VPN Setup and Connection Status Report

VPN Setup Steps:

1. VPN Provider Selected: ProtonVPN (Free Plan)
2. Download & Installation:
   - Downloaded the client from https://protonvpn.com
   - Installed the ProtonVPN client on Windows 10
3. Account Creation:
   - Registered a free account using email verification
4. VPN Connection:
   - Opened the ProtonVPN app
   - Selected the nearest available server (India - Free Server)
   - Clicked Connect
5. IP Address Verification:
   - Visited https://www.whatismyipaddress.com
   - Observed IP address change from original to VPN server location
6. Traffic Encryption Confirmation:
   - Opened https://www.google.com
   - Verified secure HTTPS (lock icon) and encrypted tunnel via VPN status
7. VPN Disconnection and Comparison:
   - Disconnected from VPN
   - Compared browsing and download speeds before and after VPN use

Connection Status & Observations:

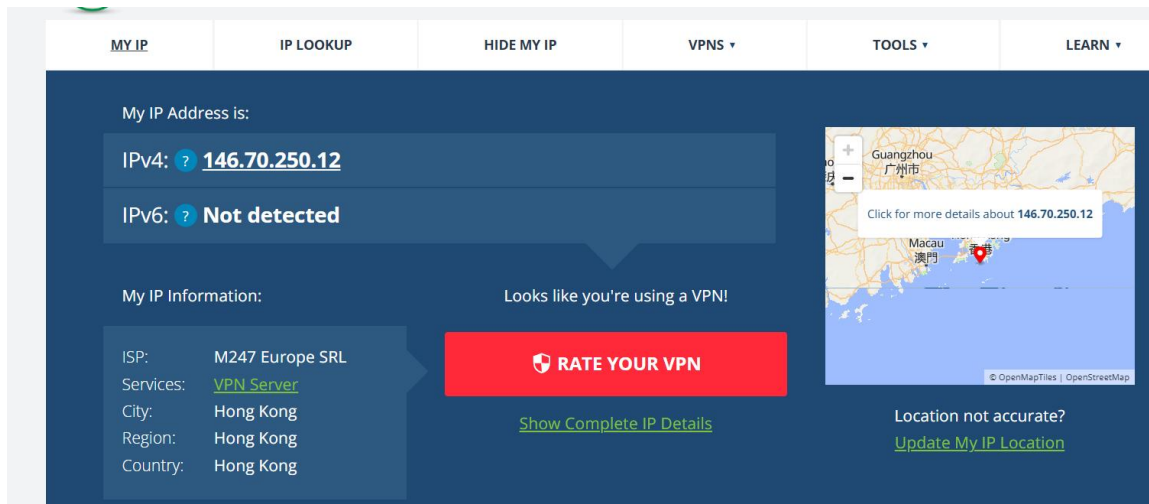| Status	Result
VPN Connected	✓Yes (to ProtonVPN India server)
IP Address Changed	✓Yes (new IP in different region)
Traffic Encrypted	✓Confirmed via HTTPS & VPN app
Speed Comparison	✗VPN speed was slower than normal
DNS Leak Protection	✓Enabled by default in ProtonVPN
Server Latency	Moderate (~100ms ping to VPN server)
Browsing Functionality	✓All websites accessible
Streaming Services Access	✗Some services blocked VPN traffic

Summary:

Benefits Observed:

- IP address masking
- Encrypted internet traffic
- Protection on public Wi-Fi

Limitations Noted:

- Reduced internet speed
- Limited streaming access
- Occasional latency during browsing

Conclusion:

Using a free VPN like ProtonVPN provides basic privacy and security benefits, but at the cost of reduced network speed and occasional service limitations. Suitable for secure browsing, but not ideal for high-bandwidth activities.