

Anand Kumar makes maths magic

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Calcutta: Three school-going friends went to a gym.

They were asked to come on different days of the week depending on their needs — the second day, the third day and every day.

The three friends could not figure out on which day they would meet. A maths teacher made it seem simple.

"You will meet on the sixth day. Looks like you haven't studied LCM in school," the teacher said.

Maths is present in everything around us, but people often fail to apply their knowledge and understanding, celebrated maths teacher Anand Kumar said.

The founder of Super 30 has launched online maths classes to make the subject relatable, enjoyable and engaging.

"If mathematics is made simple, linked to real-life examples, and if even the toughest problems are explained from the beginning, students will find them easy to understand and follow. A child will then develop an interest in the subject," said Kumar.

Super Infinity, a series of online classes on YouTube

by Kumar, was launched on June 8.

The first online class was released on June 12, and the 2-hour 17-minute video on natural numbers has already garnered 25 lakh views.

So far, Kumar has uploaded five more videos on odd and even numbers, prime numbers, rational numbers and LCM.

"The classes we are uploading now cater to students from Classes VI to XII. It will be followed by special maths classes for students of Classes XI and XII and those preparing for competitive examinations," Kumar said.

The platform is designed for learners at every level — from beginners encountering mathematics for the first time to students preparing for highly competitive examinations such as IIT-JEE, Olympiads and other entrance tests, Kumar said.

"But this is not from an examination point of view. The idea is to make people understand the hows and whys of mathematics," he said.

Students often begin losing interest in mathematics because the subject is taught through memorisation of formulae and procedures.



Anand Kumar

"Children should not be scolded or threatened. Mathematics should appeal to them," Kumar said.

Super Infinity blends storytelling, music, drama, animation and real-life situations to explain mathematical concepts.

The videos are available online free of cost.

"We want to keep this platform free for as long as possible. A student's financial circumstances should never limit quality education," he said.

Kumar completed his

schooling in Patna and obtained an honours degree in mathematics from Patna University. His research papers have been published in mathematical journals in the US and the UK. However, financial constraints forced him to give up the opportunity to pursue a master's degree and a PhD at the University of Cambridge.

Kumar had started Super 30, which has helped hundreds of students from underprivileged families secure admission to the IITs. His journey inspired the film *Super 30*, in which Hrithik Roshan portrayed the mathematician.

Super Infinity, Kumar said, is the outcome of six years of continuous work.

Its viewership is not confined to India. Kumar said his classes have drawn appreciation from countries such as Japan, the US, the UK, Germany, Canada and Australia.

"A woman wrote to me from Uzbekistan. I had to get her message translated to understand what she wanted to say. She requested that the videos be available in English or in their language. That is also part of my plan — the videos should reach people across the world," he said.