

INDIAN HOMES ARE AT PAR WITH ANY HOME IN NEW YORK OR LONDON

- JIMMY MISTRY

Looking to make your home just a little smarter? While still in its infancy, the number of smart home products—devices that let you control the lighting, thermostat, or even your cook top from your

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How has smart home solutions evolved in India?

Smart homes have come a long way. It started up with a slow process like all other things have started in India. However, lately it has leaped frogs and today some of the Indian homes are technologically as suavely designed with hardware, software, user interface integrated at par with any international home in New York or in London. Some of the technologies that have been used are cutting edge, voice activated technologies completely integrating all solutions across lighting, audio, video, equipment automation, air conditioning automation, BMS system, CCTV and security system. All these fire prone things are integrated into a single system.

What are the latest applications in Smart Homes?

There are various platforms on which one can work. However, personally to me, a simplest platform like Alexa from Amazon is a cutting edge product, very optimally priced and easy to integrate. A lot of the automation in homes is coming in from Apple as well. A lot of product from air-conditioning thermostat to lighting washrooms automations control with predefined user interface is available across and new technologies are going to come soon from Apple.

How to effectively manage smart home solutions in the Indian environment?

Once the technology based platform has been laid out correctly, the wiring has been done correctly and integration is well thought of, it's a fairly simple, no maintenance process. Indian environment is slightly lagging behind on the user interface front. Smart intelligent user face companies are not there in India or they are getting their jobs done globally. If these companies were to focus on the standardised user interface for automation, the process would have been far cheaper and far better.

What are the challenges faced by system Integrators?

System Integrators lack domain expertise in knowledge, not on the technology front but on the user interface front. Graphics and advancement in user interface technologies are not really upto the mark. Indian programmers are not in sync especially in the home automation front since this is not a bulk consumption product, but a more bespoke individual base product; hence system integrators need to speed up.

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