



Association of Senior Living India
Empowering Senior Living and Care in India

Founder's Excellence Award

*“Blessed is a person, who makes a difference
and walks that extra mile to make
the defenceless walk with dignity.”*

*Blessed is Dr. Benazir Patil whose contribution to the cause of senior care,
has given her a special place in the hearts of all those she has touched.*

Dr. Benazir Patil is the driving force behind SCHOOL (Society of Community Health Oriented Operational Links), a not-for-profit organization dedicated to supporting vulnerable older adults in India.

With a strong academic background, she graduated from Fergusson College and earned her Master's in Social Work from the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, followed by a PhD in Public Health Policy from Pune University.

Before founding SCHOOL, Dr. Patil had a distinguished career working with the UN and various international organizations, leading large-scale projects in India, Nepal, Bangladesh, and the UAE. She also played a significant role in developing the National Health Profile 2020, a key annual publication by the Government of India.

Currently, Dr. Patil champions the flagship initiative 'Vriddha Mitra' (Friends of Older People), which she launched in Pune in 2018. This pioneering program introduced a unique home and community service delivery model that has since expanded to five other locations and reaches 46500 elderlies across India. 'Vriddha Mitra' promotes the concept of 'Ageing in Place,' ensuring that older adults receive care within their own homes, enhancing their quality of life. Her innovative work has garnered recognition from the Government of India, WHO, World Bank, municipal corporations, CSRs, and philanthropic foundations.

Mansur Dalal

Founder and Chairman Emeritus
Association of Senior Living India

Place: Bangalore
Date: 6th December, 2024