

China's HFMD outbreak toll up to 50, worst yet to come



HAND, foot and mouth disease has killed 50 people in China this year, the health ministry said yesterday as it warned the worst was yet to come.

“The numbers of reported illnesses will continue to rise, we expect to see the peak between May and July,” ministry spokesman Deng Haihua told reporters. Mr Deng said clinics and hospitals have reported more than 115,000 cases. Nearly 95 per cent of cases involved children under the age of 5, he said.

State media said that a total of 31 deaths had been attributed to the disease, but Mr Deng said that figure referred to March alone. – AFP.