

Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech 2024 List launched



Caption: Lopa Patel MBE, Chair Diversity UK and Chair of the Judging Panel launching the Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech List 2024.

[London, 10 July 2024]: Fresh from publishing the [Asians in Tech Impact Report](#) earlier this year, equality charity Diversity UK announced the Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech 2024 list on 3 July 2024 at a celebratory event marking a decade of championing entrepreneurs in the sector. The list celebrates the contribution made by British Asians to this country's tech sector and spotlights some of the top women innovators in HealthTech and ImpactTech.

Successes of Asians in Tech & Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech list

- ★ The sector has not only grown, making the **UK the third largest tech ecosystem in the world and first in Europe**, but innovators have focused on the most pressing global challenges; from climate change and health tech to harnessing the power of Generative AI. The theme this year was innovation, particularly '*scaling for impact*' (financial, environmental, human & social capital).
- ★ The findings of the research commissioned from an independent Cambridge Venture Project (CVP) team showed the Asians in Tech initiative **inspires, empowers, connects** founders; helping them get **funding** and **support**.
- ★ The CVP team also focussed their research on the **healthtech** and **life sciences** sector, finding that nominees in the sector demonstrated two important positive economic indicators. Firstly, the number of years before a healthtech start-up receives their first funding has been reducing, and secondly, healthtech start-ups have been hiring employees in addition to the original founders.

- ★ Women have also held their own in the Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech list, accounting for 48% of shortlisted nominees in 2024. The representation of women has risen from 21% in 2015 up to a peak of 52% in 2021 and is at 48% in 2024, despite the fact that nearly 23% (2024) were new nominees.

“We are doubly pleased to be recognising twenty-seven of the most inspirational Asian stars with the Asian Tech Pioneers Awards”, said **Lopa Patel MBE, Chair of Diversity UK**, who has helmed the initiative since its inception, “these are individuals at the peak of their tech journey; from being serial venture builders or deep-tech investors to pioneering social entrepreneurs and innovators”.

Britain loves its Asian tech entrepreneurs

Britain loves its Asian tech entrepreneurs; 24% of this year’s list is made up of **Startup** founders or co-founders; and 29% are in the **Business** category, incorporating AI, creative industries, fintech and more established corporate enterprises; 16% are **Investors**, including angel investors, incubators, private equity and venture capitalists. The **Healthtech & Life Sciences** sector accounts for a healthy 17% and **ImpactTech** and **Greentech** sectors a burgeoning and blooming 14% of nominees.



Shakardokht Jafari, CEO of Trueinvivo, at the Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech 2024 List launch.

Among the innovators shortlisted in this year’s index were **Veena Adityan**, Founder & CEO of SmartBell, a company that provides innovative solutions for animal health insights; **Sona Chandra**, President of AI, Pangea Bio, that harnesses the power of data and AI to enable the scalable translation of nature’s metabolome into medicine; **Priya Guliani**, CEO of EarthID, a decentralised Identity platform that enables organisations to safeguard, minimise and reuse personal identifiable information; **Shakardokht Jafari**, the first Afghan woman to earn a PhD in Medical Physics, who developed an efficient and low cost

method of measuring a medical dose of radiation and became the CEO of Trueinvivo and **Devi Kolli**, Co-Founder & CEO of i3 Simulation, a healthcare data company specialising in improving simulation development process using AI, Machine Learning (ML) and Extended Reality (XR) technologies.



Priya Guliani, CEO of EarthID, at the Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech 2024 List launch.

Top 5 Categories

In addition to the **Chair's Award** (selected by the Chair of the Judging Panel) and **Asian Tech Pioneers Awards** (selected by the Judging Panel); **Top 5** individuals are highlighted in the **Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech list** in five categories.

The Top 5 categories for 2024 are:

- **Business** (incl. B2B, B2C, EdTech, FinTech, InsureTech, IoT, PropTech, Retail, RegTech etc.)
- **HealthTech** (incl. Life Sciences, Medtech, Wellbeing and Health-related tech businesses)
- **ImpactTech** (incl. AI, ESG, Climate Tech, GreenTech, Energy, Social Enterprises, Tech for SDGs) *
- **Investors** (incl. Accelerator, Incubator, Angel Investor, PE, Venture Capital, Corporate Investor)
- **Startups** (entrepreneurs who have set up in the past 5 years or so)

** In previous years we have chosen to showcase Digital Influencers (2015), Social Entrepreneurs (2015), EdTech (2016), FinTech (2017 & 2023), Creative Industries (2018), Sustainability (2020) GreenTech (2021), AI (2022) and Life Sciences (2022).*

About the Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech List

The aim of the Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech list is to showcase the wealth of talent on the British digital scene; from startup founders, creatives, social entrepreneurs, technologists, venture capital and angel investors to the policy makers and game changers. The key objective is to address the perceived lack of diversity in the tech sector by highlighting the business models, innovation, funding and support networks being created by these Asian digital entrepreneurs. Shortlisted nominees not only gain considerable media attention, they also make valuable connections to help fund or scale their business; are part of a network of innovators; can pitch their ventures at Tech Showcases; are recognised in industry publications and go on to win other competitions and awards.

To celebrate the tenth anniversary of the list, organisers had organised a Demo Day prior to the list launch, enabling 5 startup founders to showcase their innovations and ventures as exhibitors with 3 founders chosen to deliver elevator pitches to guests.

Sponsors on the Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech 2024 list include business support network Barclays Eagle Labs; one of the UK's leading independent suppliers of steel storage containers, Bell Container Ltd, global law firm Eversheds Sutherland and financial planning advisory, Futurum Financial Advice.

The Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech list and Diversity UK are the brainchild of the digital media entrepreneur Lopa Patel MBE, who has long been recognised as an evangelist for STEM and the tech industries in the UK.

For further details contact: Lopa Patel, T: 0203 865 4037, info [at] asiansintech.com

IMAGES:

Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech 2024 - Launch: <https://bit.ly/4eU6ETd>

Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech 2024 - Nominees: <https://bit.ly/3xmNswz>

Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech 2024 - Top 5s: <https://bit.ly/45CJ7lo>

Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech 2024 - Chair's Award: <https://bit.ly/3Xwtpq2>

Asian Tech Pioneers 2024: <https://bit.ly/3Xzrukn>

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Notes for Editors:

About Asians in Tech

The Asians in Tech initiative was established in 2015 with the launch of the first Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech list. Successes of the Asians in Tech initiative over the past decade include ★ 9 AT100 lists published; ★ 6 Tech Showcases hosted (Cambridge, London, Manchester); ★ 5 Chairman's Awards presented; ★ 121 Asian Tech Pioneers recognised; ★ 3 Investing in Women Founders panel debates held, ★ Queen's Award for Enterprise Masterclass delivered, ★ Asian Tech Pioneers video + ★ AI Inclusion Podcast.

Social Media:

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/asiansintech/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/asiansintech/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/asiansintech/> @asiansintech

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Website: <https://asiansintech.com/>

About Diversity UK

Diversity UK is an equality and inclusion charity that researches, advocates and promotes ideas for improving diversity in Britain. Diversity UK delivers its charitable objectives by undertaking research, facilitating debates, hosting roundtable meetings, producing white papers and publishing a monthly newsletter focusing on contemporary equality issues. Diversity UK is a registered charity (No: 1155189) in England & Wales. For further information, visit <https://diversityuk.org/>

Diversity UK is proud that the aim of showcasing Asian talent in the tech sector has been realised with founders achieving their investment targets, receiving grant funding, forming new partnerships and recognition in scaling their ventures.

Diversity UK successes include:

- ❖ 1 Flagship ‘Beyond the Glass Ceiling’ Research Report published in 2013.
- ❖ 4 Reviews participated in, including the McGregor-Smith ‘Race in the Workplace’ Review
- ❖ 4 Consultations including on Gender Pay Gap Reporting, Diversity Action Plan & DEI initiatives
- ❖ 1 Women in Science Conference sponsored in 2016.
- ❖ 2 Collaborations with The Work Foundation and Fawcett Society on gender related research

ABOUT THE SPONSORS

About Barclays Eagle Labs

Barclays Eagle Labs is a network made up of member businesses, partners, investors, corporates, mentors, banking expertise and so much more. Eagle Labs provide a wealth of support to startup businesses, particularly those who are focused on technology and innovation. For those needing physical space we provide coworking and offices throughout the UK. Businesses can be connected to our mentors, specialists and deals that are all designed to help them grow. We also provide access to a collaborative community where businesses can be put in touch with and learn from their peers.

Scaling businesses can benefit from some of the more bespoke and tailored approaches that are available through Labs. We offer specialists in growth through our mentoring partners. Businesses looking to raise further capital can be connected to investors through our Demo Directory. If a business is looking to grow and raise overseas – particularly in the United States – the Eagle Lab Global Connect programme, run by Silicon Valley veterans, will be of interest.

Eagle Labs provides access to a community of high potential and growing businesses, many who will be looking for investment. Our Demo Directory allows potential investors to subscribe to a regular update showcasing top Eagle Lab businesses who are fundraising.

The Eagle Labs community offers a mechanism that helps corporates better understand innovation and new and emerging technologies. Opportunities exist where corporates can collaborate with innovators. Our industry programmes in Law, Agrifood Healthcare, Energy and Digital Security provide facilitated connections and help bridge the gap between startups and corporates. More generally Eagle Labs can connect larger businesses with innovators.

For further information visit <https://labs.uk.barclays/>

About Bell Container

Founded in 1983 by Nilesh Majeethia, Bell Container is one of the UK's leading independent suppliers of steel storage containers, site accommodation units and bespoke container conversions.

Bell Container has been serving the storage container and site accommodation industry for over 40 years, specialising in the hire and sale of new and used secure storage containers, containerised offices and welfare units, changing rooms and toilet blocks together with offering an expansive range of flat-pack steel units.

With its own team of in-house fabricators, Bell Container is also able to modify shipping containers into any required specification for a varied range of purposes - converting units to serve a wider customer base, from the retail, leisure and hospitality sectors and continually looking for new ways to innovate, upcycle and utilise the humble steel container into these respective markets.

A trusted partner to all its clients, from SMEs to large corporates and local authorities, Bell Container's extensive knowledge of the market in conjunction with access to a network of depots and agents, allows it to provide a bespoke, resourceful and cost efficient service.

For further information, visit bellcontainer.co.uk

Bell Container congratulates Diversity UK on all its charitable endeavours and is proud to support the Asians in Tech 2024 launch event.

About Eversheds Sutherland

As a global top 10 law firm, Eversheds Sutherland provides legal services to a global client base. With more than 3,000 lawyers, Eversheds Sutherland operates in over 70 offices in more than 30 countries across Africa, Asia, Europe, the Middle East and the United States. In addition, a network of more than 200 related law firms, including formalised alliances in Latin America, Asia Pacific and Africa, provide support around the globe.

We recognise that having diverse talent across our business brings many benefits. We are committed to accessing a wide range of views, perspectives and thinking in all our teams and in this way, we are building a culture of inclusion, where each person feels able to be their true self at work and reach their full potential. We know that diverse and inclusive organisations are more productive, more innovative, perform better and have stronger levels of engagement from their people.

Diversity and Inclusion is fundamental to the firm's purpose of "helping our clients, our people and our communities to thrive", and 'Inclusive' is one of our five values. Our strategy encompasses a number of diversity dimensions including ethnicity; gender; disability; sexual orientation, gender identity and expression; parenting and caring; faith and social mobility.

By embracing diversity, we can better partner with our global and diverse client base, and be open and welcoming to all, across the communities we live and work in.

Jon Gill, Partner, Eversheds Sutherland said *"We are delighted to be partnering again with Diversity UK on what will be the tenth anniversary of the fantastic Asians in Tech initiative. To mark the launch of the Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech 2024 Awards, the event has the theme of innovation at its heart and will prove to be an exciting opportunity to hear from some of the UK's most exciting growth companies and tech experts. We look forward to recognizing and celebrating the diverse talent within the UK's technology sector."* For further information, visit www.eversheds-sutherland.com

About Futurum Financial Advice

Whether you are looking to invest for income or growth, the right investment strategy is critical in helping secure your future financial well-being.

We can advise on creating your unique investment strategy. The St. James's Place range of investment solutions and ongoing services have been carefully curated to help you reach your financial goals.

The St. James's Place risk-rated Portfolio solutions mean you can spread your investments across a wide range of asset types and choose fund managers with different investment styles to create a balanced and diversified investment solution.

The value of investments with St. James's Place will be directly linked to the performance of selected funds and these can fall as well as rise. You may get back less than the amount initially invested. Our investment planning advice services are designed to help grow wealth and protect against inflation.

Website: www.futurumfa.co.uk

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