

# THE NEWS

## Power companies workers protest against price hike

By Our Correspondent

LAHORE

THOUSANDS of workers of power companies observed protest day against price hike of electricity tariff and privatization of various entities.

A good number of workers under the aegis of Pakistan Wapda Hydroelectric Central Labour Union took out a mass procession from Bakhtiar Labour Hall and marched through various roads and reached Lakshami Chowk.

They were carrying banners and raising slogans against price hike, anti-poor policies of international financial institutions, including IMF and World Bank. Speaking on the occa-

sion, Khurshid Ahmad, general secretary of the union, said electricity was lifeline of economy. He said that successive government had plunged the country into darkness due to loadshedding. He added that this crisis could be solved by generating electricity through coal fired and hydel power plants in the public sector. He also condemned move of privatizing thermal power plants. He also criticised recovery of fuel price adjustment from the masses. He announced that his organization would launch long march from December 21 and would present demands in front of Parliament House, if the authorities concerned failed to address their issues.