Searching for fulfillment

Sadhguru, I have been successful in most things I have done in life, yet my life still seems unfulfilled. What can I do about this?

Your life will not attain fulfillment by some action. In every stage of your life you thought, “If this happens, my life will become complete.” This thought may have come up within you. When you were a child you thought, “If I get this toy, my life will be complete.” You got that but after three days you took it and threw it into the dustbin. Life did not attain fulfillment then.

If you were in school you thought that if you passed your examination, life would be complete. That happened and still nothing happened. Then you thought that if you complete your education your life would be complete. That too happened. Now you thought, what is the use of all this education if you were not able to stand on your own two feet? That happened.

After three months you began to think what is the use of working like a donkey? If you get married to that man or woman who is in your heart, your life would become complete. That happened and then you know what happened.

Whatever action you may have performed, life has not attained any fulfillment. Fulfillment will not come because of some action that you perform. Only if your inner nature is complete, your life will attain fulfillment. If your inner nature is unbound, your life is also unbounded. Now you can either sit with your eyes closed or you can perform different actions, either way your life is complete.

Notice, why have you been performing one action after another? It is towards fulfillment, isn’t it? People who perform actions in excess, when you ask them why they are doing all that they are doing, they answer, “What to do? Food, wife, kids, who will take care of them?” The truth is, even if you fulfill all these needs, this person cannot sit quietly for even three hours. He has to do something.

This is because, your inner nature has not attained fulfillment and you are trying to do so through actions. Your actions are not happening for your food or comforts; they are all happening in search of fulfillment. Whether this has happened, with or without awareness, the actions indicate the search for unboundness. If within you, your inner nature has attained fulfillment, there will be no need for action.

If the external situation demands some action, you can do it joyously. If it is not needed you can simply sit with eyes closed. When a person has reached a state where there is no need to perform any action, we can say that the person has become unbounded. That does not mean that this person does not do any work at all. If the external situation demands, he can work for 24 hours. But action is not needed for his inner nature. He is not bound to action. He is not something because of his actions. He is the same even without action.