

# **Effect of outsourcing on cost of railway track maintenance and repair**

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## **Abstract**

Nowadays in all parts of the world, majority of railways are conventional ballasted track systems, which their maintenance and renewal impose high costs to railway companies. For solving this problem, lots of methods and strategies have been supposed and evaluated by railway infrastructure experts that improvements in track maintenance management and privatization of track maintenance projects are among them. Iranian railway network is ballasted system and costs of maintenance, repair and renewal of this network allocate considerable amount of annual budget of the railway. In the past decades, all parts of Iranian railway were managed by government and all of staffs working in the field of construction, maintenance, repair and renovation of tracks were employees of government. In recent decade in order to modify the quality of track maintenance and repair operation and decrease the current costs of railway, maintenance and renovation of majority of Iranian's railway track network have been outsourced. In this paper the effects of outsourcing in track maintenance and repair costs will be documented.

Keywords: Maintenance cost, Outsourcing, Railway Privatization, Track Maintenance and repair

## **Introduction:**

Increasing travel rate and demand for goods transportation during recent decades and services resulted in improved different systems of transportation during recent years. This need for transportation and forecasted increasing demand rate during coming years caused transportation companies/forwarders to improve their services quality. Rail transportation, in

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