



PIC: KANAKIA SPACES

# SMART SAFETY

Along with the lifestyle amenities, developers are offering high-end security features for added safety, says **SUCHITA PATIL**

der to have a safe, secure life, appropriate home security measures have become a need of the times. With regards to home automation features, today's state-of-the-art apartments have all types of home automation systems, enabling control of all the devices through a single point of contact, which can be a remote or PC or even a smartphone. Most of our projects have intelligent security systems that include video door phones with intercom system, burglar alarm system, gas-leak detectors, heat detectors, sprinklers, CCTV and generator back-up for elevators and designated common areas, MCBs and ELCBs, superior fire-fighting systems, earthquake resistant systems."

Tikam Jain, Vice President - Planning, Lodha Developers says, "Many of our residential projects are equipped with home automation devices. These devices afford the homeowner not only savings in utilities along with added convenience and autonomy, but also instant visibility and access to the security of his home and his loved ones. In India, many of these features are already in use. Smart homes are fast gaining popularity in India among the upwardly mobile and aspirational class keen on bettering their lifestyles. Conscious developers are preparing to cater to the need for smart homes by integrating home automation devices into their building offerings. With the advent of more savvy mobile phones, we expect many more features to be available shortly."

With the demand driven by the customers, there are a number of security solution providers in the market, offering all kinds of services from products, installation and maintenance. Dhruv Udeshi, CEO, Autocop Security Solutions says, "Developers are providing smarter homes, smarter communities which are not only safer, more secure and more connected, greener, with improved efficiencies and comfort for residents. The trend in the home segment is integration. Developers are working towards delivering communication and entertainment on a single fibre backbone or network. At Autocop we have launched IP based communication and community solutions like IP Phones and Security Solutions that use a single fibre network to improve efficiency from the ROI perspective, but also deliver various never-before smart features to residents."

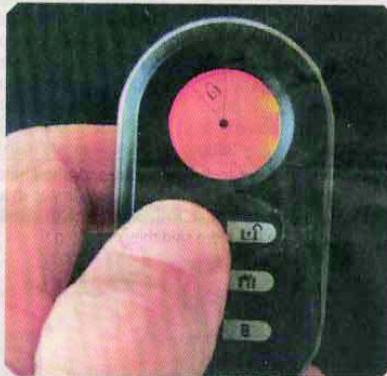
Innovations in technology and their increasing usage have made life easier. However, John feels there should be moderation in the

utilisation of technology such that it is friendly for all, especially the elderly and kids. There should be meaningful application of technology with elements of convenience which make our home safe and secured.

With changing times, there has continual change in the profile of home features being offered by developers within their projects. One of the main features of lifestyle homes are the advanced home security and smart home equipment being offered today. The concept of security has seen a great change in recent times; what was limited to a security guard maintaining the records of visitors has changed to a complex wireless system using blue tooth technology and surveillance systems to guard the complexes.

Realising the need of not just providing a home but a secured home, developers are offering well-integrated security features from video door cameras, access control security systems, video surveillance systems, CCTV monitoring systems, door entry alerts, fire alarm systems, and security alert systems.

Manoj John, Vice-President, Corporate Planning and Strategy, RNA Corp, says, "With buyers exposed to technology, security has become a major aspect in homes. Today technology has extended to every possible aspect of a home. Home security has gone far beyond basic features like video door phones, which used to enable flat owners to screen the visitor and pass instructions to the security guard or the intercom facility that allows automated activation or deactivation for door access. Many features like Building Management Systems (BMS), auto-



matized lighting, smart card access, motion and occupancy sensors are now a feature of every home. Advanced video door phones are now used to work as integrated public address systems by having an extended audio system, message uploading facility to inform all the members of the complex at a time. At RNA we have made conscious use of technology. Smart card access is kept for restricted areas like clubhouses. Surveillance cameras, automated parking are some of the features that we have used."

A spokesperson from Kalpataru says, "In or-



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