

SHUTTERSTORIES

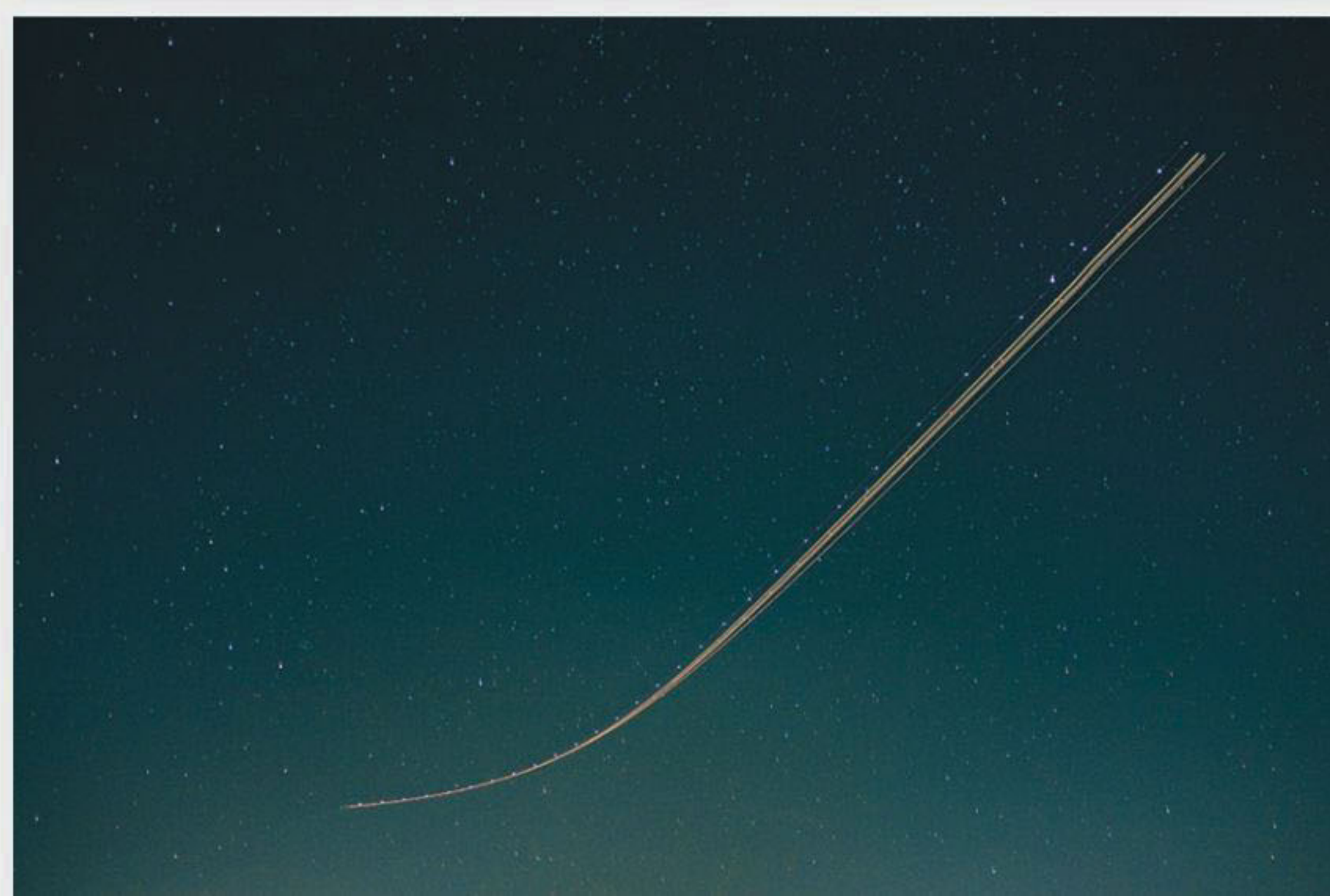
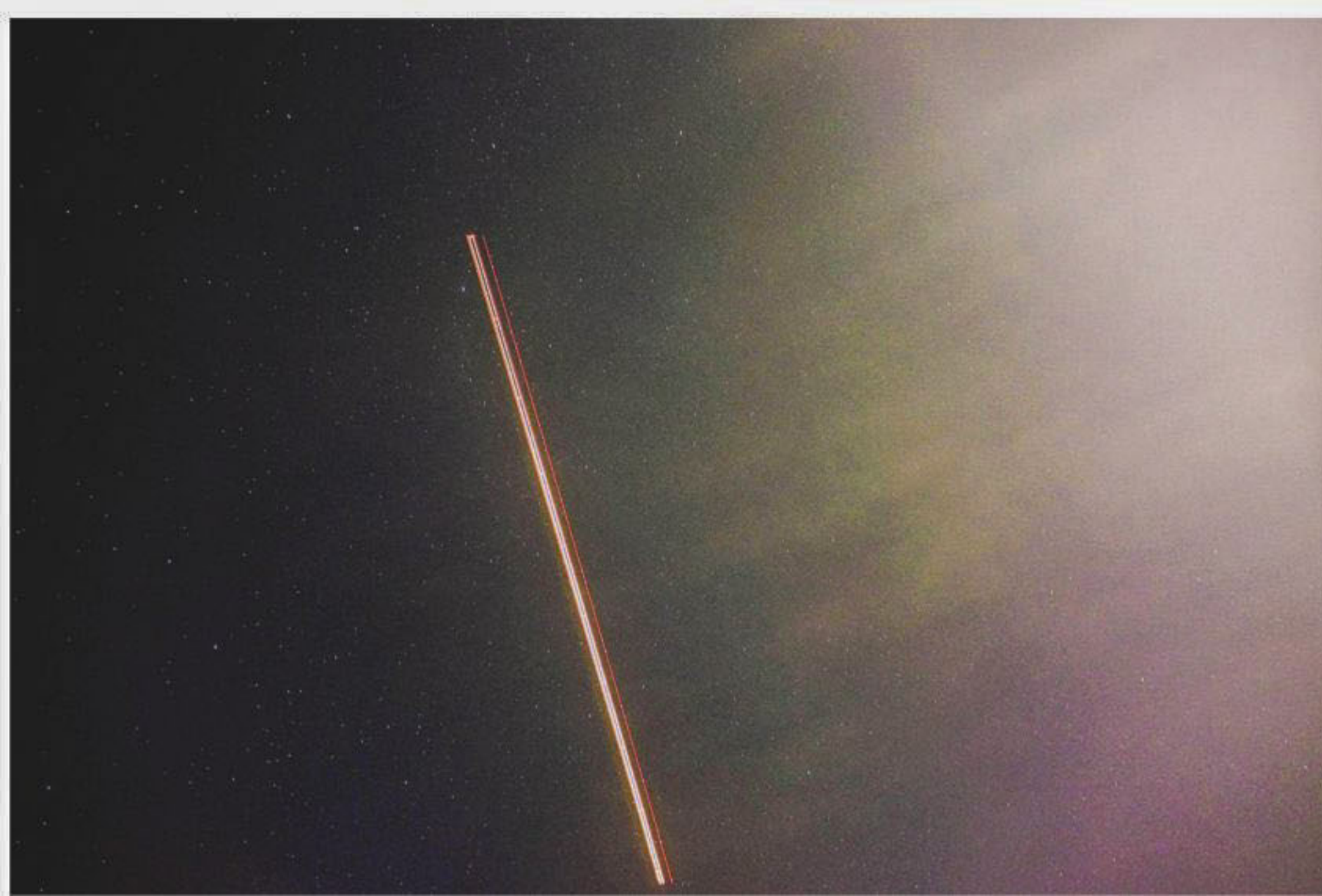
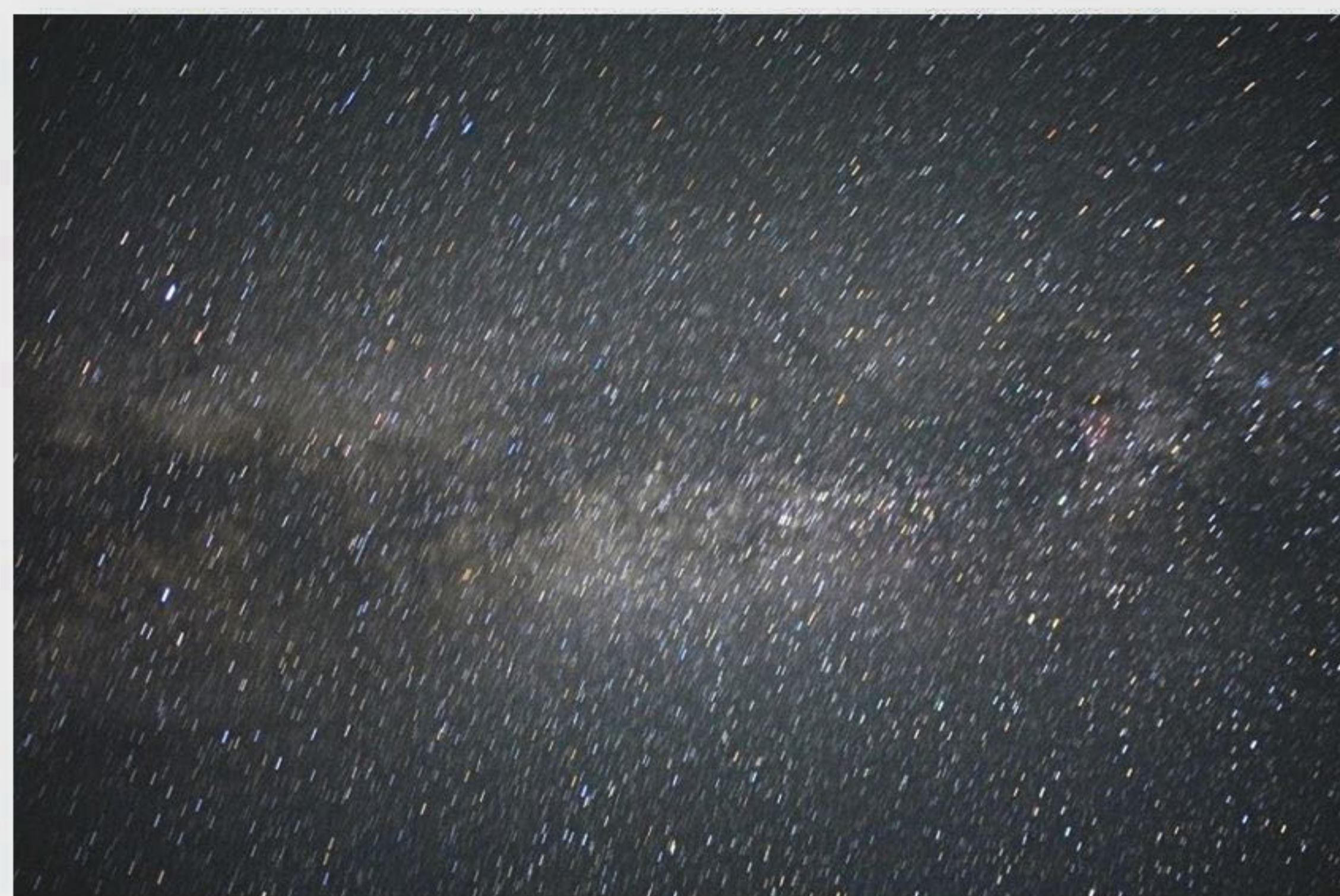


COLLIDING STARS

PHOTOS: FAHAD AL-ALAM

There was a twinkling in your eyes, when we first met. The light pulled me in, into a cosmos of your own. It was new, but humble, terrifying but lovely, it was strange but familiar. The star dusts in my bones, trembled at the sight of you. Like I knew you. Like my star dusts knew yours. I could tell you felt it too. I felt your star dusts shake in you. Defying gravity, I wanted to float into your space and discover the colours of your galaxies, the universe in your eyes. With curiosity for your unknown, there was a black hole sucking me in, into your singularity. That's what was happening. Stardust to stardust. It was you and me. We were two colliding stars.

— NAZIBA BASHER



STRIKING A CHORD

Reports summarise that one of the youngest, professional cricket players of the national level in Bangladesh, Taskin Ahmed, right-arm fast bowler, was reported for a suspect action during the World T20 qualifying round match against Netherlands, but was allowed to play in the super10 match against Pakistan, in which he had figures of 2 for 32. He underwent an assessment in Chennai soon after, and as a result of that test, by an independent committee, has now been suspended from international cricket. Clearly, a slap on the face for ardent cricket lovers across the world and of course, the birth of yet another 'doomsday conspiracy' in the lives of Bangladeshis, for who, cricket is, currently, the lifeline.

As someone who is remotely connected to cricket, I still have trouble figuring out terminologies like 'sweeps' and 'upper-cuts' and so much more, especially when one listens to the commentary on the radio. Yes, I laugh and cry with the Tigers and the rest of the country after every match, I proudly wear their jersey, happy to see my name inscribed on the back, take it to heart when we lose and sing with pride when we win. Yet, I cannot differentiate between a regular and a fast bowler, a spin or a swing, a bouncer from a yorker.

Having lived in this part of the world, however, I am familiar with the concept of the 'big-guys' taking over the 'small-figs', the existing hierarchical structure in society that many in authority tries to hold on to and corporates taking advantage of the artist, the creator, the entertainer for benefit. The recent actions of the ICC remind me of just that.

One does not need to be a 'cricket-scientist' or an expert of the advanced level to understand that since Taskin Ahmed's regular deliveries were found legal in both the assessment and the match, it is certain that his bowling action during the match was not questionable. "The regulations were meant to ascertain whether the player bowled any illegal delivery during the match, and did not contemplate suspending a bowler for delivering an illegal delivery in test conditions, which he did not bowl during the match. Therefore, he cannot be suspended and his reporting by the Match Officials was wrong," writes Adib Shamsuddin for the Daily Star.



Taskin Ahmed

PHOTO: STAR FILE

TASKIN IN MY THOUGHTS

ELITA KARIM

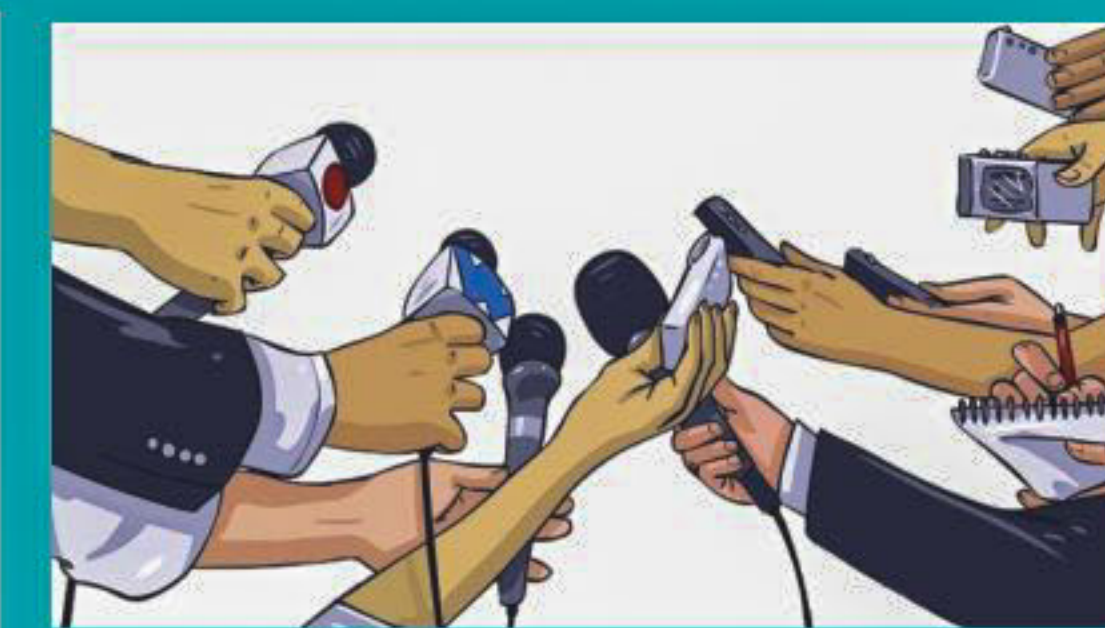
Naturally, the BCB has made an appeal to the ICC to reconsider Taskin Ahmed's suspension from bowling in international cricket. The communication was made personally by the BCB president Nazmul Hassan, who said that he spoke to the ICC chairman Shashank Manohar and chief-executive Dave Richardson.

Not only Bangladeshis but sensible cricket enthusiasts from all over the world

feel that it was strange for the ICC to take such a decision, especially when no evidence was found to support their claims otherwise. Moreover, the ICC made extra efforts to prove Taskin wrong in the middle of the ICC T20 World Cup, where Taskin was clearly showcasing his world class feats and would have proved to be a top player by the end of the tournament. Cricket is now the only positive

element in the country that is neutral, disciplined, and surprisingly enough, unites people from all walks of life. It definitely is heartwarming to see social media warriors joining forces with those on the streets to fight for the single individual who has managed to bring a million smiles, many a times. Bangladesh is now on top of its game and there is no looking back.

ABOUT TOWN



MEET THE JOURNALIST

Date & Time: March 24, 2016 at 4 pm
Venue: Rotary Center, Dhaka Bangladesh
Hosted by- Roteract Club of Dhaka North
For more information, visit:
<https://www.facebook.com/events/650601408413305/>



SESSION ON CAREER AT MNC

Date & Time: March 25, 2016 from 9:30 am – 1:30 pm
Venue: Bishwa Shahitta Kendra, Dhaka, Bangladesh
Hosted by- Circle Foundation
For tickets and Query, visit:
<https://www.facebook.com/events/498048433730693/>



BANGLADESH FLOWER FEST- 2016
Date & Time: March 29-30, 2016 from 10am- 8pm
Venue: Krishibid Institute of Bangladesh- KIB
Hosted by- Bangladesh Flower Fest- 2016
For more information, visit:
<https://www.facebook.com/events/463817487161645/>