipolar world, sees the global order in flux.

- It appears to be careful not to align with any great power, while maximizing its interest through multi engagement and trying to be a voice of the Global South.

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