

- Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

Kalpana Chawla, an aerospace engineer, has become the first Indo-American woman to venture into space. It is a notable achievement for a lady from a male-dominated India. Kalpana, who is a naturalized US citizen, was born in Karnal, India. Indeed she has made a statement for all Indian women and made them proud.

When she chose to do aeronautical engineering at Punjab University, in India, the principal told her that it was not suitable for women and advised her to opt for something more suitable. A brilliant A-level student, Kalpana insisted on aeronautical engineering or nothing. She believed in 'doing something that you like'. Her family was also shocked with her choice of going to Punjab University which is in faraway Chandigarh. Parents, relatives and friends all tried to dissuade her. Her determination saw her through. At last, her parents relented but her mother insisted on following her. Things went smoothly and she completed her course. Then she dropped another bombshell. She wanted to go to the States to further her studies.

"How can you send your unmarried daughter abroad all alone," demanded a family friend. Someone suggested an arranged marriage to someone in the US. Kalpana would have none of it. She credits her family for their support. "They are conservative but very different from others. There wasn't any 'no, absolutely not'. You could always say, 'but I want to do it.' If you said it enough times, you would have it. In families that are truly conservative, you don't even dare ask." She arrived in the US in 1982 to study at the University of Texas, graduating in 1984. She went on to get her Ph D in Aerospace Engineering at the University of Colorado in 1988. In between her studies, she qualified for a pilot's license in 1987. She then began to think seriously about applying to the space shuttle program.

She was among six civilian finalists who were selected by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) after several rounds of interviews and rigorous physical and medical evaluations at the Johnson Space Centre. NASA had selected a total of six civilians and thirteen military officers from a pool of almost 3000 aspiring applicants. When they informed her in December 1994 that she had been selected, she was already a vice-president and research scientist at Oversight Methods Incorporated.

She began her special training on March 6, at the Johnson Space Centre in Houston. The first year of training introduces candidates to all NASA centers, instructs them in land and sea survival, and prepares them for operating aircraft. After successful completion of training, the 'candidates' become 'astronauts' and are assigned specific jobs and duties within the NASA Astronaut Office to further prepare them as shuttle crew members.

On 19 Nov 1997, Kalpana at 35 became India's first woman astronaut on the space shuttle, Columbia which headed for space. She was the only woman in the six-member crew. As a mission specialist, she is responsible for planning crew activity, monitoring consumable shuttle items and conducting experiments. She has this to say to women reading about her determined journey into space. "That's the message I want to give to other women: Do something because you really want to do it. Even if it is a goal which is not necessarily within reach."

A typical space shuttle mission lasts 8-12 days, and Kalpana hopes to participate in several trips over many years. Her husband is enthusiastic about Kalpana's dream. They have relocated to Houston where he works as a flight instructor. The rest of her family who reside in India are proud of her and support her endeavour.

1. What is notable about Kalpana's achievement?
  2. How did the principal advise Kalpana when she wanted to do aeronautical engineering?
  3. How did Kalpana overcome the objections of her family and friends? Write out the single word from the text to support your answer.
  4. How did the family react to her wish of going to the States for further studies?
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5. What was the objection to Kalpana's going abroad and what was the suggestion?
  6. How many people were selected for the space shuttle program?
  7. Name two things that the candidates learn during the first year of training.
  8. What does the phrase 'determined journey' suggest about Kalpana's achievement?
  9. What is Kalpana's main message to other women?
  10. Choose a word or phrase from the first three paragraphs that is similar in meaning to the following words:
    - (a) Showed boldly
    - (b) Choose
    - (c) Gave in
    - (d) Traditional

### ACTIVITY II

#### PROJECT

- With the help of the above reference, answer the following questions:
  - What are the benefits of space travel?
  - Is it fair to risk lives for the benefits space research might bring?
  - Make a PowerPoint presentation.



सख्खी

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नई दिल्ली | प्रमुख संवाददाता

हाईकोर्ट ने बुधवार को केंद्र, दिल्ली सरकार, नगर निगमों, डीडीए और अन्य संबंधित निकायों को प्रदूषण से निपटने में विफल रहने पर कड़ी फटकार लगाई है। साथ ही पांच ऐसे कारगर उपाय बताने को कहा है, जिससे प्रदूषण की समस्या का समाधान किया जा सके।

कोर्ट ने इन उपायों को लागू करने के लिए समय सीमा भी बताने को कहा है। हाईकोर्ट ने कहा कि आप वर्षों से योजनाएं बना रहे हैं, लेकिन जमीन पर उसका कोई ठोस प्रभाव नहीं दिख रहा है। आप सिर्फ बैठक करते हैं, लेकिन कार्ययोजना को अमलीजामा नहीं पहनाते हैं।

हाईकोर्ट ने तीनों निगमों के आयुक्तों को मामले की अगली सुनवाई पर निजी रूप से भी पेश होने को कहा है। अगली सुनवाई 14 दिसंबर को होगी।

**फ्लाईओवर के नीचे पेड़ लगाना वन क्षेत्र बढ़ाना नहीं है :** हाईकोर्ट ने सरकार



विजय चौक पर बुधवार की सुबह इस तरह धुंध छाई रही। • सोनू मेहता

व अन्य महकमों से यह बताने के लिए कहा कि वन क्षेत्र व हरित क्षेत्र बढ़ाने पर टोक काम क्यों नहीं किया जा रहा है। हाईकोर्ट ने कहा है कि वन क्षेत्र बढ़ाने के नाम पर फ्लाईओवर, सड़क किनारे व अन्य जगहों पर पौधे लगवा देते हैं, सही मायने में यह वन क्षेत्र बढ़ाना नहीं है। हाईकोर्ट ने यह टिप्पणी तब की, जब

दिल्ली सरकार ने कहा कि वर्ष 1997 में राजधानी में महज 26 वर्ग किलोमीटर वन क्षेत्र था, जो अब बढ़कर करीब 300 वर्ग किलोमीटर हो गया है। इस पर हाईकोर्ट ने सरकार से पूछा कि आपकी नजर में वन क्षेत्र क्या है। साथ ही कहा कि दिल्ली के वन क्षेत्र भाटी माईस, रिज एरिया में तो अतिक्रमण है।

क्रियाकलाप - I

- (क) किन्ही दस क्रिया शब्दों को रेखांकित करें और उनमें प्रयुक्त रचना व कर्म के आधार पर क्रिया के भेदों का उल्लेख करें।
- (ख) दिए गए गद्यांश में से कोई दस जातिवाचक शब्दों का चयन कर लिखिए।

क्रियाकलाप - II

- (क) वायु प्रदूषण से दम तोड़ती दिल्ली की दशा पर एक कासद तैयार करें।

## At East Delhi Public, a green drive

HT Correspondent

**NEW DELHI:** East Delhi Public Senior Secondary School, Pratap Vihar, Ghaziabad, recently organised a plantation drive to sensitise students about the environment conservation and preservation of natural resources.

Students from three houses including Satyam, Shivam and Sundaram participated in the event.

Students from primary wing enthusiastically take part in a wide range of activities

including slogan writing and poster making.

Sundaram house stood first in planting maximum number of saplings during event.

Teachers also shared their views about planting saplings and making the city clean and green.

The school's manager Puneet and principal Shail addressed participants and congratulated them for their efforts.

They appreciated students' energetic participation and taking keen interest in conserving environment.

### ACTIVITY I

➤ Refer to the article above.

- Q1. If each child had brought 2 saplings then how many saplings did 28 children bring?
- Q2. The cost of each sapling was Rs. 10(approx.). Then find the approximate cost of 57 such saplings.

### ACTIVITY II

➤ Refer to the same activity above:

- Q1. If 3 gardeners can plant 249 saplings in 5 days then how many saplings can a gardener plant in 1 day? Q2. A gardener plants 72 saplings with 6 saplings in each row. If the same saplings are planted using 8 saplings in each row, then how many saplings would be required?