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Over the years, Motwani has steered his business functions to exceptional growth. Under his leadership, Locks Division could build an extra-ordinary product portfolio and an impressive financial performance. The ability to spot nascent opportunities and predict changing customer requirements has been central to his vision for the business division. He has made long-term investments and built the business to be able to capture those emerging opportunities. In doing so, he has ensured that the company's reputation and valuation is significantly enhanced. His vision led to early adoption of advanced engineering equipment and new & innovative technology.

Evolution of Luxury Kitchen

A high-end luxury kitchen speaks for itself. It speaks about functional detailing, sleek symmetrical look, non creaky cabinets & drawers as well as finishes that do not wear-off with time. In a world where consumers are spoilt for choices, the 'intent' to buy a product depends upon multitude of factors. Design aesthetics, brand trust, features in sync with functionality and price are among the key reasons, sustainable practices of a brand too has been slowly starting to feature among some of the more traditional influences for many consumers.

Over the last couple of years, India has been increasingly moving towards modern designs and comfort when it comes to their kitchen interiors. The growth in the per capita income of people, coupled with organised players offering world class products, are some of the factors which are providing a boost to the modular kitchen market in the country. In addition, within modular kitchens too consumers are increasingly looking at premium designs and features such as magic corners and kitchen island concepts that add a luxury touch to the cooking space.



Another reason for the surge in demand is due to availability of a plethora of options – from both national and international brands – and increasing awareness on the importance of design and hardware in improving the functionality of a kitchen by leaps and bounds. No wonder, analysts forecast the kitchen fittings market in India to grow at a CAGR of over 20 per cent till 2018. Currently, the market opportunity in India alone is worth INR 3500 crore.

FUNCTIONALITY+ AESTHETICS

Cook rooms that are stylish while being extremely efficient and functional are the need of the hour. Adoption of modern and contemporary interior décor from western countries is what we see as the growing market trend among consumers. People mix, match and blend finishes with the walls and furniture with architectural hardware such as kitchen fittings, bathroom fittings and locks. There has been a surge in demand for antique copper and brass door locks and also patterned steel and nickel door locks as it adds a touch of luxury to the overall look of a

contemporary home interior set-up.

The advent of kitchen islands is also one such trend which was adopted from the west. India has a kaleidoscopic culture, and this also reflects in the way home makers imagine kitchens. For instance, in some regions it is common to have a preparation area adjacent to a kitchen; while in some regions this space doubles-up as a second kitchen or a storage space. Today, there are homes with two kitchen themes too. One is based on the open kitchen concept which is used to host guests and give a touch of warmth and homeliness; the other is utilised to prepare the Indian cuisines which are served during the dinner.

Another trend that we see is the concept of green kitchens. When it comes to designing kitchen and installing kitchen fittings, consumers are increasingly becoming conscious of products that are in close contact with food to eliminate the risk of any health hazards. Hence, when we talk about luxury kitchen, people today also go into the nitty-gritty of ensuring if the hardware installed is food safe. For instance, people install sturdy stainless steel compartments for utensil

storage instead of opting substandard alternatives in wood or plastic. The reason being the materials in wood or plastic decompose or can even melt in case of prolonged exposure to heat. These, if manufactured using green chemistry, ensure that both health and environment remain unaffected.

When it comes to designing luxurious kitchens interiors 'white' is the most preferred colour as it makes a space look bigger and airier. The colour also enhances other design elements within the kitchen space. Wood floors look richer against any other flooring. Also, adding marble to the kitchen interior set-up makes it stand out.

IN BREVITY

The demand among home owners for more open spaces could see designers make changes in structuring the kitchen spaces with Hi-Tech makeover workstations having state-of-the-art hardware essentials. The year could also see kitchens changing to 80s glam and muted colour schemes, be it anything from cabinets to back splashes. ▲