



UK Asian Business Council's Christmas Event's Press Release

"Your network is your net worth!"



This powerful quote perfectly encapsulates the essence of the UK Asian Business Council's Christmas Networking event and the Rising Bharat Awards, organised by Forty Green Media Group at the House of Commons, London, UK.

Hosted by Taha Coburn-Kutay, Chairman of UKABC, alongside his incredible team—Sudeep Sakalle and Junaid Ahmed—the event was truly inspiring. Taha showcased the magic of networking and meaningful connections by inviting attendees to share personal stories of how UKABC has helped them achieve their goals. The positive energy generated by this exercise reaffirmed the strength of the UKABC community, with many attendees offering to support future events.

Neil Lal, President India Council of Scotland, outlined the key highlights of the Free Trade Agreement, while Madhur Temle underscored the significance of *Rising Bharat* and offered a vision of India's aspirations for 2047. Discussions highlighted how such an agreement could create jobs, expand exports, and facilitate the exchange of services and technology, benefiting both nations. In his welcome Sudeep Sakalle highlighted UK Asian Business Council's work in helping UK companies expand globally and supporting overseas businesses in the UK. Since its 2016 launch at the House of Commons, UKABC has built partnerships in 45+ countries and collaborated with global business organisations and sports teams.

This year's event also marked the first-ever UKABC award ceremony. Taha introduced a new category: the **Chairman's Awards**, where in future, individuals will nominate themselves, sharing their stories and explaining why they deserve the recognition.

A total of ten awards were presented, including three Chairman's Awards. The winners were:

1. **Sudeep Sakalle** – UKABC Chairman's Superman
2. **Junaid Ahmed** – UKABC Chairman's Superman
3. **Erin Coburn-Kutay** – UKABC Chairman's Superwoman
4. **Aditi Chourey Sakalle** – Rising Cake Artist of the Year
5. **Kamal Prabhakar**, *Transact World Group* – Rising Payment Service Provider
6. **Ms. Smita Patil**, *SSPL Group* – Rising Real Estate Group of Maharashtra, India
7. **Shreyansh Jain**, *Admissions Overseas Consulting Group* – Rising Ethical Overseas Education Service Provider
8. **Sagar Shah**, *Shobha's Rasoi* – Rising Indian Restaurant in Harrow
9. **Mamit Agarwal**, *Furnishings UK Ltd* – Rising Entrepreneur of the Year 2024
10. **Vahid Jain**, *Green Bell Packaging* – Rising Packaging Service Provider

The event welcomed diplomats, Ambassadors, and High Commissioners from South America, Europe, Central Asia, and Asia, along with MPs and elected representatives from across the UK, including Northern Ireland, Wales, and Scotland.

Notable attendees included representatives from over 14 embassies and high commissions, former Chief Ministers, ex-MEPs, former England cricketers, and delegates from the British Army, London Assembly, Commonwealth Secretariat, and 10 Downing Street. Business leaders from various industries and international delegates from India, Poland, Turkey, and the UAE added to the evening's significance. Notable attendees included:

- **Stanley Johnson & Linda Bell**, CEO of *Upcycled Plastics Ltd*
- **John Le Fondré A.C.A.**, Former Chief Minister of Jersey
- **Baroness Arlene Foster's Chief of Staff, Andrew Grocock**
- **Graham Cook**, Country Manager at *Air India*
- **Cheryll Rogers**, CEO of *Fair Break Cricket*
- **Juan Cabrera**, Advisor to Governments
- **Anthony Samuels**, Notary Services

Taha concluded the event with heartfelt gratitude, thanking all attendees for their participation. He expressed the honour of being part of such a remarkable gathering and shared excitement for UKABC's ongoing efforts to drive positive change, foster meaningful connections, and build a brighter future.

Here's to continued growth, empowerment, and success!

Photo and Video links are available here <https://photos.app.goo.gl/FX2xUQ8g7zEzSfC68>

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