



**A**s Louis Armstrong lends his voice at one corner of her studio, Anjali Venkat shows us her collection of glass lamps at a pleasant, cosy nook in Besant Nagar. The assortment of lamps at the studio of all possible colours, shapes and shades, shimmer, shine and call out to one. And why not? These are works of art, ones that you aren't likely to find elsewhere in the city. Just one look and you'll know that your room deserves a few of these dainty diyas.

The range at the studio is an eclectic mix of lamps made with different types of glass, using different techniques and handcrafted

every single one of them, by Anjali. "I love working with glass. As a medium, it is extremely flexible and can take as many different shades as we want it to," she says as she shows a piece cut and molten into the shape of Ganesha. "I use different techniques such as glass fusing, soldering, cutting, grinding and embossing," she adds.

But it is the pretty diyas in different shapes and sizes that Anjali's studio is famous for. And this Diwali, the studio plays host to many such. "I have made a lamp with the embossed images of sketches," she says. "These are sketches mostly of Krishna. At high temperatures in glass, a sepia-

toned version of the image gets embossed." Place a tea candle on its wooden stand and you have yourself a one-of-a-kind lamp in the truest sense.

The studio also houses stained glass lamps, molten and fused glass in different motifs like lotus, Ganesha, Tanjore paintings, and more. "Most of these lamps are multi-functional," she adds. "Once you are done with Diwali you could take out the tea candles and use these as pen stands or potpourri bowls." Diyas in different forms including those with gel fillings adorn the walls at Anjali's studio. The range starts from Rs65 and can go up to a few thousands depending on the size and motif of the lamp.



## Light

# MOMENTS



Looking for some out-of-the box lamps for Diwali? Lakshmi Krupa goes Diya shopping and finds all that and more at Anjali Designs. Inspired, she drops by stores across the city and finds an interesting assortment that can spruce up your Diwali...