

Delhi Public School, Hyderabad
Educational Trip to Pochampally, Telangana
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Saturday, the fifth of November, saw the eleventh and twelfth graders of DPSH, travel to Pochampally, a small village located in the Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district of Telangana. Situated around 45 km from Hyderabad, Pochampally designs magic: thread and yarn from various places find themselves being worked upon by skilled weavers to meander into markets all over the country in the form of exquisitely beautiful sarees. Pochampally is also well known for being the launch pad of Acharya Vinoda Bhave's Bhoodan movement.



The uniqueness of the Pochampally cloth lies in its Ikkat design. Ikkat means 'to bind' the traditional geometric patterns to create a distinctive style of dyeing.. The fabric is usually cotton, silk and sico (a mix of silk and cotton.) The eyes of the weavers - young and old - show nothing but sheer resilience and experience of the changing tastes of consumers over the years. Watching the exceptional amount of manual effort put in by the weavers reminded us of the dignity of labour, and the importance of consistency and human resource for an economy that aims to pursue progress through industry. We were also fortunate to be given a chance to work on the *Charkeha*, or the spinning wheel, while learning about the process saree making.

Right from the wonderful drive to the village to the time spent at the ashram and the mill, the five of us had a magnificent time, learning about the pride of Telangana's and India's clothing industry and relaxing after a stressful month of examinations. We are grateful to the school for giving us this opportunity.