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Use Case – Provisioning Infrastructure Design for Multi-Tiered Web Application in AWS

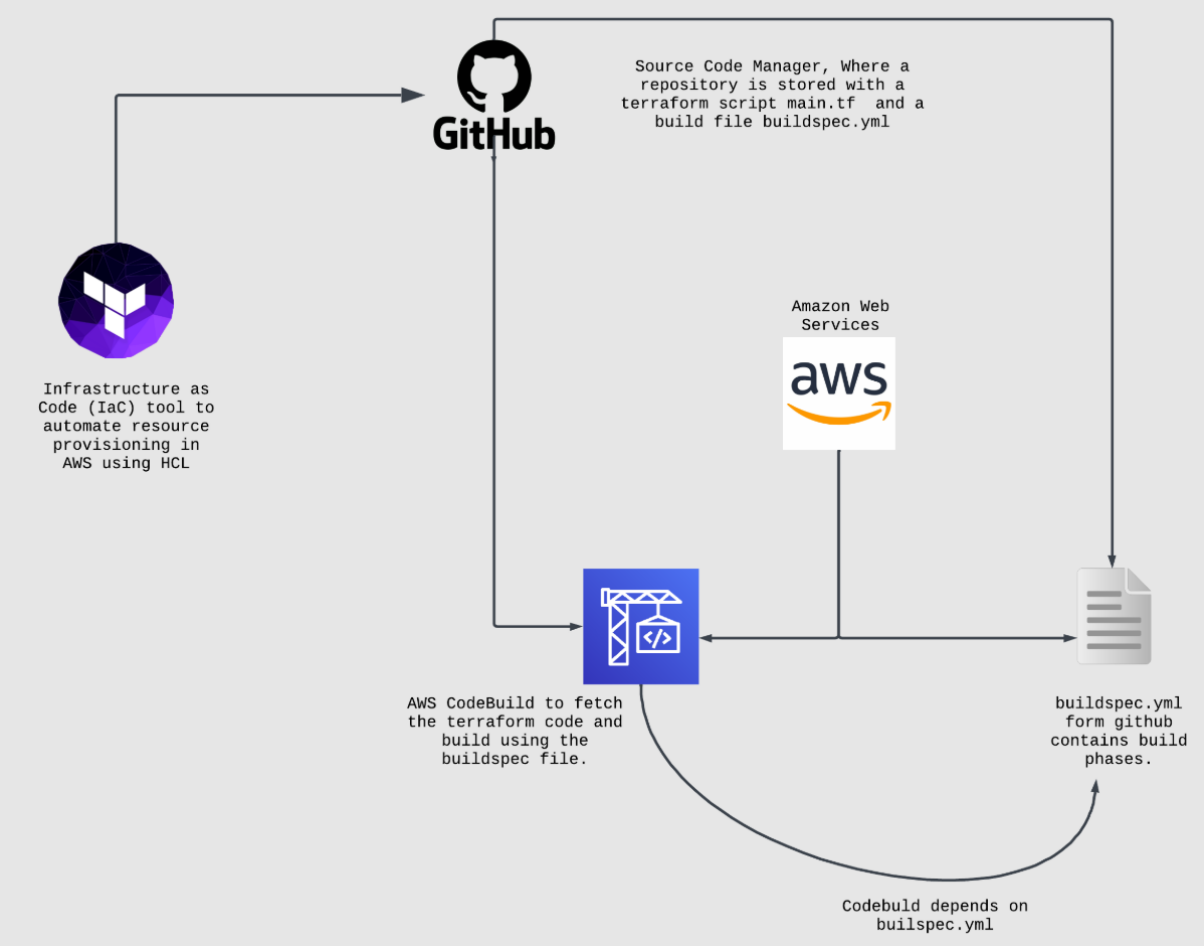
Overview:

The objective is to design a secure, scalable, and highly available infrastructure for a multi-tiered web application in AWS. The solution includes creating the application tiers, security groups, load balancers, an S3 bucket, IAM roles, and provisioning resources using Terraform. Below is the infrastructure design and Terraform configuration breakdown.

Technologies Used:

1) Hashi Corp Terraform
2) GitHub
3) AWS (Amazon Web Services)

Methodology:



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Terraform template has the following resources,

- Application tiers:
  - ✓ Autoscaling group in a public Subnet with servers running in at least 2 AZ's.
  - ✓ A single EC2 instance in a private Subnet

- Security group for each subnet
  - ✓ Security group in public subnet should allow only HTTP and ssh traffic.
  - ✓ Attach above SG to the ASG in public Subnet.
  - ✓ Security group in private subnet should allow all traffic from above security group only.
  - ✓ Attach above SG to EC2 instance in Private subnet.

- Load balancer
  - ✓ Application load balancer, Target group – directing traffic to ASG in public subnet.
  - ✓ NLB, Target group – directing traffic to EC2 instance in private subnet.

- S3 bucket
  - ✓ Should not be accessible to public, version enabled.
- IAM role
  - ✓ Role to have full access to the above S3 bucket.
  - ✓ The role should be attached to the Instances in ASG in public subnet.

To set up AWS infrastructure, we start by creating an Autoscaling Group (ASG) in a public subnet, ensuring it spans at least two Availability Zones (AZs) for high availability, and launch a single EC2 instance in a private subnet. Next, creating a security group for the public subnet that allows inbound HTTP (port 80) and SSH (port 22) traffic, and attach it to the ASG. For the private subnet, creating a security group that allows all traffic from the public subnet's security group and attach it to the EC2 instance. Setting up an Application Load Balancer (ALB) with a target group directing traffic to the ASG in the public subnet, and a Network Load Balancer (NLB) with a target group directing traffic to the EC2 instance in the private subnet. Creating an S3 bucket, ensure it is not publicly accessible, and enable versioning. Finally, creating an IAM role with full access to the S3 bucket and attach this role to the instances in the ASG in the public subnet. This setup ensures a secure, scalable, and highly available infrastructure.

Stage 1 – Terraform:

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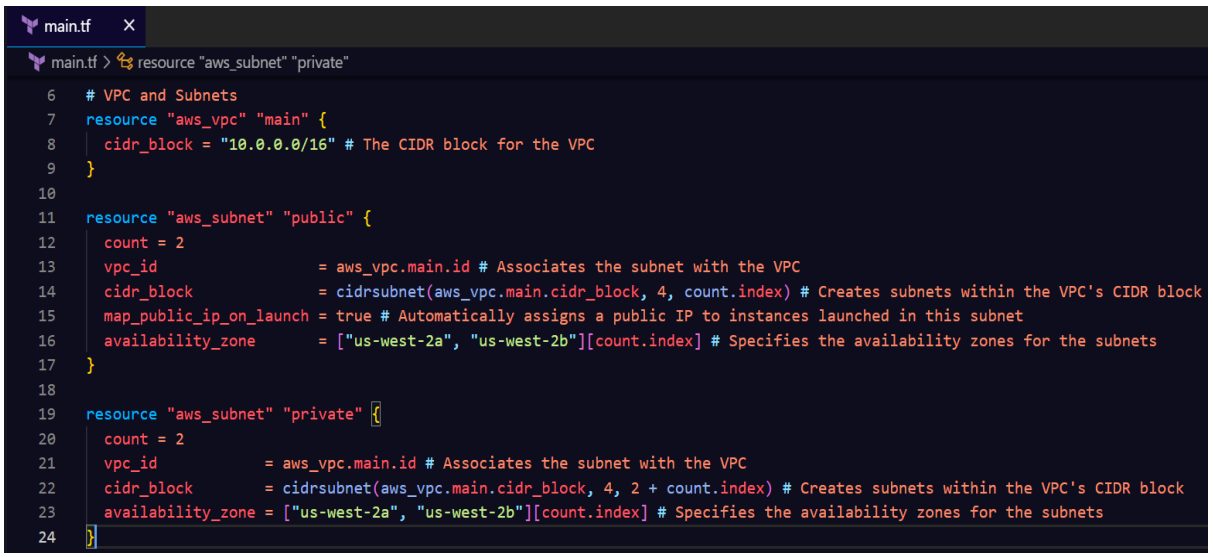
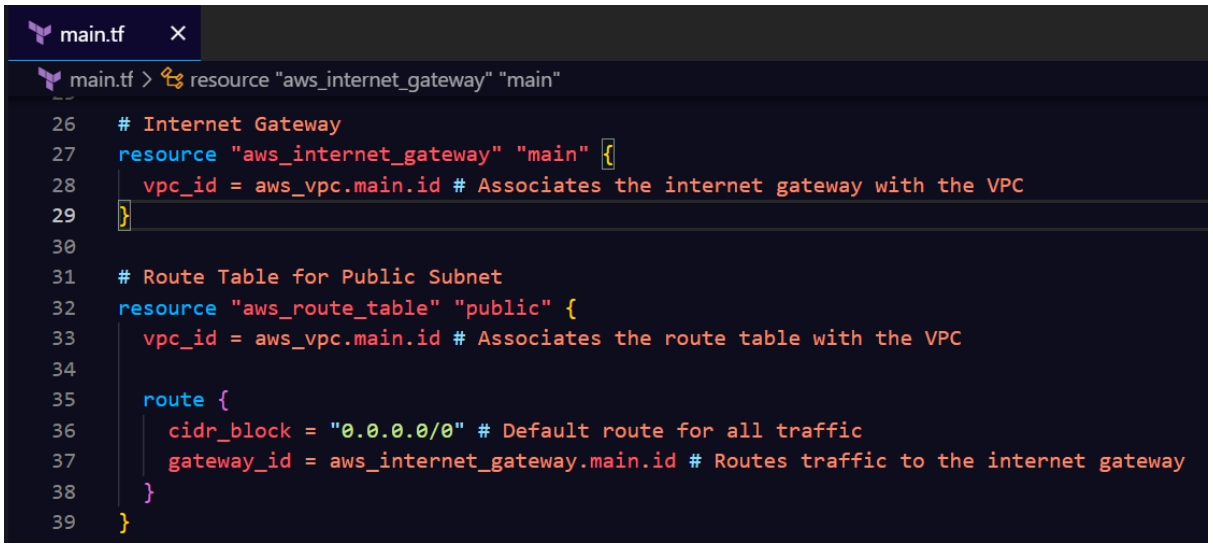
Terraform is an open-source Infrastructure as Code (IaC) tool developed by HashiCorp. It allows you to define and provision infrastructure using a high-level configuration language called HashiCorp Configuration Language (HCL) or JSON.

It is stored in GitHub - https://github.com/Aarifmedharsha/Devops1/blob/main/main.tf





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main.tf

main.tf > resource "aws_internet_gateway" "main"

```
45  }
46
47  # Security Groups
48  resource "aws_security_group" "aarif_public_sg" {
49    vpc_id = aws_vpc.main.id # Associates the security group with the VPC
50
51    ingress {
52      from_port   = 80
53      to_port     = 80
54      protocol    = "tcp"
55      cidr_blocks = ["0.0.0.0/0"] # Allows HTTP traffic from anywhere
56    }
57
58    ingress {
59      from_port   = 22
60      to_port     = 22
61      protocol    = "tcp"
62      cidr_blocks = ["0.0.0.0/0"] # Allows SSH traffic from anywhere
63    }
64
65    egress {
66      from_port   = 0
67      to_port     = 0
68      protocol    = "-1"
69      cidr_blocks = ["0.0.0.0/0"] # Allows all outbound traffic
70    }
71  }
72
73  resource "aws_security_group" "aarif_private_sg" {
74    vpc_id = aws_vpc.main.id # Associates the security group with the VPC
75
76    ingress {
77      from_port       = 0
78      to_port         = 0
79      protocol        = "-1"
80      security_groups = [aws_security_group.aarif_public_sg.id] # Allows all traffic from the public security group
81    }
82
83    egress {
84      from_port   = 0
85      to_port     = 0
86      protocol    = "-1"
87      cidr_blocks = ["0.0.0.0/0"] # Allows all outbound traffic
88    }
89  }
```

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```
# EC2 Instances and ASG
resource "aws_launch_template" "aarif_public_instance" {
  name          = "aarif-public-instance-template-3" # Name of the launch template #Check
  instance_type = "t2.micro" # Instance type
  image_id      = "ami-055e3d4f0bbeb5878" # Amazon Linux 2 AMI ID
  iam_instance_profile {
    name = aws_iam_instance_profile.aarif_public_instance_profile.name # Associates the instance profile
  }
  vpc_security_group_ids = [aws_security_group.aarif_public_sg.id] # Associates the security group
}

resource "aws_autoscaling_group" "aarif_public_asg" {
  desired_capacity    = 2 # Desired number of instances
  max_size            = 3 # Maximum number of instances
  min_size            = 1 # Minimum number of instances
  vpc_zone_identifier = aws_subnet.public[*].id # Subnets for the ASG
  launch_template {
    id      = aws_launch_template.aarif_public_instance.id # Launch template ID
    version = "$Latest" # Latest version of the launch template
  }
  target_group_arns = [aws_lb_target_group.aarif_app_targets.arn] # Associates the target group
}

resource "aws_instance" "aarif_private_instance" {
  ami                    = "ami-055e3d4f0bbeb5878" # Amazon Linux 2 AMI ID
  instance_type          = "t2.micro" # Instance type
  subnet_id              = aws_subnet.private[0].id # Subnet ID
  vpc_security_group_ids = [aws_security_group.aarif_private_sg.id] # Associates the security group
}
```

```
# Load Balancers
resource "aws_lb" "aarif_application" {
  name               = "aarif-app-lb" # Name of the load balancer
  internal           = false # Indicates it's an internet-facing load balancer
  load_balancer_type = "application" # Type of load balancer
  security_groups    = [aws_security_group.aarif_public_sg.id] # Associates the security group
  subnets            = aws_subnet.public[*].id # Subnets for the load balancer
}

resource "aws_lb_target_group" "aarif_app_targets" {
  name     = "aarif-app-targets" # Name of the target group
  port     = 80 # Port for the target group
  protocol = "HTTP" # Protocol for the target group
  vpc_id   = aws_vpc.main.id # Associates the target group with the VPC
}

resource "aws_lb_listener" "aarif_app_listener" {
  load_balancer_arn = aws_lb.aarif_application.arn # Load balancer ARN
  port              = 80 # Port for the listener
  protocol          = "HTTP" # Protocol for the listener
  default_action {
    type             = "forward" # Action type
    target_group_arn = aws_lb_target_group.aarif_app_targets.arn # Target group ARN
  }
}

resource "aws_lb" "aarif_network" {
  name               = "aarif-net-lb" # Name of the load balancer
  internal           = true # Indicates it's an internal load balancer
  load_balancer_type = "network" # Type of load balancer
  subnets            = aws_subnet.private[*].id # Subnets for the load balancer
}

resource "aws_lb_target_group" "aarif_network_targets" {
  name     = "aarif-net-targets" # Name of the target group
  port     = 80 # Port for the target group
  protocol = "TCP" # Protocol for the target group
  vpc_id   = aws_vpc.main.id # Associates the target group with the VPC
}
```

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```hcl
# S3 Bucket
resource "aws_s3_bucket" "aarif-private-bucket" {
  bucket = "aarif-private-bucket" # Name of the S3 bucket
}

resource "aws_s3_bucket_ownership_controls" "aarif_private_bucket_ownership_controls" {
  bucket = aws_s3_bucket.aarif-private-bucket.id # Associates the ownership controls with the bucket
  rule {
    object_ownership = "BucketOwnerPreferred" # Sets the object ownership rule
  }
}

# S3 Bucket ACL
resource "aws_s3_bucket_acl" "aarif_private_bucket_acl" {
  depends_on = [aws_s3_bucket_ownership_controls.aarif_private_bucket_ownership_controls] # Ensures ownership controls are created first
  bucket = aws_s3_bucket.aarif-private-bucket.id # Associates the ACL with the bucket
  acl = "private" # Applies private ACL
}

resource "aws_s3_bucket_versioning" "s3_versioning" {
  bucket = aws_s3_bucket.aarif-private-bucket.id # Associates versioning with the bucket
  versioning_configuration {
    status = "Enabled" # Enables versioning
  }
}
```

```hcl
# IAM Role
resource "aws_iam_role" "aarif_public_role" {
  name               = "aarif-public-role" # Name of the IAM role
  assume_role_policy = jsonencode({
    Version = "2012-10-17",
    Statement = [
      {
        Action    = "sts:AssumeRole",
        Effect    = "Allow",
        Principal = { Service = "ec2.amazonaws.com" } # Allows EC2 to assume this role
      }
    ]
  })
}
resource "aws_iam_policy" "aarif_s3_access" {
  name        = "aarif-s3-access" # Name of the IAM policy
  description = "Full access to the S3 bucket" # Description of the policy
  policy      = jsonencode({
    Version = "2012-10-17",
    Statement = [
      {
        Action   = ["s3:*"], # Allows all S3 actions
        Effect   = "Allow", # Allows the specified actions
        Resource = [aws_s3_bucket.aarif-private-bucket.arn, "${aws_s3_bucket.aarif-private-bucket.arn}/*"] # Specifies the S3 bucket and its objects
      }
    ]
  })
}
resource "aws_iam_role_policy_attachment" "aarif_attach_policy" {
  role       = aws_iam_role.aarif_public_role.name # Attaches the policy to the IAM role
  policy_arn = aws_iam_policy.aarif_s3_access.arn # Specifies the policy ARN
}

resource "aws_iam_instance_profile" "aarif_public_instance_profile" {
  name = "aarif-public-instance-profile-3" # Name of the instance profile #Check
  role = aws_iam_role.aarif_public_role.name # Associates the IAM role with the instance profile
}
```

This Terraform code sets up an AWS infrastructure with a VPC, subnets, security groups, EC2 instances, load balancers, an S3 bucket, and IAM roles. It begins by configuring the AWS provider for the us-west-2 region and creating a VPC with a CIDR block of 10.0.0.0/16. Two public and two private subnets are created within this VPC, each spanning different availability zones. An internet gateway is attached to the VPC, and a route table is configured to allow internet access for the public subnets.

Security groups are defined for both public and private subnets. The public security group allows HTTP and SSH traffic, while the private security group allows all traffic from the public security group. An autoscaling group (ASG) is set up in the public subnets, using a launch template for EC2 instances. A single EC2 instance is launched in one of the private subnets. The code also sets up an Application Load Balancer (ALB) for the ASG and a Network Load Balancer (NLB) for the private EC2 instance. An S3 bucket is created with private access and versioning enabled. Finally, an IAM role with full access to the S3 bucket is created and attached to the instances in the ASG. This setup ensures a secure, scalable, and highly available infrastructure.

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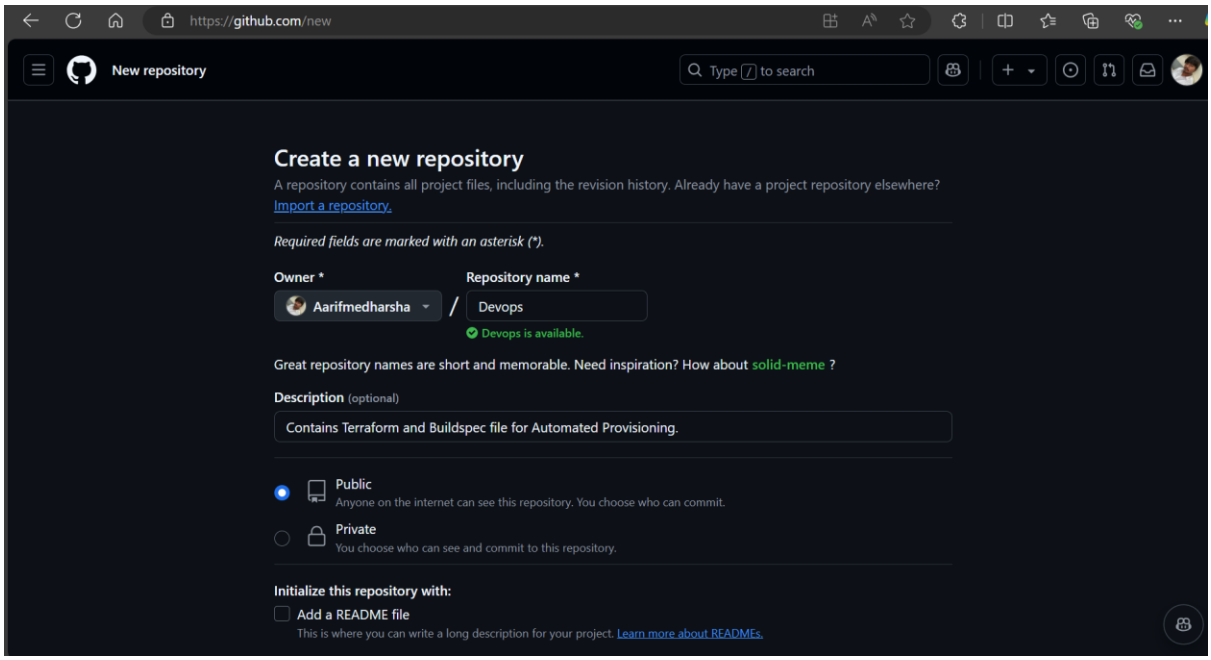
Stage 2 – GitHub:

GitHub is a web-based platform that uses Git for version control, enabling developers to collaborate on projects efficiently. It allows users to host and review code, manage projects, and build software alongside millions of other developers. For DevOps, GitHub is invaluable as it integrates seamlessly with various CI/CD tools, automating the software development lifecycle. It supports continuous integration, continuous deployment, and continuous delivery, ensuring that code changes are automatically tested and deployed. GitHub Actions, a feature of GitHub, allows developers to create custom workflows for their projects, further enhancing automation.

My Repository: https://github.com/Aarifmedharsha/Devops1

Creating a repository on Github:



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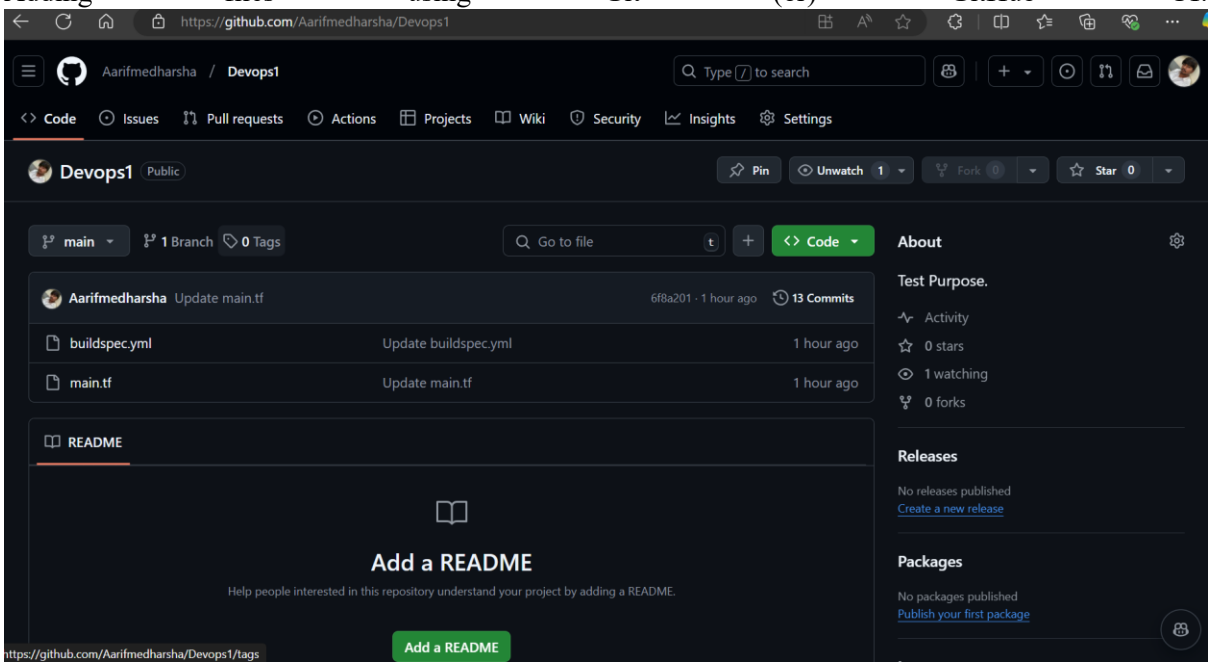
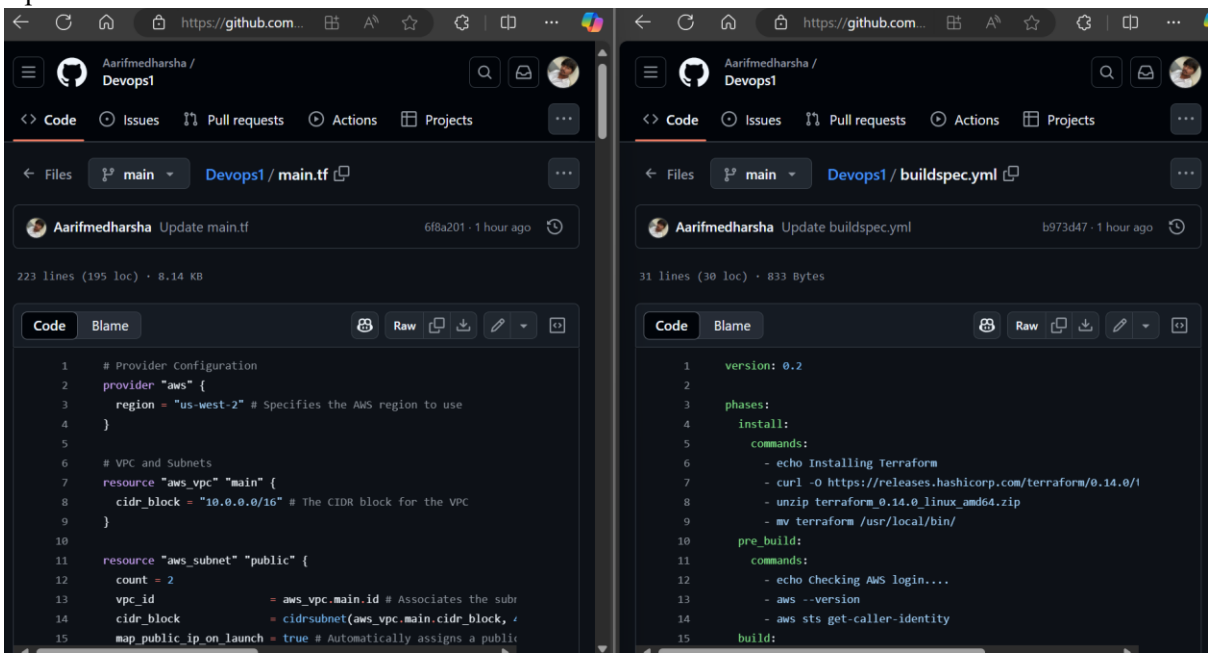
Adding files using Git (or) GitHub UI:



Uploaded files:



Stage 3 – AWS (AMAZON WEB SERVICES):

AWS CodeBuild is a fully managed build service that compiles source code, runs tests, and produces software packages ready for deployment. It eliminates the need to provision, manage, and scale your own build servers, allowing you to focus on writing code. CodeBuild scales continuously and processes multiple builds concurrently, ensuring that your builds are not left waiting in a queue.

buildspec.yml:

```yaml
version: 0.2

phases:
  install:
    commands:
      - echo Installing Terraform
      - curl -O https://releases.hashicorp.com/terraform/0.14.0/terraform_0.14.0_linux_amd64.zip
      - unzip terraform_0.14.0_linux_amd64.zip
      - mv terraform /usr/local/bin/
  pre_build:
    commands:
      - echo Checking AWS login....
      - aws --version
      - aws sts get-caller-identity
  build:
    commands:
      - echo Initializing Terraform
      - terraform init
      - echo Planning Deployment
      - terraform plan -out=tfplan
      - echo Applying Deployment
      - terraform apply -auto-approve tfplan
  post_build:
    commands:
      - echo Waiting for 5 minutes before destroying the deployment
      - sleep 300
      - echo Destroying Deployment
      - terraform destroy -auto-approve
artifacts:
  files:
    - '**/*'
```

A key component of AWS CodeBuild is the buildspec file, typically named buildspec.yml. This file is written in YAML format and defines the build commands and settings used by CodeBuild to run a build. The **buildspec.yml** file is a configuration file used by AWS CodeBuild to define the build process for your project. It includes several key components**: version**, which specifies the buildspec version; **env,** where you define environment variables and runtime settings; phases, which outline the steps of the build lifecycle including install, pre_build, build, and post_build phases; artifacts, which specify the output files to be stored after the build; cache, which defines paths to cache to speed up subsequent builds; and reports, which generate reports about the build process. Each section allows you to customize and control different aspects of the build, ensuring a consistent and automated build process.

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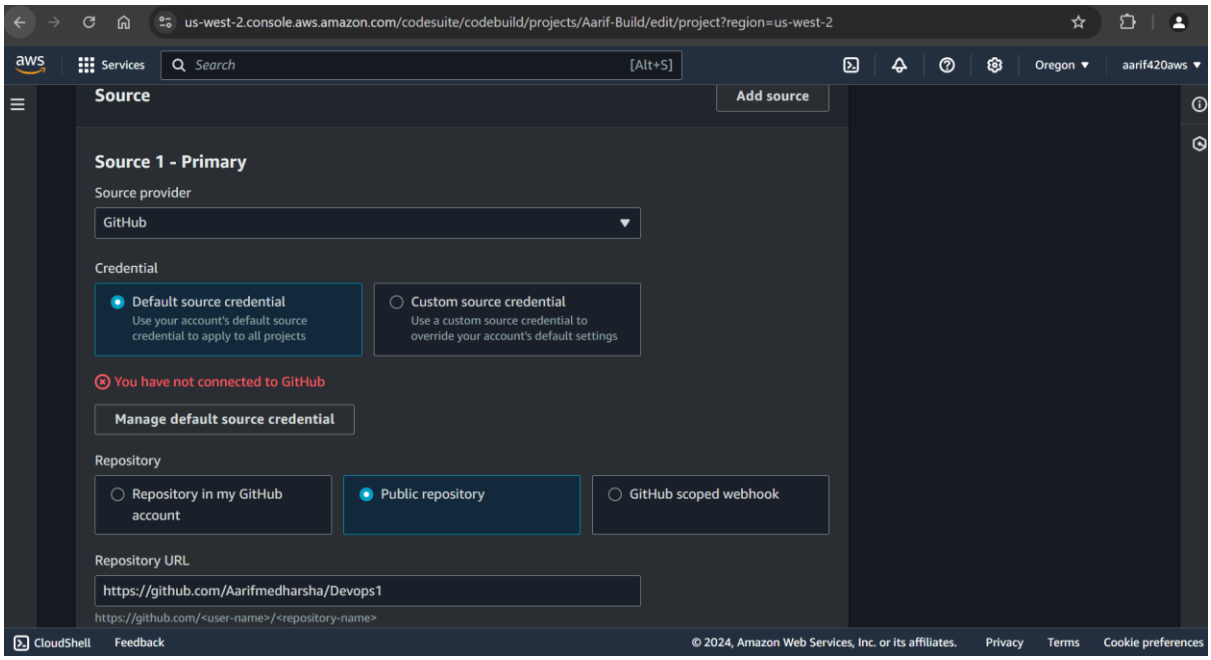
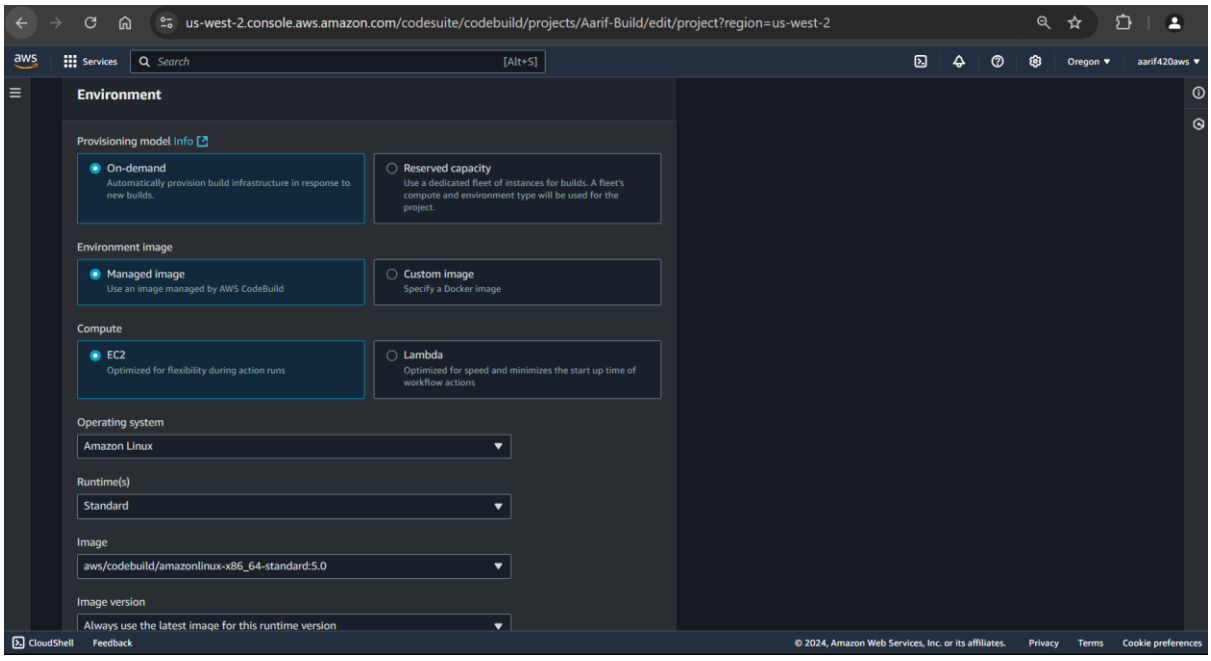
Code Build Setup:

After Creating and add a name to new project, we can use Github as a Primary source from where we can fetch the terraform code. No credentials required as it is a public repository.



Then we have to setup the environment for our build



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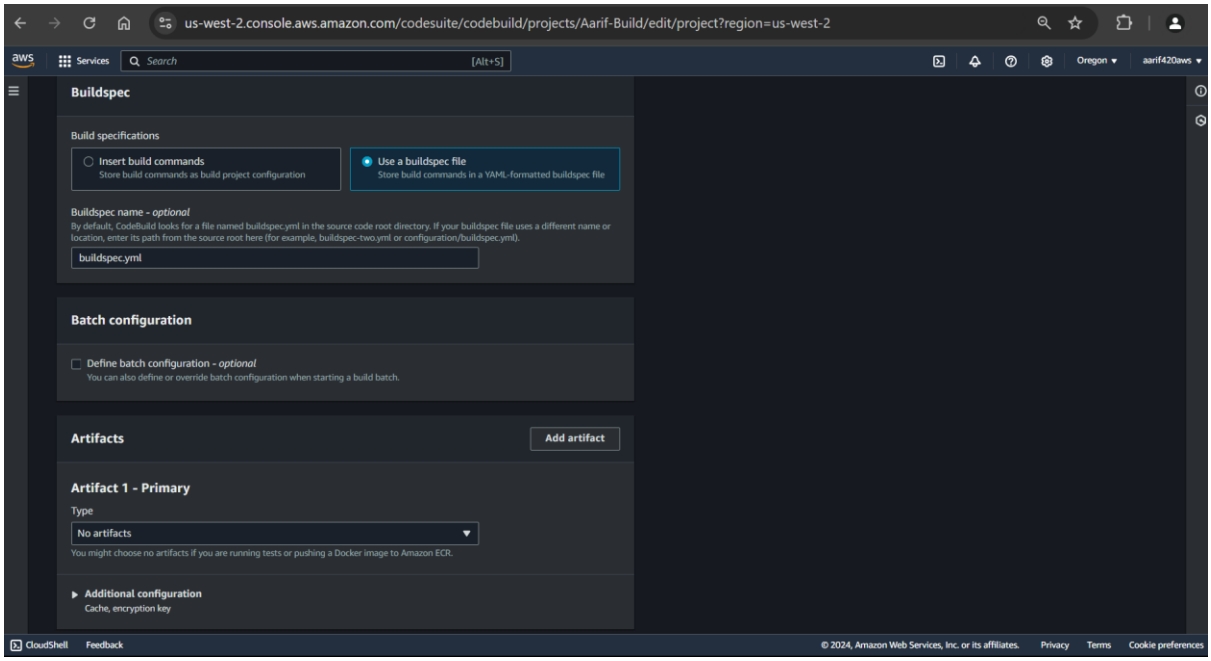
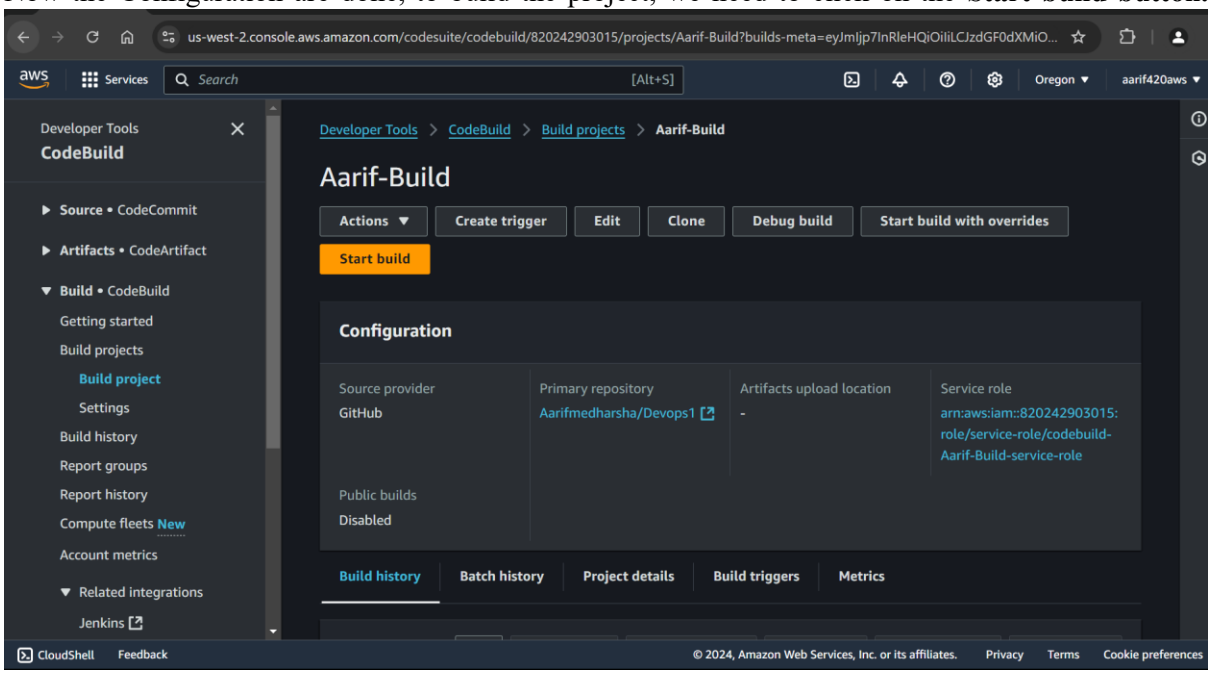
Then we have to add the **buildspec.yml** file, which is present in the Github Repository for building.



Now the Configuration are done, to build the project, we need to click on the **Start build button.**



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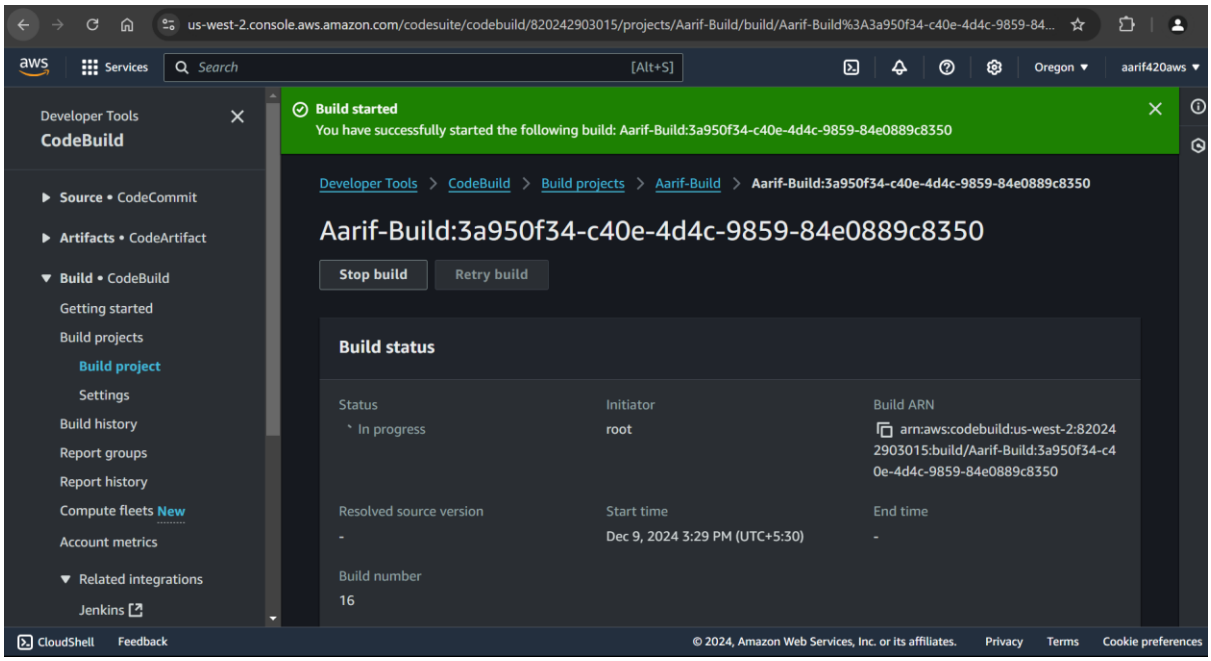
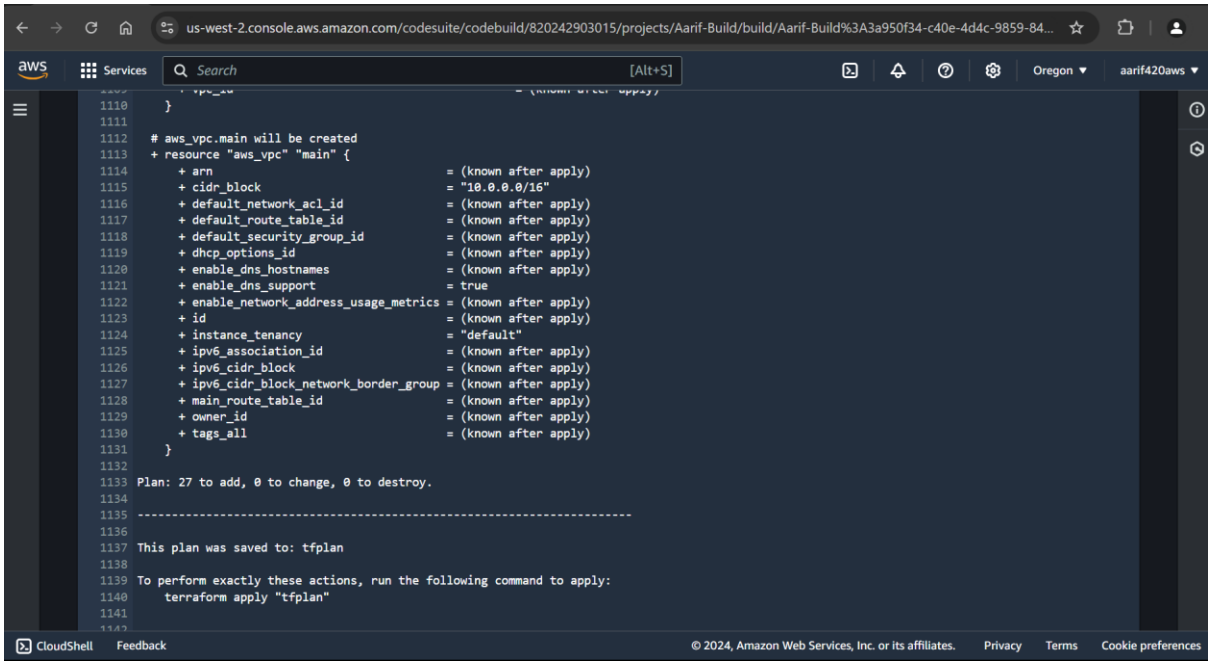


While the build is in progress we can check for the logs, and we can follow along the steps. We see that the terraform is successfully installed and the plan command resulted in success.



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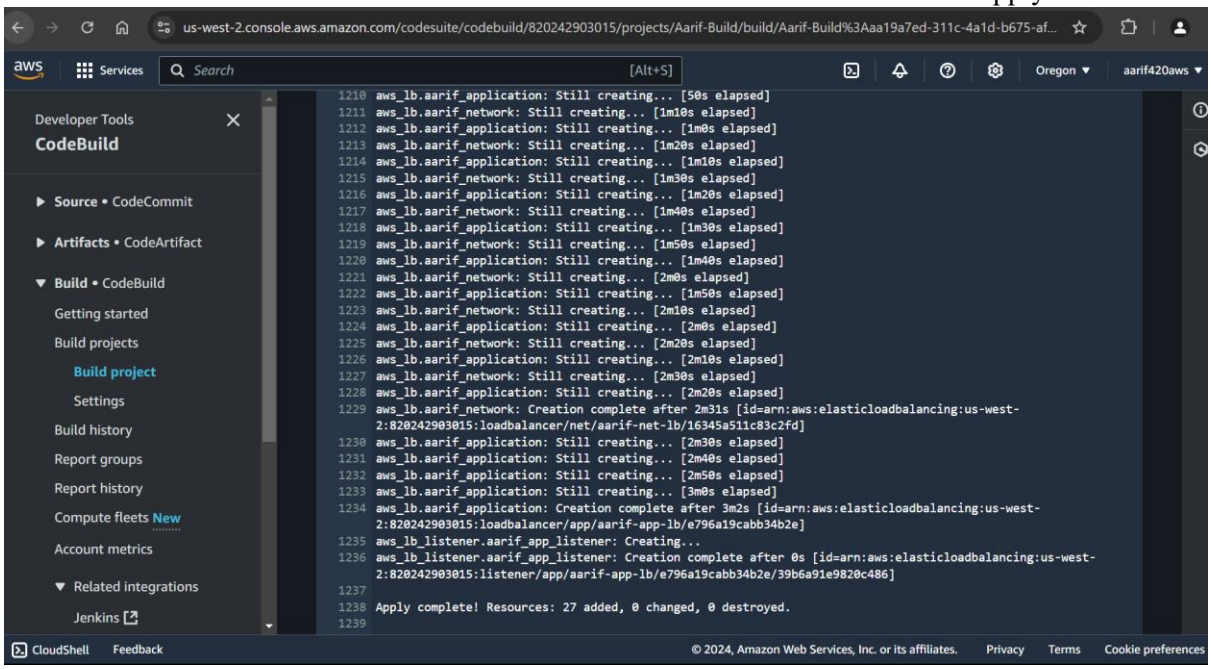
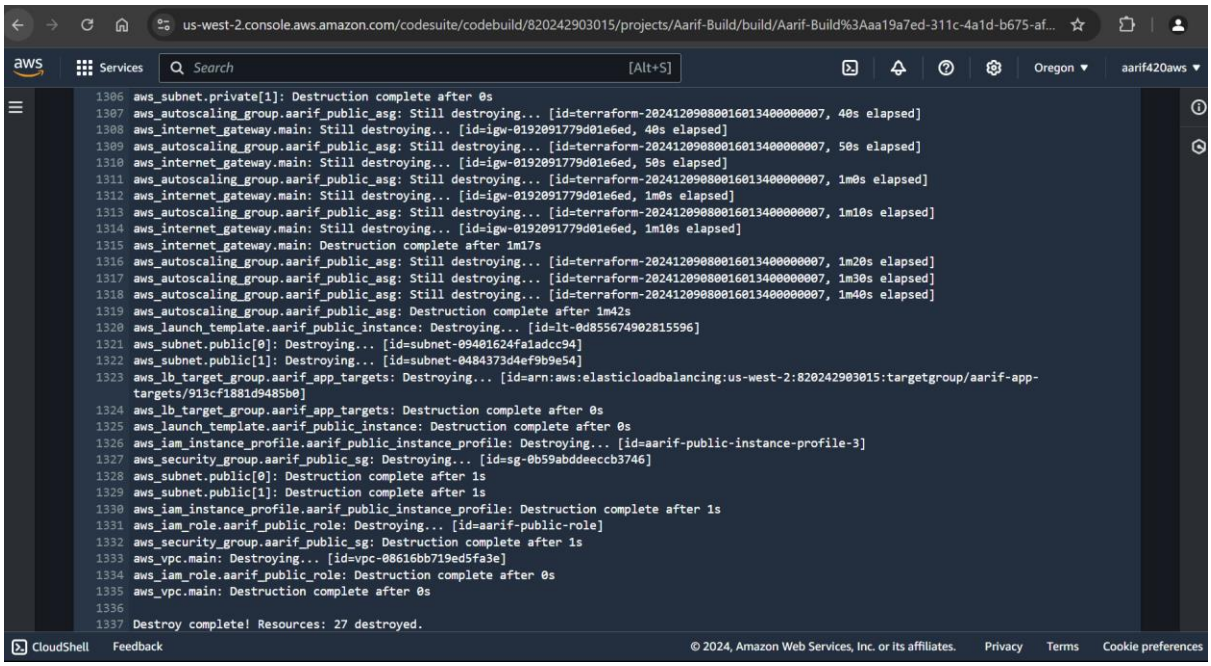
There are 27 resources to add and all are added after apply command.



Now , after successful creation as specified in the buildspec.yml the script waits for 5 mins then executes terraform destroy to delete all the resources that are created.



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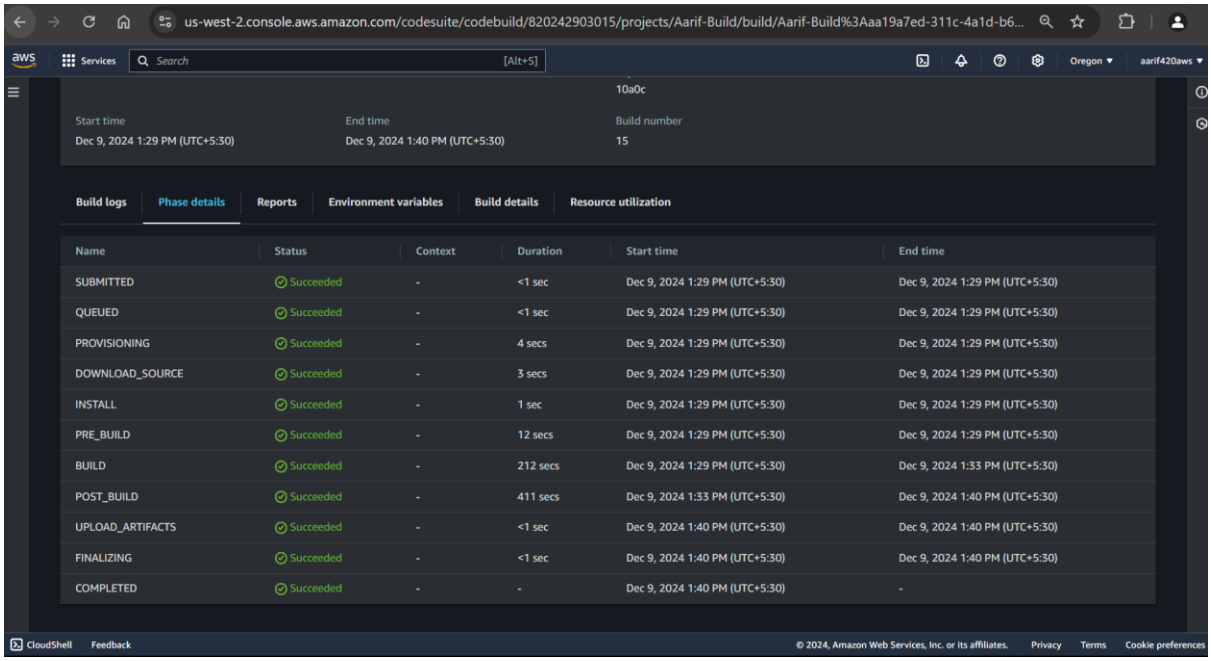
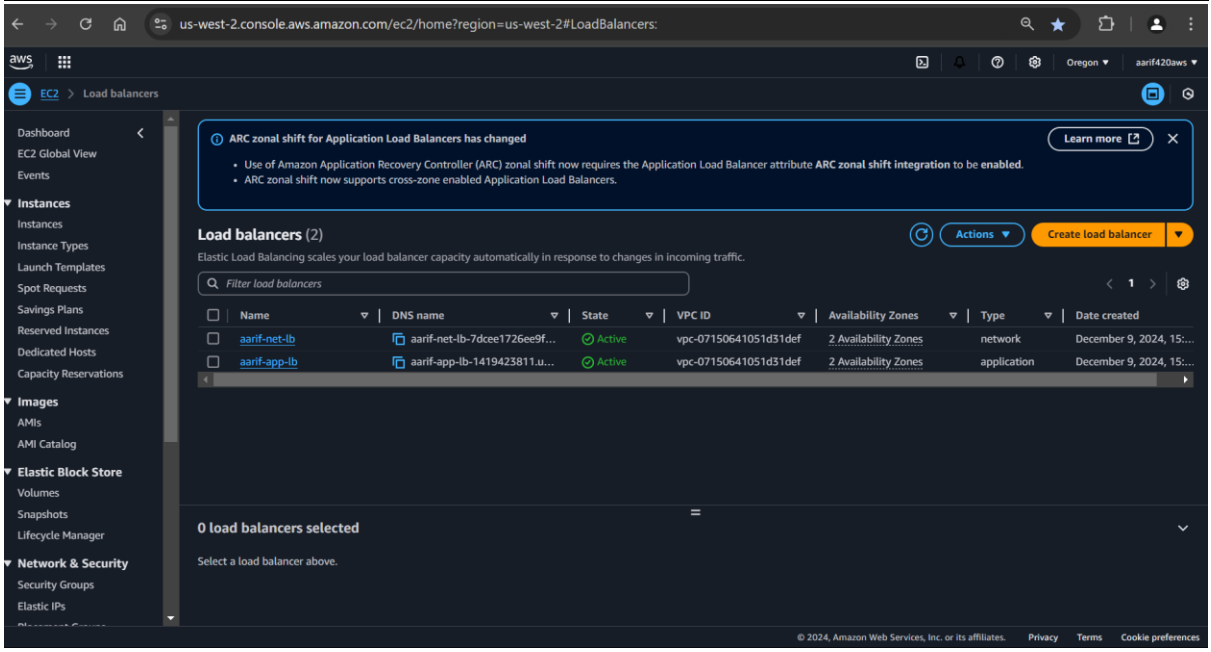
Phase Details:



Cross verification of the resources created on the UI.

Load Balancers :



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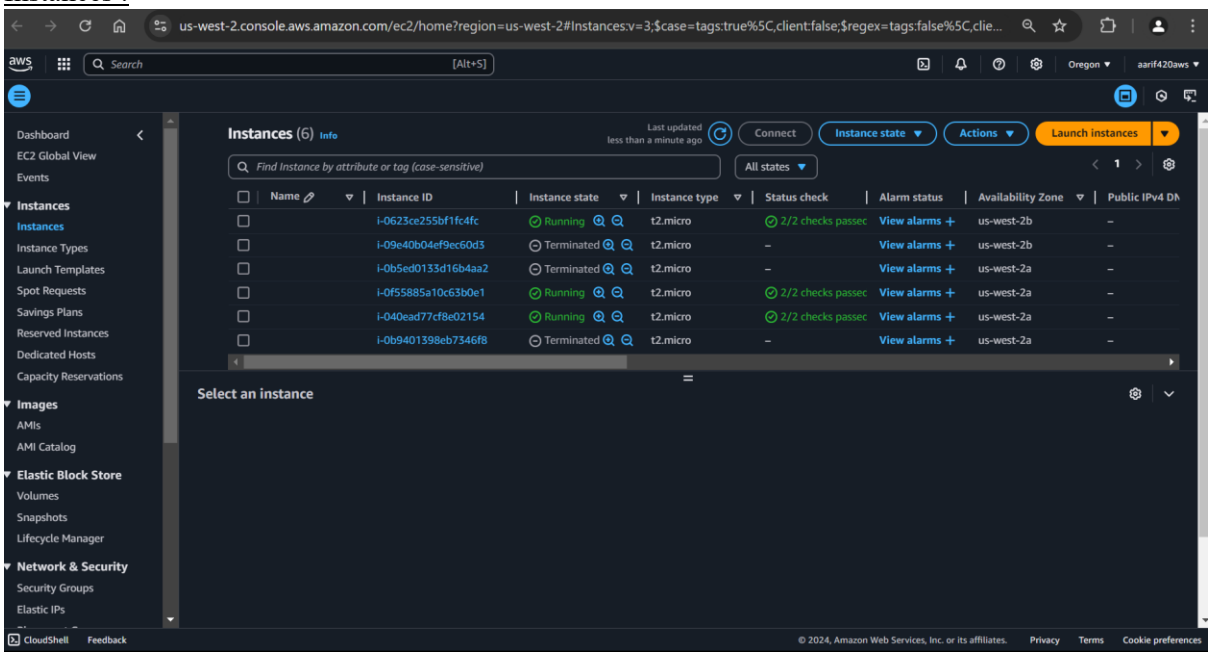
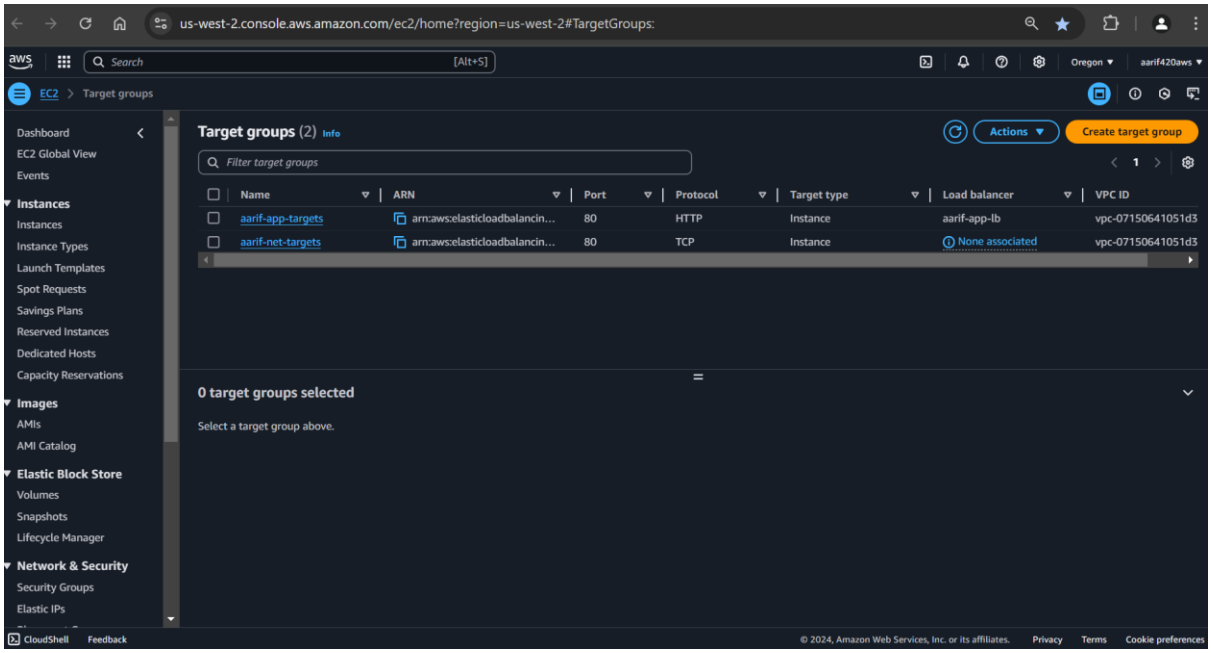
Instances :



Target Groups :



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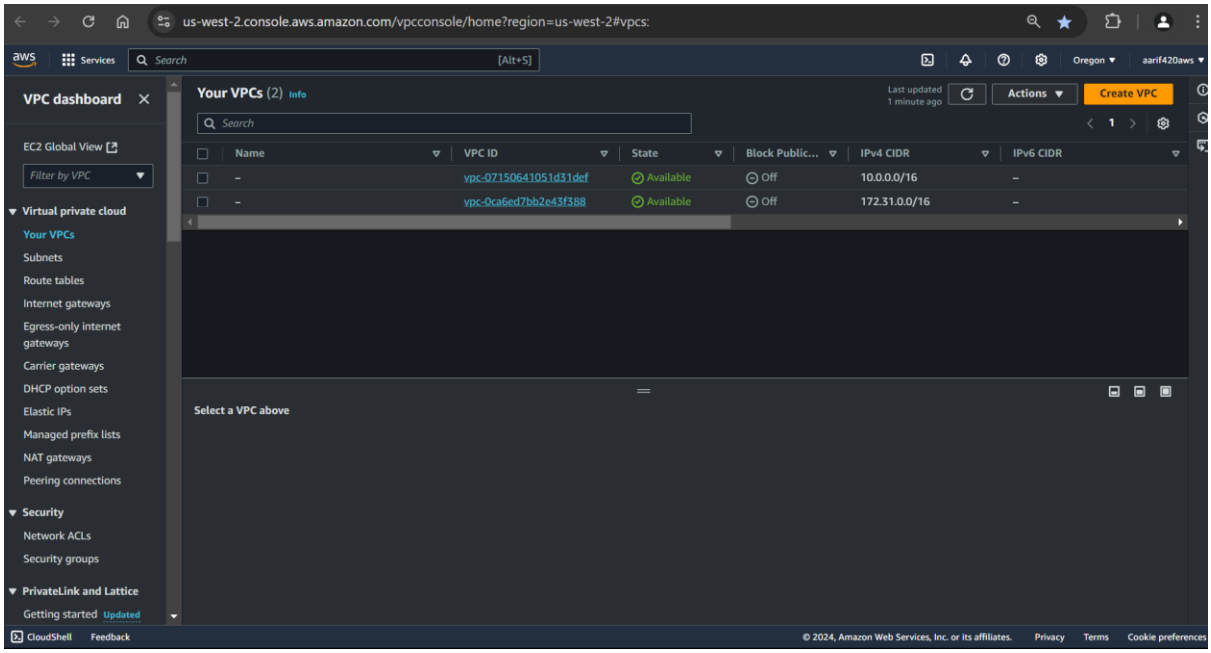
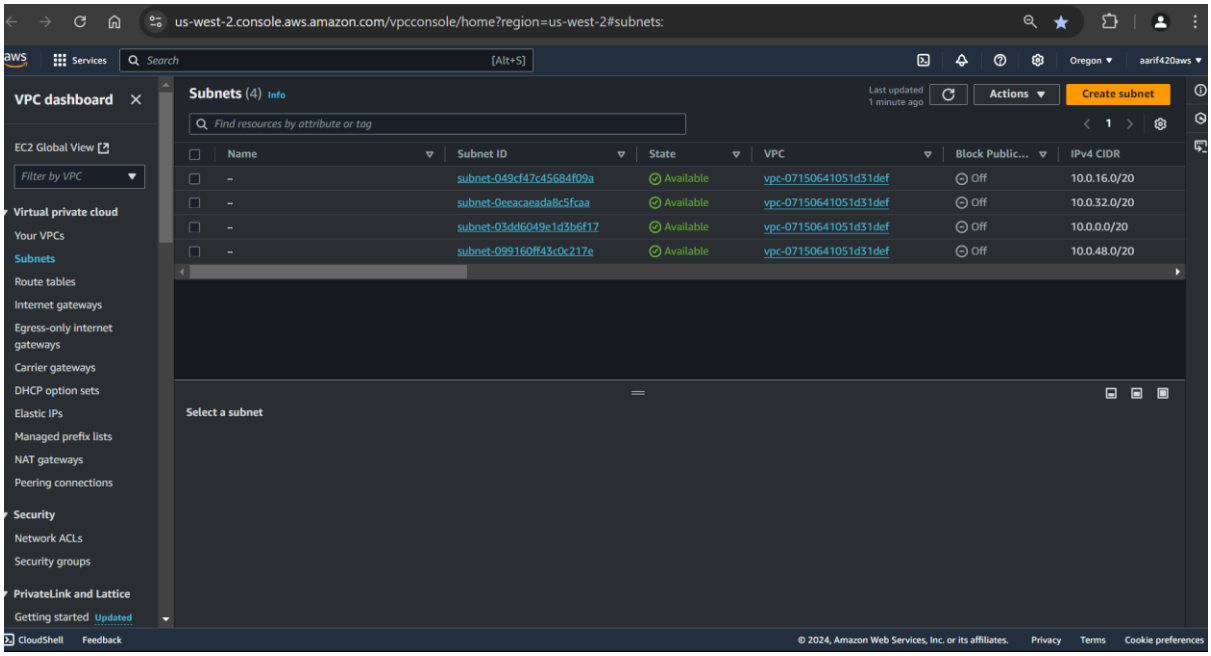
VPC :



Subnets :



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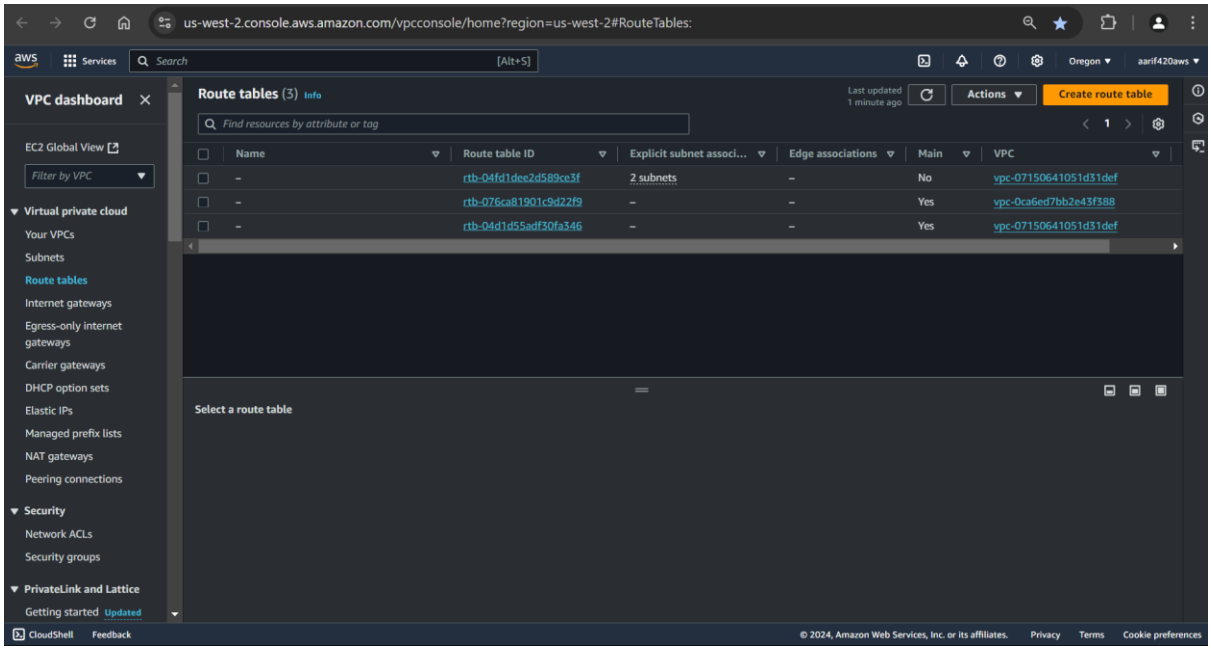
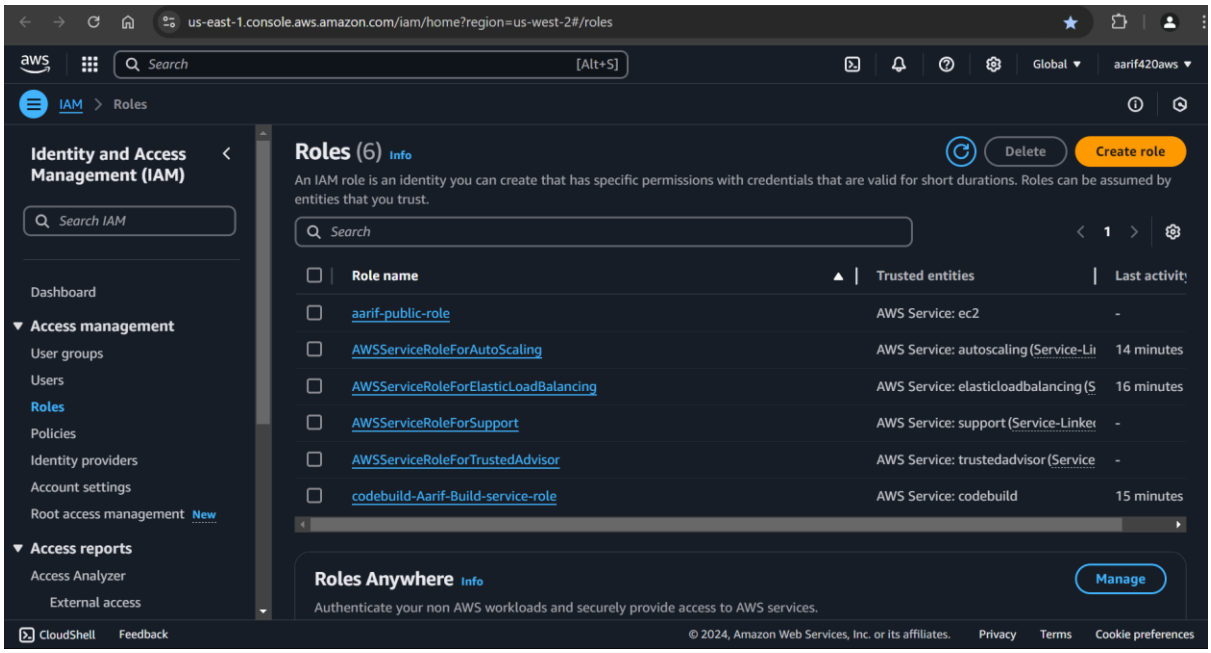
Route Tables :



IAM Role :



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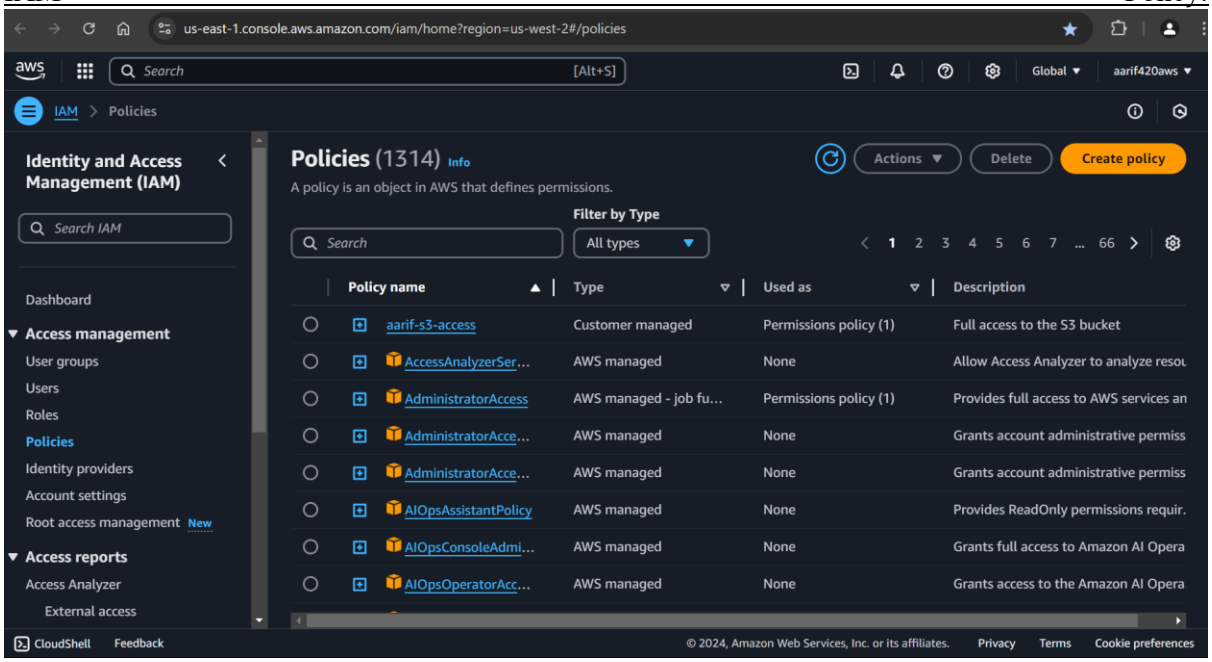
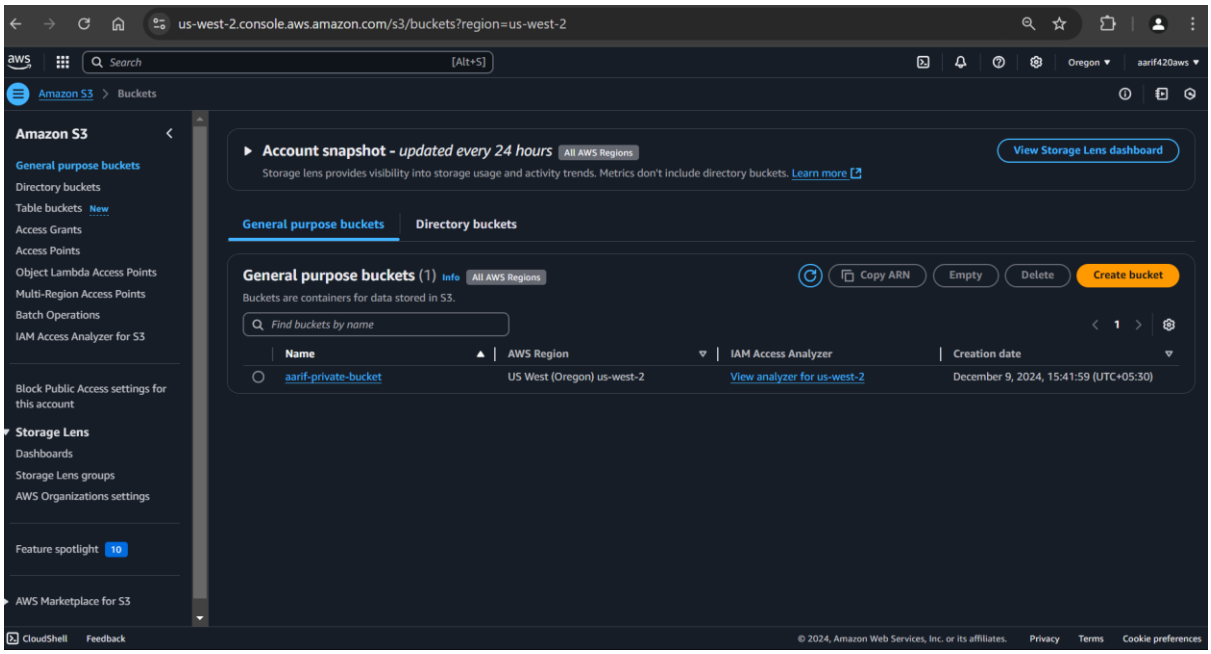
IAM Policy:



S3 Bucket:



Reference:

1) **AWS Official Documentation –**

https://docs.aws.amazon.com/

2) **Terraform Official Documentation for AWS –**

https://registry.terraform.io/providers/hashicorp/aws/latest/docs

3) **Github Documentation –**

https://docs.github.com/en

4) **Code Build –**

https://docs.aws.amazon.com/codebuild/

Conclusion:

In this use case, we successfully designed and provisioned a multi-tiered web application environment in AWS using Terraform. The infrastructure stack includes an Autoscaling Group (ASG) in a public subnet with instances running across multiple Availability Zones (AZs) and a single EC2 instance in a private subnet. We implemented security groups to ensure that only necessary traffic is allowed, enhancing the security of our application. The setup includes an Application Load Balancer (ALB) directing traffic to the ASG and a Network Load Balancer (NLB) directing traffic to the EC2 instance in the private subnet. We also created an S3 bucket with versioning enabled and ensured it is not publicly accessible. An IAM role with full access to the S3 bucket was attached to the instances in the ASG. Finally, we stored the Terraform template in an Github repository and created a build using AWS CodeBuild to automate the provisioning of the infrastructure. This comprehensive approach ensures a scalable, secure, and efficient deployment of the web application.