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## Cultural team leaves for New Delhi

A 40-member cultural delegation led by State Minister for Cultural Affairs Professor Jahanara Begum left Dhaka for New Delhi on Wednesday to participate in the first South Asian festival scheduled to be held from October 9-24, says BSS.

All the SAARC countries are participating in the festival, according to a PID handout.

Prime Minister of India Mr. Narasimha Rao is expected to inaugurate the festival on October 9.

State Minister Mrs. Jahanara Begum will inaugurate the exhibition of paintings by SAARC children at the Aifaes Gallery of New Delhi on October 10.

The first South Asian festival will take place in ten cities of India. Performing art show, crafts exhibition, exhibition of classical and contemporary paintings and photographs, seminar on education, literature, journalism, solo musical programmes and paintings and essay competitions for children have been included in the festival.

Two Bangladeshi children Shafkat Wasi Ahmed and Momena Jalil will receive gold medal from the Indian Premier for their outstanding performances in the children's painting and essay competitions.