

Trump 2.0 requires shift in terms of engagement with US: Jaishankar

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The second Donald Trump presidency in the US requires an alteration in the terms of engagement but India does not see it as a challenge, said External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar.

"When I look around the world, there are countries that are looking at Trump 2.0 as a political challenge. We are not. And I think that separates us from a very large number of countries. We are in a much more advantageous position to translate 2.0 into a deeper relationship," Jaishankar said without naming any country, including China.

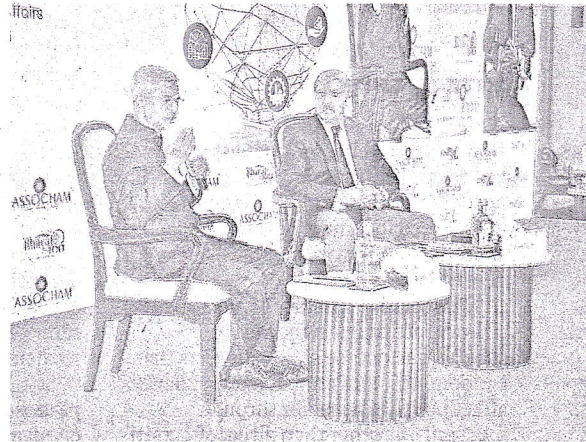
The Minister was speaking at an event hosted by industry body Assocham on Thursday.

But like everyone, India too would have its issues and will deal with them, he pointed out.

WAIT AND SEE

The minister said that while Trump 1.0 can be used as a model to analyse what is to happen, one need to wait and see as some things have changed in the last four years.

At the same time, based on the things Trump said earlier, the world had a general idea of possible things



THE WAY FORWARD. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar at an Assocham meet in New Delhi on Thursday PTI

that can happen in Trump 2.0. "The possible things (under Trump 2.0) are a stronger commitment to America's manufacturing sector...a belief that other partners have not been fair to America. So you have to change the terms of engagement or transactions," he said. The world is probably looking at a more business like America, that is looking at more immediate outcomes and results, he said, the minister said.

BENEFIT FOR BOTH

Outlining ways in which one could deal with such an America, the minister said that we could spread the message that interests of both countries are aligned

and anything that we do will benefit both (countries).

India also needs to look at where the interests of America, its largest trade partner and export destination, are and where will it need India, he said, adding that areas like semiconductors is important for mutual cooperation.

Trump called India a "big abuser" of trade relations between the two countries during his election campaign in Michigan in September this year.

The following month, at his campaign rally in Detroit, he said that India was the biggest tariff charger. He warned of reciprocal tariffs of 10 per cent on all countries and 60 per cent on China.

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