



Press Release

Goodwill visit to Kenya by Indian Naval Ships

Indian Naval Ships “INS Mumbai”, “INS Talwar”, “INS Jamuna” and “INS Deepak” under the command of Flag Officer Commanding Western Fleet are on a two-month long overseas deployment to East Africa and the Indian Ocean Region on a goodwill visit to enhance bilateral relations and to engage in friendly naval exercises with other friendly regional Navies. These Naval Ships arrived Mombasa on October 15, 2014 and would depart on October 18. The visit is aimed at further bolstering bilateral ties and reinforcing cooperation in maritime security between India and Kenya; and India and East Africa. The tasks group is headed by one Rear Admiral, Flag Officer commanding Western Fleet who is flying his flag on “INS Mumbai”.

2. India has maintained ancient maritime tradition and her maritime interactions with countries of East Africa which dates back to many centuries. India and Kenya also have maintained historical maritime trading links. Indian Navy has close and friendly ties with all Navies of the region and has been regularly making goodwill port calls on them. Indian Navy is also privileged to provide training and hydrographic support to other Navies in the region. The involvement of Indian Naval Ships in combating piracy off the coast of Somalia since October 2008 has further strengthened bilateral ties and engagements.

3. The healthy state of naval cooperation between India and Kenya is evident from frequent port visits by Naval Ships, conduct of hydrographic surveys by Indian survey ships and training of Kenyan Naval personnel in India. India and Kenya are also members of Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS), a voluntary and cooperative initiative among 35 countries of the Indian Ocean Region which has served as a useful forum for sharing of information and pursuing cooperation on maritime issues. The current visit seeks to underscore India’s peaceful presence and solidarity with friendly countries of the East Africa region and to strengthen existing bonds of friendship and bilateral cooperation between India and Kenya.

4. High Commissioner of India and Rear Admiral hosted a joint reception onboard ‘INS Mumbai’ on October 17, 2014 in Mombasa for senior Kenyan Government officials and local dignitaries and diplomats.
