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INDIA  
TODAY

# HOME

SEPTEMBER 2019

## INSIDE

DESIGNER KRSNAA  
MEHTA'S COLOURFUL  
MUMBAI APARTMENT

## OUR PICK

SIX ARCHITECTURAL  
FIRMS ON  
ENTERTAINING  
AT HOME

# THE LUMINARIES

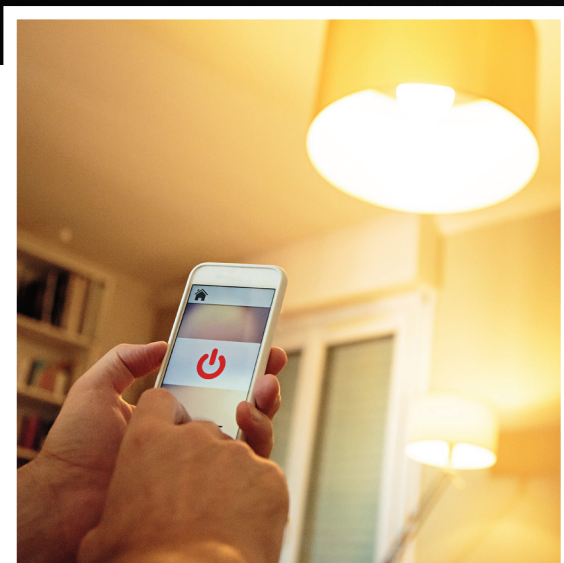
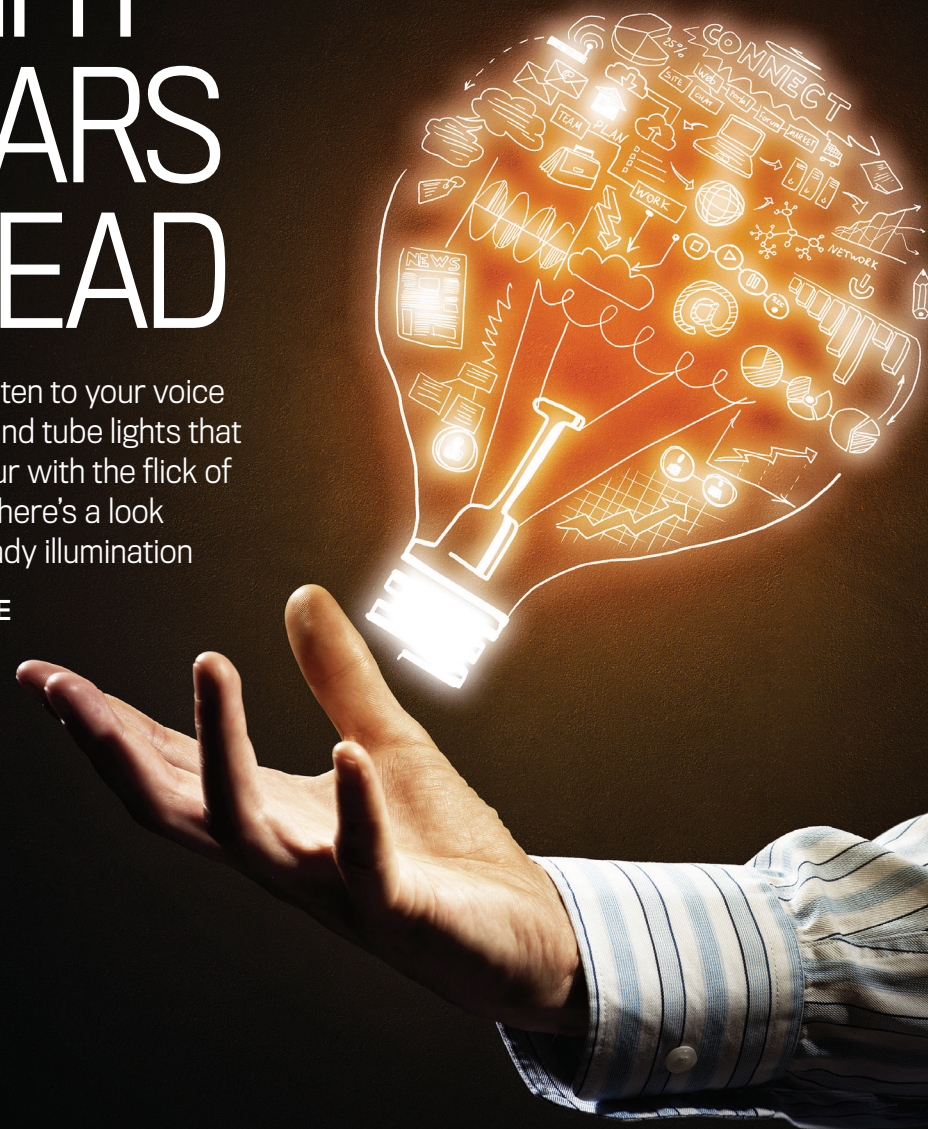
From top brands to smart  
illumination, this is your  
guide to good lighting



# LIGHT YEARS AHEAD

Bulbs that listen to your voice commands and tube lights that change colour with the flick of your phone, here's a look at future-ready illumination

By RIDHI KALE



## WHAT IS SMART LIGHTING?

"It is lighting technology designed for energy efficiency while fulfilling an aesthetic or practical effect," says Alok Hada, Director at Anusha Technovision, a home automation company. This implies that such a lighting system reduces your carbon footprint without compromising on the looks. "With smart lighting, conventional lights are swapped with technology enabled lights, which can be easily fixed into the existing sockets in your home. An inter-connected point links all the bulbs, giving control over the lighting from a unified area," says Gurumukh Uttamchandani, Executive Director, Syska Group, adding, "Conventional light bulbs are op-

## cover story Smart Lights

erated by flipping a switch on and off whereas smart lights enable a user to control lighting using voice-controlled devices."

### WHAT'S ON OFFER?

"Smart switch-off, night lamp, multi scene and colour changing options, are a few of the smart lighting devices popular at Luminous," says Jitendra Agrawal, Senior Vice President, Luminous Power Technologies. Smart switch off (₹1,200) ensures that the light switches off a few seconds after you switch it off to ensure there is enough time to leave the room. Night lamp (₹1,250) is a lighting device with two small lamps fitted on the sides which work as dim blue lights while you are sleeping at night. Multi scene (₹1,499) is a device that lets you have multiple levels of illuminations in the same light fixture. The colour changing batten (₹900) has a LED batten that allows you to change the colour with the flick of a switch. That's not all, today we



**SHINING EXAMPLES** (clockwise from above) A smart light from Luminous (above); Anusha Technovision has installed lighting controlled through a central system in this home (left); light controlled from a smartphone



are also seeing products that provide multiple benefits such as lights with in-built Bluetooth speakers or those that also double up as security cameras. Syska has on offer smart LED bulb (₹1,799) and smart table lamp (₹3,699) that are WiFi enabled and compatible with both Amazon Alexa and Google Assistant. You can also opt for Philips Hue (₹20,500). "With Philips Hue you can choose from 16 million colours and any shade of white light. Using the Philips Hue Sync App, you can also synchronise the colour and brightness of these lights with the on-screen action and sound of games, movies and music," says Sukanto Aich, CMO, Signify India.

### ARE THERE ANY INNOVATIONS?

According to Agarwal the biggest innovation a smart light offers is that, "you don't need to install separate ambience lights as it gives you that at a fraction of the overall cost." However, the latest trend in lighting controls is human centric lighting. "It is defined as the time controlled lighting system with a circadian-friendly light sequence, meaning the LED fixtures adapt their light colour and intensity during the course of day," says Hada. Another feather in the smart lighting cap is the move to Li-Fi solutions (data through light) for greater security and safety and fast data transmission, explains Uttamchandani.