

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1690
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.02.2019**

TRACK MAINTENANCE BLOCKS

1690. SHRI G. HARI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways proposes to use artificial intelligence to manage track maintenance blocks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the artificial intelligence, that can diagnose the condition of rail tracks, will be used by the Railways to prepare a repair and replacement calendar and improve punctuality of trains and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is true that the unplanned track maintenance work is often cited as a reason for train operations descend into chaos; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)**

(a) and (b) No, Madam.

(c) Currently, Indian Railways does not have well-established technology to diagnose the condition of track assets. However, global established technology adopted for detection of broken rail, improved Ultrasonic Flaw detection (USFD) etc. to assess the condition of Rail are under trial on Indian Railways. Track Management System (TMS) already implemented on Indian Railways is utilized for monitoring track inspection, maintenance, track machine working and judging track degradation based on inputs from track recording cars and other inspection under prevailing operating conditions.

(d) and (e) No, Madam. Track maintenance works are planned in advance, in consultation with Department concerned, by arranging maintenance blocks, so that trains operation are not affected.
