



## Movers School Teachers' Perceptions of the Implementation of Merdeka Belajar Curriculum in the Central Ternate PAUD Cluster

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**Abstract**— This study aims to determine the Perceptions of Movers School Teachers Regarding the Implementation of Merdeka Belajar Curriculum in the Central Ternate PAUD Unit. This research is a descriptive qualitative research, with the research subjects being 6 PAUD teachers who have carried out the government program 'driving school' in Central Ternate. Data collection techniques in this study were carried out by observation, interviews, and documentation, with analysis techniques: data reduction, data display, and verification. The results of the research found that 1). Central Ternate PAUD driving school teachers have a positive perception and get a very good appreciation of the Merdeka Belajar curriculum. Teachers see this independent learning curriculum as an opportunity to provide diverse, creative, and interesting learning experiences for children. 2). There are several factors that become challenges, namely, first, the inadequate quality of the teacher's human resources, second, minimal learning facilities and resources or inadequate infrastructure.

**Keywords**— Curriculum, Freedom to Learn, Teacher Perception

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### I. INTRODUCTION

Curricula change over time in line with the dominant educational philosophies of academics and administrators. The role of teachers in implementing the curriculum has changed over the past few decades (KAYIR and TORAMAN, 2021). Curriculum change is an important element in

education system reform (Abduh, et all, 2022). The Indonesian Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology (Kemendikbudristek) launched the new curriculum officially by Medikbudristek Nadiem Makarim in February 2022. Merdeka Belajar is a learning concept that creates a free and independent situation for students and

institutions from early childhood education to higher education.

Problems related to curriculum changes can lead to new teacher perceptions. Exploring information about teacher perceptions of teacher perceptions is relevant as an alternative solution to the problem of curriculum change. With this perception, policy makers will know the teacher's response to the readiness, understanding, or deepening of the new curriculum, understanding, or deepening of the new curriculum (Hidayah, et al, 2022).

Through independent learning, students are directed to have 21st century competencies, namely communication, creativity, collaboration, and critical thinking. By having these 4C competencies, students will not only be memorizers of lessons, but will be able to create new things or new innovations for Indonesia in all fields, have social skills to cooperate and have character, ethics and morals. In the concept of early childhood learning, independent learning reaffirms the meaning of real learning that occurs in PAUD. How happy if this concept is realized again because that is the real world of children, they no longer need to do LKA (Children's Activity Sheet) with the concept of CALISTUNG (read write count) which will curb the world of children.

The process of running and achieving a curriculum, the teacher has an active role in curriculum implementation (Mikser et al, 2023, Birney and McNamara, 2022), in order to make the curriculum a success. Educators are required to have the ability to implement and succeed the teaching and learning process with the curriculum that applies in schools. the curriculum is organized to be responsive to learning developments and students to have a deep understanding of existing concepts (Tesfaye, 2021). The ability of teachers to run the curriculum will be a benchmark in the successful implementation of the current curriculum. Running or not A curriculum depends on a teacher's proficiency and ability to understand the curriculum. Early childhood teachers can help students to do all

this and more by providing learning through play (Alharbi and Alzahrani 2020). The independent curriculum is similar to the Emergent Curriculum (Jones, 1989 in Aslan 2018) in that 1. Education does not consist of planned events, but rather learning moments that occur in the learning and play environment and Children's freedom to behave according to their interests is an important factor for children's self-confidence and successful self-development.

Curriculum is always on the agenda of change in Turkey. change in Turkey, curriculum is important for teachers' attitudes towards curriculum for practitioners. The completion of the curriculum development process and the attitude of teachers in the curriculum evaluation process greatly affect the success of the curriculum (KAYIR and TORAMAN, 2021).

Ntumi (2016) *examined the challenges ECD teachers face in implementing the early childhood curriculum; exploring the teaching methods used by ECD teachers in Cape Coast Metropolitan City. This study used a descriptive survey as the research design. ECD teachers are faced with many challenges in implementing the early childhood curriculum. Prominent among these are that most ECD teachers do not understand the ECD curriculum, ECD teachers do not have enough teaching and learning materials to help them implement the ECD curriculum, parents do not involve themselves in education in their neighborhoods making it difficult for ECD to do the job alone. It was also revealed that teachers, teaching and learning materials are the main factors affecting the implementation of the ECD curriculum. The researcher recommends that private and government owners who oversee ECD programs conduct frequent in-service training for teachers and parents on the early childhood education curriculum.*

Aboagye and Yawson, (2020) revealed that the current curriculum does not include content that is difficult to teach, but contains a lot of workload, lacks teaching and learning materials, and includes

a long learning time. According to Kreitner & Kinicki (2007: 207), that perception is a cognitive process that enables us to interpret and understand our surroundings, recognition of objects in one of these process ajor functions. Perception is a cognitive process that allows us to interpret and understand our surroundings. Teacher perception in a curriculum change is very important to enable teachers to wholeheartedly implement the new curriculum.

Based on preliminary observations made by researchers in January 2023 at PAUD Charis and PAUD Alkhairaat Kalumpang, in readiness for the implementation of the independent learning curriculum, researchers found out that each teacher already had their own perceptions about the independent learning curriculum but teachers were worried that the implementation of the independent learning curriculum would increase their workload. This curriculum requires teachers to develop and compile diverse teaching materials and develop learning content that suits the needs of each child. This can require additional time and effort, which may make teachers feel overwhelmed. Implementing an independent learning curriculum requires new knowledge and skills that some teachers do not yet possess. Teachers need to improve their competencies in terms of developing customized learning materials and using technology. Based on the above background, it is the basis for the researcher's thinking to examine "Perceptions of Movers School Teachers Regarding the Implementation of the Independent Learning Curriculum in the Central Ternate PAUD Unit".

## II. RESEARCH METHODS

This research was conducted in the Central Ternate PAUD cluster, with Charis PAUD and Alkhairaat Kalumpang PAUD. The research subjects were taken because both institutions have implemented the independent learning curriculum in the Central Ternate cluster area. This research was conducted in February - April 2023. The type

of research conducted is descriptive qualitative research which aims to understand the conditions of a context by directing to a detailed and in-depth description of the portrait of conditions in a natural context, about what actually happens in the field (Sudaryono, 2017). The research subjects were Charis PAUD (3 people) and Alkhairaat Kalumpang PAUD (3 people) who were willing to be resource persons. The data collection technique:

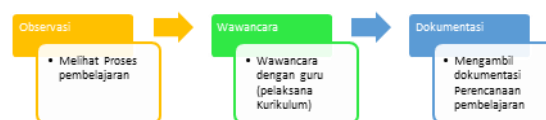


Figure 1 Data collection technique

Qualitative data analysis techniques use the Melis and Huberman model, namely data reduction, data presentation, and conclusion drawing/verification. Sugiyono (2015).

## III. RESULT DISCUSION

Based on the findings in the field conducted by the author on the Perception of Movers School Teachers Regarding the Implementation of Merdeka Belajar Curriculum in the Central Ternate PAUD Unit, with the following findings:

### 1. Stimuli that individuals absorb from outside themselves

#### a. How do you perceive the independent learning curriculum policy

Based on the results of interviews conducted with PAUD Alkhairaat Kalumpang teachers (RA, Wednesday, March 08, 2023) stated that:

"In my opinion, the independent learning curriculum is a new curriculum for our driving school, so at first we had difficulties but thankfully there were instructions, we were assisted by guidebooks provided from the center. Alhamdulillah there is a little understanding and we can apply it in this school."

Based on the results of interviews conducted with PAUD Alkhairaat Kalumpang teachers (IN, Thursday, March 09, 2023) stated that:

"In my opinion, the independent learning policy is good, but it's back to us teachers because we have to betul-betul understand this curriculum."

Based on the results of interviews conducted with PAUD Alkhairaat Kalumpang teachers (NA, Friday, March 10, 2023) stated that:

"Yes, the policy is good because it provides opportunities for children to develop their talents or interests."

Based on the results of interviews conducted with Charis PAUD teachers (EA, Wednesday, March 15, 2023) stated that:

"In my opinion, the independent curriculum is good, the good thing is why because we participate in PSP every once a month if I'm not mistaken, so we are given material for how to participate in how to prepare lesson plans and even modules, so I think that the independent curriculum is good because it is easier, because if you have made a teaching module, you don't need an RPPM, if K13 has an RPPM, if the teaching module is already there once, it's a bit easier, so you only make teaching modules and RPPH, but before that you have to make a concept map."

Based on the results of interviews conducted with Charis PAUD teachers (EN, Thursday, March 16, 2023) stated that:

"In my opinion, the independent curriculum policy is good, because it is somewhat easier than the previous curriculum, if you already understand the independent curriculum, you can say it is easy, because we are already comfortable with K13, so at the beginning we said it was difficult,"

Based on the results of interviews conducted with Charis PAUD teachers (DA, Friday, March 17, 2023) stated that:

"Yes, about the policy, it is good because through this independent learning, it provides opportunities for children to express their own thoughts, which although there is guidance from the teacher, the teacher as a facilitator provides opportunities for children to develop the talents they have."

Based on the results of the interviews above, it can be concluded that teachers respond positively to the independent learning curriculum policy, they see it as a positive step in improving the quality of education and providing greater opportunities for children to develop their potential.

#### **b. How do you prepare for the implementation of the independent learning curriculum**

Based on the results of interviews conducted with PAUD Alkhairaat Kalumpang teachers (RA, Wednesday, March 08, 2023) stated that:

"We must be ready for this independent learning curriculum, if the teacher is not ready, he cannot implement what is recommended in the curriculum, so we need readiness if there is no readiness, learning cannot take place, we must be ready to understand the curriculum."

Based on the results of interviews conducted with PAUD Alkhairaat Kalumpang teachers (IN, Thursday, March 09, 2023) stated that:

"As for the readiness in the classroom, for example, the lesson plans have been compiled in advance, like this week he has a plant theme, well that's from last week, so we are ready for what we teach in class like that."

Based on the results of interviews conducted with PAUD Alkhairaat Kalumpang teachers (NA, Friday, March 10, 2023) stated that:

"I answered ee, so for the readiness itself in the class, for example, the lesson plan that you arrange is rich in air themes, so you make three activities so later you ask the children which activities they want to cut and paste and draw, so if they choose that one, then you learn that one, so you adjust it to the child's interests."

Based on the results of interviews conducted with Charis PAUD teachers (EA, Wednesday, March 15, 2023) stated that:

"The readiness is like a teaching module, the teaching module is for a week so for example, for example, rich in the current theme, the theme of imagination is the big theme, well then after that make a teaching module there is about animals, right broad imagination, so what we prepared was

last Saturday's teaching module about animals, but back to the child's interest, what he wants to learn so."

Based on the results of interviews conducted with PAUD Charis teachers (EN, Thursday, March 16, 2023) stated that:

"As for the readiness itself, of course, in the classroom it has been prepared in advance, meaning that the readiness is one week before learning. But only prepared so that later in the new class see the situation iko children's interests."

Based on the results of interviews conducted with Charis PAUD teachers (DA, Friday, March 17, 2023) stated that:

"The readiness is yes because we have participated in training so we have to keep following the decisions of the department of cultural education such as with the examples that have been in or the materials that have been delivered, we have to although not fully yes but we are trying to do about the implementation of the curriculum, that's why until now there are still facilitators who facilitate people because it is not that easy for us to implement it there must be guidance, there must be assistance."

Based on the results of the interview above, it can be concluded that teachers have readiness in the implementation of learning such as by preparing learning needs in the form of lesson plans and supporting learning media.

## **2. Individual understanding of objects/phenomena**

### **a. How do you perceive the concept of independent learning**

Based on the results of interviews conducted with PAUD Alkhairaat Kalumpang teachers (RA, Wednesday, March 08, 2023) stated that:

"In my opinion, in implementing the independent learning curriculum, I follow the concept initiated by the Minister of Education and as much as possible I must understand the curriculum."

Based on the results of interviews conducted with PAUD Alkhairaat Kalumpang teachers (IN, Thursday, March 09, 2023) stated that:

"In my opinion, the concept in the implementation of this independent learning curriculum is one of helping students develop their personalities, expand knowledge and train skills."

Based on the results of interviews conducted with PAUD Alkhairaat Kalumpang teachers (NA, Friday, March 10, 2023) stated that:

"The independent learning curriculum initiated by Minister Nadiem Makarim in my perception has been very helpful, especially I highlighted the simple lesson plan."

Based on the results of interviews conducted with PAUD Charis teachers (EA, Wednesday, March 15, 2023) stated that:

"The concept of independent learning means that students are no longer burdened with various problems starting from the learning process."

Based on the results of interviews conducted with Charis PAUD teachers (EN, Thursday, March 16, 2023) stated that:

"In my opinion, the concept of independent learning is applied in the education environment not only focusing on the teacher as an educator but students as learning objects are able to develop their creativity in working, creating new things in the world of education."

Based on the results of interviews conducted with Charis PAUD teachers (DA, Friday, March 17, 2023) stated that:

"The perception is good because the concept of independent learning for children is that it gives full opportunity to children to be able to develop their own thoughts, so that even though people say it is not as easy as turning the palm of the hand, which should have been the K13 curriculum, everything is focused on the teacher but now the focus is on students."

Based on the results of the interviews above, it can be concluded that teachers respond positively to the concept of an independent learning curriculum in giving children the freedom to learn

according to their interests, so as to increase motivation and learning outcomes. They consider that this concept allows children to be more active in learning and provides space for their creativity.

b. How mothers perceive the learning independence version of the lesson plan

Based on the results of interviews conducted with PAUD Alkhairaat Kalumpang teachers (RA, Wednesday, March 08, 2023) stated that:

"In my opinion, in essence, he has the same goal, it's just that he has a different implementation and preparation but the goal is the same, so if I think it's easy, it's the independent learning version of the lesson plan."

Based on the results of interviews conducted with PAUD Alkhairaat Kalumpang teachers (IN, Thursday, March 09, 2023) stated that:

"For this independent learning lesson plan, in my opinion, it is quite good because it is only a little, at the beginning I didn't really understand it, but I learned it so I understood it."

Based on the results of interviews conducted with PAUD Alkhairaat Kalumpang teachers (NA, Friday, March 10, 2023) stated that:

"In my opinion, the independent learning version of the lesson plan is good, it is not much different from the previous lesson plan, it's just more simple, like I said earlier."

Based on the results of interviews conducted with PAUD Charis teachers (EA, Wednesday, March 15, 2023) stated that:

"For me, I may be used to K13, but after I learned the independent curriculum, it was not too difficult, maybe it was understood, but at the beginning I found it difficult."

Based on the results of interviews conducted with PAUD Charis teachers (EN, Thursday, March 16, 2023) stated that:

"In my opinion, for the lesson plan itself, at first I thought it was a bit difficult, because I was also used to the previous curriculum, but now I understand more and more."

Based on the results of interviews conducted with Charis PAUD teachers (DA, Friday, March 17, 2023) stated that:

"The perception is actually not to say that it is difficult, it's just that now for preparation in the lesson plan we have to make a teaching module and the learning module should be developed in the lesson plan which used to be that we had to prepare from what used to be called the annual program, then entered the semester, then entered the weekly and entered the lesson plan but now we just enter directly from the big title of the big theme then enter the learning module."

Based on the results of the interview above, it can be concluded that teachers respond positively to the independent learning lesson plan because it prioritizes flexibility, this learning model allows teachers to pay more attention to the individual needs of children, choosing appropriate learning methods.

### **3. Evaluation done by individuals on objects**

#### **a. What do you think about the advantages of the independent learning curriculum**

Based on the results of interviews conducted with PAUD Alkhairaat Kalumpang teachers (RA, Wednesday, March 08, 2023) stated that:

"As for the advantages, we know the interests of children during the learning process because it is tailored to their interests."

Based on the results of interviews conducted with PAUD Alkhairaat Kalumpang teachers (IN, Thursday, March 09, 2023) stated that:

"In my opinion, for the advantages, we can find out what the child likes to learn, what his interests are in which fields, for example if he wants to color he can color according to his field so we know what his strengths are."

Based on the results of interviews conducted with PAUD Alkhairaat Kalumpang teachers (NA, Friday, March 10, 2023) stated that:

"As for the advantages themselves, of course we can know the child's interests, like oo this child he likes to learn this, he wants this so I think that's the advantage of this curriculum."

Based on the results of interviews conducted with PAUD Charis teachers (EA, Wednesday, March 15, 2023) stated that:

"If he has advantages, we can know what interests this child, in class he likes to learn what is like that, so it's more about the child's interests."

Based on the results of interviews conducted with Charis PAUD teachers (EN, Thursday, March 16, 2023) stated that:

"The advantage is that usually you are in the classroom, the independent curriculum in fish is slightly different from K13, if you are in the classroom, you also directly ask what children's interests are, meaning that you also adjust it to what people have an interest in."

Based on the results of interviews conducted with Charis PAUD teachers (DA, Friday, March 17, 2023) stated that:

"The advantages of the independent learning curriculum are the advantages of one, yes children can be independent and can develop the talents possessed by the students themselves, that's the advantage."

Based on the results of the interviews above, it can be concluded that the advantages of the independent learning curriculum are that it can increase children's interest in learning, develop critical thinking skills, and actively involve children in the learning process.

#### **b. What do you think about the weaknesses of the independent learning curriculum?**

Based on the results of interviews conducted with PAUD Alkhairaat Kalumpang teachers (RA, Wednesday, March 08, 2023) stated that:

"As for the curriculum itself, there are no weaknesses so the weaknesses are us as educators and dealing with students, if for the weaknesses themselves there are none."

Based on the results of interviews conducted with PAUD Alkhairaat Kalumpang teachers (IN, Thursday, March 09, 2023) stated that:

"The curriculum is adjusted to the times, meaning that previously K13 was now independent learning so they apply the independent learning

curriculum because they know that independent learning is suitable for us, so I don't think there are any weaknesses."

Based on the results of interviews conducted with PAUD Alkhairaat Kalumpang teachers (NA, Friday, March 10, 2023) stated that:

"In my opinion, there are no weaknesses because the weaknesses are in people as teachers, how teachers are required to be creative."

Based on the results of interviews conducted with Charis PAUD teachers (EA, Wednesday, March 15, 2023) stated that:

"For an independent curriculum the teacher must be ready, extra, creative the teacher must be, the equipment must be ready mostly there so if the samua is not there, yes the difficulty is there in the sense that the teacher is weak, not the curriculum."

Based on the results of an interview conducted with PAUD teacher Charis (EN, Thursday, March 16, 2023) stated that:

"I don't think the curriculum itself exists, just from a teacher, because you have to be creative."

Based on the results of an interview conducted with PAUD teacher Charis (DA, Friday 17 March 2023) stated that:

"The weakness is actually yam o say the weakness, yes, you are also the one, it's just that the weakness of the teacher must have more creativity, then there must be readiness from the teacher because all of them must be ready, infrastructure facilities must support, infrastructure facilities help because it helps in the child's learning process."

Based on the results of the interview above, it can be concluded that the weakness of the curriculum itself does not exist, the weakness lies in the teacher as an educator where the independent learning curriculum requires special understanding and skills from the teacher. Therefore, teachers are required to be more creative in achieving learning objectives.

#### **c. What do you think about opportunities in implementing the independent learning curriculum**

Based on the results of an interview conducted with PAUD teacher Alkhairaat Kalumpang (RA, Wednesday, March 8, 2023) stated that:

"Chances are, I think if the children enter elementary school, they will be more into the focus with interest, when the children come out of the future, their parents know that at school their children are good at reciting, they are more Islamic."

Based on the results of an interview conducted with PAUD teacher Alkhairaat Kalumpang (IN, Thursday, March 9, 2023) stated that:

"The opportunity is if in children we can know their interests, yes, and if I think a teacher also gets his own opportunity because he has new experience, knowledge, which previously people knew so he knew."

Based on the results of an interview conducted with PAUD teacher Alkhairaat Kalumpang (NA, Friday, March 10, 2023) stated that:

"If I think it's more about the child's interest, yes, so you know from an early age that this child he likes this way."

Based on the results of an interview conducted with PAUD teacher Charis (EA, Wednesday 15 March 2023) stated that:

"For the opportunity itself, it may be more about the child's interest, so a teacher and parent already know that oh this is his interest in this field."

Based on the results of an interview conducted with PAUD teacher Charis (EN, Thursday, March 16, 2023) stated that:

"For the opportunity, we can know the child's interests, so maybe from here when you go to elementary school, you can develop his interests."

Based on the results of an interview conducted with PAUD teacher Charis (DA, Friday 17 March 2023) stated that:

"The opportunity is great because far in the future we can already see that this child has his own talent, just to be developed, so starting from this early age we can already see in the future these children he has the capacity *In this way, we as educators just have to direct him to develop more.*"

*Based on the results of the interview above, it can be concluded that the opportunity in the application of this independent learning curriculum is to develop the potential of students, where this curriculum provides opportunities for each student to explore and develop their potential more freely.*

*By paying attention to individual interests, talents, and needs, teachers can help learners find out*

### **What are the challenges in implementing the independent learning curriculum**

Based on the results of an interview conducted with PAUD teacher Alkhairaat Kalumpang (RA, Wednesday, March 8, 2023) stated that:

"It's an extraordinary challenge, the first challenge we have to be more extra, prepared, adjusted because it only continues to be the first batch so we have to set a good example, just study and learn."

Based on the results of an interview conducted with PAUD teacher Alkhairaat Kalumpang (IN, Thursday, March 9, 2023) stated that:

"Wow, if you ask me about this challenge, it's really draining, I think so, which was so comfortable with the previous curriculum, so for me it's quite challenging, huh."

Based on the results of an interview conducted with PAUD teacher Alkhairaat Kalumpang (NA, Friday, March 10, 2023) stated that:

"I think this curriculum is quite challenging because this is required by teachers to be creative, especially if they have to adjust to the interests of children, who previously arranged other RPPH in other classes."

Based on the results of an interview conducted with PAUD teacher Charis (EA, Wednesday 15 March 2023) stated that:

"There are many challenges, if the laptop tarada is miserable and indeed here honestly because there are no teachers so finally it is difficult for PSP to be *Because a lot of materials actually have to be in it, the point is that teachers must be ready because they learn according to children's interests.*"

Based on the results of an interview conducted with PAUD teacher Charis (EN, Thursday, March 16, 2023) stated that:

"The first challenge of laptops if tarada is difficult, learning tra according to RPPH, so it comes back to the teacher how the teacher is creative."

Based on the results of an interview conducted with PAUD teacher Charis (DA, Friday 17 March 2023) stated that:



"The challenge for now for us is to challenge if you make a project, yes, now it makes good practice because everyone must have the ability in the field of ITE we will miss the computer and cellphone laptop as well so at least we have to master ITE or technology."

Based on the results of the interview above, it can be concluded that teachers also noted challenges in the implementation of the independent learning curriculum in ECCE units. Some of these include the need to strengthen teachers' capacity in designing and implementing project-based learning, as well as ensuring adequate resources such as appropriate technological tools and learning materials.

The view of the driving school teachers of Central Ternate responds positively to the concept of an independent learning curriculum in providing freedom for children to learn according to their interests, so as to increase motivation and learning outcomes. They consider that this concept allows children to be more active in learning and makes room for their creativity. Likewise, with a positive teacher perception of RPP merdeka belajar that prioritizes flexibility, this learning model allows teachers to pay more attention to the individual needs of children, choosing appropriate learning methods.

Teachers respond positively to the concept of an independent learning curriculum in giving freedom to children to learn according to their interests, so as to increase motivation and learning outcomes. They consider that this concept allows children to be more active in learning and makes room for their creativity. Likewise, with a positive teacher perception of RPP merdeka belajar that prioritizes flexibility, this learning model allows teachers to pay more attention to the individual needs of children, choosing appropriate learning methods.

The advantages and disadvantages of the implementation of Merdeka Belajar are the advantages possessed by students who can explore their thoughts with new innovations, thus exploring the potential that exists in them. However, the weakness in the implementation of independent learning is that teachers are required to be more creative and have readiness to implement the independent learning curriculum.

Basically, educational institutions often find challenges both in terms of resources and infrastructure, as well as what happened to the Central Ternate PAUD driving school.

In the implementation of the independent learning curriculum initiated by the Minister of Education and Culture, a teacher or human resources should be active and creative in understanding the curriculum. Based on the reality in the field that with the lack of experience in the implementation of independent learning also determine the quality or competence of the teacher. Some teachers even have difficulty mastering or applying basic skills to learning needs in today's era.

In the implementation of the independent learning curriculum in driving schools in PAUD Central Ternate, in terms of human resources, there are still shortcomings both in terms of understanding and implementation in the field. In fact, to implement independent learning, teachers are required to be creative and innovative by involving various media or learning models that encourage students. This minimal competence is also a challenge for teachers to be able to carry out independent learning quickly. Thus the need for creativity of a teacher So that the implementation of the Merdeka Belajar curriculum runs well. This was revealed by Muhammad Nurdin, revealing that teachers as the vanguard of these changes inevitably have to be ready to take various efforts and dare to learn and try. In order not only to adapt, but also to be able to prepare students as a generation of the nation in order to be able to answer future challenges (Nurdin, 2016). In the implementation of the independent learning curriculum in driving schools in PAUD Central Ternate, in terms of infrastructure, there are still shortcomings in terms of devices, many teachers do not have technological devices such as laptops as a means of supporting the learning process.

#### IV. CONCLUSIONS

Based on the results of observations and interviews conducted at PAUD driving schools in the Central Ternate cluster about teachers' perceptions on the implementation of the independent learning curriculum, it can be concluded as follows: entral Ternate PAUD driving school teachers have a positive perception and get a very good appreciation of the Merdeka Belajar curriculum Teachers see this independent learning

curriculum as an opportunity to provide diverse, creative, and interesting learning experiences for children. There are several factors that become challenges, namely, the first is the inadequate quality of the teacher's human resources, the second is the facilities inadequate infrastructure. It is directed to the government to better facilitate teachers in improving resources and infrastructure.

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