



PRESS RELEASE

Celebrating Asian Technology Innovators in the Creative Industries Launch of the official list of the Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech 2016

The official list of the Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech 2016 was launched on June 13th in association with NewAsianPost.com and hosted in Central London by Diversity UK, EMF, KPMG, Wayra UK.

The launch took place at a reception immediately after what was the first Diversity Tech Summit and one week before the second London Technology Week, celebrating London as a global powerhouse of tech innovation. The evening saw a panel of eleven judges selecting the top five investors, start-ups, education and business-to-business technologists and women, before Nikhil Rathi, CEO, London Stock Exchange plc & Director of International Development, London Stock Exchange Group, gave a keynote address and helped to present the Chairman's Award to Shankar Narayanan, Head of UK & Ireland, Tata Consultancy Services, a Top 10 IT services player in the UK. Dilip Joshi MBE, Chairman of Diversity UK, on presenting the award lauded TCS for its *"strong human and intellectual assets, commitment to customer satisfaction and a mature business model giving it a turnover in excess of \$1 billion"*.

By highlighting the ground-breaking business models, apps, funding and support networks being created by Asian digital entrepreneurs, the Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech 2016 list addresses the perceived lack of diversity in the tech sector and showcases the wealth of talent that is currently growing the British tech scene.

Patrick Imbach, Head of KPMG Tech Growth commented: *"Digital industries are very important to the UK, accounting for nearly 1.5 million jobs and representing over 12% of the UK economy, the highest proportion in the G20 set of nations. Due to the vast number of new businesses emerging in the sector it is also the fastest growing part of our economy. Although the UK tech sector scores more highly than other global ecosystems in terms of its gender diversity, very little attention is given to other aspects of diversity within the UK start up community which are of equal importance. The Top Asians in Tech list highlights and celebrates the Asian talent in our tech sector and the important role they play in our success story around the world."*

In 2015 the first research study 'Startup DNA' by the Telefonica-owned start-up accelerator Wayra UK, revealed the social makeup of Britain's startup ecosystem to be more diverse than Silicon Valley. The challenge recognised is that although 78% of individuals agree that diversity helps start-up teams succeed, a disparity still exists in the industry, especially in relation to an individual's gender, class, educational background and ethnicity.

In recognition of the contribution of Asians of both genders to the UK's tech industry, the Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech list brought together key individuals including start-up founders, social entrepreneurs, technologists, venture capital and angel investors as well as key policy makers and game changers to celebrate the success of these pioneers.

Bina Mehta, KPMG Partner leading engagement with next generation of Asians added : *"KPMG is proud to be supporting the Diversity Tech Summit and the Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech list. Diversity is a key element of any successful business community and it is important that we celebrate the successes of Asian entrepreneurs, influencers and leaders in the tech sector and the vital job they do as role models to the younger generation of Asians in the UK."*

The Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech list, NewAsianPost.com and Diversity UK are the brainchild of the digital entrepreneur Lopa Patel MBE who has long been recognised as an evangelist for STEM and the tech industries in the UK. Lopa promotes enterprise and skills development, is a prominent advocate for more diversity in the field and in 2015 was the first Asian woman to receive the Queen's Award for Enterprise Promotion.

About Asians in Tech

The Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech is the definitive list of Asians working in the digital and technology sectors in Britain. The aim of the list is to showcase diverse talent; from startup founders, technologists, venture capitalists and investors; to the game changers and digital influencers in business to business (B2B) and social enterprise.

www.asiansintech.com | [@asiansintech](https://twitter.com/asiansintech)

About The Ethnic Minority Foundation

EMF is a national registered charity created in 1999. It is an independent organisation that seeks to strengthen democratic values, reduce poverty and injustice in society, and address the growing inequalities in the world system. EMF's social justice programme has sought to tackle some of the most difficult issues facing societies today. It has worked to try and protect children from exploitation; safeguard the rights of women and other vulnerable groups; tackle poverty and seek social applications for new technologies. Currently most of its work is focused on social enterprises and providing services and opportunities to local communities.

www.emfoundation.org.uk

About Diversity UK

Diversity UK is a think tank to research, advocate and promote new ideas for improving diversity and inclusion in Britain. Diversity UK delivers its 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.

www.diversityuk.org | [@diversityuk](https://twitter.com/diversityuk)

About NewAsianPost.com

NewAsianPost.com is a news, business and entertainment website for the South Asian diaspora. With an ambition to usher in a new era of high quality citizen journalism, NewAsianPost.com focuses on the 'untold stories and unheard voices' of the community. It publishes the 'Asian Power Couples Hot 100' and 'Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech' lists.

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About KPMG Tech Growth

KPMG Tech Growth is a team based in Shoreditch, London focussed on helping early stage and high growth technology companies succeed through providing business advice and more specific tax, accounting, fundraising and cyber security related support. The team supports companies at all stages of their development - from those with just an idea to those looking ahead to a listing. They host a range of industry and networking events for the startup community in London and support a number of startup accelerator programmes as coaches and/ or mentors.

www.kpmgtechgrowth.co.uk | [@KPMGTechGrowth](https://twitter.com/KPMGTechGrowth)

About KPMG

KPMG LLP, a UK limited liability partnership, is a subsidiary of KPMG Europe LLP and operates from 22 offices across the UK with approximately 11,500 partners and staff. KPMG is a global network of professional firms providing Audit, Tax, and Advisory services. It operates in 155 countries and has 155,000 professionals working in member firms around the world. The independent member firms of the KPMG network are affiliated with KPMG International Cooperative a Swiss entity. Each KPMG firm is a legally distinct and separate entity and describes itself as such.

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About Wayra

Wayra UK, part of Telefónica Open Future, gives direct funding and acceleration services (such as co-working space, connectivity services, mentoring, access to Wayra UK's network and knowhow, training in entrepreneurship and business skills) to selected start-ups. Wayra UK contributes circa \$US50,000 as financial investment and another \$US50,000 in acceleration services, or an equivalent amount in local currency, in exchange for an equity stake in the companies.

Since its launch in 2012, Wayra UK has accelerated 140 startups, who have risen \$86M in third-party investment and had \$6.4M in contracted revenues generated with Telefonica and 64 contracts/trials signed with Telefonica's operating businesses. Wayra UK have done a huge amount of work around diversity within the startup ecosystem. From commissioning the first research project to reveal the social makeup of the ecosystem, to achieving 50% female founders in this year's startup cohort, Wayra will continue to invest in diversity as it believes it's an asset that helps businesses scale.

<http://wayra.co/uk> | @wayrauk

About Lopa Patel MBE

Lopa Patel is a digital entrepreneur; the founder of two ventures in online media and a data-driven marketing consultancy. She is also the Founder & CEO of equality and inclusion think tank Diversity UK. An inspirational leader, Lopa has been recognised with accolades including an MBE for services to the creative industries in 2009 and the Queen's Award for Enterprise Promotion 2015. She is the curator of the 'Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech' list.

www.lopapatel.com | @lopapatel

The Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech list is published online at www.asiansintech.com
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