Chintakindi Mallesham is a recipient of Padma Shri, the fourth highest civilian award of India for the year 2017. He shared about his journey which was not a bed of roses and how perseverance and hard work can help a person achieve success, recognition and even national honour.

Hailing from a small village in Nalgonda District of Telangana State, this 43 year old weaver invented the patented Laxmi Asu Machine which processes yarn and reduces the time taken to weave a pochampally saree in one and a half hours from about six hours. Weaving for long hours made their shoulders and elbows ache. Speaking about his education he said that he was a school dropout in class 6 and got involved in the family business of weaving when he got the idea for the machine. There were times where his mother asked him to give up on the idea and take up some other work. But, Mr. Mallesham was steadfast and did not stop till he succeeded. He struggled from 1992 to 1999 to build a working machine. He did not give up though he failed many timed during the process. He moved to Hyderabad, took up a job in the day and worked on the machine at night. Finally after two years, he figured out and made a working machine which made him ecstatic. He returned to his village, showed the machine to his parents and eventually the media picked it up.

He even updated his machine into an electronic one as the price of the machine increased from 13,000 to 26,000 because of the prices of steel being doubled. He thus received wide spread recognition, showed his machine to the former Indian President, Mr. Abdul Kalam was bestowed with the ‘Amazing Indian’ award by the Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi and received Padma Shri in 2017.

OBJECTIVE: The primary objective of conducting this Visit was to encourage and motivate the students that they can achieve success in their chosen area through determination and perseverance.

BENEFIT: The students and faculty members were highly motivated by this visit and some even determined to set targets for themselves and achieve successfully.