

UN envoy Gordon Brown to visit Pakistan following Taliban attack on teen activist

London, United Nations special education envoy Gordon Brown will visit Pakistan next month for talks with President Asif Ali Zardari after the shooting of a 14-year-old child activist Malala Yousufzai by the Taliban.

The former British prime minister will lead a delegation that will discuss with the Pakistani government how to improve education opportunities for children, reports The Express Tribune.

“I have asked President Zardari to pledge that Malala’s suffering will not be in vain. In response, he has invited me to lead a delegation of education leaders to visit him in Pakistan in November to talk about how he can improve opportunities for children,” Brown was quoted, as saying.

Malala, who earned international fame for raising voice against Taliban oppression in Swat, was shot in the neck and head and two other girls sustained injuries when the Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) opened fire on their school van in Swat valley on Tuesday.

She was airlifted to a military hospital in Rawalpindi for specialist treatment on Thursday and is still in a critical condition.

Brown was appointed special global education envoy to UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon in July, following in the footsteps of former U.S. president Bill Clinton and former UN secretary general Kofi Annan.