

## Bipul Regon's Poem

### The Changes

Reed walls are now scarce in the villages  
Nobody saves money in the bamboo banks  
Whitewashed bamboo pillars have also disappeared.  
Flamingos have been replaced by flocks of ibis  
The birds drop seeds familiar and strange  
In their droppings.  
They grow up into trees  
And we take a rest in the shadows.

To build concrete structures  
And four lane roads  
The trees have been felled  
The shelter of the flamingos was destroyed  
And the birds disappeared.

You do not raise dust while walking  
There is dehydration in the body  
Nature's beauty faded  
And yet I search for my home in the village  
With a flock of birds in the backyard woods.

*Translated by Ananda Bormudoi*

**Bipul Regon** was an Assamese poet and writer. He published three collections of poems. *Sita Ravanar Atmakatha* was his latest collection of poems. Besides writing in Assamese he also wrote in Malayalam and Hindi language. He died on July 5, 2024. He sent this poem to PWF a few days before his death. This is probably his last poem. The poem is published in this issue as a tribute to the poet.