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Bandit w

Express News Service

GWALIOR, April 15.

MADHO SINGH the most widely travelled dacoit and the smartest gunman of the Chambal Valley, will cease to tote a gun from tomorrow when he surrenders his automatic rifle before Mr. Jayaprakash Narayan. The 35-year-old bandit has been paid glowing tributes for initiating the peace talks resulting in the capitulation by nearly 200 dacoits.

Madhosingh is tall, gaunt and sports a massive moustache.

In an interview to this reporter, Madhosingh, who is feared and respected throughout the valley said that he first caught the spark of non-violence nearly six years ago drawing inspiration from Vinoba Bhave.

In the last six years he claims to have made several desperate attempts to contact the Central and State Governments to consider the surrender of the dacoits of the valley.

He says that his attempts were frustrated by cynical politicians who thought only police action could prove effective in the dacoit-infested Chambal region. At Gherora village where this reporter met Madhosingh, dressed impeccably in a police inspector's uniform, a large crowd waited outside his room to touch his feet in reverence. During the 45-minute interview, Madhosingh frequently switched on his transistor radio to hear the latest news bulletins.

Training

Madhosingh twirled his moustache and said somewhat angrily, "Those who think police action can prove effective in Chambal are barking up the wrong tree. For many centuries now Chambal has been the training college of dacoits."

The key to solving the problem of Chambal is in asking the gang leaders to surrender. People in this part of the country

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