

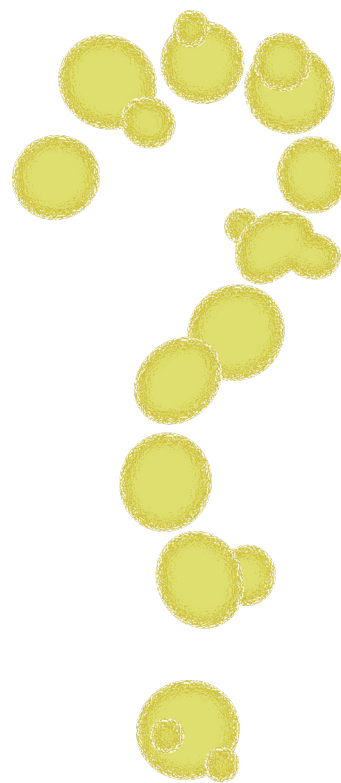
# WHAT DOES SUCCESS MEAN TO YOU?

P Hemalatha Reddy,  
Educator, Sri Venketeswara College

Success, to me, comes in small packages. If I am able to inculcate the knowledge that I have gained over the years in my students, I consider myself successful. If I find my students climbing up the ladder of success and making a name for themselves internationally, then with them, I feel equally successful. If I am appreciated for tackling administrative problems using my scientific logic and not muscle power, that is my success as a scientist. And success to me also is balancing the personal and professional life by not neglecting either of them for the sake of the other.

Smitha Hegde  
Educator, NITTE University Centre  
for Science Education and Research

The ability to make a change. I am happy to have touched the lives of over 10,000 students till date, in their formative years as a teacher.



Jugnu Jain,  
Entrepreneur, Sapien Biosciences

It boils down to two important things for me – a) to be able to leave the world a better place for having been born in it and having the opportunities given by my parents, family, friends, teachers, mentors, countries, and mother earth b) to be at peace with myself in my life, personal and professional, physical and mental, since we only have one life.

Sarah Iqbal,  
Public engagement officer, Wellcome  
Trust/DBT India Alliance

My definition of success has definitely evolved over the years. Today, in my view, success is finding a purpose and working towards achieving it and making a positive impact on people's lives. I detest the association of fame, wealth, and all the other conventional terms that describe success. If the definition traditionally used for success is to be followed, only politicians, those in business or in the entertainment industry would be considered successful and not scientists, educators, health and social workers and others who make significant contributions toward the welfare of the society.

Dhanashree Paranjpe,  
Ecologist, Abasaheb Garware College

Success in scientific research has been traditionally assessed based on publications, awards, positions you hold, visibility/ publicity of your research and other such criteria. For me, success has meant surviving in academia, enjoying the process of discovery, inspiring students and colleagues to do good research, awakening the curiosity about science in common people. My research may not result in new technology/ patents/novel methods/treatments. If common people perceive my research

as important and relevant, if it helps wildlife, environment, conservation, leads to new understanding about natural phenomena, then that will be counted as a success.

Bushra Ateeq,  
Molecular oncologist, IIT Kanpur

For me, success is a long journey with many milestones. And every time I cross any of these milestones, which could be as simple as a successful experiment, or a good presentation by my student, a satisfying lecture delivered by me, or an impactful discovery by my group, all these events adds to success. The true essence of being successful is to keep pushing harder and higher, and striving to do better.

Suhita Nadkarni,  
Neurobiologist, IISER Pune

Most definitely figuring out how the brain works. Bit by bit with each nut and bolt (while not leaving one nut behind when putting the pieces together again!). Success of students and postdocs, in that they continue to be contributing scientists themselves and good mentors.

Farah Ishtiaq  
Ecologist, Indian Institute of Science

Being good at what I do and having positive influence with my work.

Meenakshi Munshi,  
Scientist 'G'/Adviser,  
Department of Biotechnology, Govt.  
of India

Every human being's expectation from life is different. To me success is making difference to someone else's life in whatever little way I could. Create an ecosystem where at the end of the day you feel satisfied with whatever little you have been able to do for the for an individual or community at large.

Devapriya Chattopadhyay,  
Paleobiologist, IISER Kolkata

For me being successful means to be able to inspire people by my honest work and share with them the same excitement that I enjoy every day, diving deep in the world of knowledge and discoveries.

Sonam Mehrotra,  
Cancer biologist, ACTREC

As a scientist, being successful means that we have contributed significantly in a field; whether it is to improve understanding in a field, development of new methods and/or novel applications of an existing product.

Savita Ayyar  
Research Management Consultant,  
Jaquaranda Tree

Feeling that I have made a difference, creating a path where none existed earlier, making a positive impact on the lives of people.

Lipika Sahoo,  
Intellectual Property Professional  
Lifeintellect consultancy Pvt Ltd

Making some positive difference in people's life