Aussi coalition agrees on more spending for dental care

Claudia Salwiczek

HONG KONG/LEIPZIG, Germany: The new coalition between the Australian Labor Party and the Australian Greens is giving greater priority to dental services. In a policy agreement signed by the new Prime Minister Julia Gillard (Labor) and Green Senator Bob Brown in September, party leaders agreed to raise more money for dental services in the 2011 federal budget.

The commitment is seen as a first step in establishing a universal dental health care scheme, which has been in high demand by dentists and patients alike.

After two weeks of political deadlock, Labor recently regained power by winning support from the Greens.

Malaysia opens advertising market for health professionals

Daniel Zimmermann

HONG KONG/LEIPZIG, Germany: Malaysia is currently liberalising provisions under the Sales and Advertising Act that will allow health care providers to advertise their services in all media. Restrictions placed on advertising abroad are also to be removed, according to the Ministry of Health. Under the previous act, which has been in high demand by dentists and patients alike.

After two weeks of political deadlock, Labor recently regained power by winning support from the Greens.

Malaysia’s Health Minister Datuk Seri Lee Lion Thong Lai told reporters that the government had decided to remove the ban to promote the country’s growing dental industry.

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India sets new World Record in oral health, heads for another

Indian Dental Association (IDA) officials, who organised the event in cooperation with dental products manufacturer Listerine, said that the successful record attempt was held to carry oral health messages around the country, where most people only use a toothbrush but avoid additional oral care measures such as mouthwash or dental floss. They said that the organisation has also teamed up with Colgate, another large manufacturer of dental products, to set a new record for the most dental check-ups delivered in one day. The event will take place during Oral Health Month in dental camps around New Delhi and Mumbai, and will be joined by Indian actresses Karisma Kapoor and Shriya Saran.

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