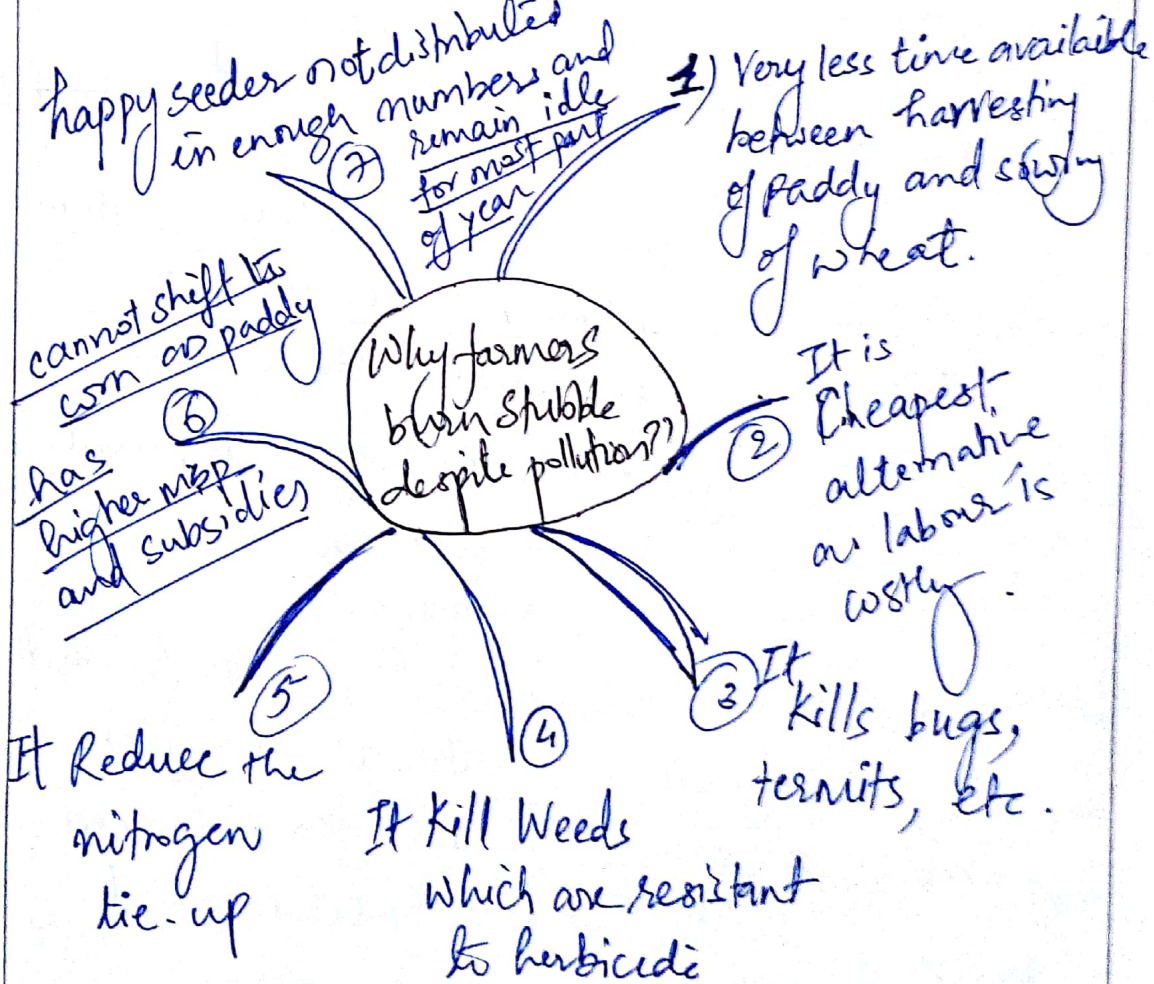
Q. Why do farmers burn Stubble, despite severe pollution? What steps can be taken to reduce stubble burning and the pollution that follows?

Recently, in the month of November, pollution level in Delhi reached the hazardous level and remain in 'severe-plus' category in several day exposing the 2 crore people in Delhi to 'choke' with disastrous consequences.

One of the critical reason for this pollution level is 'Stubble burning' in the State of Punjab, Haryana and Western Uttarpradesh.



Scanned by CamScanner

Steps that can be taken to reduce Stubble burning

i) Awareness Generation regarding the harmfull effect of burning the crop residue & them as they loose soil nutrients and increase of cancerogenic elements

ii) Subsiding the happy seeder machines and make their reach available to remote areas also

iii) Incenturize the farmers to shift to corn as paddy is water guzzling crop by transfessing subsidy of paddy to corn.

iv) Increase the market demand for corn by giving tax benefits to corn based industry. like poultry, starch mill etc

v) Create the market demand for paddy straw
- i) Biomass based power plants
- ii) Bio-refineries
- iii) Bio-pelletization in industrial boiler
- iv) use of fuel in Brick kilns

vi) Chattisgarh model → 'Gauthan'

↳ Bio-fertilizers can be made from paddy straw collected at common area for each village → Also provide employment to rular youth.

(vii) Apart from incentives and subsidies, government need to improve monitoring and enforcement mechanism through Remote Sensing technologies.

Thus, collective intervention through traditional wisdom and use of local resources along with sound administrative support and cooperation between various state government and central government can help in curbing the menace of stubble burning and consequent pollution.

Scanned by CamScanner