

Wave Theory

In 1679 Christian Huygens proposed the wave theory of light. According to this a luminous body is a source of disturbance in hypothetical medium called ether.

- * This hypothetical medium occupies complete universe.
- * The disturbance from the source is propagated in the form of waves through space and energy is distributed equally in all direction.
- * When these waves carrying energy are incident on the eye, the optic nerves are excited and sensation of vision is produced.
- * Huygen assumed these waves to be longitudinal and similar to waves produced in solid and liquid.
- * Huygen successfully Explained reflection, refraction and double refraction in crystals but the phenomenon of polarization discovered by him could not be explained.