

Trump warns Musk of serious consequences if he funds Democratic candidates

WASHINGTON, DC, June 8 (ANI)

US PRESIDENT Donald Trump has warned Tesla CEO Elon Musk of "serious consequences" if he gives funding to Democratic candidates to run against Republicans who vote in support of the GOP's sweeping budget bill.

Speaking to NBC News in a phone interview on Saturday, Trump said, "If he does, he'll have to pay the consequences for that." However, he refused to mention the consequences.

He further said, "He'll have to pay very serious consequences if he does that." Trump said he does not wish to repair his ties

with Musk after the two had a public fallout. Musk and Trump have criticised each other on social media platforms X and Truth Social earlier this week.

When asked whether he wished to do so, Trump responded, "No." When asked whether his ties with Elon Musk were over, Trump responded, "I would assume so, yeah."

Donald Trump said he has no plans to speak with Musk anytime soon. He stated, "I'm too busy doing other things," adding, "I have no intention of speaking to him," NBC News reported.

He accused Musk of being "disrespectful to the office of the President."

India, Mongolia hold joint military drill 'Nomadic Elephant 2025' in Ulaanbaatar

NEW DELHI, June 8 (ANI)

THE 17th edition of the joint military exercise 'Nomadic Elephant 2025' between India and Mongolia is currently underway at the Special Forces Training Centre in Ulaanbaatar, the Indian Army said.

According to the Indian Army, the training focuses on conducting non-conventional operations in semi-urban and mountainous terrain under a United Nations mandate.

The objective is to enhance the operational capabilities of both forces. Participating contingents are actively exchanging best practices in counter-terrorism operations and precision sniping, thereby improving interoperability.

Through these joint drills, Indian and Mongolian forces aim



(Combo Picture) The 17th edition of the joint military exercise Nomadic Elephant 2025 between India and Mongolia is underway at the Special Forces Training Centre in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, on Sunday. (ANI)

to strengthen their ability to respond effectively to contemporary security challenges.

The 'Nomadic Elephant 2025' exercise began on May 31 and is scheduled to continue until June

13, 2025.

The opening ceremony was attended by key dignitaries, including India's Ambassador to Mongolia, Atul Malhari Gotsurve, and Major General Lkhagvasuren Ganselem from the Mongolian side.

Both leaders extended their best wishes to the participating troops and expressed hope that the exercise would further strengthen cooperation and mutual understanding between the armed forces of India and Mongolia.

They emphasised that the joint exercise would enhance the operational readiness of both armies and contribute to deepening the enduring defence relationship between the two nations.

This annual exercise is conducted alternately in India and Mongolia.

WETTEST May since 1901: IMD



NEW DELHI, June 8 (ANI)

THE India Meteorological Department (IMD) has reported that May 2025 was the wettest since 1901, with the country receiving an average rainfall of 126.7 mm last month.

The early onset of the South-West monsoon brought continuous rainfall across Southern and Eastern India, contributing to this record.

In a social media post on X, the IMD wrote, "The average

monthly rainfall for May 2025 over All-India (126.7 mm) and Central India (100.9 mm) was highest since 1901."

As per the MeT Department, rainfall over the country in the month of May 2025 was 126.7 mm, which is 106 per cent more than its Long Period Average (LPA) of 61.4 mm.

An official press release from the IMD reads, "Rainfall over the country as a whole for the month of May 2025 was 126.7 mm, which

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NASA, ISRO to launch private mission with Indian pilot

WASHINGTON DC, June 8 (ANI)

NATIONAL Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) on Saturday (local time) said that as part of a collaboration with ISRO, Axiom Mission 4 will be launched on June 10, the fourth private astronaut mission from Axiom Space, which will be piloted by Indian astronaut Shubhanshu Shukla.



Axiom Mission 4 delivers on a commitment highlighted by US President Donald Trump and Prime Minister Narendra Modi to send the first ISRO astronaut to the station.

The space agencies are participating in five joint science investigations and two in-orbit science, technology, engineering, and mathematics demonstrations. NASA and ISRO have a long-standing relationship

built on a shared vision to advance scientific knowledge and expand space collaboration, a statement by NASA said.

NASA, Axiom Space, and SpaceX are targeting 8:22 am (local time), Tuesday, June 10, for launch of the fourth private astronaut mission to the International Space Station, Axiom Mission 4. The mission will lift off from Launch Complex 39A at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida. The crew will travel to the orbiting laboratory on a new SpaceX Dragon spacecraft after launching on the company's Falcon 9 rocket. The targeted docking time is approximately 12:30pm, Wednesday (local time), June 11, as per NASA.

'Extremely fortunate to be part of space mission'

NEW DELHI, June 8 (PTI)

SHUKLA, who goes by the nickname "Shux", will be the second Indian to travel to space, 41 years after his idol Rakesh Sharma undertook a spaceflight in 1984 onboard erstwhile Soviet Union's Soyuz spacecraft for an eight-day stay in orbit.

"It has been an amazing journey; these are the moments that really tell you that you are getting to be a part of something that is much larger than yourself. I can only say how extremely fortunate I am to be a part of this," Lucknow-born Shukla said in a short video issued by Axiom Space ahead of Tuesday's launch.

Jaishankar embarks on week-long trip to Europe

NEW DELHI, June 8 (PTI)

EXTERNAL Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Sunday embarked on a week-long visit to Europe to hold talks with leaders of France, the European Union and Belgium to boost bilateral ties and reaffirm India's policy of zero-tolerance against terrorism.

Jaishankar's visit to Europe comes a month after India launched Operation Sindoor in response to the dastardly Pahalgam terror attack and it is expected that he will apprise the European leaders about New Delhi's firm approach in dealing with cross-border terrorism.

In the first leg of his tour, Jaishankar will visit France, a country that has emerged as an all-weather friend of New Delhi. "The External Affairs Minister would travel to Paris and Marseille where he would be holding bilateral discussions with his counterpart minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean Noel Barrot," the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said.

Jaishankar would also participate in the inaugural edition of the Mediterranean Raisina Dialogue to be held in the city of Marseille.

IAF to get Rs 10,000 cr indigenous I-STAR spy planes to help in precision strikes

■ By Ajit Dubey
NEW DELHI, June 8 (ANI)

AMID the ongoing Operation Sindoor against Pakistan, the Defence Ministry is going to take up Rs 10,000 crore proposal to buy three sophisticated spy planes to help Indian Air Force get a clear air-to-ground picture to carry out precision strikes against enemy ground targets like radar stations, air defence units and other mobile objects.

The Rs 10,000 crore project for the Intelligence, Surveillance, Target Acquisition and Reconnaissance (I-STAR) is expected to be taken up for clearance at a high-level Defence Ministry meeting scheduled to be held in the fourth week of June, defence officials told ANI.

The ISTAR provides air-to-ground surveillance to the forces to help them in carrying out precision strikes.

The spy aircraft project being



developed by the Defence Research and Development includes the acquisition of three aircraft through an open tender

from foreign manufacturers, including Boeing and Bombardier.

The onboard systems on the

aircraft would be completely indigenous, as the DRDO's Centre for Airborne Systems has already successfully developed them, they said.

The systems have already been proven and developed by the CABS and they will just have to be integrated with the three aircraft which would be acquired and modified for the purpose, they said.

The development of an ISTAR system would also add India to

a select club of nations with such a capability, including the US, UK, Israel and a few others.

ISTAR thus provides dynamic and time-sensitive targeting capability and contributes significantly to meeting the nation's security goals.

It will aid in limiting the scale and complexity of undetected hostile threats. It has multi-spectral surveillance capability to detect, locate and monitor irregular forces.