

Hindustan Times

30-5-09

Singhs with a common 'M', and much more

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Amritsar, May 29

SO THE two Dr. M. Singhs — Manmohan and Manohar — are back in their positions in Delhi. Besides the success and the initials, what else is common between the two? Plenty!

Both have their roots in Amritsar for one. After migrating from Pakistan, Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh spent his childhood in the city, while Union Sports Minister Dr Manohar Singh Gill's native village Aldinpur was also part of the district till 2005, when it went to the newly carved out Tarn Taran district.

While both have gone on to reach the top of their chosen fields — Dr Singh in economics and Dr Gill in the bureaucracy — they have also entered Parliament through Rajya Sabha nomination. While the Prime Minister has once contested a Lok Sabha election and lost, the Union minister never made the attempt.

Highly educated, both went abroad for higher studies, and to the same university — Cambridge in the UK. Dr Singh, though, also went on to join Oxford. Both have several books to their credit too, though no surprise given their experience.

The two Singhs have also fathered



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three daughters each.

Their backdoor entry to Parliament notwithstanding, both have proven their competence and got recognition for high integrity.

People close to the two say they also share a common desire to see their home state, and the holy city of Amritsar in particular, on the fast lane to development.

For all the similarities, there is at least one difference too — that of temperament. While the senior Singh is known for his humility, the junior is, well, not someone you would call the epitome of modesty.

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