

China imposes record fine on vaccine maker

China has imposed a potentially **crippling** \$1.3 billion fine on the company responsible for **faulty** vaccines given to **hundreds of thousands of** children, sending its strongest signal yet of a stricter legal environment for the **scandal-prone** industry.

crippling 造成严重损失的

faulty 有错误的

hundreds of thousands of 数十万计的

scandal-prone 易产生丑闻的

The fine against the Changchun Changsheng Biotechnology Co. **dwarfs** previous **penalties** imposed on vaccine makers **embroiled in** safety scandals. The government also **barred** Gao Junfang, the company's chairwoman, and 14 other executives from working in the vaccine industry. They are still under investigation and could face **criminal penalties**.

dwarf 使相形见绌

criminal penalties 刑事处罚

embroil in 卷入

bar sb from doing 禁止...做...

"The government is imposing this heavy punishment to build effective order," said Wang Yuedan, professor of **immunology** at Peking University. "From now on, no one will dare to touch this **high-voltage wire**."

immunology 免疫学

high-voltage wire 高压线

According to the government, Changchun Changsheng used expired vaccine materials, changed production batch numbers and destroyed and fabricated production records. The company also destroyed a computer hard disk to cover up its illegal acts.

Chinese official said late Tuesday that they had levied the fine against the Changchun Changsheng, which is based in the northeastern Chinese province of Jilin and whose **shares** trade in the southern Chinese city of Shenzhen.

shares 股票; 股份

The state-run news agency Xinhua called the penalty “top-level punishment” and “the most **stringent**” decision ever imposed on a vaccine company.

stringent 严厉的; 严格的

“I’ve never heard of such a big fine,” said Shi Luwen, the head of the department of pharmaceutical administration at Peking University and an adviser to the government on health care. “It will give the people peace of mind about the **ecological** environment.”

ecological 生态的