Utilization of funds of VHNSC under NRHM in Maharashtra

VHNSC is one of the important means of decentralized planning at village level and effective tool of communitization under NRHM.

VHNSCs are allocated funds of Rs.10,000/- per village, per annum and have autonomy to spend the same. The judicious use of funds and efficiency of expenditure reflects the quality of functioning of the VHNSCs.

There are three components of VHNSC, viz. Health, Nutrition and Sanitation. The equitable expenditure on above components is desired.

CBMP study conducted by SHSRC has shown that there is a scope for improving the functioning of VHNSCs. Hence, a record based analysis oncomponent wise expenditure of select VHNSCs in the state for the period of April-December 2013is performed.

For the purpose of analysis, one districteach from 7 major divisions were selected and from such each districts, three blocks (only one block from Dhuledistrict) were considered on random basis. Thus, secondary data on expenditure from19 blocksof 7 districts were called from Block Programme Management Units.

Analysis performed on percentage of expenditure against the budget available and proportion of expenditure on the different components, viz. health, nutrition and sanitation is presented below.

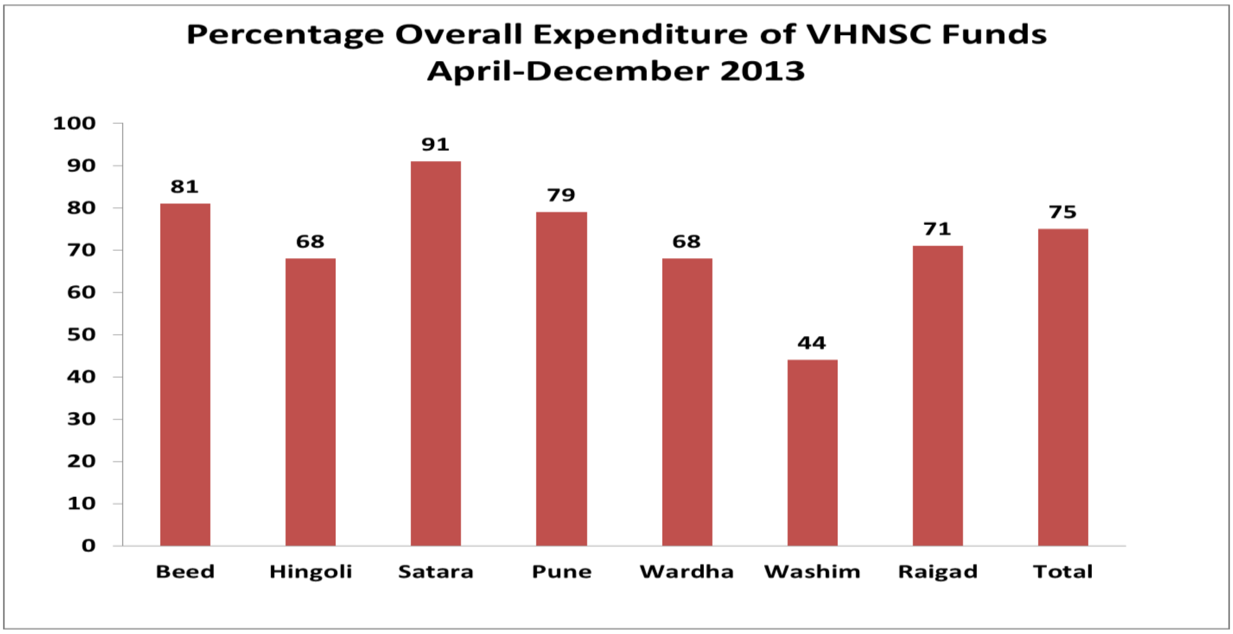
Observations & Discussion:

Expenditure of VHNSC funds against funds available:

Overall expenditure of VHNSC funds during April-December 2013 is 75%. It ranges between 44% and 91% as revealed in Table-1. District Washim (44%) has reported lowest expenditure, whereas district Satara has reported highest (91%). Out of the 19 blocks, 3 blocks of Washim district have reported expenditure less than 60% (Karanja 41%, Risod 54% and Manora 58%), as revealed in Annexure I.

Table-1: Percentage Overall expenditure of VHNSC funds during April-December 2013

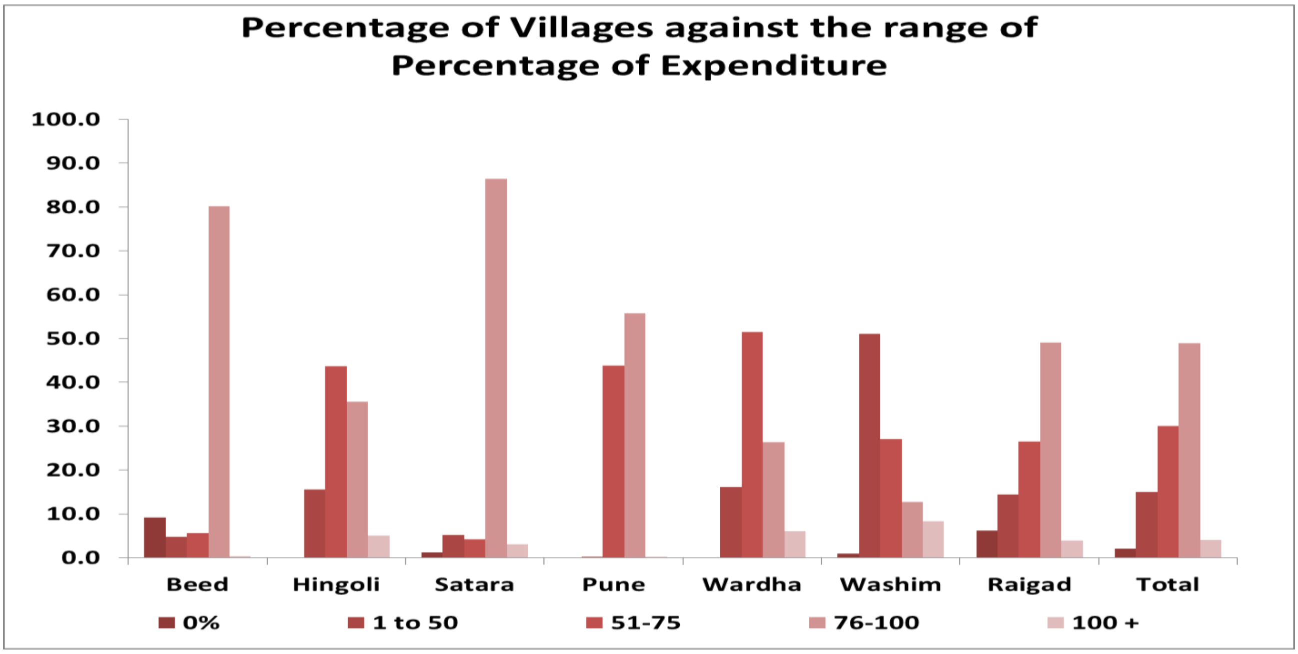
District name	Funds available (Rs. in lacs)	Expenditure (Rs. in lacs)	% of expenditure
Beed	22.2	20.7	81
Hingoli	41.2	28.1	68
Satara	31.8	29.0	91
Pune	38.6	30.6	79
Wardha	23.9	16.3	68
Washim	25.7	13.8	44
Raigad	16.4	11.6	71
Total	**199.8**	**150.1**	**75**



There is a wide variation in the % of expenditure of VHNSCs among the blocks as revealed in Table 2. Around 2% of VHNSCs (43) have not spent any amount till December 2013. About 4% of VHNSCs (86) have reported expenditure more than 100%, which needs to be verified. Such VHNSCs are substantial in number in districts namely, Hingoli (22), Satara (10), Wardha (16) and Washim (28).

Table-2:Number of VHNSC against the range of % of Expenditure

District	Expenditure (In Lacs Rs.)	Total No. of VHNSC	Number of VHNSC against the range of % of Expenditure				
			0%	1-50	51-75	76-100	100 +
Beed	20.7	252	23	12	14	202	1
Hingoli	28.1	432	0	67	189	154	22
Satara	29.0	332	4	17	14	287	10
Pune	30.6	395	0	1	173	220	1
Wardha	16.3	266	0	43	137	70	16
Washim	13.8	337	3	172	91	43	28
Raigad	11.6	208	13	30	55	102	8
Total	**150.1**	**2222**	**43 (2%)**	**342 (15%)**	**673 (30%)**	**1078 (49%)**	**86 (4%)**



VHNSC component wise expenditure:

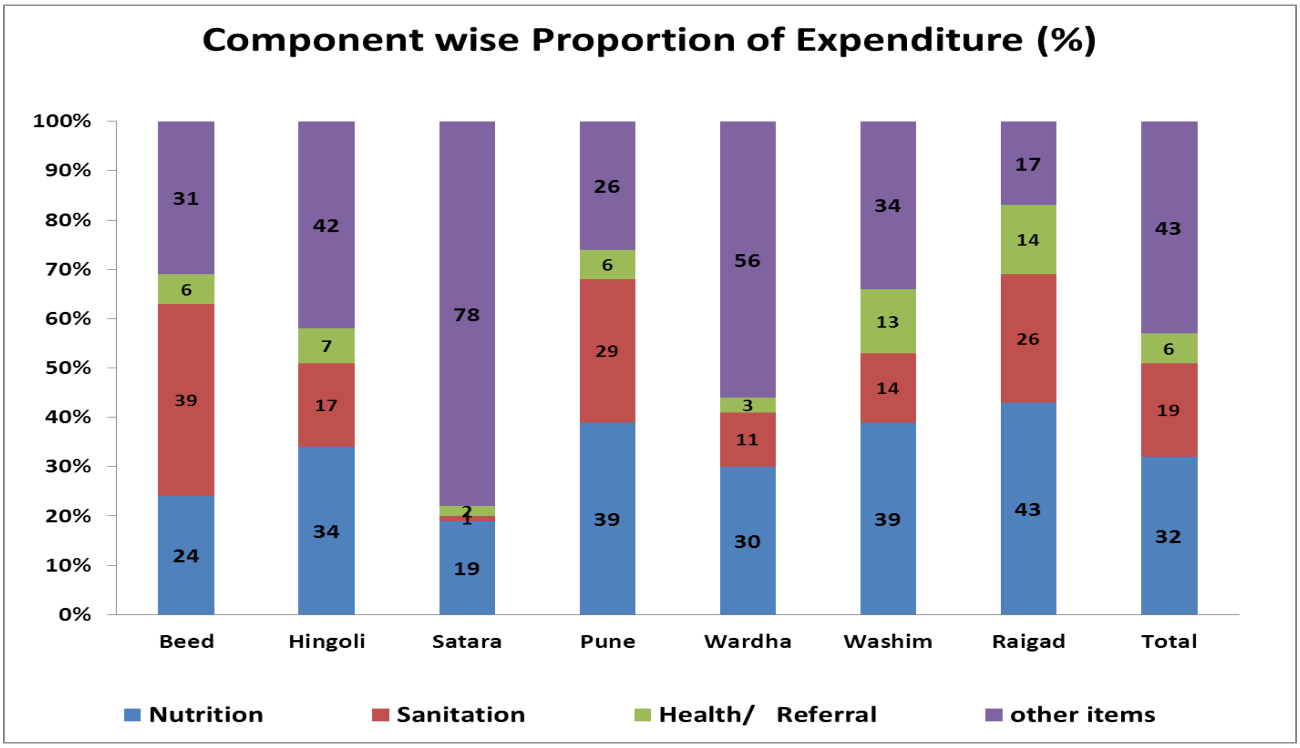
Overall proportion of expenditure on nutrition component is about 32%, on sanitation it is 19% and on health it is 6% only. More amount of budget is spent on the nutritioncomponent (32%) and comparatively quite less on health (6%). However, 43% proportion of budget spent is reported as other items which do not fall in the category of nutrition, sanitation and health. Such extreme disproportionate variation for health component is observed more in district Satara (2%) and Wardha (3%) as revealed in Table 3. Similarly, a high proportion of expenditure on other items is reported by districts such as Satara (78%), Wardha (56%) and Hingoli (42%) as shown in Table 3.

The qualitative data on items of expenditure in other category gathered from selected block accountants revealed that majority of such expenditure is incurred by Anganwadi Workers on items like weighing scale, height-meter, mats, furniture, toys, utensils, building repairs / maintenance, painting of slogans and pictures, petty expenses on meetings for snacks / tea etc.

Zero % expenditure on health components have reported by blocks such as Wadwani (Beed), Satara (Satara) and Manora (Washim) as revealed in Annexure-II.

Table 3: Component wise proportion of expenditure (%)

District	Expenditure (In Lacs Rs.)	Component wise proportion of expenditure (%)				
		Nutrition	Sanitation	Health/ Referral	other items	Total expenditure
Beed	20.7	24	39	6	31	100
Hingoli	28.1	34	17	7	42	100
Satara	29.0	19	1	2	78	100
Pune	30.6	39	29	6	26	100
Wardha	16.3	30	11	3	56	100
Washim	13.8	39	14	13	34	100
Raigad	11.6	43	26	14	17	100
Total	**150.1**	**32**	**19**	**6**	**43**	**100**



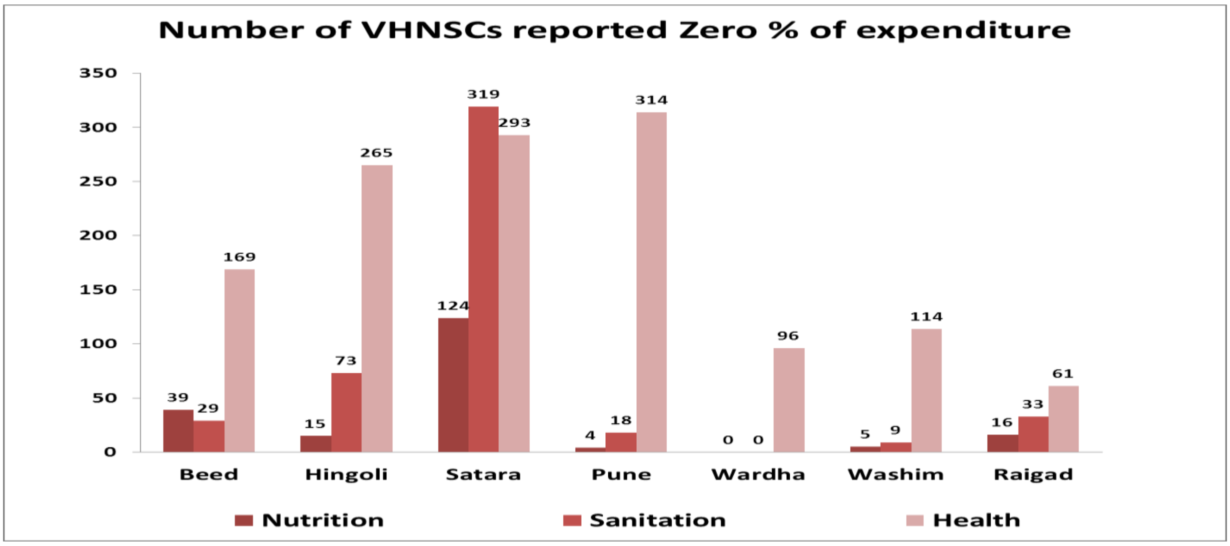
VHNSCs showing differential expenditure on different components:

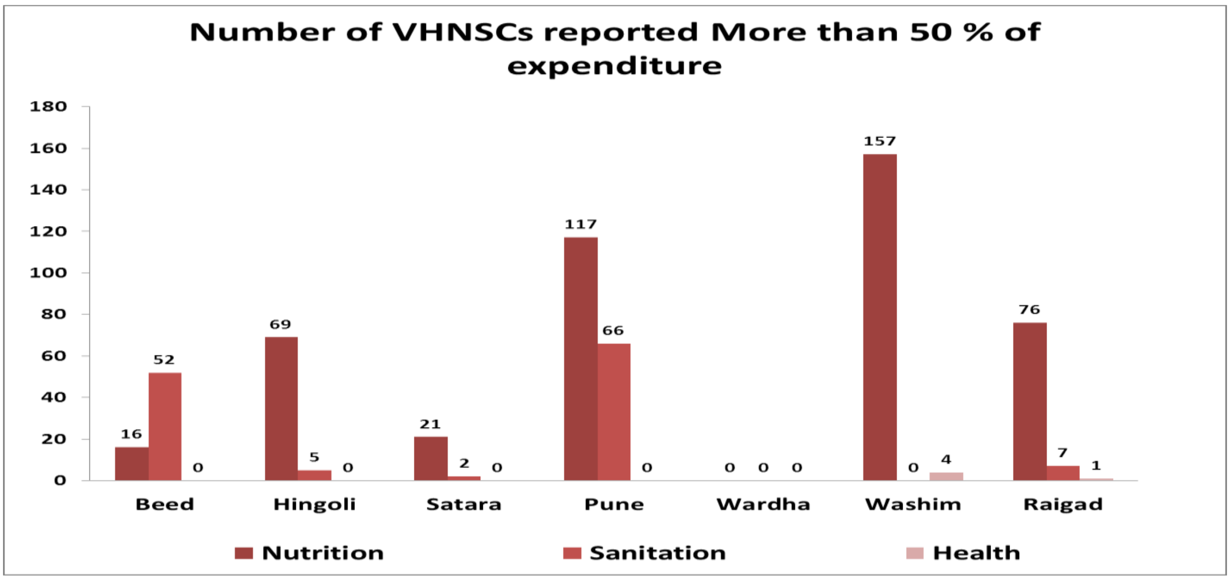
Wide variation of expenditure on different components at VHNSC is observed as shown in Table-4. **Zero expenditure**: Very low % of VHNSCs (21%) have reported Zero percentexpenditure on nutrition, where as it is 22% for Sanitation and 59% for health, as revealed in Table-4.

More than 50% of expenditure: Very high % of VHNSCs (21%) have reported more than 50 % proportionate expenditure on nutrition, where as only 6% of VHNSCs spent on Sanitation and negligible VHNSCs (0.2%)spent on health, as revealed in Table-4.

Table-4: Number of VHNSCs by Expenditure on different components at VHNSC

District	Total No. of VHNSC	No. of VHNSCs reported Zero % proportionate expenditure			No. of VHNSCs reported >50% proportionate expenditure		
		Nutrition	Sanitation	Health	Nutrition	Sanitation	Health
Beed	252	39	29	169	16	52	0
Hingoli	432	15	73	265	69	5	0
Satara	332	124	319	293	21	2	0
Pune	395	4	18	314	117	66	0
Wardha	266	0	0	96	0	0	0
Washim	337	5	9	114	157	0	4
Raigad	208	16	33	61	76	7	1
Total	**2222**	**203 (9%)**	**481 (22%)**	**1312 (59%)**	**456 (21%)**	**132 (6%)**	**5 (0.2%)**





Conclusions:

- ✓ There is wide variation in overall expenditure of VHNSC funds which ranges between 44% and 91%
- ✓ Wide variation in proportion of expenditure on different components among VHNSCs
- ✓ Extreme disproportionate variation for health component is observed more in district Satara (2%) and Wardha (3%)
- ✓ Very low % of VHNSCs (21%) have reported Zero percent expenditure on nutrition, where as it is 22% for Sanitation and 59% for health
- ✓ Very high % of VHNSCs (21%) have reported more than 50 % proportionate expenditure on nutrition, whereas only 6% of VHNSCs spent on Sanitation and negligible VHNSCs (0.2%) spent on health

Recommendations:

- Evaluation study of VHNSCs to be undertaken with following objectives
  - Overall objective
    - ✓ Ascertain appropriateness of current functioning of VHNSC
  - Specific objectives
    - ✓ To determinecurrent composition of VHNSCs
    - ✓ To understand their knowledge regards roles and responsibilities and awareness about fiduciary functions
    - ✓ To document their frequency of meeting
    - ✓ To understand spending pattern and reasons for the same
    - ✓ To document all types of expenditure under the expenditure head "Other Items"
- Hand holding of all VHNSCs
  - Sensitization of All VHNSCs with respect to
    - ✓ Composition
    - ✓ Roles and responsibilities including fiduciary functions
  - Establish a monitoring mechanism through involvement of BDO and THO
  - Engage the Block Facilitators of ASHA scheme as facilitators to VHNSC.

Annexure- I

Block wise VHNSC Grants & Component wise Expenditure for Period of April – December 2013

District	Block	Approved Budget (Rs.)	Received Funds (Rs.)	Total Expenditure (Rs.)	% of Total Expenditure against received
Beed	Ambajogai	1110000	1094381	1011667	92
	PATODA	965000	767000	787400	103
	Wadwani	469000	362116	269448	74
	Beed Total	2544000	2223497	2068515	93
Hingoli	BASMATH	1413000	1413000	937982	66
	KALAMNURI	1425000	1425000	920441	65
	HINGOLI	1278000	1278000	952690	75
	Hingoli Total	4116000	4116000	2811113	68
Satara	Satara	2081000	2081000	1849192	89
	Wai	1101000	1101000	1049139	95
	Statra Total	3182000	3182000	2898331	91
Pune	Ambegaon	1490157	1490157	1220337	82
	Purandar	1218000	1218000	913500	75
	Mulshi	1150000	1150000	922844	80
	Pune Total	3858157	3858157	3056681	79
Washim	KARANJA	893802	378000	153700	41
	Risod	1024000	1024000	548590	54
	Manora	1207910	1172792	679339	58
	Washim Total	3125712	2574792	1381629	54
Raigad	Tala	442000	442000	311865	71
	Uran	565000	565000	393032	70
	SudhagadPali	633000	633000	460000	73
	Raigad Total	1640000	1640000	1164897	71
Wardha	Wardha	1019000	1019000	626875	62
	ASHTI	601000	601000	422893	70
	Karanja	766000	766000	577126	75
	Wardha Total	2386000	2386000	1626894	68
Grand Total		**20851869**	**19980446**	**15008060**	**75**

Annexure- II

Block wise VHNSC Grants & Component wise Expenditure for Period of April – December 2013

District	Block	Received Funds	Expenditure on Sanitation (Rs.)	Expenditure on Nutrition (Rs.)	Expenditure on Health / Referral (Rs.)	Expenditure on other items (Rs.)	Total Expenditure (Rs.)	% of Expenditure as proportion on			
								Nutrition	Sanitation	Health/ Referral	Other
Beed	Ambajogai	1094381	436373	164463	5090	405741	1011667	16	43	1	40
	PATODA	767000	279870	226430	125600	158900	787400	29	36	16	20
	Wadwani	362116	88200	105686	1000	74562	269448	39	33	0	28
	Beed Total	2223497	804443	496579	131690	639203	2068515	24	39	6	31
Hingoli	BASMATH	1413000	116567	260240	35960	525215	937982	28	12	4	56
	KALAMNURI	1425000	234090	336840	125190	224321	920441	37	25	14	24
	HINGOLI	1278000	135297	364964	11150	441279	952690	38	14	1	46
	Hingoli Total	4116000	485954	962044	172300	1190815	2811113	34	17	6	42
Satara	Satara	2081000	23200	365745	7150	1453097	1849192	20	1	0	79
	Wai	1101000	11740	184942	30735	821722	1049139	18	1	3	78
	Statra Total	3182000	34940	550687	37885	2274819	2898331	19	1	1	78
Pune	Ambegaon	1490157	128550	514986	163680	413121	1220337	42	11	13	34
	Purandar	1218000	299035	334329	3000	277136	913500	37	33	0	30
	Mulshi	1150000	462845	321126	27250	111623	922844	35	50	3	12
	Pune Total	3858157	890430	1170441	193930	801880	3056681	38	29	6	26
Washim	KARANJA	378000	8700	126000	7000	12000	153700	82	6	5	8
	Risod	1024000	66610	149980	167110	164890	548590	27	12	30	30
	Manora	1172792	113810	268865	2450	294214	679339	40	17	0	43
	Washim Total	2574792	189120	544845	176560	471104	1381629	39	14	13	34
Raigad	Tala	442000	84300	56865	40000	130700	311865	18	27	13	42
	Uran	565000	127000	157000	67000	42032	393032	40	32	17	11
	SudhagadPali	633000	95000	290000	45000	30000	460000	63	21	10	7
	Raigad Total	1640000	306300	503865	152000	202732	1164897	43	26	13	17
Wardha	Wardha	1019000	67805	183327	34032	341711	626875	29	11	5	55
	ASHTI	601000	43321	127056	12360	240156	422893	30	10	3	57
	Karanja	766000	61405	171161	9970	334590	577126	30	11	2	58
	Wardha Total	2386000	172531	481544	56362	916457	1626894	30	11	3	56
Grand Total		**19980446**	**2883718**	**4710005**	**920727**	**6497010**	**15008060**	**31**	19	6	**43**