

《山东疫苗案英文报道 李克强：对涉案者绝不姑息》

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Chinese Premier Li Keqiang vowed no leniency for anyone involved in the black market sales of problematic vaccines, after a case was made public involving \$88 million worth of illegal vaccines that are suspected of being sold in dozens of provincial-level regions around the country.

Li also pledged to punish officials who are prove to have committed dereliction of duty in the spreading of the fake vaccines.

The police recently discovered that improperly stored or expired vaccines, worth more than 570 million yuan (\$88 million) have been allegedly sold in more than 20 provincial-level regions since 2011.

The case, which involves vaccines against meningitis, rabies and other illnesses, has shocked the nation and raised questions over vaccine safety.

In response to the case, the World Health Organization (WHO) country office in China on Tuesday released a note that improperly stored or expired vaccines can lose potency and become less effective, but pose a very small risk of causing a toxic reaction. The organization also expressed willingness to provide support.

Police in East China's Shandong province announced last month that they had detained 37 suspects implicated in the vaccine scandal, including a mother and daughter alleged to have illegally sold the improperly stored or expired vaccines, and people from three pharmaceutical companies, according to the work group handling the case.

Meanwhile, the group has ordered a sweeping check-up of local vaccine makers, wholesalers and buyers.

China's drug regulator has identified nine vaccine wholesalers from six provinces suspected of filing fraudulent reports of buyers' identities.

The Supreme People's Procuratorate (SPP) on Tuesday announced it will directly oversee the problematic vaccine case, and urged prosecuting bodies at all levels to spare no efforts in their investigation.

Prosecutors across the country will work closely with local police and drug administrations to uncover the manufacturing source, circulation channels and buyers of the inferior products.

The SPP also ordered a quick response mechanism to be established to facilitate information sharing, case details and case transfers.