

China's former drug agency head executed

by UPI

BEIJING -- China Tuesday executed its former food and drug agency head, who was given the death sentence in May allegedly for taking bribes and dereliction of duty.

The execution of Zheng Xiaoyu, 63, was carried out with the approval of the Supreme People's Court, China's official new agency Xinhua reported.

Zheng was condemned by a lower court in the capital Beijing. The sentence was upheld in June by a higher court, which rejected his appeal for leniency on grounds the sentence was too severe.

The higher court held the evidence provided by Zheng had been obtained by investigators prior to his confession, Xinhua reported.

Zheng was accused of taking more than \$800,000 in bribes.

China has come under criticism around the world for the poor quality of some of its drugs and pet food. Many in China have been victims of such drugs.

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