MIT INDIA READING GROUP
ACTIVITIES DURING JUNE-2006 – MAY 2007

1. First Meeting: June 10, 2007

2. 27 + 3 (undocumented) meetings over 12 months. (2.5 meetings per month)
   a. 18 meetings on Education
   b. 9 meetings on Innovation

3. 27 meetings documented on the wiki, http://web.mit.edu/sangam/mirg

4. Average Attendance: Between 5-7 member per meeting

5. 4 invited speakers:
   a. Karthik Muralidharan, PhD Student, Harvard University
   b. Tom Greene, CSAIL Outreach Officer
   c. Melli Annamalai, ASHA Boston
   d. Vidyaji, AID Hyderabad
   e. Bala Warrier, Agastya, India : Talk organized under banner of Sangam.

6. Produced 1 report on education at end of summers titled “ELEMENTARY EDUCATION IN INDIA: How do we get a 20 year jump?”


8. Inspired the starting of Berkeley India Reading Group. See http://groups.google.com/group/BIRG

9. Spin-offs and Interactions
   a. Instrument for teaching language: A project to make a hand-held device for instructorless language learning. (Not completed)
   b. Curriculum Wiki: An online tool for open-source curriculum development (In progress)
   c. Interacted with One Laptop Per Child: Details of action not disclosed.
   d. Interacted with Ayan, Sloan MIT and Priya, MIT Poverty Action Lab with regard to their social venture. They are now called The Spark Group.
   e. Interacted with Annie Bertrand of India Schoolhouse Fund in various ways.
f. Interacted with Young India Dream and discussed Right to Education bill.
g. Interacted with AID Hyderabad and designed experiments for their program.

10. MIRG has a mailing list of 59 members, members being all across the world.

11. Acknowledgments:

   a. Sangam for food money, $200 for Spring 2007 and all other cooperation.
   b. Thanks to Anna Agarwal for doing a great job as webmaster.
   c. Thanks to Anup and Rohit in hosting group meetings at their apartment.
   d. Thanks to all members for support, cooperation and encouragement.

-Varun Aggarwal
Coordinator, MIRG, 06-07