The Alumni Association of Southern Regional Station of ICAR-National Dairy Research Institute, Bengaluru organized one day National Symposium on “Sustainable Livestock Development under Climate Change Scenario” on 28th November 2018 at SRS of ICAR-NDRI, Bengaluru as part of National Conference on “Ecosystem Conservation and Sustainable Development” held during 27th - 29th November 2018. On 28th November, the Symposium was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Dr. S.A. Patil, Former Director of ICAR-IARI, & Former Vice Chancellor of University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad. While addressing the gathering Dr. Patil, stressed to focus on system based multi-disciplinary research to address the problems faced by the farmers through combination of modern science followed by good extension practices. More importantly, he stressed that the outcomes of the seminars and conferences should provide the answers to farmers problems. Dr. R. N. Srinivasa Gowda, Former Vice Chancellor, KVAFSU, Bidar, the Guest of Honour While addressing the gathering, emphasized upon increasing the production under adverse climate change, mitigation strategies for emission of green house gases and need for more research on influence of changes in climatic conditions on animal productivity. Further he also advocated to develop farmer-friendly adaptation strategies like balanced feeding, drought resistant breeds etc to mitigate the changing climate.

Dr. P. Keshavanath, Former Dean, College of Fisheries, KVAFSU, briefed about the theme of the National Conference under which two satellite symposia were being held, one being at ICAR-NDRI, Bengaluru. He said that the present Conference was in continuation of the first one held in Ethiopia at international level which was mainly aimed at creating awareness about influences of climate changes on biodiversity. Dr K.P. Ramesha, President, Alumni Association & Head, SRS of ICAR-NDRI presided over the function and during his presidential address pointed out the relevance of the theme of the Symposium to the current research work being undertaken by the Institute. Dr Ramesha informed that NDRI had been working on enhancing productivity of indigenous breeds of cattle as well as using ET and sorted semen to enhance dairy animal productivity, all of which are aimed at withstanding climate change influences. Dr. P.K. Dixit, Vice-President, Alumni Association welcomed the dignitaries and participants, while, Dr. K. Jayaraj Rao, Vice-President, Alumni Association, proposed vote of thanks. The function was well attended by more than 90 participants.

The inaugural function was followed by the technical session in which, Dr K.T.Sampath, Former Director, ICAR-NIANP delivered a talk on ‘Nutritional Security for Livestock under Changing Climatic Scenario’ and lucidly explained how adverse climates affect productivity of livestock. Dr. K.P. Ramesha delineated various strategies to be adopted for productivity enhancement of dairy animals with special emphasis on indigenous cattle under changing climate scenario. Subsequently accepted oral presentations were made by the registered delegates. The Chief Guest of the plenary session Dr. Raghavendra Bhatta, Director, ICAR-NIANP, Bangalore has delivered a lecture on ‘Mitigation Strategies for Methane Gas Emission from Livestock Sector’. Guest of Honour, Dr. Shivaram Bhat, Director (AH&VS), GoK, Bangalore discussed programmes and policy support for indigenous livestock improvement that the
Karnataka government was contemplating. Dr. K.P. Ramesha in his concluding remarks stated that persons from all the disciplines and departments in various organizations should work together and develop proper strategies to mitigate the adverse influences of climate change. The conference ended with vote of thanks proposed by Dr S. Subash, Secretary of Alumni Association and Organizing Secretary of the conference.