



# RBU

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## Report On: Guest- Lecture- “Operations Management Practices in the Aerospace Industry: A Six Sigma and Kaizen Perspective”

**Event Name:** Guest- Lecture “*Operations Management Practices in the Aerospace Industry: A Six Sigma and Kaizen Perspective*”

**Organized by:** Pro-Ops, Operations Club, School of Management

**Date & Time:** 17<sup>th</sup> January 2026 (11:00 am -1:00 pm)

**Venue:** DT-906

**Participants-** MBA, MBAI & BBA Students

**Prepared by:** Pro-Ops, The Operations Club, SOM, RBU

Operations Management Practices in the Aerospace Industry - *A Six Sigma and Kaizen Perspective*. The guest lecture was organized by the Operations Management Club (PRO-OPS) to provide students with industry-oriented insights into aerospace operations management.

### Objective of the Guest Lecture

The primary objective of the guest lecture was to expose students to real-world operations management practices in the aerospace industry, with a specific focus on the application of **Lean, Six Sigma, and Kaizen** methodologies in high-precision manufacturing environments. The session aimed to bridge the gap between theoretical concepts taught in the classroom and their practical implementation in globally competitive industries.

### Profile of the Speaker

Mr. Vivek Rao is a seasoned operation professional currently serving as Operations Manager at Dassault Reliance Aerospace Ltd. With more than 15 years of industry experience, he has contributed to globally renowned aerospace programs such as the **Apache, Chinook, and Sikorsky S-92**. His expertise spans operational excellence, quality management, continuous improvement, and zero-defect manufacturing systems.

### Overview of the Session

The session was graced by the presence of **Prof. Leena Kapse (SDC In-charge), Dr. Deepti Taori (Club- In- Charge), and Dr. Rekha Chatare, (Faculty In-Charge – Operations Club)**. The guest speaker was formally **felicitated by Prof. Leena Kapse**, acknowledging his valuable contribution and industry expertise. **Dr. Deepti Taori highlighted the importance of such guest lectures** in bridging the gap between academic learning and industry practices, and in preparing students for real-world managerial challenges.

The lecture began with an overview of the aerospace manufacturing ecosystem, highlighting the stringent quality, safety, and regulatory requirements governing the industry. A total of 64 students from the School of Management actively participated in the guest lecture. Mr. Rao emphasized that aerospace operations demand **near-zero tolerance for error**, making robust **operations planning, process control, and continuous improvement** indispensable in aircraft manufacturing.



Mr. Rao elaborated on how **Lean , 5S and Six Sigma methodologies** are deployed to reduce process variation, eliminate waste, and prevent defects, supported by real-life examples from aircraft component manufacturing and final assembly lines. The framework was explained through practical illustrations, enabling students to understand how **data-driven decision-making** strengthens operational reliability and compliance in aerospace operations.



The session also focused on **Kaizen as a cultural practice** rather than a one-time improvement initiative. Mr. Rao shared insights on employee involvement, standard work, visual management, and incremental improvements that collectively lead to significant productivity, quality, and cost advantages.

Special emphasis was placed on the **growing aerospace ecosystem in Nagpur** and its potential to become a future-ready manufacturing hub. He has also discussed emerging opportunities for **MBA graduates in operations, quality, supply chain, and continuous improvement roles**, encouraging students to build competencies in Lean, Six Sigma, analytics, and problem-solving to enhance their industry readiness and career prospects.

At the end of the session, an interactive **question-and-answer session** was conducted, during which students actively asked numerous questions related to different **MBA domains**, particularly **supply chain management, operations, quality, and career pathways in the aerospace industry**. The speaker addressed these queries with practical insights, making the session highly engaging and informative. The lecture was highly interactive, with students actively participating in discussions and asking questions related to internships, career pathways, and skill requirements in the aerospace industry. The session provided valuable clarity on industry expectations and emerging opportunities in operations and quality management roles.

## Key Topics Covered

- Operations management challenges in the aerospace industry
- Zero-defect and high-precision manufacturing systems
- Application of Six Sigma tools in aerospace operations
- Role of Kaizen in continuous improvement and cost optimization
- Integration of Lean principles with quality and safety standards

## Learning Outcomes

At the end of the session, participants were able to:

- Understand how operations management principles are applied in the aerospace sector
- Relate Six Sigma concepts to real-world manufacturing problems
- Appreciate the importance of continuous improvement through Kaizen
- Recognize the role of operations managers in ensuring quality, efficiency, and compliance



## Conclusion

The guest lecture was informative, insightful, and highly relevant to management students specializing in operations. It successfully connected academic concepts with industry practices and inspired students to adopt a data-driven and continuous improvement mindset. The PRO-OPS club extends its sincere gratitude to Mr. Vivek Rao for sharing his expertise and enriching the learning experience of the participants.