INTEGRAL INDIAN PERSPECTIVE OF QUALITY MANAGEMENT
FROM SIX SIGMA TO FIFTEEN SIGMA – AN INQUIRY

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ABSTRACT
The world moves around the concept of Quality Engineering and Management in the 21st Century. The most prominent yard stick of the quality in the world of industry is “Six Sigma”. The origin of this concept though very recent but credit goes to Japan as a contributor from its oriental practices, from “Martial Arts”, and from Buddhism. The world follows Japanese techniques as the best practices of improving quality. In fact the reality is that, quality concepts and practice originated in India – evidences are Arthashastra, Nitishastra, Rajdanda etc. Japan learnt these concepts and techniques from India through Buddhism and Buddhist monks. Here it has been examined, the concept of “Six Sigma” which originated in India. This article goes in to the historical and the philosophical perspectives to provide an insight in to the origin of quality yard sticks in India in its oriental literature and it’s the then contemporary practices. Indian scholars in the present time do have more interest in learning the management techniques from the foreign presentations rather going for a “Renaissance” of Indian Management Systems (IMS), which are more sound and appropriate for the future world.

KEY WORDS: Six Sigma, Fifteen Sigma, Buddhism, Martial Arts, Nine Sigma, Chanakya, Samurai System.

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