## High Commission of India Windhoek

## **Press Release**

## INS Tushil's Historic Port Call at Walvis Bay, Namibia

The Indian Navy's latest multi-role stealth guided missile frigate, INS Tushil, is on a historic port call at Walvis Bay, Namibia, from January 21-23, 2025. This milestone visit marks the fifth Indian Naval Ship to visit Namibia in recent years, following INS Tarkash's visits in 2017, 2019, and 2022, and INS Sumedha's visit in 2023.

Upon arrival, INS Tushil received a warm reception from the Namibian Navy, Namport, and representatives from the High Commission of India. Commanding Officer Captain Peter Varghese paid a courtesy call on Rear Admiral Junior Grade Erastus Lazarus, Commander Naval Operations, to discuss bilateral naval cooperation, expanding professional ties, and strengthening maritime security in the region.

The Commanding Officer also engaged with senior leadership of the Namibian Navy, reinforcing bilateral maritime cooperation and strengthening ties between the two navies. Additionally, a meeting with Cllr. Ms. Saara Ndapewoshali Mutondoka, Deputy Mayor of Walvis Bay, promoted mutual understanding and a strong partnership. The Namibian Naval team and Port Captain were welcomed on board to witness INS Tushil's advanced capabilities and state-of-the-art technology.

The second day of the visit featured a rejuvenating yoga session, cross-deck visits, professional interactions, and friendly sports matches, fostering unity, well-being, and cooperation between the two nations. A Maritime Exercise (PASSEX) will be conducted to enhance interoperability and strengthen maritime cooperation between India and Namibia.

This visit underscores the importance India attaches to its relations with Namibia, consolidating bilateral relations, especially in the maritime domain. As INS Tushil departs Walvis Bay on January 23, 2025, it will continue promoting maritime diplomacy and cooperation in the region.

22 January 2025

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