

PRITAM SINGH

Mr Pritam Singh (right) may have just joined the Workers' Party in May last year, but the postgraduate law student has leapt into the spotlight with his forceful rally speeches and for leading the crowd in a pledge-taking ceremony at the WP's last rally on Thursday.

The 34-year-old has said his political motivations stem from a wish to see a stronger opposition in Parliament to keep the ruling party in check.

Just three months after becoming a WP member, he was elected to the party youth wing as an executive committee member in August.

The articulate speaker draws frequently on football analogies to counter criticisms from the People's Action Party, to the amusement of rally-goers.

For example, in response to the incumbent party's claims that a WP victory in Aljunied would mean the loss of

high-profile ministers, Mr Singh said that a football team worth their salt would be able to field a replacement when their star player cannot play.

Similarly, the quality of the civil service, he had said, meant it "will not crumble just because the PAP loses a few ministers".

At Hougang Stadium last night, Mr Pritam said the victory has left him feeling "overawed".

On why WP won, he said: "The main factor I think is that the people actually just wanted a voice in Parliament. A real voice in Parliament. I think they're going to get that."

Mr Singh founded a political commentary website, Opinion Asia, which has syndicated opinion pieces to regional newspapers such as the South China Morning Post and Japan Times.

He also blogs about policies



and socio-political issues on his blog, Singapore 2025.

Although a history major, he has always wanted to be a lawyer.

He joined the Singapore Management University's Juris Doctor programme in 2009 and is slated to be called to the Bar at the end of this year.

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