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### SAARC festival begins at Calcutta

CALCUTTA, Oct. 12: The first South Asian Festival of SAARC countries was inaugurated in Calcutta by Prof Syed Nurul Hasan, Governor of West Bengal this evening at the Rabindra Sadan auditorium, reports BSS.

Organised by the Indian Council for Cultural Relation, government of West Bengal and Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre, the inaugural function was chaired by the West Bengal Minister for Information and Cultural Affairs Buddhadev

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### SAARC festival

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Bhattacharya.

Prof Nurul Hasan stressed the need for exchange of cultural programme among the SAARC countries with a view to building an atmosphere of cooperation and brotherly feeling.

The main attraction of the inaugural function was the solo performance of Mrs Shahnaj Rahmatullah of Bangladesh, who performed 10 songs which included patriotic, modern Bhatiali, gazal, Nazrul Rabindra Sangeet.