Going Global

CHINTITO

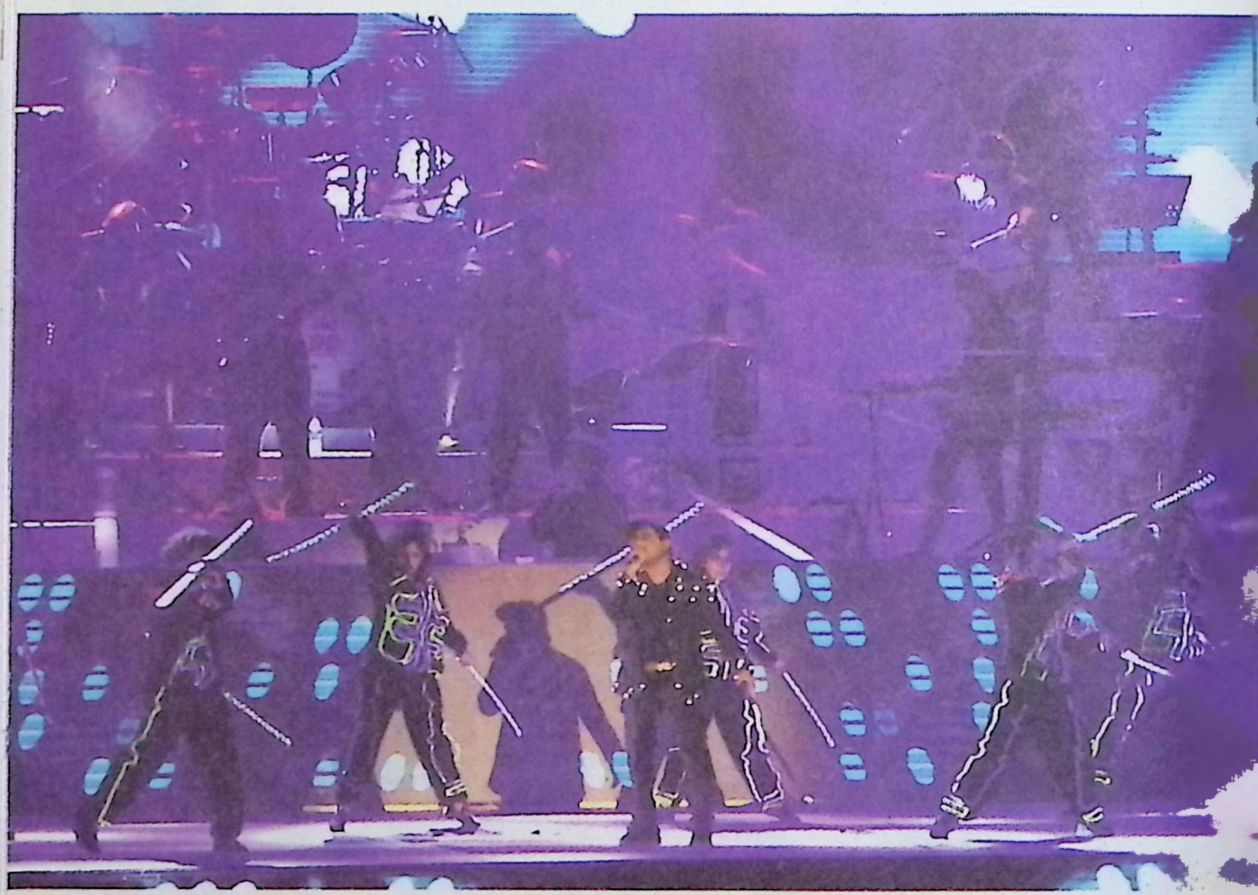


PHOTO: AFP

Cricket has crossed all boundaries. And I do not speak of the game overcoming the '*Lagaan*' days and spreading to all parts of the world, but of teams comprising of players from all across the globe.

Take for instance the on-going World Twenty20 in Bangladesh. Batsmen of Hong Kong running between the wickets were calling at each other '*Aaja*'; that's a clear Hindi or an Urdu dialect, whereas they should probably have been yelling '*Lai ba*'.

If the trend catches on, cricket World Cups may soon look more like international club matches with Robert opening for Bangladesh, Apurbo spinning for Australia, and Deshnayake keeping wickets for South Africa. Football is already like that to some extent.

The pre-tournament celebrations organised by the Bangladesh Cricket Board, why one can keep on wondering till their next bizarre undertaking, if anything, was successful in confusing the world that it was indeed the usual opening ceremony that normally precedes such international events. And boy-oh-boy! Was it not global?

There was our '*tumi keno bojhona?*' (Why do you not understand?) AyubBachchu singing to an inanimate crowd of a few thousand early birds last Thursday afternoon. Understandably, it was early