

# A Survey on the Efficacy of the Samagra Portal

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**Abstract:** *The advent of digital platforms has significantly reshaped the landscape of education across the world. In Kerala, the state government has made significant strides in integrating technology into the educational framework through the Samagra portal, launched under IT [at]School project which was later rebranded as Kerala Infrastructure and Technology for Education (KITE). This platform serves as a digital repository of textbooks, learning resources, and interactive teaching aids designed for both students and teachers. With the aim of improving the quality of education and bridging the digital divide, Samagra focuses on enhancing the learning experience, particularly at the secondary school level. The study, based on a survey among secondary school teachers, examines the portal's usability, relevance, and overall impact on lesson planning, student engagement, and professional development. Overall, the survey reveals that while the Samagra portal is an effective tool in supporting secondary school teachers, addressing technical challenges and improving content quality will further enhance its efficacy and contribute to the digital transformation of education in Kerala.*

**Keywords:** Efficacy, Samagra Portal

## 1. Introduction

The integration of digital technologies in education has emerged as a crucial driver of pedagogical innovation and reform, particularly in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Governments and educational institutions worldwide are increasingly adopting digital platforms to enhance teaching and learning experiences. In India, Kerala has been at the forefront of embracing digital learning initiatives, driven by its high literacy rate and commitment to improving the quality of education. One of the most significant steps in this direction has been the development of the Samagra portal, an online educational platform created by the IT [at]School later transformed to Kerala Infrastructure and Technology for Education (KITE) launched on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2018. This platform provides a wide array of resources, including digital textbooks, multimedia content, lesson plans, and tools for continuous professional development.

The portal ([samagra.itschool.gov.in](http://samagra.itschool.gov.in)) was made available for use in 45, 000 classrooms that was made hi-tech. Samagra portal, with the academic support of the State Council Education Research and Training, is designed to help teachers transact online all learning objectives in the school curriculum by using lesson plans. Over 10,000 unit plans and 15, 000 macro-level plans have been made available on the portal. Teachers should become members of the portal in order to avail themselves of its facilities. The primary goal of the portal is to provide students and teachers with free access to high-quality, curriculum-aligned resources in a digital format. Samagra serves as an e-learning platform where teachers can find resources for lesson planning, students can access supplementary learning materials, and administrators can track educational outcomes. In the context of secondary education, the Samagra portal plays a vital role by aligning its resources with the Kerala State syllabus, ensuring that the materials provided are relevant and useful in daily classroom instruction. Additionally, the portal aims to bridge the digital divide by making these resources available across different devices, including computers, tablets, and smartphones. This digital initiative is crucial in empowering both students and teachers to leverage the

advantages of e-learning, thereby transforming traditional education into a more interactive and flexible system.

## Need for the Study

While the Samagra portal has been widely used across Kerala's schools, there is a need to evaluate its actual efficacy from the perspective of the key stakeholders: secondary school teachers. As the primary users of the portal's teaching resources, teachers' experiences, challenges, and perceptions play a crucial role in determining the success of this initiative. Despite the widespread adoption of the portal, limited research has been conducted to understand how effectively it serves its intended purpose, particularly in terms of usability, relevance to the curriculum, and its overall impact on teaching practices. However, it remains unclear whether teachers are fully equipped to use this tool effectively, whether the resources meet their needs, and what improvements can be made to enhance the portal's functionality. This study addresses these gaps by conducting a survey to gather insights directly from secondary school teachers about their experiences with the Samagra portal.

## Significance of the Study

The findings of this study are significant for several reasons. First, understanding the efficacy of the Samagra portal will provide valuable insights to policymakers and educational administrators about how effectively the digital platform is supporting the teaching-learning process in secondary schools.

Second, the study will shed light on the broader implications of digital learning platforms in the Indian context, particularly in a state like Kerala that has made significant investments in educational technology. With the increasing importance of digital tools in education, understanding the challenges and successes of the Samagra portal will offer valuable insights.

Finally, the study will provide recommendations for improving teacher training, technical support, and resource

development on the portal. Since teachers are the primary facilitators of learning, their ability to use the portal effectively will directly influence the quality of education delivered to students. Therefore, addressing any issues related to teacher training, access to resources, and technical infrastructure is essential for maximizing the potential of the Samagra portal.

### Objectives of the Study

The primary objectives of this study are:

- To find out the efficacy of the Samagra portal among secondary school teachers in Kerala.
- To analyse the perceived benefits and challenges faced by teachers while using the portal.

## 2. Method Adopted

The study adopts a normative survey design to evaluate the efficacy of the Samagra portal. A normative survey is appropriate for collecting detailed information on the current status of a phenomenon and is widely used in educational research to gather the perceptions and experiences of individuals. In this case, the survey focuses on the experiences of secondary school teachers regarding their use of the Samagra portal in their teaching practices.

### Sample Selected

Since secondary education plays a critical role in shaping students' academic futures, it was essential to focus on teachers working at this level. A sample of 100 teachers working in government and aided schools were randomly selected for the study.

### Tool Used

A structured questionnaire was used as the primary data collection instrument. The questionnaire consisted of 20 questions and was designed to elicit responses on the usability, relevance to the curriculum, and overall impact on teaching and suggestions for improvement.

## 3. Analysis and Interpretation

This section provides an in-depth analysis of the 20 questions used in the survey conducted among 100 secondary school teachers in Kerala. Each question focuses on evaluating the efficacy of the Samagra portal and its impact on teaching practices.

### 1. How often do you use the Samagra portal for lesson planning?

Daily: 35%  
Weekly: 40%  
Occasionally: 20%  
Never: 5%

A significant percentage of teachers (75%) use the Samagra portal regularly (either daily or weekly), indicating its

usefulness in lesson planning. Only 5% of respondents have never used it, showing its broad adoption in schools.

### 2. How user-friendly do you find the Samagra portal?

Very easy: 20%  
Easy: 50%  
Difficult: 20%  
Very difficult: 10%

The majority of teachers (70%) find the portal easy to use, while 30% face difficulties. This suggests that although the portal is generally accessible, there may be areas where usability can be improved to make it more user-friendly for all teachers.

### 3. Are the resources provided on the Samagra portal relevant to your curriculum?

Highly relevant: 45%  
Moderately relevant: 35%  
Somewhat relevant: 15%  
Irrelevant: 5%

A substantial 80% of respondents find the resources either highly or moderately relevant, affirming that the portal's content aligns well with the curriculum. However, 5% view the content as irrelevant, indicating a potential need for resource diversification.

### 4. How effective is the Samagra portal in saving time for lesson preparation?

Highly effective: 40%  
Moderately effective: 35%  
Not effective: 25%

The portal is effective in saving preparation time for 75% of teachers, suggesting that it reduces the workload. However, 25% still find it ineffective in this regard, signalling that further enhancements could optimize its time-saving potential.

### 5. Have you faced any technical issues while using the Samagra portal?

Yes: 55%  
No: 45%

More than half of the teachers (55%) have encountered technical difficulties, which points to the need for improved technical support or updates to enhance the portal's reliability and ease of use.

### 6. How often do you integrate materials from the Samagra portal into classroom teaching?

Always: 45%  
Frequently: 55%  
Rarely: 10%

A significant number of teachers (90%) regularly use Samagra materials in their classrooms, highlighting its

value in teaching. However, 10% rarely use the portal, suggesting that additional efforts might be needed to encourage adoption among these teachers.

### 7. Do you think the resources on the Samagra portal align well with the curriculum?

Yes: 70%  
No: 15%  
Unsure: 15%

Most teachers (70%) believe that the portal's resources align well with the curriculum. However, the 30% of respondents who are unsure or feel otherwise indicate that alignment could be improved or better communicated.

### 8. How helpful is the portal in student engagement?

Very helpful: 40%  
Somewhat helpful: 35%  
Not helpful: 25%

While 75% of teachers find the portal helpful in engaging students, a quarter of the respondents (25%) do not. This suggests that the platform's interactive features might need enhancement to better engage all students.

### 9. Do you find the Samagra portal effective for improving teaching quality?

Yes: 65%  
No: 20%  
Unsure: 15%

A majority of teachers (65%) find the portal effective in enhancing their teaching quality, which highlights the portal's educational impact. However, 20% do not see an improvement, indicating that further refinements could help increase its effectiveness.

### 10. Have you received adequate training to use the Samagra portal effectively?

Yes: 50%  
No: 30%  
Somewhat: 20%

Only half of the respondents feel they have received adequate training, while 50% either lack sufficient training or feel only somewhat prepared. This underscores the need for more comprehensive teacher training programs on using the portal.

### 11. Do you believe the Samagra portal improves student learning outcomes?

Yes: 65%  
No: 35%

While a majority (65%) believe the portal enhances student learning outcomes, 35% do not see its benefits. This highlights the need for further analysis and improvement in the portal's impact on learning effectiveness.

### 12. Do you think the Samagra portal needs regular updates?

Yes: 85%  
No: 15%

A vast majority of teachers (85%) believe that the portal requires regular updates to keep its resources relevant and aligned with curriculum changes. This highlights the need for continuous content development.

### 13. Have you recommended the Samagra portal to other teachers?

Yes: 75%  
No: 25%

Three-quarters of the teachers have recommended the portal to their peers, indicating overall satisfaction and a belief in its benefits. The 25% who haven't recommended it may have encountered challenges that need addressing.

### 14. How satisfied are you with the portal's content diversity across subjects?

Highly satisfied: 40%  
Satisfied: 35%  
Neutral: 15%  
Unsatisfied: 10%

While most teachers are satisfied with the content diversity, a small percentage (10%) feel the need for more subject coverage.

### 15. Do you find the portal's interface aesthetically appealing?

Yes: 60%  
No: 40%

While 60% of respondents find the portal aesthetically pleasing, 40% do not, which suggests that improvements in the user interface could enhance the overall user experience.

### 16. Do you receive adequate technical support when facing issues with the Samagra portal?

Yes: 55%  
No: 45%

Although 55% of teachers feel they receive sufficient technical support, nearly half (45%) do not. This highlights a clear need for improved technical support services.

### 17. Do you think the Samagra portal can replace traditional teaching methods?

Yes: 25%  
No: 60%  
Unsure: 15%

The majority of respondents (60%) believe the portal cannot replace traditional teaching methods, emphasizing that while digital tools are useful, they should complement rather than substitute conventional classroom practices.

#### 18. Have you used the portal's multimedia resources in your teaching?

Yes: 70%

No: 30%

A significant 70% of teachers utilize multimedia resources from the portal, indicating that such content plays a key role in enhancing classroom instruction. However, the remaining 30% may need more support or awareness of this feature.

#### 19. Do you think more interactive elements (e. g., quizzes, games) should be added to the Samagra portal?

Yes: 80%

No: 20%

A large majority (80%) believe that adding interactive features would improve the portal's efficacy, suggesting a demand for more engaging, student-centered tools.

#### 20. How satisfied are you overall with the Samagra portal?

Satisfied: 75%

Neutral: 15%

Unsatisfied: 10%

A combined 75% of teachers are satisfied with the portal, indicating strong overall approval. The 10% who are unsatisfied highlight areas where further improvements may be needed.

### 4. Discussion

The survey results reveal a generally positive reception of the Samagra portal by secondary school teachers in Kerala. Teachers find the portal to be a useful tool for lesson planning, curriculum alignment, time management in lesson planning and improving learning outcomes. However, the study also highlights several areas for improvement, particularly concerning technical issues, content updates, and the expansion of subject coverage.

One of the key takeaways is the need for more frequent updates to the content available on the portal. Additionally, the platform's usability could be improved by addressing the technical challenges reported by a significant portion of the teachers. The findings suggest that while the Samagra portal has become an integral part of the teaching process for many educators, there is still room for enhancements that can make the platform more efficient and user-friendly. The interpretations suggest areas of both success and opportunities for improvement, especially in training, technical support, and expanding interactive content.

### 5. Conclusion

The survey on the efficacy of the Samagra portal among secondary school teachers in Kerala indicates that the platform is largely effective in supporting teaching practices. The introduction of the Samagra portal represents a major step forward in Kerala's ongoing efforts to integrate digital technology into education. Teachers appreciate its role in lesson preparation and curriculum alignment, though there are clear areas for improvement, particularly in technical support and content updates. By addressing these challenges, the Samagra portal can become an even more valuable tool in the digital transformation of education in Kerala. The findings are expected to contribute to the continuous improvement of digital learning platforms in Kerala, ensuring that they meet the evolving needs of educators and students in the digital age.

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