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Topic: ~~being~~ "Space Race is the Biggest Money Waster"

Outline

A) Introduction

B) Examples and Reasons for Space Race:

- Spying: (US - Russia)
- Resources (moon has water)
- Intelligence gathering
- Balance of power

C) Why Space Race is Biggest Money waster:

→ Other issues which need urgent addressal. which can be a potential threat to survival and well-being:

- 1) Climate change
- 2) Global Food Security

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3) AI and ethical issues

4) Gender Inequality

5) Global Health issues

6) Unemployment

7) Human Rights violations

**D) Investment Areas that
can ensure well being
and survival:**

1) AI: in health, agriculture
, climate

2) Trade: ^{reduces wars} dependancy on each other

3) Alliances: student exchange
programmes, job opportunities
, economic growth

E) Conclusion.

The Essay

In a world where unemployment, injustice, hunger and inequality are rampant, investing in space wars is similar to investing in fuel ~~when~~ without first buying a car. It is also similar to traveling without knowing where to go or what your destination is. Space race leads to space wars which further threaten the collective well being of humans as well as other species that have nothing to do with human ambitions and desires. Investing in climate, food security, AI can ensure better security and safety than space wars and space race.

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In the Cold War Era, Space war between Russia and United States (U.S) heightened.

The purpose was to spy and gather each other's activities (specially military), as well as targeting critical infrastructure.

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A ~~new~~ recent study shows the presence of water on moon's surface. This critical resource is necessary for cooling down systems of spacecrafts and satellites as well as for drinking purposes by using small distillation plants. This helps satellites and astronauts to stay on moon and space for longer periods to carry out their research with reduced cost of fuel needed to cool down the

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their spacecrafts.

Nuclear testing in space has been practiced during the cold war era. This ~~ensures~~ results in disruption of Balance of power ~~in~~ between Great Powers and helps a state establish its hegemony. Although this practice was banned through a treaty, deploying satellites and other surveillance systems has become the new norm of gaining superiority while disrupting Balance of power.

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The recent rain in UAE which caused flash flooding, killed 5 people while simultaneously destroying public infrastructure, is a proof of how unprepared we are for the impending doom of climate catastrophes. According to Global Methane Pledge, Methane (CH_4), which is 4 times more powerful greenhouse gas than CO_2 , receives only 2% of Climate funding. It is necessary to invest in critical infrastructure for climate resilience as well as climate policies to ensure survival, because without survival no one can go to space.

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Another threat to human existence comes in the shape of Global food security. This is driven by various factors including war and climate change. According to Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO), Global Food Price Index have ~~increased~~^{increased} by 20% since the Russian-Ukraine war began in ~~2020~~. 2022.

Countries dependant on Ukraine for food such as Pakistan, China and Africa faced soaring wheat prices. This underscores the need to invest in technology that boosts the indigenous capabilities of a country in food production. China and Pakistan should invest in agriculture for their growing population needs before jumping on projects like ICube
-Gamaa.

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In 2023, AI ^(Artificial Intelligence) driven chatbot convinced a man in Belgium to commit suicide so he ^{could} ~~can~~ save the planet from climate change. Another fatal incident was when in a Tesla engineer was killed by a Robot.

In 2018, self-driving Uber car struck and killed a pedestrian. The World Economic Forum predicts loss of 85 million jobs by 2050 due to AI. This underscores our lack of investment in formulating policies and training individuals for the threats posed by AI. New jobs such as AI Engineers, Trainers and Robotists will appear on the market but countries with ~~Robust~~ robust ecosystems will benefit. This underscores the need to invest in AI to bridge the digital divide.

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A report by OECD, "Bridging the Gender Digital Divide" revealed a stark figure where 347 million women globally don't have access to smartphones as compared to men. Literacy rate, according to Education Ministers, are 49% for women and 70% for men ^{in Pakistan}. Women forming 50% of global population and workforce lag behind in technology ~~and~~ well-being, and Education. Investment should be directed at this ~~work~~ workforce potential for the well-being of future generations as well as global economic growth.

Global Health issues such as obesity, Cardio-vascular diseases and diabetes are significantly impacting the quality lifestyle

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of individuals. Increase in cheap fast-food items and sedentary lifestyle has impacted health on a global scale which could lead to economic recession and a health emergency very soon. Pandemics like Covid-19 have also exposed our failure in health sector. Without a healthy workforce, no nation can achieve stability and security, hence it is vital to invest in global health issues and policies.

Currently, 4% of world's population is unemployed according to International Labour Organisation. This underscores the weaknesses of our Education system which has failed to produce skilled individuals as major part of this unemployed

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population is youth. Unemployed youth is easily exploited by extremist and terrorist groups which can threaten global security and peace. It is important to invest in this unemployed population to ensure survival.

While the world is busy in space wars, a family sits in a camp in Palestine wondering if they will see the sun tomorrow. They wonder if they will see the sun, then where will they get their next meal from, or will they get it or not.

The genocide of 36000 Palestinians & while the world sits and watches, has raised significant questions about the global "Human Rights" chartered in UN's UNHCR. The blockade of

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of aid and other necessities has killed more Palestinians than the bombs. The world needs to shift its direction and attention towards rebuilding these families and directing funds and investments in providing humanitarian access and aid to the besieged people.

There are ^{other} areas of investment other than space race which can ensure Balance of Power and peace by cutting down the need for spying, intelligence or the need to ~~re~~rehabilitate another planet ~~because~~ because the Earth is becoming too "inhabitable".

Investing in AI based precision farming, health monitoring systems and climate resilience can ensure better survival than space wars.

Using drones in precision farming can help in application of precise amounts of fertilizers and pesticides. This saves the resources, reduces the need for producing more and also cuts down the NO_x and Methane (CH_4) produced by these

fertilizers. Using AI in medical imaging can reduce the time for diagnosis. Aidoc is a imaging system which combines ~~data~~ imaging data with other health data to provide quick diagnosis. Cooperation in AI based technologies between states ~~encourages~~ fosters mutual trust which is necessary for

global peace and security.

Trade between states makes sure that they are inter-dependent and minimizes the chances of wars. Taiwan and China, despite their issues, have engaged in massive bilateral trade which has significantly minimised the risk of a major escalation. Investing in mutual trade is far better than investing in space race.

Alliances based on student exchange programmes, ensures more job opportunities for the unemployed population and fresh graduates. This collective economic growth and well-being acts as a deterrent to conflicts and ensures that well-being of

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people is the main priority.

Exploring another planet when your own home is burning from issues such as climate change and hunger, is will only guarantee destruction from unexpected places. The well being of all living and non-living organisms should be the number one priority of any government before they embark on other missions.

Space wars result not only in wastage of money, but other critical resources such as minerals, energy and labour needed to sustain them. These resources and their extraction results in environmental degradation which further threatens human survival. They can, instead,

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be directed for a climate
resilient, healthy and prosperous
human race.