



## REPORT OF MISSION

<b>Partner Institution :</b>	UNIVERSITY OF DELHI, DELHI
<b>Staff/ Expert Name :</b>	OM PRAKASH
<b>Position :</b>	RESEARCHER
<b>Dates of mission :</b>	5 <sup>TH</sup> MAY– 4 <sup>TH</sup> JULY 2005
<b>Place(s) of Mission :</b>	THE HAGUE, THE NETHERLANDS
<b>EurlIndia Activity N° related to the mission :</b>	ALA/95/23- 2003/77077
<b>Date &amp; Signature</b>	16 August 2005

### **Objective(s) of the Mission :**

*Outline the main objective(s) of the mission.*

An important objective of the EurlIndia project is to work on the history of the Euro-Indian textile trade during the early modern period with special reference to the southeast coast of India, generally referred to as the Coromandel coast. The responsibility for this work in the Delhi University part of the EurlIndia project rests with Professor Om Prakash and Dr. Arvind Sinha. While Dr. Sinha is working mainly on the archival documentation of the French East India Company, Professor Om Prakash is handling the archival documentation of the Dutch East India Company. There is also a broad academic collaboration between Professor Om Prakash and Dr. Arvind Sinha on the one hand and the EurlIndia team at Ghent University led by Dr. Jan Parmentier on the other.

The principal objective of the mission of Professor Om Prakash to the Netherlands in May and June 2005 was to work on the documents of the Dutch East India Company preserved at the Nationaal Archief at the Hague, the Netherlands. Among all the European corporate enterprises operating in India in the early modern period, by far the most important by way of providing detailed quantitative and qualitative information on the Euro-Indian textile trade was the Dutch East India Company. This is an outcome both of the large scale trade carried on by this Company not only



between Europe and Asia but also between one part of Asia and another as well as of the very detailed and methodical reporting that the factors of this Company were instructed to resort to on a regular basis to their superiors both in the Eastern headquarters of the Company at Batavia as well as the general headquarters of the Company at Amsterdam.

### **Description of the Mission :**

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*Provide an executive summary of your mission*

The mission consisted essentially of three components: (a) participation in a Technical Committee meeting at the Nationaal Archief, the Hague on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2005 in preparation for the Steering Committee meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> June 2005; (b) participation in the Steering Committee meeting of the EurIndia project held at Marseilles on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2005 and (c) collect archival material for the EurIndia Project and translate, edit and annotate it which necessitated extensive work in several major libraries in the Hague and Leiden.

The Technical Committee meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2005 was attended by Stephane Ipert of the CCL, the principal coordinator of the EurIndia project, Jan Parmentier of the EurIndia team at Ghent University and myself in addition to the officials of the Nationaal Archief. The meeting was designed to explore ways and means of furthering the cooperation and contacts between the EurIndia project and the Nationaal Archief, which is the principal repository of the archival documentation of the Dutch East India Company.

The Steering Committee meeting at Marseilles was attended by representatives from the CCL, the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (CRATOS), the University of Ghent, the Centre des Archives d'Outre-Mer (CAOM), the Punjab State Archives and the University of Delhi. I was one of the two representatives from the last-mentioned institution. The meeting engaged in a very detailed stock-taking of the progress made in the EurIndia project until the end of May 2005. Among other things, the meeting discussed in detail the situation in respect of the EurIndia project at the University of Delhi. The details of the discussions at this meeting are available in the proceedings of the meeting prepared by the CCL.

The most substantive part of the mission was, of course, the collection of archival material and its translation, editing and annotation for publication in the form of a book. As pointed out earlier, by far the most important source of detailed information on Indo-European trade in the early modern period, particularly in textiles produced in different parts of the subcontinent including the Coromandel coast, is the archival documentation of the Dutch East India Company. The proposed volume containing the documents of this Company relating to India will try to cover the years 1624 to 1627 and, if possible, 1628. This will be in continuation of an earlier volume done by me which covered the years from 1617 to 1623. The 252 documents published in that volume have been discussed in some detail in the Delhi University page of the EurIndia website.

During the course of the mission under reporting, I was able to transcribe and translate all the documents available in the Nationaal Archief for India for the years

1624 and 1625. Based on the work done in the libraries in the Hague and Leiden in the course of the mission, I will now proceed with the work of editing, annotating and footnoting the material to prepare it for publication.

### **Concrete and quantified outputs of the mission**

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*Describe the main results achieved.*

On the whole, the mission was extremely successful. Indeed, I was able to archive more than I had hoped to be able to do. The next section of the report contains a listing of the documents relating to 1624 and 1625 that have been transcribed and translated so far and which are now being processed for editing, annotation and footnoting.

In this section, I would provide a brief glimpse of the kind of information that the documents for the years 1624 and 1625 have thrown up. For the first of these two years, namely 1624, document number 13 titled “the invoice of the *Heusden* that left Surat for Holland on 19 January 1624”, for example, establishes beyond any doubt the importance of textiles such as *montassis* and *baftas* in the total export cargo, although items such as saltpetre and indigo also figured prominently in the invoice. Document number 37 for the same year provides a list of the annual orders of textiles from Surat for the Indonesian archipelago. The range of textiles covered by the document is truly impressive. For the year 1625, invoices of ships leaving Surat as well as Pulicat on the Coramandel coast for the Netherlands also establishes quite unambiguously the supremacy of textiles in the total export cargo from both the Indian regions. It is also important to realize that these documents cover a truly vast range of ground which is of economic, political, social and religious importance for writing the history of the period.

### **Concrete and quantified contributions to EurIndia project**

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*Quantify activities and outputs .*

The following is the list of the documents that were transcribed and translated for the years 1624 and 1625 from the archives of the Dutch East India Company preserved at the Nationaal Archief in the Hague:

#### 1624

1. Resolution adopted by the Surat Council, 1 January 1624, V.O.C. 1079, f.190 (Copy).
2. General letter from Pieter de Carpentier at Batavia to the Directors at Amsterdam, 3 January 1624, V.O.C. 1079, ff 7-55 (Original; pagination in pencil).
3. Herman Pietersz. Prins at Bhagnagar in Golconda to Abraham van Uffelen (in jail), 9 January 1624, V.O.C. 1083, ff.191-192 (copy).
4. Jan Libenaar on board the *Wapen van Rotterdam* at Masulipatnam to De Carpentier at Batavia, 10 January 1624, V.O.C. 1083, ff.172-175vo (Copy).

5. Resolution adopted by the Surat Council on board the *Heusden* lying at Swally, 11 January 1624, V.O.C. 1079, f.190vo (Copy).
6. Van den Broecke at Surat to the Directors at Amsterdam, 11 January 1624, V.O.C. 1079, ff.225-229vo (Original).
7. Van den Broecke at Surat to the Directors at Amsterdam, 15 January 1624. V.O.C. 1079, ff.230-231vo (Original).
8. Abraham van Uffelen at Masulipatnam to Marten Ysbrantsz. at Pulicat, 15 January 1624. V.O.C. 1083, f.184 (Copy).
9. Van Uffelen at Masulipatnam to Marten Ysbrantsz. at Pulicat, 16 January 1624. V.O.C. 1083, f.181 (Copy).
10. Van den Broecke at Surat to the Directors at Amsterdam, 16 January 1624. V.O.C. 1079, ff.232-232vo (Original). (Copy in VOC 1082, ff.8vo-9).
11. Huybert Vissnich at Isfahan to Van den Broecke at Surat, 18 January 1624. V.O.C. 1082, f.101 (Copy).
12. Van den Broecke at Surat to De Carpentier at Batavia, 19 January 1624. V.O.C. 1082, ff.47vo-48 (Copy).
13. The invoice of the *Heusden* that left Surat for Holland on 19 January 1624. V.O.C. 1979, ff.171-180vo (Copy).
14. Herman Pietersz. Prins at Bhagnagar in Golconda to Van Uffelen at Masulipatnam, 25 January 1624. V.O.C. 1083, ff.193-193vo (Copy).
15. Van Uffelen at Masulipatnam to Marten Ysbrantsz. at Pulicat, 27 January 1624. V.O.C. 1083, f.182 (Copy).
16. Marten Ysbrantsz. at Pulicat to De Carpentier at Batavia, 28 January 1624. V.O.C. 1083, ff.169-171 (Copy).
17. Van den Broecke at Surat to De Carpentier at Batavia, 29 January 1624. V.O.C. 1083, ff.147-148 (Original).
18. General letter from De Carpentier at Batavia to the Directors at Amsterdam, 4 March 1624. V.O.C. 1090, ff.61-67 (Original)
19. Van den Broecke at Surat to the Directors at Amsterdam, 12 March 1624. V.O.C. 1082, ff.10-11vo (Original).
20. Van den Broecke at Surat to De Carpentier at Batavia, 24 March 1624. V.O.C. 1083, ff.160-163 (Copy).

21. Marten Ysbrantsz. at Pulicat to De Carpentier at Batavia, 24 March 1624. V.O.C. 1083, ff.205-208vo (Copy).
22. De Carpentier at Batavia to Van Uffelen at Masulipatnam, 26 March 1624. V.O.C. 1082, ff.207-211vo (Copy).
23. Private (particuliere) letter from De Carpentier at Batavia to Van Uffelen at Masulipatnam, 26 March 1624. V.O.C. 1082, ff.212-213vo (Copy)
24. De Carpentier at Batavia to Marten Ysbrantsz. At Pulicat, 26 March 1624. V.O.C. 1082, f.214 (Copy)
25. De Carpentier at Batavia to Van den Broecke at Surat, 25 March 1624. V.O.C. 1082, ff.214vo-217 (copy).
26. Some points of consideration for Jacob Dedel, and Van Uffelen and Council at Masulipatnam regarding a new accord with the king of Golconda, Batavia, 26 March 1624. V.O.C. 1082, ff.217-217vo (Copy).
27. A memorandum by De Carpentier for Jacob Dedel, member of the council of the Indies, on deputation to Coromandel as an inspector of the Company's trade and affairs there, 26 March 1624. V.O.C. 1092, ff.218-221 (Copy).
28. Commission for Admiral Jacob Dedel, Batavia, 26 March 1624. V.O.C. 1082, ff.221vo-222 (Copy).
29. Marten Ysbrantsz.'s instructions to Dirck van Haps, captain of the frigates, the *Bonne Remedie* and the *Tenesserim*, going from Pulicat to Arakan, 28 April 1624. V.O.C. 1082, ff.64-65vo (Copy).
30. Marten Ysbrantsz. at Pulicat to De Carpentier at Batavia, 6 June 1624. V.O.C. 1083, ff.213-214vo (Copy).
31. De Carpentier at Batavia to Jacob Dedel and Van Uffelen at Masulipatnam, 25 June 1624. V.O.C. 1082, ff.272-275vo (Copy).
32. De Carpentier at Batavia to Marten Ysbrantsz. at Pulicat, 25 June 1624. V.O.C. 1082, f.276 (Copy).
33. Batavia's instructions for the *Schoonhoven* going to Coromandel, 25 June 1624. V.O.C. 1082, f.278 (Copy).
34. Batavia's instruction for free merchants going to Coromandel with the Company's permission whether in the Company's ships or on their own, 25 June 1624. V.O.C. 1082, ff.276-277 (Copy).
35. Jacob Dedel at Masulipatnam to the Governor-General at Batavia, 2 July 1624. V.O.C. 1083, ff.215-218 (Copy).

36. De Carpentier at Batavia to Van den Broecke at Surat, 9 August 1624. V.O.C. 1082, ff.294vo-303 (Copy).
37. Annual orders of textiles from Surat for the southern quarters together with their estimated cost price, 9 August 1624. V.O.C. 1082, ff.305-306 (Copy).
38. Instructions to the Council of the ships the *Vrede* and the *Medemblick* going from Masulipatnam to Arakan, 25 August 1624. V.O.C. 1082, ff.66-66vo (Copy).
39. Resolution adopted by the Councils at Pulicat and Masulipatnam on 5 July 1624, 23 September 1624 and 26 September 1624. V.O.C. 1085, ff.222-227vo (copy).
40. Marten Ysbrantsz. from the ship Schoonhoven at Masulipatnam to De Carpentier at Batavia, 2 October 1624. V.O.C. 1082, ff.58-62 (Copy).
41. Adriaen Willemsz. Goeree and Jan Libenaar at Masulipatnam to the Directors at Amsterdam, 4 October 1624. V.O.C. 1082, ff.50-53 (Original).
42. Marten Ysbrantsz. at Pulicat to the Directors at Amsterdam, 12 October 1624. V.O.C. 1082, ff.54-57 (Original).
43. The invoice of the Schoonhoven that left-Pulicat for Holland on 12 October 1624 with goods from Surat, Masulipatnam and Pulicat. V.O.C. 1082, f.87 (Copy).
44. The Directors at Amsterdam to Van den Broecke at Surat, December 1624. V.O.C. 314, unfoliated but covering 19 single folios. (copy)
45. The Directors at Amsterdam to Van Uffelen at Masulipatnam, 24 December 1624. V.O.C. 314, unfoliated but covering 13 single folios (copy).
46. Jan Libenaar at Masulipatnam to De Carpentier at Batavia, 29 December 1624. V.O.C. 1085, ff.218-221vo (Copy).
47. Marten Ysbrantsz. at Pulicat to De Carpentier at Batavia, 21 January 1625, V.O.C. 1095, ff.209-214 (copy).
48. General letter from De Carpentier at Batavia to the Directors at Amsterdam, 27 January 1625, V.O.C. 1082, pp.129-177. (Original)

## 1625

49. Van den Broeck at Surat at De Carpentier at Batavia, 22 April 1625, V.O.C. 1084, ff.42-51 (copy).
50. Van den Broecke at Surat to Antonio van Diemen, member of the Council of the Indies, at Batavia, 23 April 1625. V.O.C. 1085, ff.183-184vo (Copy).
51. Van den Broecke at Surat to the Directors at Amsterdam, 24 April 1625. V.O.C. 1084, ff.1A-4 (Original).

52. Marten Ysbrantsz. at Pulicat to the Directors at Amsterdam, 28 April 1625. V.O.C. 1084, ff.166-168 (Original).
53. An extract from the invoice of the *Dordrecht* that left Surat for Holland in April 1625. V.O.C. 1084, ff.52-54. (Copy).
54. The invoice of the *Zuid Holland* sent from Surat to Batavia on 22 April 1625. V.O.C. 1084, f.59 (Copy).
55. The Invoice of the *Nieuw Bantam* sent from Surat to Batavia on 22 April 1625. V.O.C. 1085, ff.185 (Copy).
56. An extract from the invoice of the *Weesp* sent from Surat to Holland on 22 April 1625. V.O.C. 1085, f.188 (Copy).
57. An extract from the invoice of the *Leeuwinne* sent from Masulipatnam to Holland, 23 May 1625. V.O.C. 1084, f.176.
58. Adriaen Goeree and Jan Libenaar at Masulipatnam to the Directors at Amsterdam, 23 May 1625. V.O.C. 1984, ff.164-164vo (Original).
59. Marten ysbrantsz. at Pulicat to De Carpentier at Batavia, 14 June 1625. V.O.C. 1085, ff.205-208 (Copy).
60. Jan Libenaar at Masulipatnam to De Carpentier at Batavia, 26 June 1625. V.O.C. 1085, ff.215-217vo (Copy).
61. De Carpentier at Batavia to Marten Ysbrantsz. at Masulipatnam, 26 July 1625. V.O.C. 1085, ff.123-130 (Copy).
62. Commission given by Governor-General De Carpentier at Batavia to MartenYsbrantsz., the new head of the Coromandel factories on 28 July 1625. V.O.C. 1085, f.130 (Copy).
63. Commission given by Governor-General De Carpentier at Batavia to Commander Fredrik Kistjens going to Surat and Persia with three ships, 13 August 1625. V.O.C. 1085, ff.150-150vo.
64. De Carpentier at Batavia to Van den Broecke at Aurat, 14 August 1625. V.O.C.1085, ff.135-139VO (copy).
65. Instructions by De Carpentier at *Batavia* for the Commander and the Council of the ships the *Goede Fortuin Nieuw Bantam* and the *English Bear* going to Surat and Persia, 14 August 1625. V.O.C. 1085, ff.147vo-159 (Copy).
66. De Carpentier at Batavia to Van den Broecke at Surat, 12 September 1625. V.O.C. 1985, ff.153-153vo (Copy).

67. De Carpentier at Batavia to Commander Frederik Kistjens at Surat, 12 September 1625. V.O.C. 1085, ff.153vo.
68. De Carpentier at Batavia to Marten Ysbrantsz. at Masulipatnam, 24 September 1625. V.O.C. 1085, ff.159vo-162. (Copy)
69. Marten Ysbrantsz. at Pulicat to De Carpentier at Batavia, 16 October 1625. V.O.C. 1987, ff.164-169vo (Copy).
70. General letter from De Carpentier at Batavia to the Directors at Amsterdam, 27 October 1625. V.O.C. 1085, ff.11-31vo (Original).
71. Current prices of goods at Masulipatnam, 20 November 1625. V.O.C. 1087, ff.403-403vo (Copy).
72. Van de Broecke at Surat to the Directors at Amsterdam, 28 November 1625. V.O.C. 1090, ff.93-94 (Original).
73. Van den Broecke at Surat to De Carpentier at Batavia, 4 December 1625. V.O.C. 1090, ff.287-289vo (Copy).
74. Ysbrantsz. at Pulicat to De Carpentier at Batavia, 5 December 1625. V.O.C. 1087, ff. 174-177vo (Copy).
75. Jan van der Burch at Pulicat to De Carpentier at Batavia, 5 December 1625. V.O.C. 1087, ff.170-172vo (Copy).
76. Extracts from three letters from the Directors to De Carpentier at Batavia forwarded to Surat in 1625. V.O.C. 1085, ff.139vo-142vo (Copy)
77. Journal kept at Fort Geldria at Pulicat between 20 November 1623 and 28 November 1625. V.O.C. 1087, ff.179-211vo (Copy).

### **Possible problems met during the missions**

*Highlight and justify any divergence and difficulty encountered*

No particular problems were faced

### **Other issues**

*Mention any other issues you deem relevant.*

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