RESTORATION, AN ART: Restorers at work on the century-old frescoes at Tsuklakhang Monastery in Gangtok. A set of three trained restoration artists from Ladakh are working on restoring the wall murals at the monastery to their original glory. The effort, coordinated by the Tsuklakhang Trust is being overseen by Conservation Architects Andre Alexander from Germany and Anca Nicolaescu from Paris. [turn to pg4 for detailed report]

SDF bandh 31

SAGAR CHHETRI

GANGTOK, 30 March: The Sikkim Democratic Front called a 48-hour Sikkim Bandh on 04 and 05 April. The bandh will be effective from 6 AM of 04 April to 6 AM of 06 April. The party has called for all shops, offices and schools to remain closed for the two days. This has been called to press for a set of demands with local protective, employment and paramilitary traffic, control and garbage vehicles and students have been exempted from the purview of the bandh.

Addressing a press conference today, SDF spokesperson Bhim Dahal explained that the party was compelled to take up this 'strong demand'.