



**ONLINE DRAGON:** Shaf Rasul

# Dragons lure hopefuls to Den

THE Dragons' Den team are in Scotland today and tomorrow looking for the next set of entrepreneurs to go on the show.

Auditions are being held at the New Start Scotland event at the SECC in Glasgow.

The research team from the BBC programme will be on hand to advise about the application process and the first steps towards facing the team of multi-millionaire investors, including Duncan Bannatyne and Peter Jones.

New Start Scotland organiser Ceri Rogers said: "A massive 75 per cent of Scottish new starts have been refused funding from the

banks over the past 12 months, so investors like the Dragons are crucial in helping SMEs in the economic downturn. We hope the opportunity of investment from some of the country's top entrepreneurs will appeal to those who have been made redundant to consider setting up on their own."

It was also recently announced Edinburgh-based Shaf Rasul would become an online dragon in an internet spin-off of the show. Rasul, founder of E-Net, and Julie Meyer, an internet entrepreneur, will offer those not lucky enough to get on TV the chance to get up to £50,000 in investment.