

Automate Sending Emails at a Specific Time with AWS Lambda,

CloudWatch and SES

Identity and Access Management (IAM)

IAM web service allows us to securely control access to AWS resources. Here we can check which users are authenticated and what permissions they have to use the resources. IAM does not require region selection.

AWS Lambda

AWS Lambda is one of the serverless services. In these services, we only write the code we want to run and make the necessary resource settings. We do not have to deal with issues such as which server the code is running on, the administration, maintenance and security of the server. Lambda codes run in containers. In this way, it can be easily scaled.

CloudWatch

CloudWatch; It provides data and actionable insights so you can monitor your applications, respond to system-wide performance changes, optimize resource usage, and have a unified view of operational status. CloudWatch collects monitoring and operational data in the form of logs, metrics, and events, providing a unified view of AWS resources, applications, and services running on AWS and on-premises servers. Using CloudWatch, you can detect anomalous behavior in your environments, set up alarms, visualize

images and metrics side-by-side, take automated actions, troubleshoot issues, and discover insights to keep your applications running smoothly.

AWS EventBridge

AWS EventBridge is a serverless event bridge that makes it easy to provide real-time access to data changes in AWS services and SaaS applications without writing code. CloudWatch Events builds and extends on Amazon EventBridge. It uses the same service API and endpoint, and the same service infrastructure. Nothing changes for existing CloudWatch Events customers.

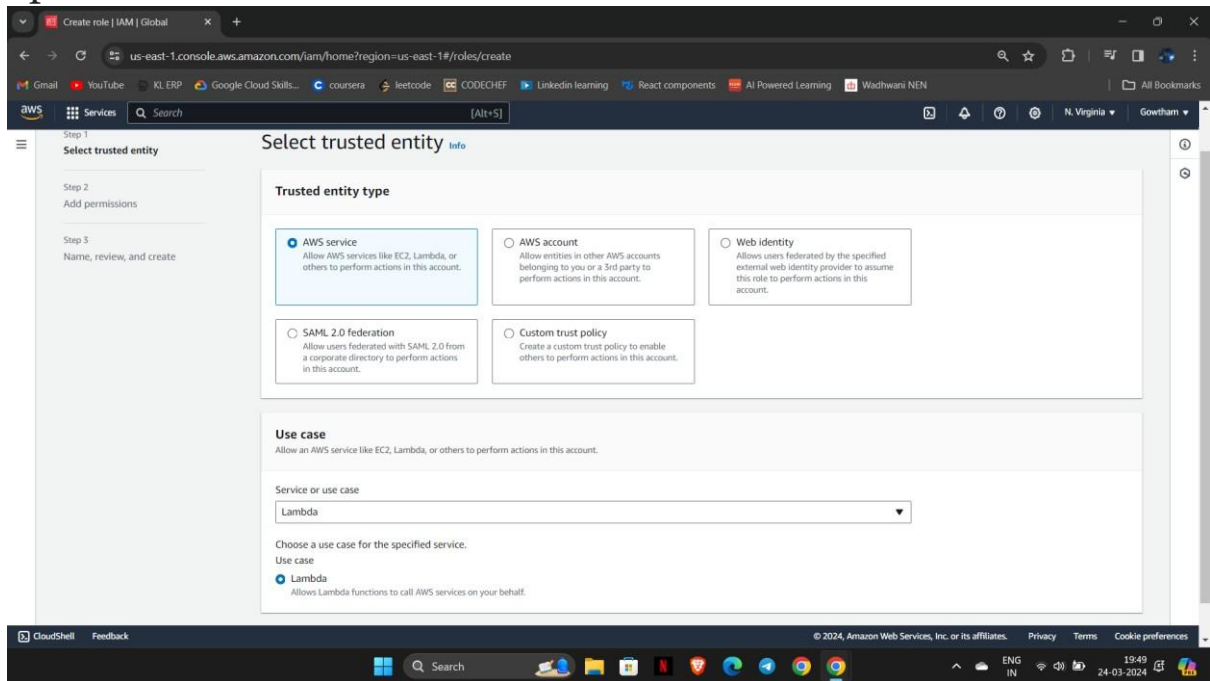
AWS Simple E-mail Service

Amazon SES is an easy, reliable, low-cost, pay-as-you-go cloudbased email service designed to help app developers and digital media professionals send notification emails. It is a service that provides solutions for businesses of all sizes that communicate with their customers via email, without dealing with infrastructure problems such as Mail Server management, Network configuration, and most importantly, Spam and IP reputation problems. All new SES accounts start in a sandbox, where you can test the capabilities of Amazon SES. When your account is in the sandbox, you can only send email to your verified sender identities, with a typical limit set to 200 emails per day. A verified sender identity is either an email addresses or domain that you verified ownership of. If you want to send an e-mail to your e-mail list with SES, you must open a request to Amazon to exit the sandbox. In this tutorial, we will perform our operations from the sandbox.

Steps:

1. Setting up IAM roles

First, we should set up IAM roles for security. Open the AWS console and write IAM to the searching area. On the screen that opens click roles and create role.



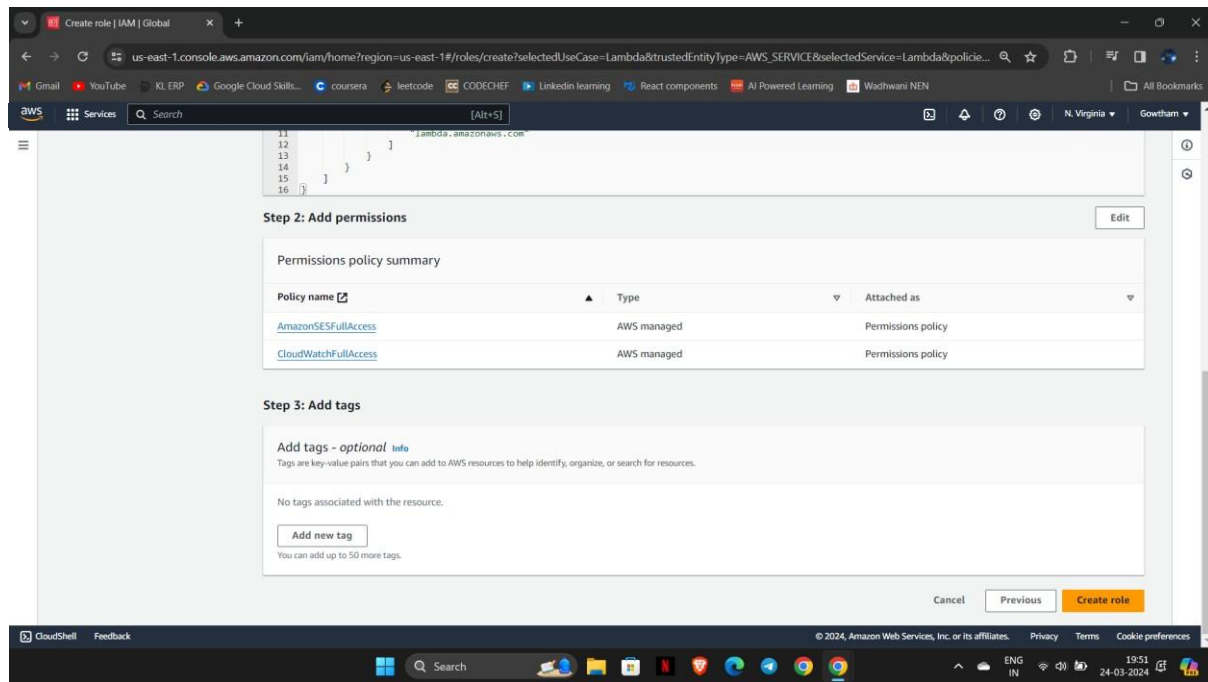
Then we need to add the permissions of the services that the user will use.

These are:

1. CloudWatchFullAccess

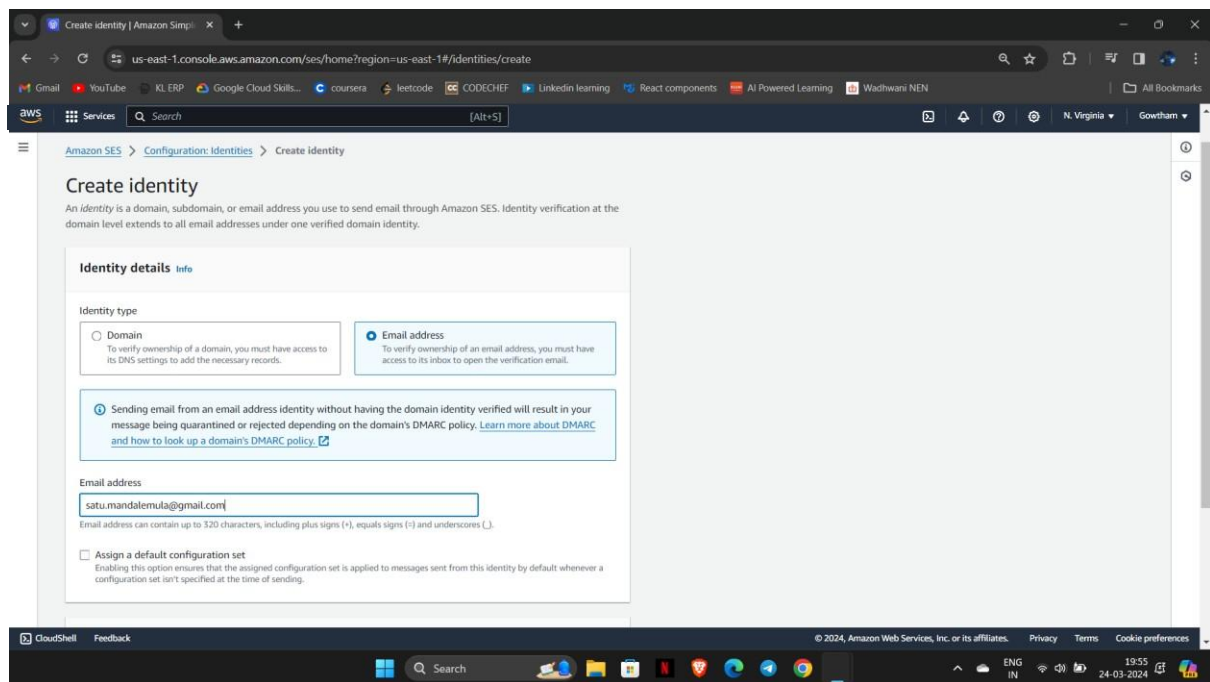
2. AmazonSESFullAccess

Add these permissions and click next. Specify a name to use this role in other services.



2. Amazon SES

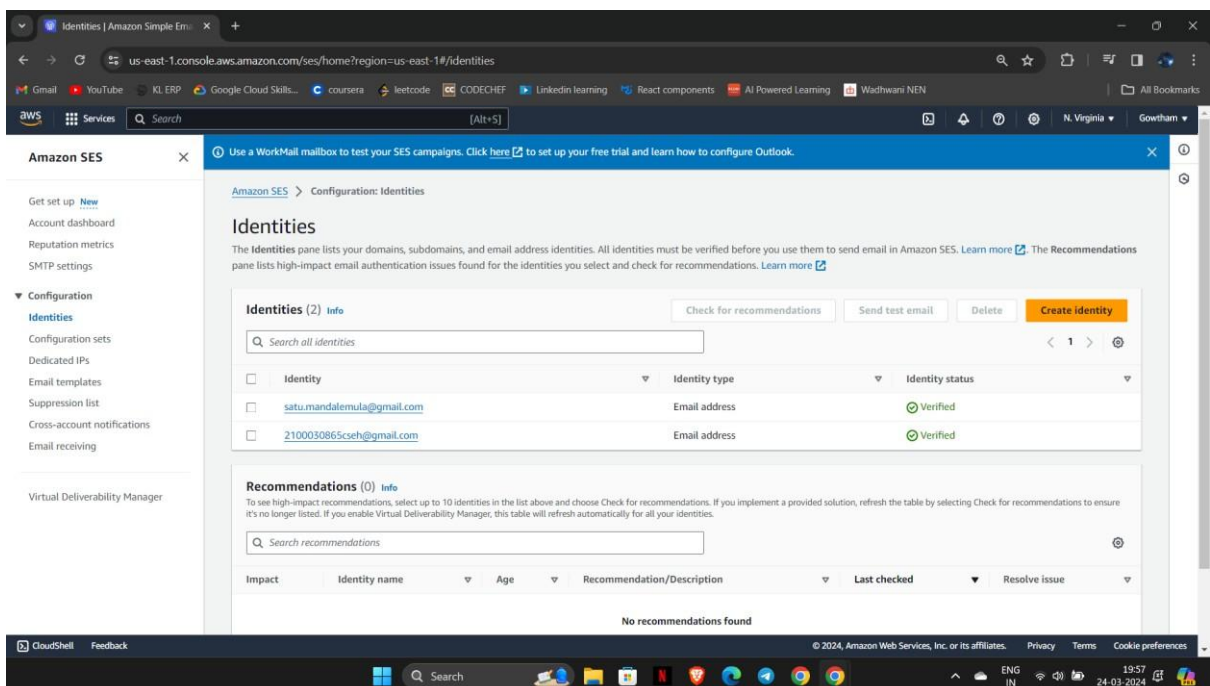
Before configuring the other steps, you must ensure that they are all in the same region. My transactions will be in the us-central-1 region.



we have to do the mail verification process. I have defined two mails.

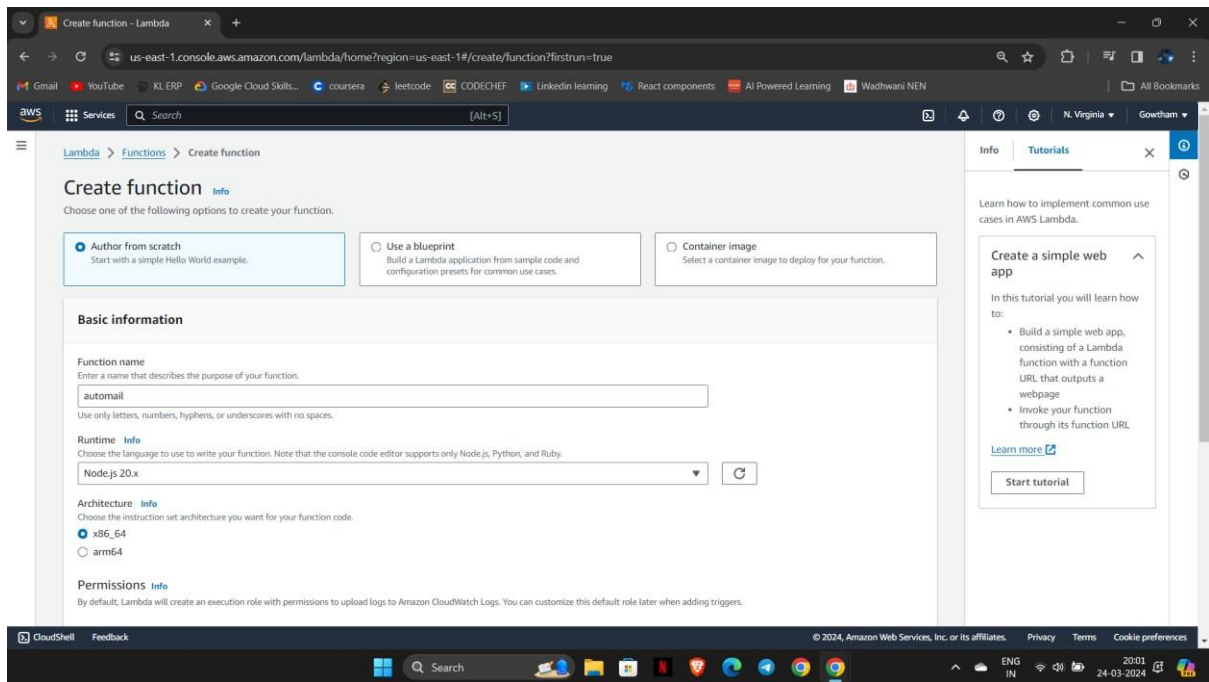
Now press the Create Identity button to define the other.

You will receive a verification mail. After verifying your e-mail address, the status section will be verified.

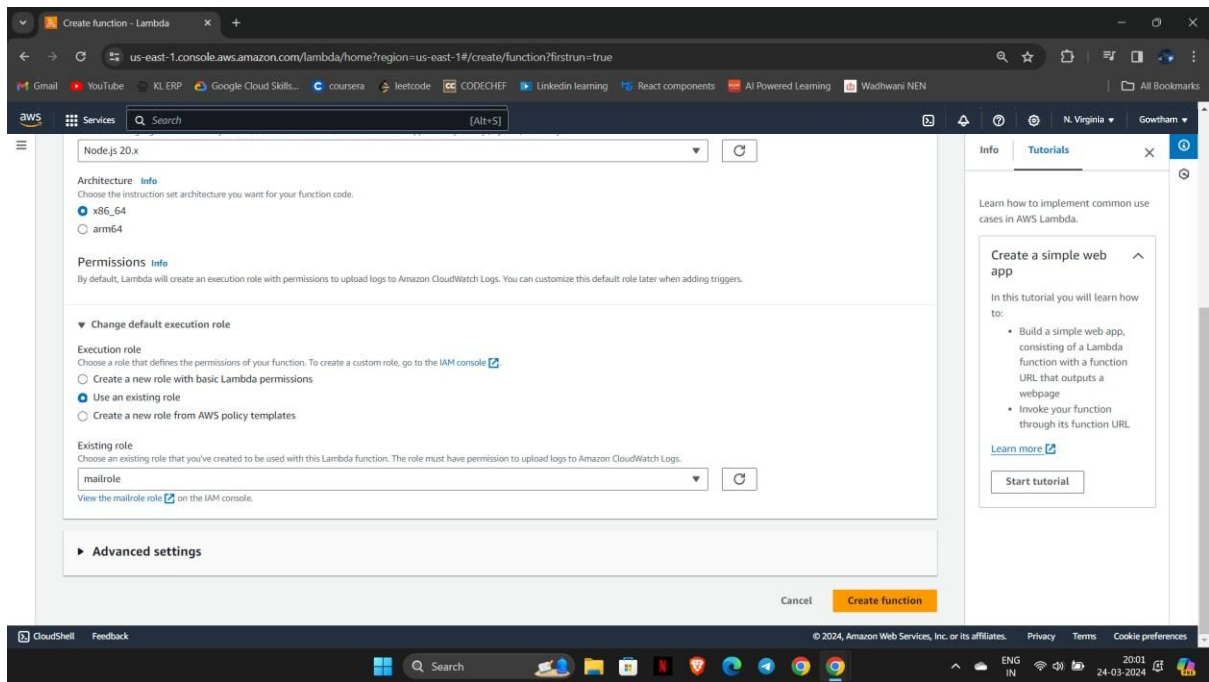


3. Writing Lambda Function

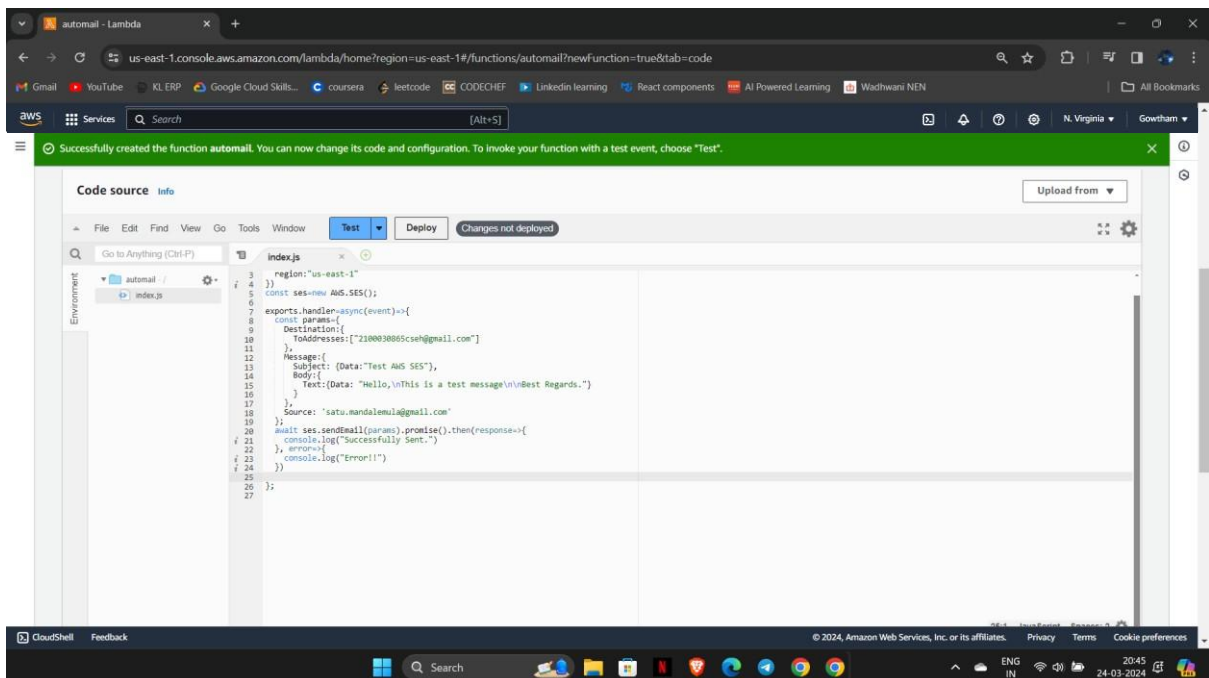
On the Amazon console write Lambda to search area and click Create Function button. Enter a name that describes the purpose of your function and choose the language to use to write your function. We will use node.js.



At the bottom of the page, in the Change Default Execution Role section, we click “use an existing role” and select the name of the created role to use the role we just created and we create the Lambda service.



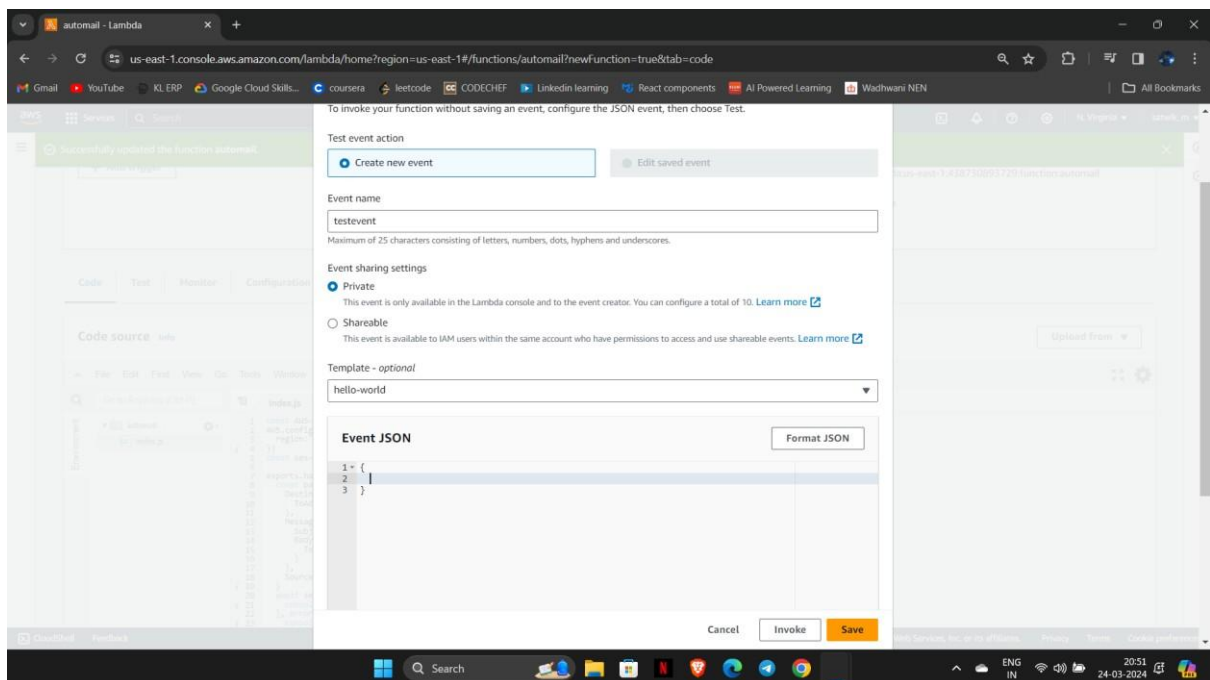
At the bottom of the opening page, there is a code section. We will write the code here then deploy and test it.



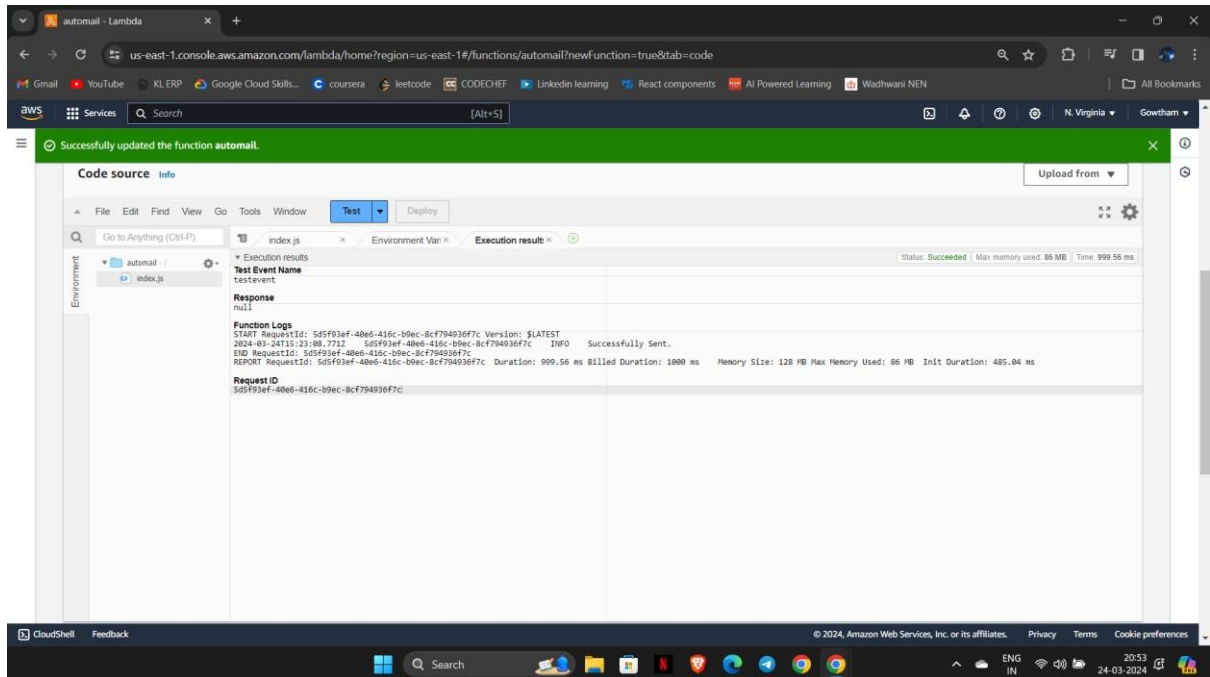
In the code above;

- importing aws sdk
- Setting up region (change this part according to your region)
- Creating an object from AWS.SES()
- In the params variable, we specify mail features. These are destination, message, and source. If you want, you can add multiple e-mail addresses to the “ToAddresses” list.
- Lastly we create an arrow function and we log whether the mail is sent successfully or not.

If you have done these steps click the deploy button to deploy your code. Then click test. On the opening page write a test name, delete sample key values, and click Create.

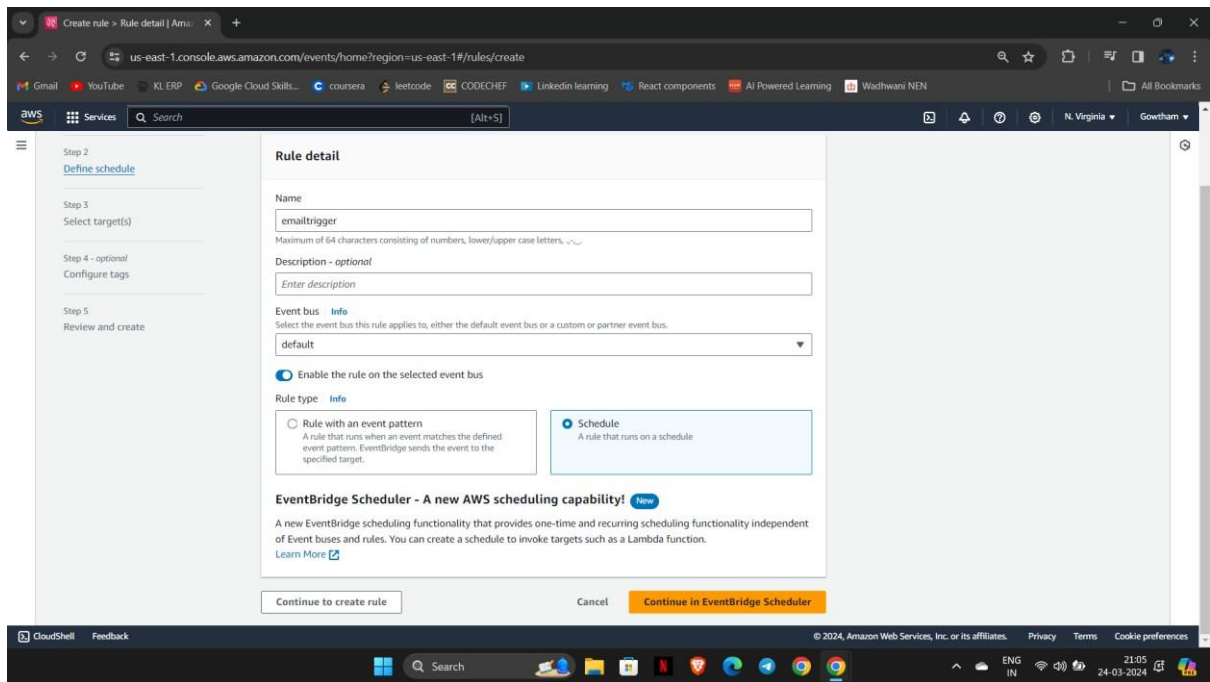


After that click the test button again to run your test. You should see the “Successfully sent” message in the execution result page. If you look at the destination mailbox, you can see the test mail.



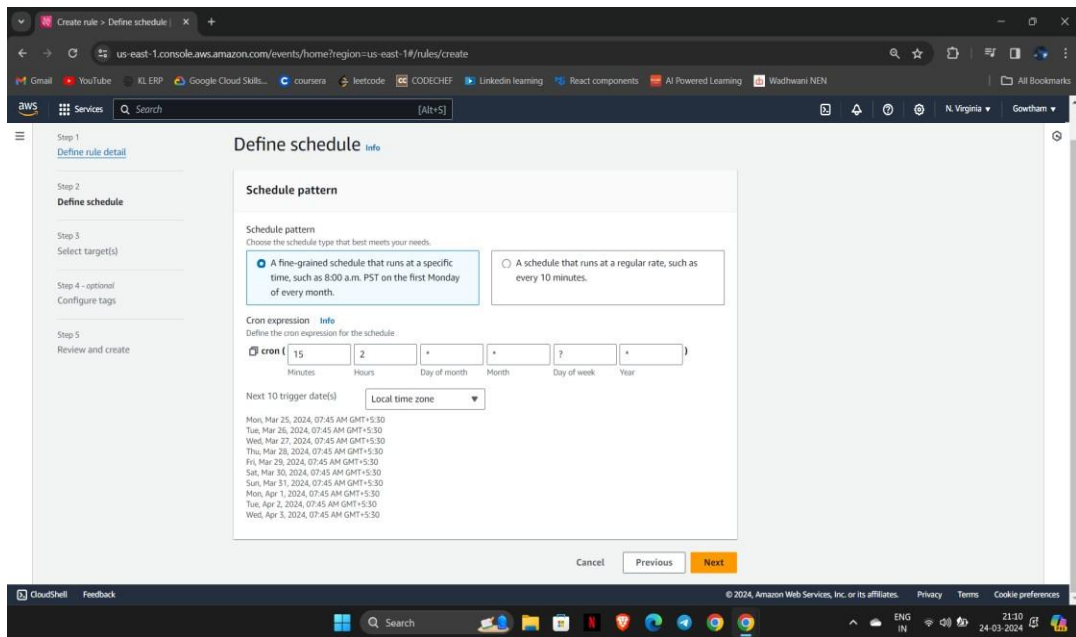
4. Triggering with CloudWatch

In the Amazon console write CloudWatch to the search area. On the page that opens, click on the rules under the events section in the menu on the left. Then click the “Go to the Amazon EventBridge” button. In this section, we are going to create a rule. Click the “Create rule” button on the opening page. Set up a rule name.

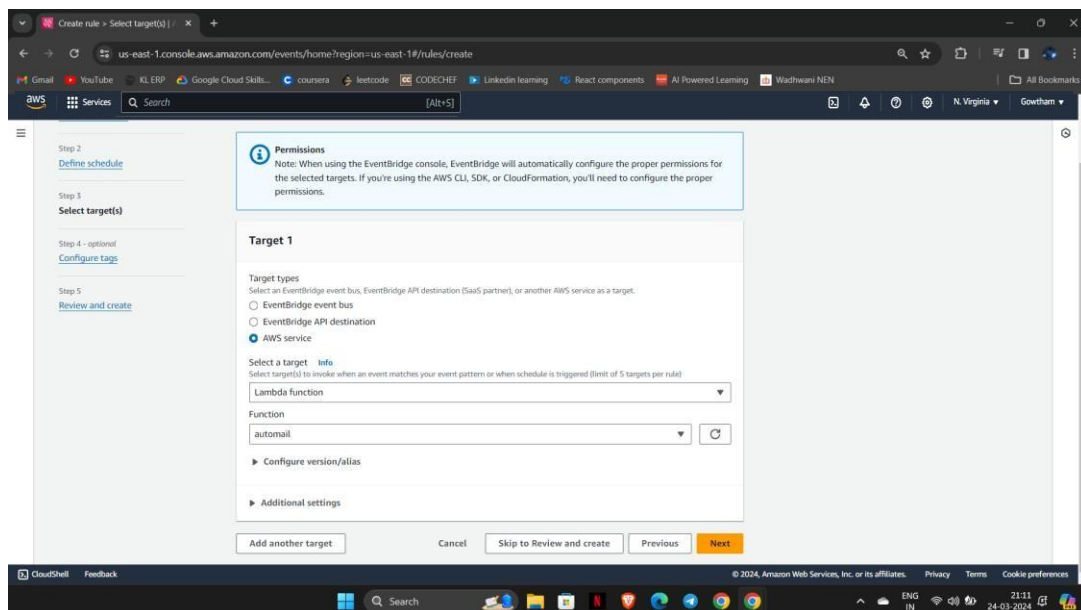


In the Define pattern section, we click on the schedule and select the cron expression.

1. First part is minutes
2. Second part is hours
3. Third part is day-of-month. * declares every day.
4. Fourth part is month, * declares every month.
5. Fifth part is day-of-week, ? indicates that it does not matter what day it will be.
6. The last part is the year.



Finally, we select the Lambda function we created in the select target section and create the rule.



Under the created rules, you can see that the rule is running with the enabled mark in the status section.

Result: If you check the destination mailbox when the time you set comes, you can see the mail you sent. Currently, I received two emails at two different times.

