

Monitoring and Evaluation of the Utilization of the Merdeka Mengajar Platform in Education Unit

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ABSTRACT

The development of digital technology has had a significant impact on aspects of education. The Merdeka Mengajar platform provides opportunities for digitalization in terms of increasing competition and curriculum development. This article uses the systematic literature method. The data collection used in this research is to find the results of relevant previous research. The purpose of this article is to see how to monitor and evaluate the use of the Merdeka Mengajar Platform in educational units. The findings obtained show that the Merdeka Mengajar Platform really provides benefits to teachers in teaching and learning activities in the classroom. The conclusion of the Merdeka Mengajar Platform in educational units is that the Merdeka Mengajar Platform can improve teachers' skills and competencies in learning and curriculum development. Apart from that, students can also access various learning materials, videos and interactive activities provided by the Merdeka Mengajar Platform.

Keyword: *Merdeka Mengajar Platform; Monitoring and Evaluation; Utilization*

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1. INTRODUCTION

The development of digital technology has had a significant impact on various aspects of life, including education. (Nurhayani, 2023). The importance of an educator's abilities greatly influences the quality of learning in the current digital era, this is because educators are designers, implementers and evaluators of learning (Setiariny, 2023). In an effort to overcome challenges and fulfill hopes for a bright future, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology (Kemendikbudristek) launched the Merdeka Mengajar on Merdeka Belajar platform. The aim of this platform is to provide freedom to educational units in developing curriculum, learning methods and assessments that suit local needs and student potential.

The Merdeka Mengajar Platform provides equal opportunities for all teachers in Indonesia to be able to learn and improve their competencies whenever and wherever they are (Arnes et al., 2023) because the learning features in the Merdeka Mengajar Platform provide various independent training facilities to obtain various training materials. quality and also able to increase the competence of elementary school teachers through the Merdeka Mengajar Platform. Apart from that, it also explains the Merdeka Mengajar Platform as a place for teachers to improve their competence, especially in practicing the independent curriculum. (Kemendikbudristek, 2023). The Merdeka Mengajar platform can provide equal opportunities for teachers to continue to improve and develop their learning competencies whenever and wherever they are (Mahadi et al., 2022). So monitoring and evaluation is needed in educational units related to the platform

2. RESEARCH METHOD

This article was written using a systematic literature review. The study was carried out systematically using accurate and relevant research results. The aim of a systematic literature review is to attempt to search comprehensively, carry out analysis, and find results so that they can be used in studying

theory. The approach used in writing this article is qualitative. The data collection used in this research is to find relevant results from previous research.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on monitoring and evaluation of the use of the independent learning platform. In research by Arnes (2023), it was found that 90.3% of PPKn teachers at State Middle Schools in Sijunjung Regency felt the benefits of using this platform starting from inspiration, references and a deep understanding of the nature and implementation of the independent curriculum. (Arnes et al., 2023). It is proven that the independent teaching platform is useful for teachers to motivate, inspire and provide input and even appreciate the work of fellow teachers throughout Indonesia. The same research findings were also carried out by Aditya (2023), the use of the Merdeka Belajar Bahasa Indonesia application in Surakarta City Middle Schools has had a positive impact on students' language skills as well as teachers' skills in teaching and learning activities in the classroom. Improvements in writing, speaking and reading comprehension skills show the great potential of the Merdeka Mengajar platform in helping to improve the quality of education in the Indonesian language sector. (Aditya et al., 2023). Apart from that, students can also access various learning materials, videos and interactive activities provided by the Merdeka Mengajar Platform to expand their knowledge outside the classroom.



Figure. Merdeka Mengajar Application

Merdeka Mengajar Application

The Merdeka Mengajar platform in application format which can be downloaded and installed on Android devices has more complete features. After logging in using the Belajar.id account, the teacher will go to the main page which has four main windows, namely Home, Class, Latest Info and Settings. The Home section consists of a collection of Popular Content, Teacher Development, Teaching and Learning Activities, and About the Independent Curriculum. The advantage of the Merdeka Mengajar Platform in application form is that it offers a collection of popular content and inspirational videos. The popular content collection contains a collection of projects aimed at increasing the visibility of Pancasila students. The content available in this feature consists of various videos for understanding and examples of project modules to increase the profile of Pancasila students. Inspiration Videos include various videos related to our unique curriculum that have passed the curation of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology. Another advantage of the Merdeka Mengajar Platform application is that teachers have the opportunity to manage their classes and receive the latest information regarding teaching, especially the Independent Curriculum. Class management allows teachers to add classes, add and delete students, as well as add and assess assessments for the classes they create. For the latest information, teachers can find out about competitions, webinars, news, as well as the latest regulations and guidelines in the field of education, especially in the independent curriculum.

Some technical problems that are often encountered regarding the use of the Merdeka Mengajar platform are:

1. The teacher has not yet received and created a Belajar.id account
2. Teachers who have activated their Belajar.id account but forgot the password
3. Teachers do not yet know the strategy for completing independent training on the Merdeka Mengajar platform

To answer problems number 1 and 2, coordination with Dapodik operators is needed. This is because the Dapodik operator is the party who best understands the problems related to managing the Belajar.id account in each school. Teachers who have not yet received a Belajar.id account are advised to submit a letter of application addressed to the Pusdatin Integrated Services Unit of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology. The application letter is sent online via electronic mail or email. After that, the teacher concerned is advised to continue coordinating with Dapodik operators to monitor the results. If the

account and password have been published, the teacher can activate the account so that it can be used to access the Merdeka Mengajar platform. Apart from that, teachers who have activated their Belajar.id account but have forgotten the password are welcome to contact the admin appointed by the Dapodik operator to reset the password. If the password has been reset, the teacher must repeat the account activation and change the password. Admins who can manage a Belajar.id account are educational staff who have registered with the Dapodik application and also have a Belajar.id account. As for the strategy for completing independent training on the Merdeka Mengajar platform, teachers who have successfully completed independent training can explain to teachers who are not yet proficient about how to carry out post tests or real actions. (Rohimat et al., 2022)

Utilization of the Merdeka Mengajar Platform

Utilization of the Merdeka Mengajar Platform

1. Inspirational Videos, contains many inspirational videos that can be used as inspiration for teachers in improving their educational competencies which have been provided on the Merdeka Mengajar Platform.
2. Independent Training, providing training that can improve teacher competency in education in the form of post tests which aim to determine the extent of teacher understanding in mastering the modules that have been provided
3. Real Action, is a form of practice in the Teacher's understanding of the topics studied in the independent training, as well as the final activity to complete one Independent Training topic. It should be noted that teachers need to take real action first. After carrying out the Real Action, the Teacher documents it in a written document and completes the Real Action Sheet on the Merdeka Mengajar Platform.
4. Proof of My Work, is a container for proof of the teacher's work which is the achievements that have been achieved while carrying out the profession as a teacher.

4. CONCLUSION

The conclusion from the monitoring and evaluation of the Merdeka Mengajar Platform in educational units is that the Merdeka Mengajar Platform can improve teachers' skills and competencies in learning and curriculum development. Apart from that, students can also access various learning materials, videos and interactive activities provided by the Merdeka Mengajar Platform

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