# Shailesh\_task8

Tools used:

ProtonVPN (Free Tier).

# 1. Choose a reputable free VPN service and sign up.

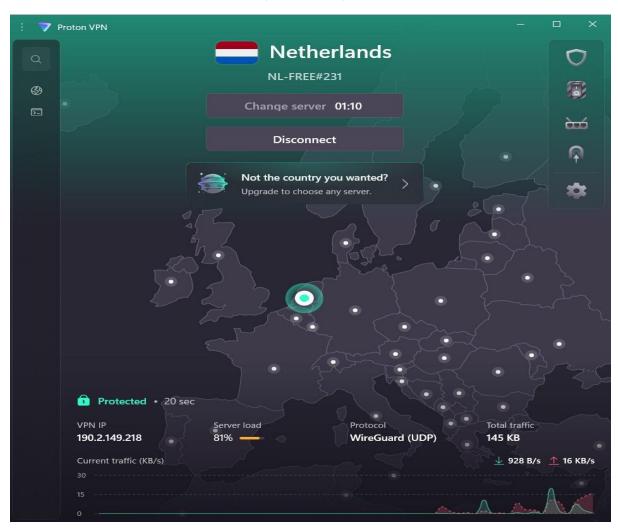
I chose ProtonVPN due to its good reputation for privacy and strong encryption.

#### 2. Download and install the VPN client.

Downloaded the VPN client for windows from <a href="https://protonvpn.com">https://protonvpn.com</a>, and installed the software successfully.

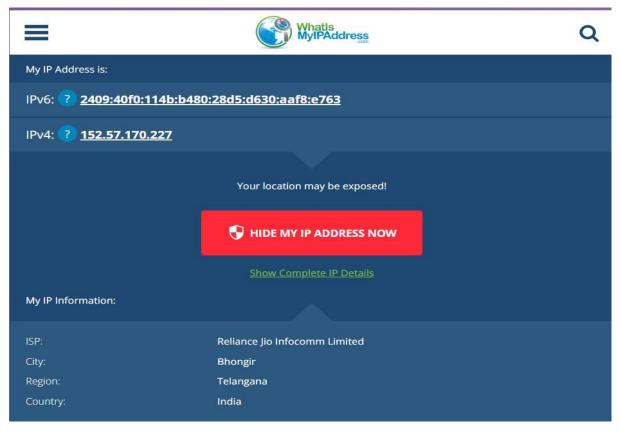
# 3. Connect to a VPN server (choose closest or any location).

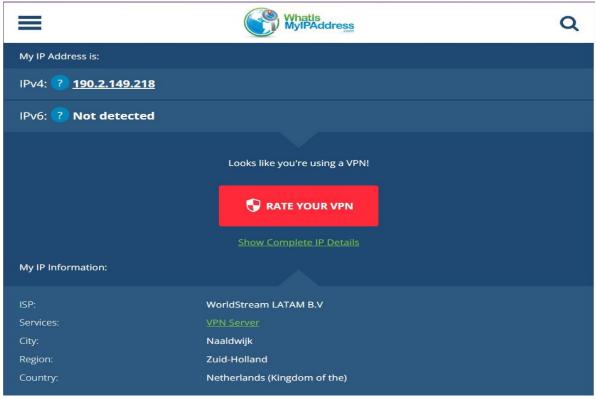
- Launched the VPN client.
- Logged into ProtonVPN account.
- Connected to the Fastest server (Netherlands).



## 4. Verify your IP address has changed (use whatismyipaddress.com).

- Visited whatismyipaddress.com before and after connecting to the VPN.
- We can see the change in Ip address and geolocation to different country.





### 5. Browse a website to confirm traffic is encrypted.

- Browsed the websites like Google and YouTube.
- The traffic remained smooth and encrypted using HTTPS.

### 6. Disconnect VPN and compare browsing speed and IP.

- Disconnected the VPN, and revisited the same sites.
- Browsing speed slightly increased, but the IP address and location returned to normal.

### 7. Research VPN encryption and privacy features.

- The ProtonVPN uses AES-256 encryption, OpenVPN and IKEv2/IPSec protocols.
- It follows strict no-logs policy.
- It has DNS leak protection included.

### 8. Write a summary on VPN benefits and limitations.

#### **Benefits:**

- Hides the real IP address and location.
- Secures traffic on public Wi-Fi.
- Prevents ISP tracking.
- Helps bypass geo-restrictions.

#### **Limitations:**

- Free VPNs may have speed or server limitations.
- Some websites block VPN traffic.
- VPN does not make you 100% anonymous, it may need some combined tools like Tor).

#### **Outcome:**

Successfully connected to a free VPN (ProtonVPN), verified IP address change, and confirmed encrypted browsing traffic. Gained hands-on experience with VPN setup and understood how VPNs enhance online privacy and security.