

Sri Lanka bomber targets gov. minister

by UPI

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka -- A disabled woman carried out a suicide bombing mission Wednesday in a Sri Lankan government building in Colombo, killing an aide and herself. The attack happened in the office of Social Services and Social Welfare Minister Douglas Devananda around 9 a.m., the Press Trust of India reported. Officials said the woman got past one security checkpoint but was detained at a second one, where she detonated the bomb. Devananda wasn't nearby but an aide was mortally wounded and a security guard was seriously injured, the report said. Military spokesman Brig. Udaya Nanayakkara blamed the separatist Tamil Tigers but the group issued a statement denying responsibility, the report said. Wednesday's attack marked the fifth assassination attempt on Devananda, who is an outspoken critic of the rebel group, PTI said.

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