



- 1- Kalpana Chawla was born on March 17, 1982 in Karnal, Haryana.
- 2- She was an American astronaut and engineer who was the first woman of Indian origin to go to space.
- 3- She first flew on space shuttle Columbia in 1997.
- 4- As a child, she was fascinated by airplanes and flying.
- 5- Her second flight was on STS-107, the final flight of space shuttle Columbia in 2003.
- 6- Chawla was one of the seven crew members who died in the space shuttle Columbia disaster when the spacecraft disintegrated during its re-entry into the Earth atmosphere.