

# A GIRL'S DAY OUT

PUNE - INDIA



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**INTRODUCING...**

**MRS. KUMAR**

MOTHER OF EESHA.  
RESIDENT OF RAM-  
NAGAR IN PUNE.

**SONIA**

LIVES UP THE  
STREET AND IS THE  
FRIEND OF EESHA.  
7 YRS OLD.

**EESHA**

DAUGHTER OF  
MRS. KUMAR.  
3.5 YRS OLD.



**WELCOME TO  
RAMNAGAR, PUNE!**

PUNE IS LOCATED 150KM  
EAST OF MUMBAI. THIS  
IS WHERE THE KUMAR  
FAMILY LIVES. THEY LIVE  
IN RAMNAGAR TO BE  
PRECISE.

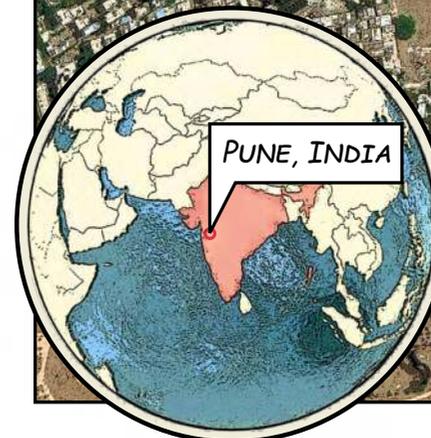
TODAY SONIA, A 7 YEAR  
OLD WHO LIVES UP THE  
STREET HAS COME TO  
PLAY. THIS STORY IS  
ABOUT MRS. KUMAR, E-  
SHA AND SONIA WALK-  
ING TO THE PARK....



WOULD YOU LIKE SOME MILK BEFORE WE LEAVE? HERE'S MRS. KUMAR, 3.5 YR OLD DAUGHTER EESHA AND NEIGHBOR SONIA.

**i #FROM THE REPORT**

Ramnagar (within Warje Karvenagar) is located on a slope close to the Warje fly-over bridge. Historically Warje was a farming community close to the river that has rapidly urbanized in the last thirty years. Farming land has given way to high rise apartments, high-density slums areas (low rise), and other mixed-use developments. Though the ward population is a little more than 200,000 residents, Ramnagar has a population of around 9,000 residents.



THIS IS WHERE WE LIVE

**NOW, LET'S GO TO THE PARK!**

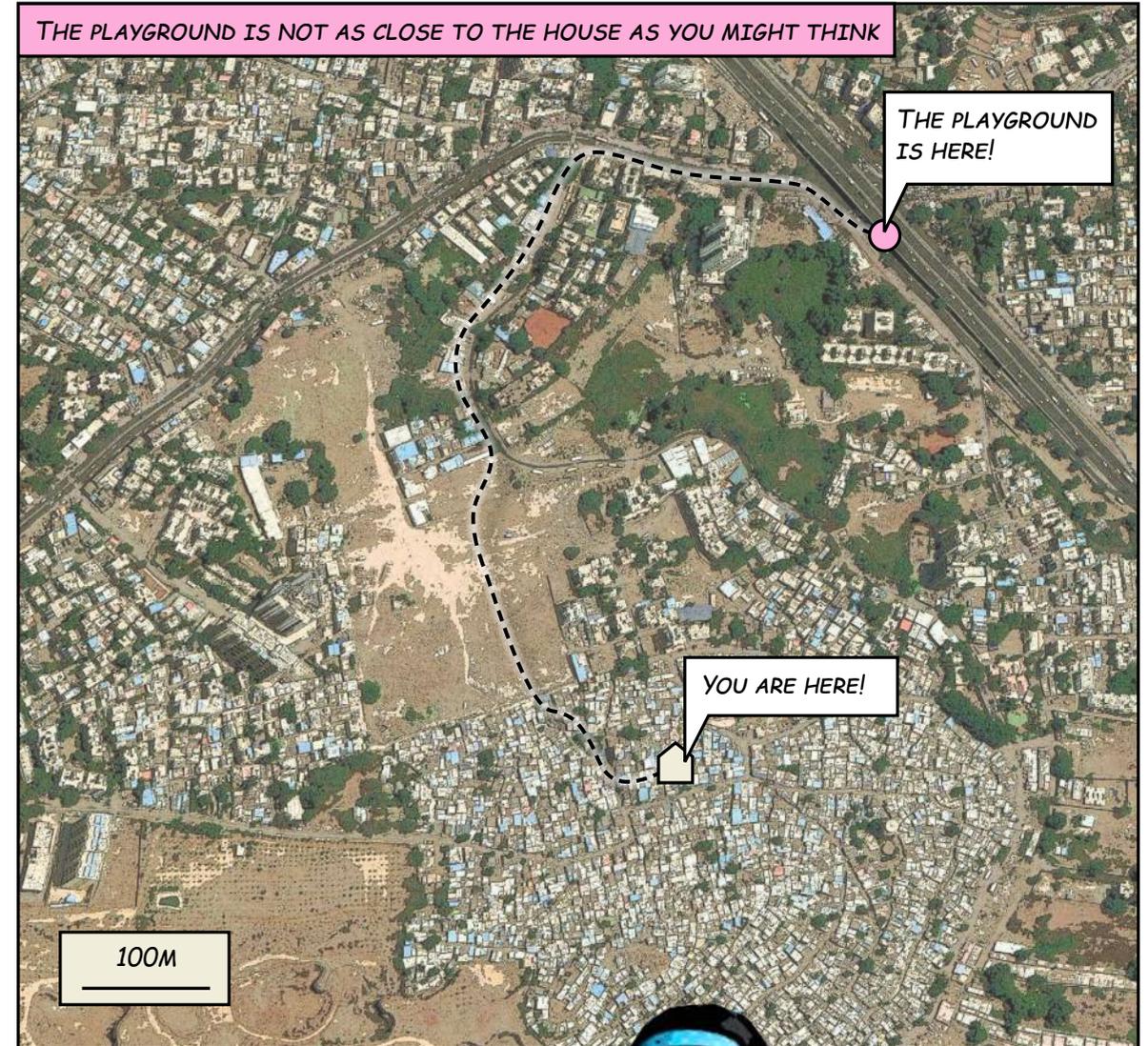
DON'T FORGET TO LOCK THE DOOR...



OFF WE GO!



THE PLAYGROUND IS NOT AS CLOSE TO THE HOUSE AS YOU MIGHT THINK



THE PLAYGROUND IS HERE!

YOU ARE HERE!

100M

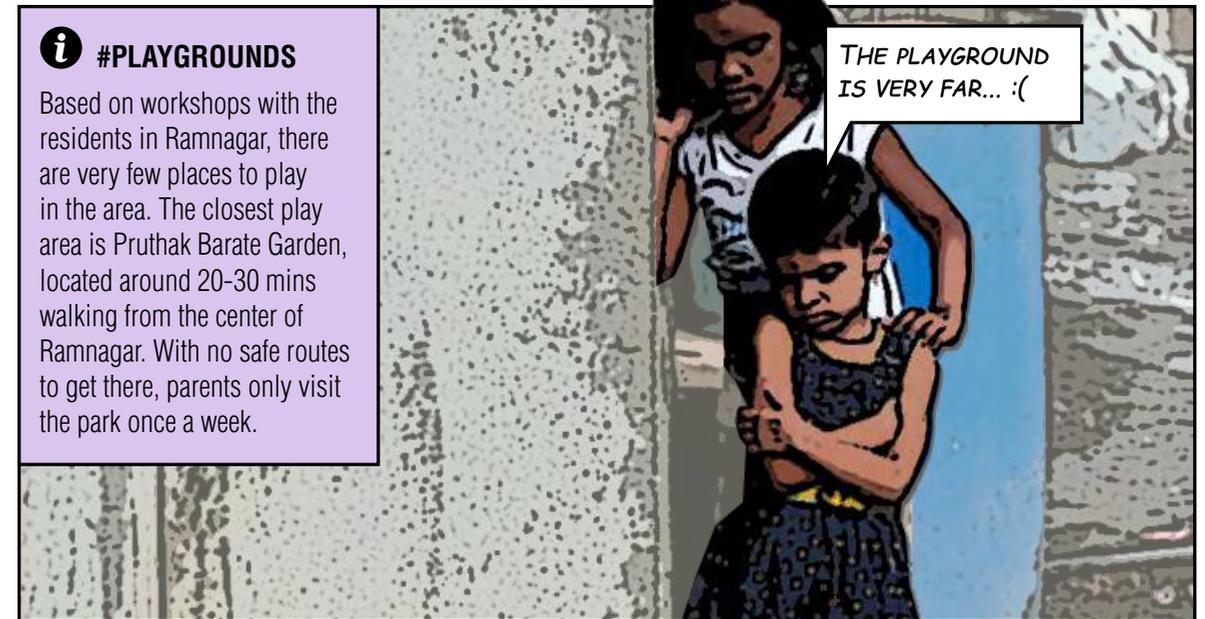
PSST... SONIA WHERE ARE WE GOING?

TO THE PLAYGROUND, EESHA



**i #PLAYGROUNDS**  
Based on workshops with the residents in Ramnagar, there are very few places to play in the area. The closest play area is Pruthak Barate Garden, located around 20-30 mins walking from the center of Ramnagar. With no safe routes to get there, parents only visit the park once a week.

THE PLAYGROUND IS VERY FAR... :(



WE NAVIGATE THROUGH A SYSTEM OF NARROW ALLEYWAYS



ALLEYS ARE ALSO USED FOR OTHER PURPOSES FROM PLAY SPACES TO STORING CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL



**i** #UNSAFE SPACES

The parents in the area have a number of concerns. As the older children mostly play on the streets, they petition for better cleanliness, slower traffic, street lights and garbage removal.

AND MOTORCYCLES





MOM, ARE WE THERE YET?

**i** #WALKSCAPES

Their route cuts through a private ground that is used by almost all residents as a short-cut to reach the main road, the market, public transport or the playground. Used only during the day, it is unsafe to walk here once it gets dark, as there are no street lights, rampant with street dogs and a haven for drunken men.



YESTERDAY IT RAINED SO NOW THE FIELD IS FULL WITH PUDDLES AND MUD



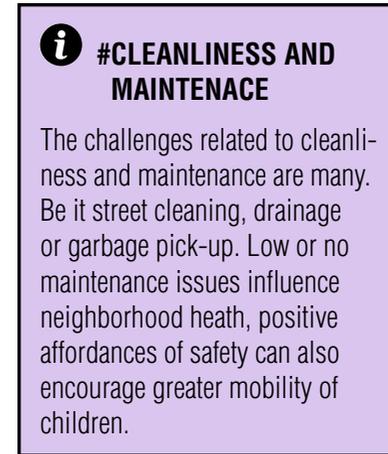
IT'S OK



COME LET'S GO

...MY FEET ARE DIRTY

MOM... WILL YOU CARRY ME MAYBE?



**i** #CLEANLINESS AND MAINTENANCE

The challenges related to cleanliness and maintenance are many. Be it street cleaning, drainage or garbage pick-up. Low or no maintenance issues influence neighborhood health, positive affordances of safety can also encourage greater mobility of children.



UUUGH

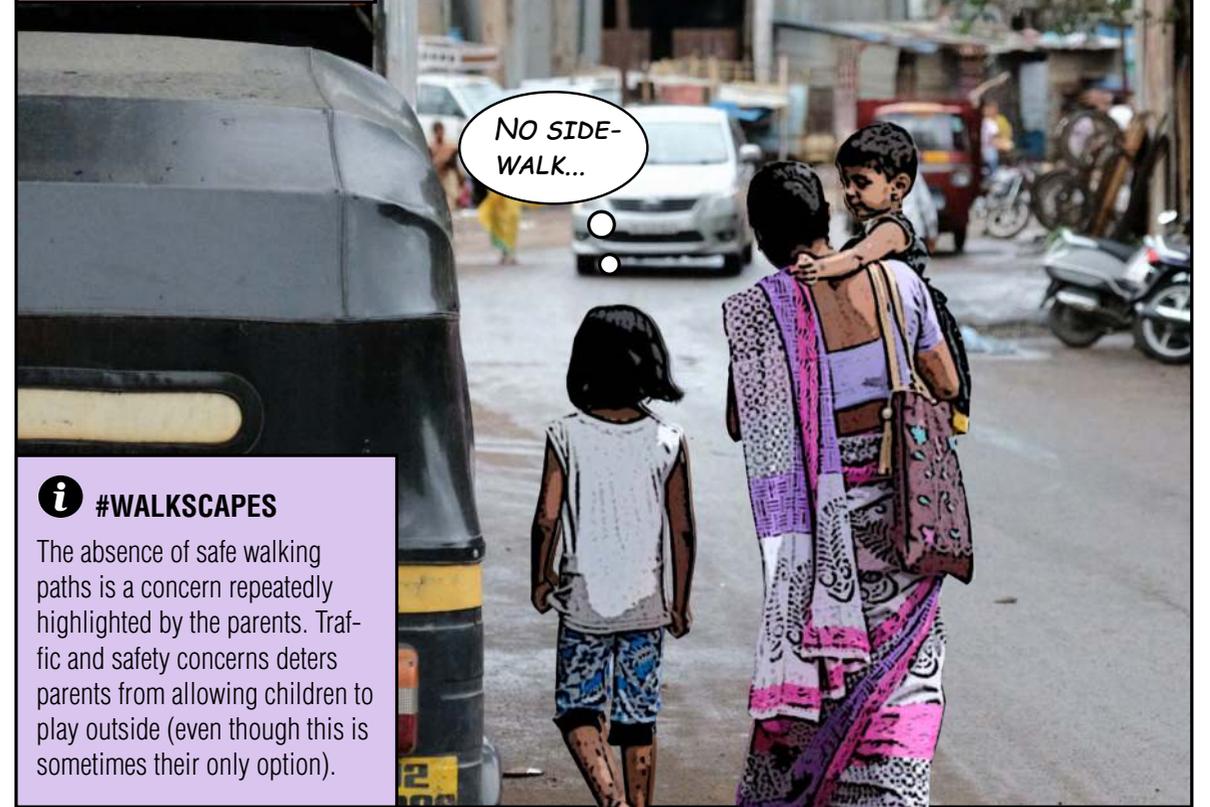
WE CONTINUE TO THE STREETS, WHERE THERE ARE ALSO SERIOUS CHALLENGES TO WALK...



...MUDDY STREETS



...ABSENSE OF SIDE WALKS



**i** #WALKSCAPES

The absence of safe walking paths is a concern repeatedly highlighted by the parents. Traffic and safety concerns deters parents from allowing children to play outside (even though this is sometimes their only option).



...VEHICLES BLOCKING WALKING PATHS



IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD SIDE WALKS ARE NARROW AND FEW IN NUMBERS

WE REACH THE HIGHWAY 48

SEE ESHA, WE ARE ALMOST AT THE PARK. ITS UNDER THE FLYOVER.



BUT FIRST WE NEED TO CROSS THIS BUSY STREET...

SWOOOFF...

MEEP MEEP

NOW WE NEED TO CROSS THE ROAD

VROOMMMM

BRRRR... BR...

BZZZZZZ...

TOOT TOOT



BZZZZZZ...



...THERE WE GO

WE CONTINUE TO THE PLAYGROUND WHICH IS UNDERNEATH THE FLYOVER



HOLD MY HAND NOW

THOUGH THERE IS A GATE TO THE PARK UNDER THE FLYOVER, THE ENTRANCE TO THE PARK IS ON THE SIDE WHERE THE TRAFFIC IS LESSER



AHA...

HIGHWAY 48 IS AN EXPRESS ROAD TO MUMBAI THAT CUTS RIGHT THROUGH THE CITY



BRRRR... BR...

**i** #TRAFFIC BARRIERS

Major arterial roads like these divide the neighborhood. Without safe crossings, traffic danger lurks at every corner.

WE ARE GOING TO THE OTHER SIDE



WE ARE HERE! BEHIND THE GATE IS THE PLAYGROUND

# 1 2 3 GO!!

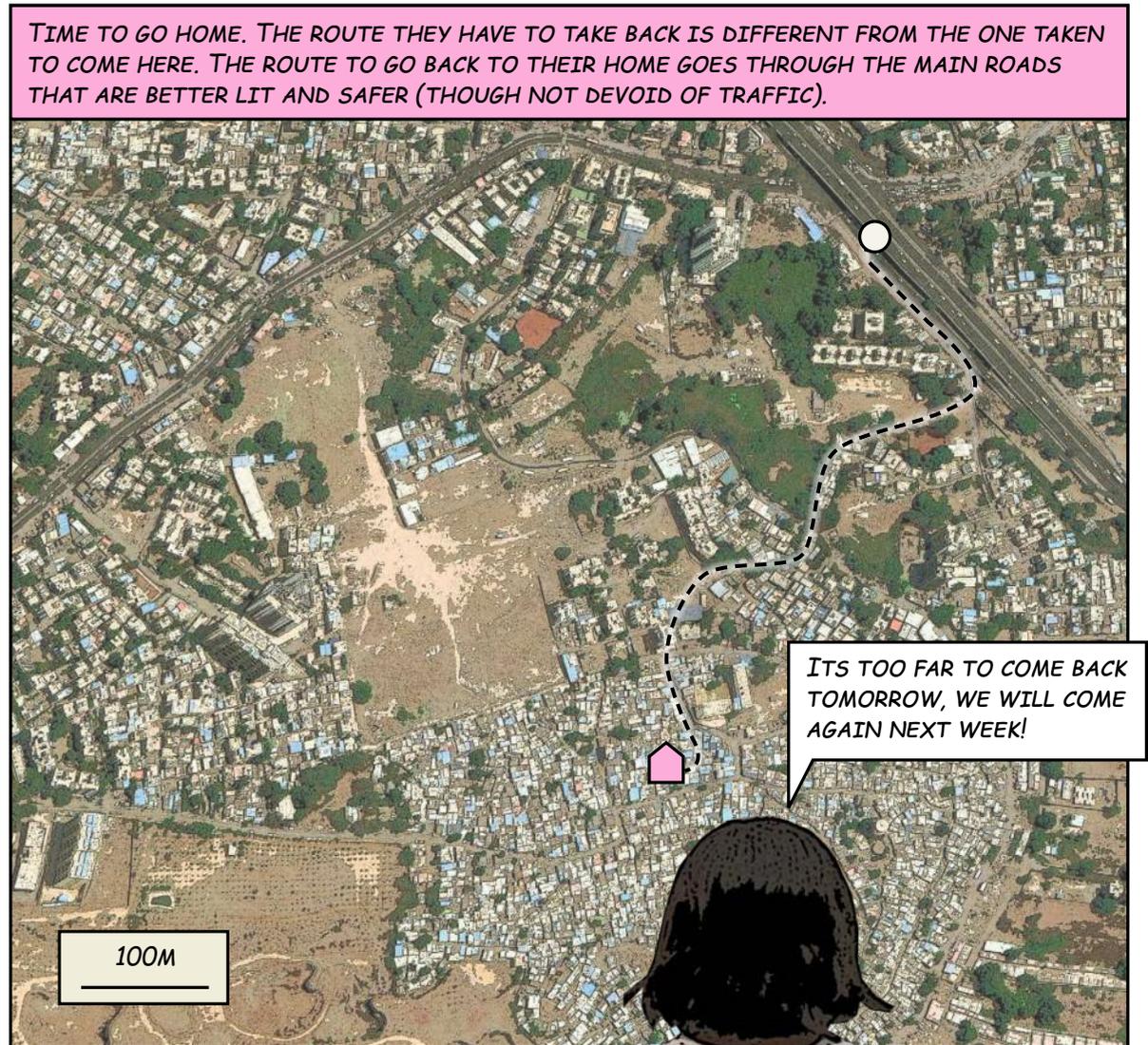


EESHA: WOW!



THE PLAYGROUND IS A VERY POPULAR PLACE TO GO. THERE ARE A SERVICES FOR CHILDREN, WALKING PATHS AND BENCHES. THESE REFURBISHED UNDER FLYOVER SPACES ARE FINDING INNOVATIVE WAYS TO USE DISUSED SPACES.







THE ROUTE BACK...

SWOOOFF...



BRRRR...



COME EESHA WE ARE FALLING BEHIND



MOM MUST BE IN A HURRY...



MEANWHILE...

WHERE DID SHE GO?

BEEP!

NOW WATCH IT YOU KIDS. DON'T WALK ON THE ROAD. WHERE IS YOUR MOTHER?



MOM?





MOM WAIT!



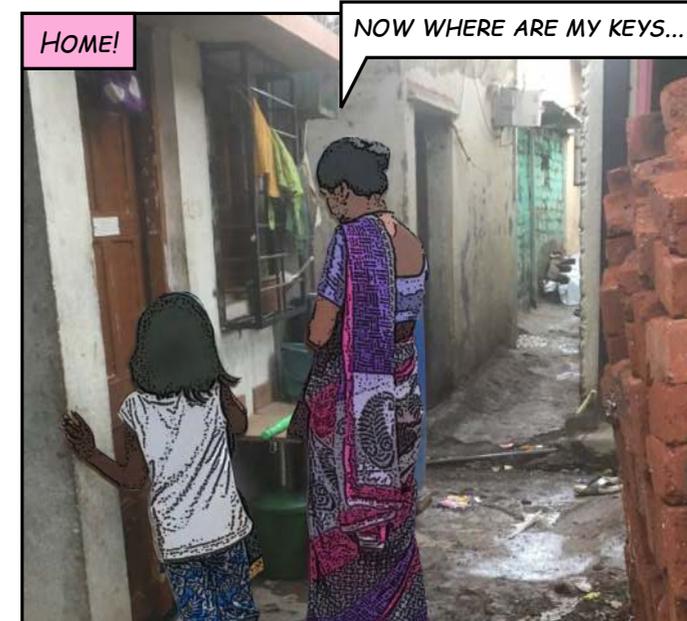
HMMMMM...

(...) AND THEN HE SAID: "WHERE IS YOUR MOTHER?"

EESHA STILL THRILLED THAT SHE GOT TO GO TO THE PARK



A FEW MORE STEPS...



HOME!

NOW WHERE ARE MY KEYS...

**THE END!**

WE ARE BACK HOME. THAT WAS ONE TRIP TO ONE PARK IN PUNE. AS YOU CAN SEE IT'S NOT ALWAYS EASY TO GET AROUND, ESPECIALLY IN AREAS WITH REDUCED INFRASTRUCTURE OPTIONS. EVEN A SIMPLE TRIP LIKE GOING TO THE PLAYGROUND IS QUITE A CHALLENGE AND WE NEED TO WORK TOWARDS CREATING MORE INCLUSIVE SPACES. THE RIGHT TO PLAY AND ACCESS TO PLAY OPTIONS NEEDS TO BE UNIVERSAL.

## ABOUT THE NOVEL

A GIRL'S DAY OUT is an everyday story about a trip the “Kumar” family in Pune (India) take to the park. Though names have been anonymised, the route and struggles they encounter are real. This illustrated novel tells their story.

Research done for this project can be found under the name of ‘Supporting Urban Childhoods: Observations on caregiver use of public spaces from Istanbul (TR) and Pune (IN)’ and was made possible with funding of the Bernard van Leer foundation (Project no: 222-2018-177).

Author: Sukanya Krishnamurthy  
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## A GIRL'S DAY OUT

A GIRL'S DAY OUT is an everyday story about a common trip of a family who live in Pune, the "Kumars". The route and the struggles they encounter are real. This illustrated novel tells their story.



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