

# Dhaka Day by Day

## Parley on Experimental Films

by Fayza Haq

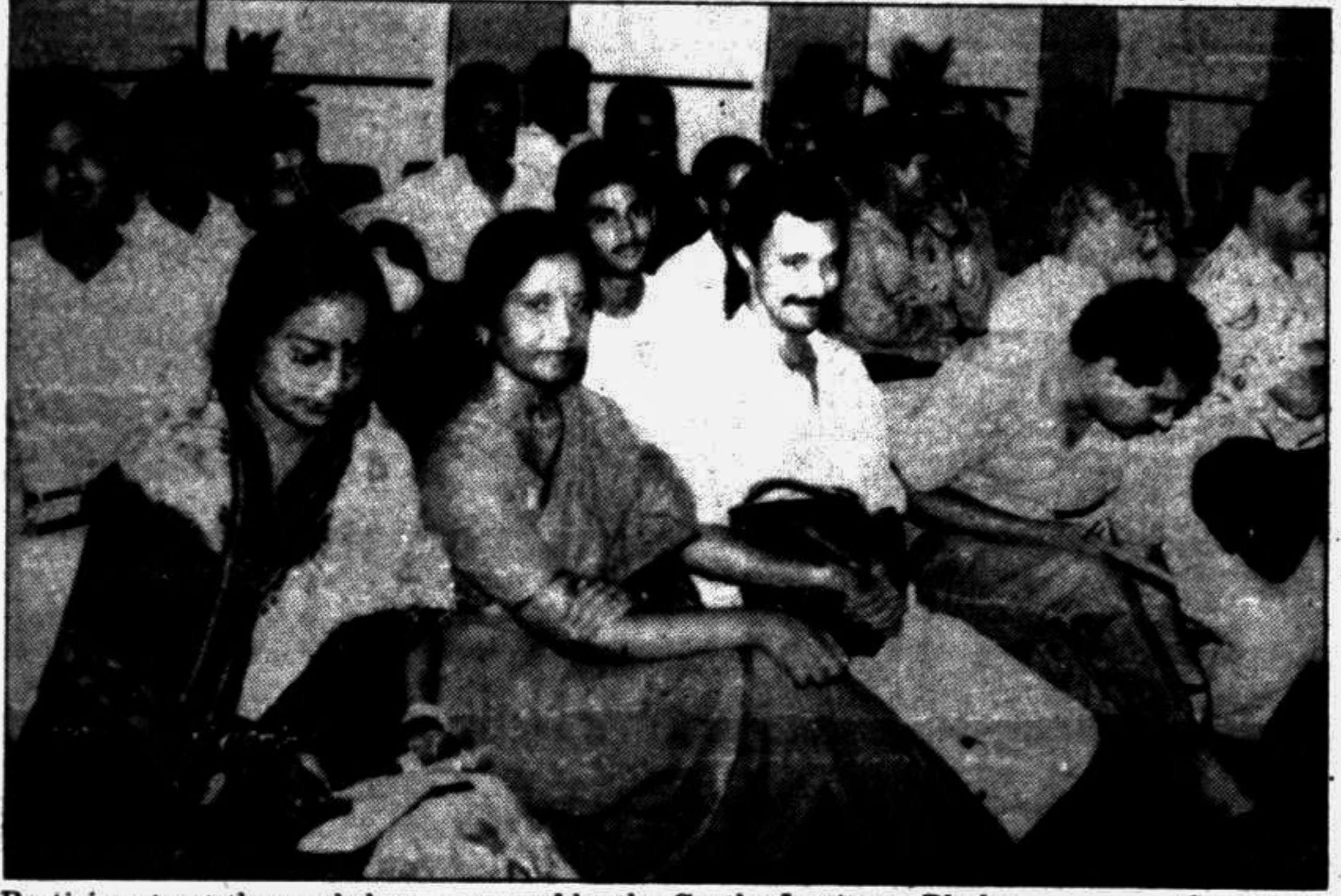
The workshop that was conducted by Marille Hahne on experimental films from West Germany included her own 90 minutes film and other short films. About her film, one of the participants of the discussion said, "It was very European except for the flags and the statue of Bismark. The scenes were not only Germanic. They could have been taken from any European country and not just German."

"Many of the themes and subjects are universal. Yet there was another aspect of this film. It was more serious than relaxing although the title was 'Joy of Seeing'. The women's lib theme was well dealt with effectively too. The graffiti on the toilet walls were typical of any US or European country. Even the Muslim women with their scarf-clad heads are to be found in the western metropolises."

"These experimental films that are exhibited at the Film Festivals are seen by special enthusiasts of such films, such as students."

"The film tradition had been destroyed with the end of the Third Reich. By the sixties the film schools developed in Germany. There are usually 500 applicants out of which 30 students are chosen. One third of these are foreigners, so we have lively schools. Many universities are interested in these experimental films. They are interested in studying the social and psychological aspects of life, as depicted in the films. We need more time to develop". Ms Hahne commented about the film schools and their products, for the benefit of the eager audience.

"Most of the films seen by the average German audience are commercially oriented."



Participants at the workshop, arranged by the Goethe Institute, Dhaka. — Star photo

This film had taken three and a half years to make and involved two simple cameras, while the sound was put in later, the producer informed the audience. The film was a low budget one. Women's problems were often focused on.

The only confusing factors were the scenes from St Martin's Day and the tradition of sending letters in a balloon, which were unknown to the Dhaka participants of the workshop.

"It was a product of feelings rather than one of the head, and I don't make any such films any longer," Ms Hahne replied to a question.

Another query was on yet another women's oriented film. A participant of the workshop did not quite understand the symbolism of the prince and the princess. Nor did she easily comprehend that the theme of love which was being satirised by the German spelling of "love".

The dream of a woman to play the role of being a mother and being pregnant had to be elaborated and explained by the film expert from Germany. The purpose of the college-like images and the focus on fragmented shots was to explain what was troubling the mind of the young woman, it was further elaborated.

"The comments of her former boy-friends were certainly bold. In Bangladesh men would never speak so freely about their love life," commented Manzare Hassin.

Alamgir Faridul Haq, a young journalist, had this to say about a film on domestic boredom, "Surely married life is more interesting than that."

The humour, symbolism, college-like effect, the parody and puns had to be explained. Munirul Islam Khan, a university teacher from the Sociology Department, appeared to easily comprehend and interpret quite an intriguing film in which all one could see was a display of film shots of one single middle aged individual.

"I wish I could have shown you something more recent but I don't have enough subtitles," commented Ms Hahne. "In experimental films you throw out rules," she explained to one of the questions from the crowd. The rhythm of the films was often tense and even the humour had to be explained as there was so much of symbolism and surrealism in many of the films shown.

## Lack of knowledge on protein, vitamin causes malnutrition

Education and Cultural Affairs Minister Prof A Q M Badruddoza Chowdhury, Tuesday laid emphasis on creation of health awareness for prevention of tuberculosis and leprosy among the rural people, reports BSS.

He said people must be given functional education on health-care, nutrition and prevention of diseases to ensure better health for them.

The minister was speaking as the chief guest at the inaugural ceremony of a training workshop on rural tuberculosis and leprosy control programme held at National TB

Control Project Building at Shyamali in Dhaka.

Presided over by Director of TB and Leprosy Control Services Dr A K M Ahsan Ali, the function was addressed by Health and Family Welfare Minister Choudhury Kamal-ibne Yusuf as special guest.

Badruddoza Chowdhury said the country faces a food deficit of about 15 lakh tons every year which can be met through changing of food habit and supplementing rice by potato. He pointed out potato is highly enriched with vitamin-A and C which is not available in rice and wheat even. He added that people of the country suffer from malnutrition for lack of

knowledge about protein and vitamin in vegetables. Health and Family Welfare Minister in his address said tuberculosis and leprosy could easily be cured and prevented through improvement of health-care facilities.

Later Badruddoza Chowdhury who is also the Chairman of National Anti-tuberculosis Association of Bangladesh (NATAB), handed over some preventive medicines to Health Minister Kamal Yusuf on behalf of NATAB. Jointly organised by TB and Leprosy Control services and NATAB with financial help of the World Bank the workshop was participated by laboratory technicians of different upazila health complexes of the country.

## JCD accused of sheltering Milon's killers

By Staff Correspondent Jagannath University College branch of Bangladesh Chhatra League (S-A) in a press conference on Tuesday said the armed elements of Jatyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) have taken shelter in different buildings of the campus and demanded their immediate rest.

Hedayatul Islam Swapan, Convener of the organisation urged all to be united for ensuring a violence-free academic atmosphere for 25,000 students of the institution.

He said the presence of the terrorists may lead to violence in the campus.

## TV Wednesday

- 5.00 Opening announcement Al Quran Programme summary
- 5.15 Ceeta
- 5.20 News in Bangla
- 5.30 Shawarba Gaurabe Sports Programme
- 5.55 New Artistes' Programme
- 7.05 News in Bangla
- 8.00 News in Bangla
- 8.30 Dance Programme: Writer Tale Tale
- 9.00 Film Show: Macgyver
- 10.00 News in English
- 10.25 Parliament Roundup
- 10.40 Shilpa O Shabditya (Industry and Literature)
- 11.30 Khabar/The News
- 11.40 Programme for Thursday
- 11.45 Closing

## Mark Tully meets BUET VC

Mark Tully, Chief Correspondent, South-East Asia Region of British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) called on Prof M Shahjahan, Vice-Chancellor of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) on Monday at the latter's office, says a press release.

Mark Tully stayed with the Vice-Chancellor for some time and exchanged views on different issues. Prof Shahjahan also informed him about the academic and research activities of the university.

## BMA observes tokens strike today

By SSMCH Correspondent

A two-hour token strike called by Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA) to press home its four point demand will be observed in all medical college hospitals and institutions today Wednesday from 11 am to 1 pm.

A rally will also be held at the PG hospital premises at 11 am.

President of BMA Dr. M. A Majed and Secretary General Dr Mostafa Jalal Mohiuddin have called upon the doctors to attend the rally.

## \$10m OPEC Fund projects to be implemented

Two projects worth 10 million US dollars with assistance from OPEC Fund for International Development are going to be implemented soon, reports BSS.

The projects are establishment of a dental college and 300-bed Shaheed Suhrawardy Hospital in Dhaka, an official handout said Tuesday.

This was disclosed by Osama Faquih, Chairman of OPEC Fund in a meeting with Health Minister Chowdhury Kamal ibne Yusuf in his office Tuesday. Health Secretary, Mokammel Haq was present.

During the meeting they exchanged views on health education and development of environment in Bangladesh with assistance from the OPEC Fund.

The Health Minister thanked Osama Faquih for OPEC assistance in infra-structural development of the health sector in Bangladesh.

## Social awareness can help prevent drug addiction

By Staff Correspondent

The State Minister for Energy and Mineral Resources, Dr Khandoker Mosharruf Hossain on Tuesday said the future generation could be saved from the evils of drugs through creating social awareness.

He was addressing a seminar on anti-drug arranged by Kamalkali at Hotel Sundarban which was presided over by the Director of Kamalkali Golam Kader.

The key note paper was presented by Sharif Almazi. The seminar was addressed among others by Enamul Haq, Mohan Khan and Ali Imam.

## ROK envoy makes farewell call on PM

South Korean Ambassador in Dhaka Jaichun Lee Tuesday made farewell call on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at her Secretariat and discussed bilateral matters, reports UNB.

He stressed expansion of cooperation in different fields, including economic, between the two countries, officials said.

The Ambassador thanked the Prime Minister for extending cooperation during his tenure in Bangladesh.

## Shaheen School reunion Aug 2

The grand reunion of the former students of the Shaheen School/College will be held on Friday (August 2) at the Jatiya Press Club auditorium at 4 pm, reports UNB.

The former ex-Shaheens have been requested to collect their cards from Mirza Masood Husain, General Secretary, ex-Shaheen office, Lillie Plaza, 83 New Circular Road, Dhaka, said a press release.

## Weather

### Moderate rain likely

By Staff Correspondent

Light to moderate rain or shower accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at many places over Chittagong, Rajshahi and Dhaka divisions with a few moderately heavy falls during the next 24 hours commencing 6 pm on Tuesday, reports Meteorological Department.

The day temperature till Thursday morning may remain nearly unchanged over the country. On Tuesday, the highest temperature recorded in Rajshahi was 34 degree Celsius while the lowest temperature was 23.1 degree Celsius at Fenil.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Little change extended outlook for another five days: No appreciable change. The sun sets today (Wednesday) at 6.43 pm and rises tomorrow (Thursday) at 5.28 am.

The temperature and humidity in some cities and towns of the country on Tuesday were:

Cities/Towns	Temperature in Celsius	Humidity in percentage		
	Max	Min	9 am	6 pm
Dhaka	32.6	26	93	95
Chittagong	31.4	24.8	93	97
Rajshahi	34	25.6	86	86
Khulna	31.8	26.4	78	90
Sylhet	31.5	25	78	96
Mymensingh	31.5	24	93	95
Jessore	33.4	26.4	82	NA
Barsal	31.1	25.4	88	93
Rangpur	33.4	25.7	88	79
Fenil	30.7	23.1	97	100



A Worldnet Dialogue on volunteerism, linking participants in Dhaka, Madras, Lahore and Washington, was held at the USIS American Center July 29. Washington panelists were Mr Richard Schubert, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Points of Light Foundation, a leading American non-profit non-partisan volunteerism information clearinghouse, and Mr Kerry Kenn Allen, consultant and trainer. Bangladesh participants were (from right) Mr Sayedur Rahman, Country Representative, OXFAM; Dr Sultana Zaman, General Secretary, Bangladesh Protibondhi Foundation, and Mr Mohammad Ataur Rahman, founder-director, Gono Unnayan Procheta.

## Closure of BCCI discussed

# OPEC Fund to help build cyclone shelters: Faquih

Visiting OPEC Fund Chairman Osama Faquih on Tuesday called on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia and assured her organisation's continuous assistance in different projects in Bangladesh, reports UNB.

Faquih said his organisation would also consider on priority basis providing assistance to implement the projects to be taken up by the new democratic government.

He expressed the hope the present government under the leadership of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia would be able to achieve desired goal of development through the combination of people's high morale, determination and the commitment of the government.

Faquih, also Deputy Minister for Finance and Economic Cooperation of oil-rich Saudi Arabia, said Bangladesh had a bright future as the government had determination and people's support.

During the meeting, the quality of OPEC assistance was appreciated. The OPEC assistance is generally provided for the welfare of the poor and distressed.

The Prime Minister conveyed her thanks to Saudi King Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz for the hospitality and sincerity of the Saudi people shown to the people of Bangladesh during her recent visit to the kingdom.

Begum Zia told the OPEC Chairman her government was

giving priority, among others, to primary education, health care and environment.

She, in this regard, sought OPEC cooperation for increasing facilities to cure kidney diseases.

After the recent devastating cyclone, the Prime Minister said, her government received international response for the construction of multi-purpose structures in coastal areas.

The OPEC Chairman said his organisation would organise an international campaign so that world bodies come forward to help in permanent measures for tackling natural disasters.

ERD Secretary Enam Ahmed Chowdhury was also present on the occasion.

During the meeting, various bilateral issues, including the progress of the Fund-assisted projects in Bangladesh and prospect of future programmes, were discussed. The closure of BCCI also came up for discussion.

Faquih, who is also the Deputy Minister for Finance and International Economic Cooperation of Saudi Arabia, expressed satisfaction at the progress of Fund-assisted projects here.

Some of the Fund-assisted projects which have already been completed are: East-west Inter-connector, Bakhrabad Gas Project and Ashuganj Fertilizer Project.

## Slum-dwellers' rally for amenities

Slum dwellers in the city, Tuesday held a rally at Saidabad demanding improved habitational facilities and cancellation of their house rent, reports UNB.

The rally organised by Bangladesh Jana Kalyan Samity (BBJK) was presided by Babul Miah, President of Nagar Palli Bastuhara.

Atiqur Rahman, President of BBJK was present as chief guest.

Referring to the struggle to get homeless rehabilitated during the previous govern-

ment he said only 230 houses were made instead of the agreed 1000 and a rent of Tk 100 was charged from each tenant, said a press release.

He maintained that no house rent was charged at any rehabilitation centre set up after liberation and expressed regret that government still now has not taken any positive step to help the community.

He demanded that urban facilities like gas, light, water etc be set up immediately at the slum centres.

# House rent up by 21 pc

House rent in the capital increased by about 21 per cent on an average over the last one year, according to a recent CAB (Consumers' Association of Bangladesh) survey, reports UNB.

The committee discussed matters relating to the transaction of business of the House in its on-going session and decided to meet again at 9 am Wednesday for further discussion.

The survey was carried in 25 major residential areas and slum pockets of the metropolis including Khilgaon, Purana Paltan, Mirpur, Kalabagan, Kathalbagian, Shamoli, Palashi, Mohammadpur, Bashabo and Azampur.

Lower income group representing low-paid employees fell prey to the highest rent-hike than those of the middle or higher income groups.

One-room house had the highest rate of increase with 32.75 per cent on an aver-

age followed by rent for mess seats accounting to 31.35 per cent between July '90 and June '91.

Rent in slums increased by 25 per cent while that for kutcha houses rose by 21 per cent.

Flats with three or five rooms had comparatively lesser increase trend during the period.

According to the survey, rent for a three-room pucca flat soared by 9.65 per cent while a four-room flat increased by 10.48 per cent.

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