

Brief Summary of coverage: In 2016, India had recorded an estimated 39 lakh cancer patients. Worst affected states were UP, Maharashtra and Bihar. In 2016 Haryana was not in the list of worst affected states but in a budget session of 2018, Haryana Health Minister Mr Anil Vij mentioned that 5592 people died due to cancer in Haryana in 2017 which was highest in India. In 2017 around 13 people were dying due to cancer in Haryana every day. Faridabad district had the highest cancer death of 771. Main reason behind the increased number of cancer patients was rapid industrialization, poor sanitation and pollution. In its budget for 2017-18, the Haryana government had proposed Rs 3839.90 crore for health and family welfare which is an increase of 15.52 per cent increase than the 2016-17. The State Government had also envisaged opening a medical college in every district. The state government also spent over Rs 2.27 crore from January 2015 to January 2018 for treatment of cancer patients under various schemes. But do people are getting benefit from different schemes that the Haryana government has introduced. Are people getting proper treatment for cancer ? Does the Haryana government or Centre take proper steps to control pollution?

Not really, In ground everything seems to be different. Government is spending thousands of crore in swachhbharatabhiyan. But it is not being able to clean a 90KM long canal which is flowing between Okhla and Agra, covering many districts of Haryana like Ballabgarh, Faridabad, Palwal.

This is a series of four stories that focuses on this 90km poisonous canal. This series was aired in Primetime of NDTV India which anchored by Mr Ravish Kumar. Due to the poisonous water of the canal, many people are suffering from various serious diseases including cancer. This canal is flowing in between Okhla and Agra, covering some areas of Haryana and Rajasthan. Lakhs of hectares of Land are irrigated under this canal... Water in this canal has turned black and poisonous due to chemicals which are released by Industries. More than 200 villages are badly affected by this canal. Poisonous water of this canal has become the main reason of many diseases including cancer. Farmers use this poisonous water in their fields, resulting black wheats. This poisonous black chemical water has affected the groundwater also. This story exposes the government. Government spends crores of rupees on Cleaning river and swachhbharatabhiyan but this 90km canal which is the main cause of many deadly diseases has not been cleaned yet. Mr Mohapatra exposed to the government how water of this canal has turned deep black but no steps have not been taken by authorities.

Mr Mohapatra followed a series of these **stories for ten months**.

In the **first story (aired on 22 February, 2019)** Mr Mohapatra had gone to Dhatir area of Palwal. First story highlights

- **How Industries are polluting the water of the canal by releasing chemicals into it.**
- **Due to chemicals and wastage, how the colour of water has turned into deep black.**
- **How Farmers are forced to use this poisonous water in their agricultural field.**
- **How Black colour wheat's are produced from black water**
- **How farmers are forced to use the black wheat as they do not have any other option.**
- **Due to polluted water how people are suffering from serious diseases like cancer.**
- **How many people have died due to cancer?**
- **How people are doing local treatment for cancer as they do not have money. They are not getting Government help.**
- **How Government has not done anything to clean this water**

Second story (Impact story): After the first story some action was taken by NGT and some factories were closed down, Some factories were forced to install filter machines to filter chemical waters. Mr Mohapatra did an Impact story which is the second story of the series aired **on 26 August 2019**. In the second story Mr Mohapatra highlighted how things are changing in the Dhatir area of Palwal ? How NGT has taken action on those factories who were throwing chemicals into the canal? How Factories have spent crores of rupees to install filter machines ?

Third Story of series: Main motto of MrMohapatra was to cover more areas and to highlight the problems of villagers. In the month august 2019 ,MrMohapatra went to another Gram Panchayat which is in Ballabgarh area of Faridabad. This story highlights different problems. Due to this canal How agricultural land has been turned in moorland. Farmers are unable to do farming in their land. This story also highlights how people are suffering from different diseases. How houses of villagers are being damaged due to salty air which is coming due to the canal ? This is the third story of Series which aired on 29th August 2019.

Fourth story of series: The Fourth story of the series (**aired on 24 September**) highlights how sewage treatment plants (STP) in Haryana are not working ? Main work of STP plants is to filter the chemical waters which are coming from factories and households. After filtering the water STP plants need to release the water into the canal. Fourth story exposes how STP plants are in very bad condition? How has its filtering capacity been decreased? Actually it has no capacity to filter the chemical waters. It can only stop the wastes which are coming from households. On camera Government officials admitted that there is no STP plant in Haryana which has capacity to filter the chemical waters.