

PRESS RELEASE

Asian Power 100

Scotland's Bangladeshis are celebrating yet another award for one of their own. Edinburgh businessman and organiser of next week's Expo Bangladesh 2005, Dr Wali Uddin MBE, who has been named as one of the 100 most influential Asians in the UK. The award was made last Thursday at a glittering ceremony at the London Hilton.

The Asian Power 100 is compiled by the Institute of Asian Professionals in association with the Bank of Scotland. These are the power brokers and key influences on the way that we all live and work in the UK today.

Dr Uddin is Director General of the **Bangladesh British Chamber of Commerce** and a founder director of Edinburgh Mela. He is also (amongst many other things) the owner of a highly successful group of award-winning restaurants and a dynamic fundraiser for good causes. He was the first Bangladeshi Justice of the Peace in 1984 and was appointed as the first Honorary Consul of Bangladesh in Scotland in 1993. In 1995 he received an MBE for his services to race relations. He puts his success down to a combination of values – **"People respect you when you have determination, dedication, honesty and integrity. Teamwork is very important too. You also have to give something back to society."**

Expo Bangladesh 2005 which will take place at the Barbican, London, 15-17 September, is the UK's first single-country exhibition of Bangladeshi products. Organised by the Bangladesh British Chamber of Commerce (BBCC-UK) and Bangladesh Export Promotions Bureau (EPB), Expo 05 promises to be an important, exciting and innovative showcase for Bangladeshi products, manufacturers and talents.

Up to 100 stands from Bangladesh and UK (from traditional industries including food and clothing to cutting edge technologies), seminar programme, **Fashion Show** featuring designs by top designer **Bibi Russell**, People Tree and Aarong (organised by Ethical Fashion Forum) and a **Celebrity Chef Competition** featuring top restaurateur **Tommy Miah**. There is also a photographic exhibition of stunning colour images by leading Bangladeshi photographer Mahmud.

I hope businesses will use this opportunity to familiarise themselves with what Bangladesh has to offer and vice versa... I wish the Expo Bangladesh 2005 every success. Ken Livingstone, Mayor of London (who will be a VIP guest at the opening ceremony on 15 Sept)

EXPO BANGLADESH 2005 **15 –17 September 2005**
Barbican Exhibition Hall 1, Golden Lane, London EC2
Tel (Information – public and buyers) 0207 247 5525
www.expobangladesh2005.com



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