

# Proposed public procurement bill will curb corruption, says Moily

Inaugurates ICWAI's 'Yuvonmesha 2011,' a 2-day students' festival

Special Correspondent

**CHENNAI:** A bill to lay down norms for public procurement in a manner that will curb corruption in government purchases will be introduced in the winter session of Parliament, Union Corporate Affairs Minister M. Veerappa Moily said here on Tuesday.

The proposed law will bring down corruption by at least 50 per cent, Mr. Moily said while inaugurating 'Yuvonmesha 2011,' a two-day national students' festival organised by the Southern India Regional Council of the Institute of Cost and Works Accountants of India.

He said the new Company Law Bill and another on Competition Policy would also be tabled by the year-end. It would take six more months for the National Corporate Governance Policy to take a final shape.

"At present, we procure materials worth Rs.11 lakh crore. But, there is no proper policy while countries such as Pakistan have it. With the enactment of the procurement policy, about 50 per cent of corruption will disappear from the country."

Talking to reporters, he said the Companies Act was



**AIM HIGH:** Union Corporate Affairs Minister M. Veerappa Moily giving away gold medal and certificate to Dharshini Raja, All India 1st rank holder of ICWAI, in Chennai on Tuesday. M. Gopalakrishnan, ICWAI president (left) and B.R. Prabhakar, chairman, are in the picture. — PHOTO: R. RAGU

outdated. The new one would respond to recent challenges. "It has been forwarded to the Cabinet and will be placed in Parliament in the winter session and by December 2011 it will become a law. It will have a proper system and mechanism which will prohibit corruption and there will be lot of accountability and transparency."

According to him, the Competition Policy was expected to be finalised by November 2011 and it would become law by December 2011.

"Once this comes into effect, at any point of time, inflation will not go beyond four to five per cent and Gross Domestic Product will witness extra growth."

Worried about the country's image, he wondered why merger and acquisition cases should be kept pending for 10 to 15 years and suggested such cases should not go beyond one year.

Mr. Moily released ICWAI's investor awareness guide in Tamil and distributed gold medals and certificates to top rank holders.