

5. INS Tarkash makes port call at Namibia's Walvis Bay

Prelims: India- Bilateral Relations

Mains: GS-II- Bilateral, Regional and Global Groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India's Interests.

Why in News?

- ▶ In continuation of the Indian Navy's overseas deployment to Africa, Europe and Russia, INS Tarkash made a port call at the Walvis Bay in Namibia on Sunday for a three-day visit.

Highlights:

- ▶ The port call by INS Tarkash demonstrates India's warm ties with Namibia and its commitment to enhance operational reach, maritime security and its solidarity with friendly nations.
- ▶ INS Tarkash commanded by Captain Sathish Vasudev, is a state-of-the-art warship equipped with a versatile range of weapons and sensors.
- ▶ "Professional interactions are planned with the Namibian Navy towards further enhancing co-operation between the two forces. In addition, social engagements, exchange visit of ships, sports event and sharing of best practices are also organised.

Significance of Navy Ships on Bilateral ties:

- ▶ Indian Navy ships are regularly deployed as part of Indian Navy's mission of building 'bridges of friendship' and strengthening international cooperation with friendly countries as well as to address maritime concerns across the globe.
- ▶ The current visit seeks to accentuate India's peaceful presence and solidarity with friendly countries and, in particular, to strengthen the existing bonds of friendship between India and Namibia.
- ▶ India and Namibia have enjoyed warm and friendly bilateral relations sharing common values of democracy, development and secularism.
- ▶ A number of bilateral arrangements for co-operation and military exchange exist between the two countries.
- ▶ As part of its defence cooperation, India, over the years, has extended training to a large number of Namibian military officers in various military institutions.