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Sri Lankan student dies after vaccination

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COLOMBO, March 20 (Xinhua) -- A 12-year-old female student of a leading school in the Southern Province of Sri Lanka died on Friday morning after some 27 students were hospitalized following vaccination against Rubella on Thursday.

Students of St. Thomas' Girls School in Matara, about 160 km south of the capital Colombo were admitted immediately after they were given Rubella vaccine.

H. B. Wanninayake, a Health Ministry official in Colombo said one of the girls died Friday morning.

Health officials in Matara had given vaccine to about 300 students after which some students had fallen ill and were admitted to the hospital.

The hospitalized students were given artificial respiration while their blood samples were taken to Medical Research Institute for tests.

Palitha Maheepala of the Health Ministry said further investigations would be conducted by the Health officials about the incident following a directive by Health Minister Nimal Siripala de Silva.

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