

### **Mangalagiri Cotton Dress Material**

Mangalagiri is a small town which is 19 Kilometres away from Guntur district head quarter and 12 Kilometres from Vijayawada. Mangalagiri was always known as a pilgrim centre. There is a famous and elegant temple on a hillock in the heart of Mangalagiri town dedicated to Lord PanakalaNarasimhaSwamy. There is another temple dedicated to Lakshmi NarasimhaSwamy. It is said that pilgrims were expected that to offer their respects to Lord PanakalaNarasimha on the Hilltop, and then buy a saree from a local weaver before leaving the place. This clearly emphasized the patronage and impetus given to the handloom industry even as part of the tradition.

#### **Material used:**

Mangalagiricotton dress material is a fine count fabric normally woven with 80s combed cotton yarn for both warp and weft. The speciality of the extra warp design is a combination of twill, rib and diamond weaves and these weaves are arranged side by side continuously without any gap and that too design starts from the edge of the selvedge without leaving a single thread. Zari is used for extra warp design in the borders.

#### **Technique used:**

Mangalagiridress materials are woven on pit looms with doobby attachment. Nylon clasped healds and roller shedding mechanism are used for getting proper shedding. For getting heavy texture, one middle rest (dandi) is kept in between cloth beam and warp beam at a higher level. Pocker rod take- up and rope let-off motion are arranged.

#### **How to distinguish genuine Mangalagiridress material:**

- Basic texture is more compact than that of similar cotton sarees.
- Extra warp design are spread continuously without any gap upto the selvedge of the saree.
- The texture of the fabric is relatively soft since there is no starch finish.
- Mangalagiridress material do not have any extra weft designs on the body.

