

AZURE PROJECT

1. Deployed a full-stack Spotify clone using Node.js for the backend and integrated Spotify OAuth for secure user login and access token handling.
2. Hosted the backend on Azure App Services with GitHub Actions CI/CD pipeline for automated build and deployment from a private GitHub repository.
3. Used Azure Cosmos DB (MongoDB API) to store and retrieve song data dynamically through defined REST API endpoints.
4. Configured environment variables like Cosmos DB connection string, JWT secret, client origin, and port for secure and flexible deployments.
5. Built a scalable infrastructure using Azure Virtual Network (VNet), subnets, and peering across backend, frontend, and jump VNets.
6. Provisioned Azure Virtual Machines (VMs) and deployed a jump box for secure access, along with a VPN Gateway using root/client certificates.
7. Created and configured a Load Balancer and Virtual Machine Scale Set (VMSS) to distribute frontend traffic and ensure high availability.
8. Configured monitoring tools such as Log Stream and App Service Logs for real-time diagnostics and application health.
9. Tested API endpoints using Postman and ensured that endpoints like /api/test and /api/songs functioned as expected.
10. Achieved a working end-to-end cloud deployment with frontend and backend integration, demonstrating scalability, security, and CI/CD workflows.

SERVICES USED-

1. Resource Group

Used to group and manage all related Azure resources like VNets, VMs, Web Apps, and DBs under a single logical container for easy access and monitoring.

2. Virtual Network (VNet)

Three VNets (backend, frontend, and jump) were created to segment and isolate different tiers of the application and enable secure communication between services.

3. Virtual Machines (VMs)

Deployed in backend and jump VNets, the VMs provided isolated environments for running application processes and enabling remote administration.

4. VPN Gateway

Configured to securely connect the on-premise or jump VM to Azure VNets through point-to-site VPN, enabling encrypted private network access.

5. Jump VM / Jump VNet

Used as a secure entry point to access private VMs in backend VNet via peering, ensuring controlled access through Bastion or SSH.

6. VNet Peering

Configured to allow communication between frontend VNet and jump VNet, and between backend VNet and jump VNet, without routing traffic over the internet.

7. Web App (App Service)

Hosted the Node.js Spotify backend server, with seamless integration to GitHub for automated deployment and easy scaling options.

8. Deployment Center (GitHub Actions)

Enabled CI/CD by connecting the GitHub repository to Azure App Service, automating build and deployment on every push to the main branch.

9. Environment Variables

Configured in App Service to securely store secrets such as Cosmos DB connection strings, JWT secret, and client origin for runtime access.

10. Log Stream / Monitoring

Used to view real-time application logs and debug deployment or runtime errors in the Azure portal, ensuring observability and troubleshooting.

11. Azure Cosmos DB

Served as the backend database using MongoDB API, storing and retrieving Spotify song data via Mongoose ORM.

12. Load Balancer (LB)

A frontend Load Balancer (fend-lb) was created to distribute traffic across the VM Scale Set instances for high availability.

13. VM Scale Set (VMSS)

Deployed in the frontend VNet to create and manage multiple frontend VMs with auto-scaling and load balancing.

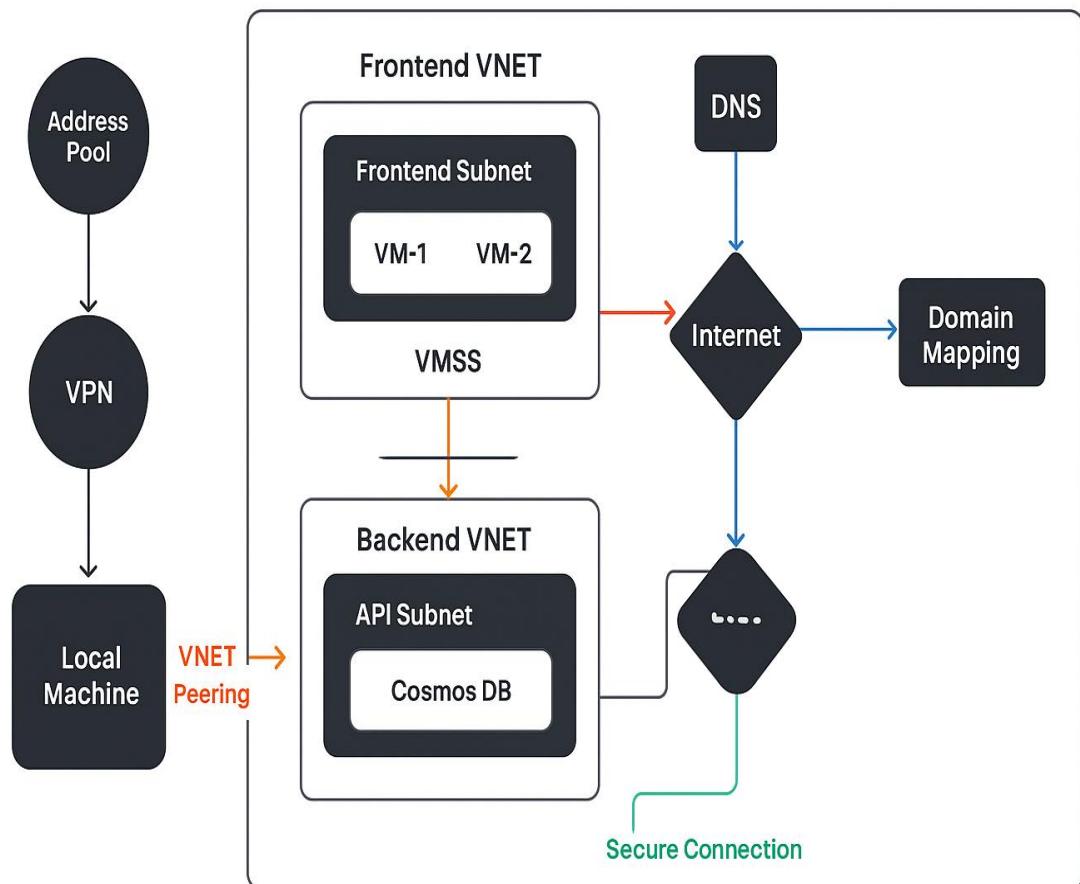
14. Azure Bastion

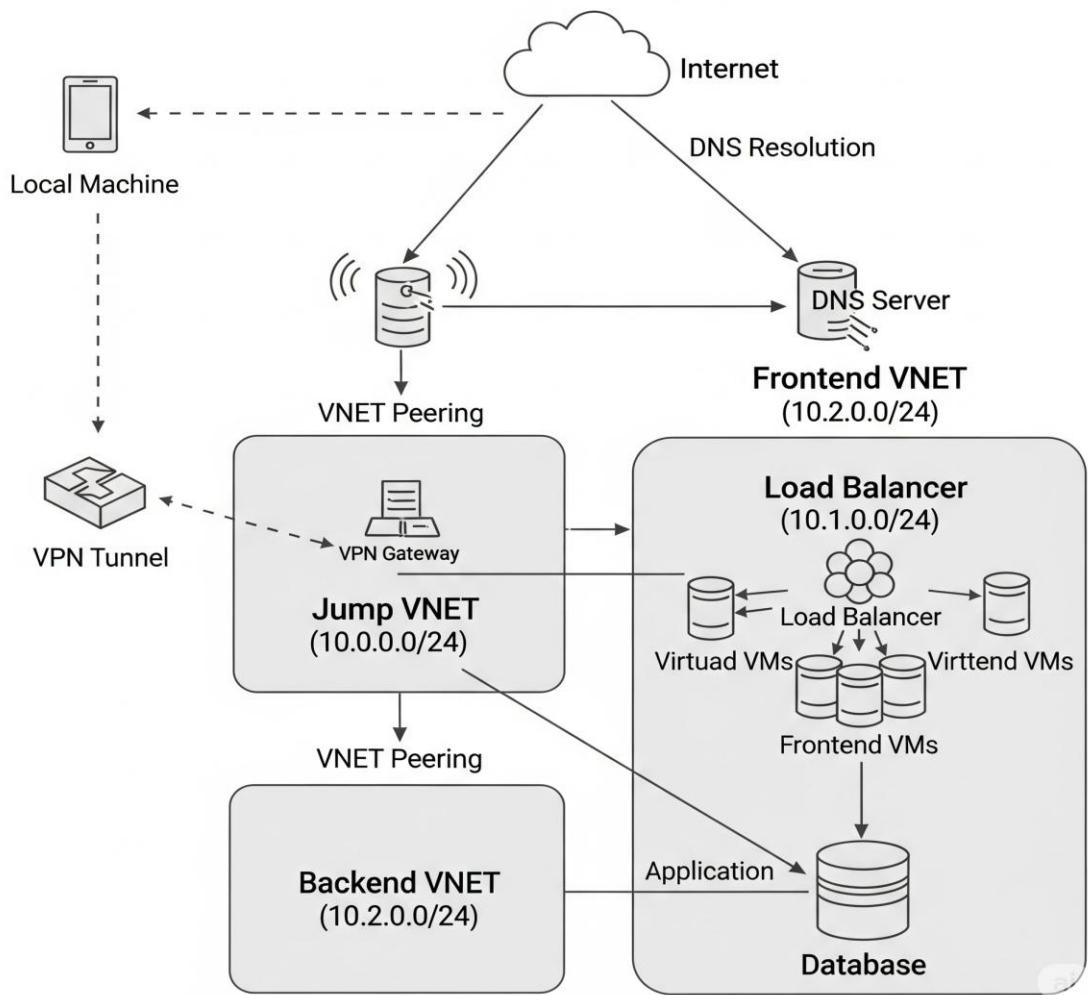
Provided secure RDP/SSH connectivity to VMs directly through the Azure portal without exposing public IPs, enhancing network security and simplifying remote access.

15. Azure Network Security Groups (NSG)

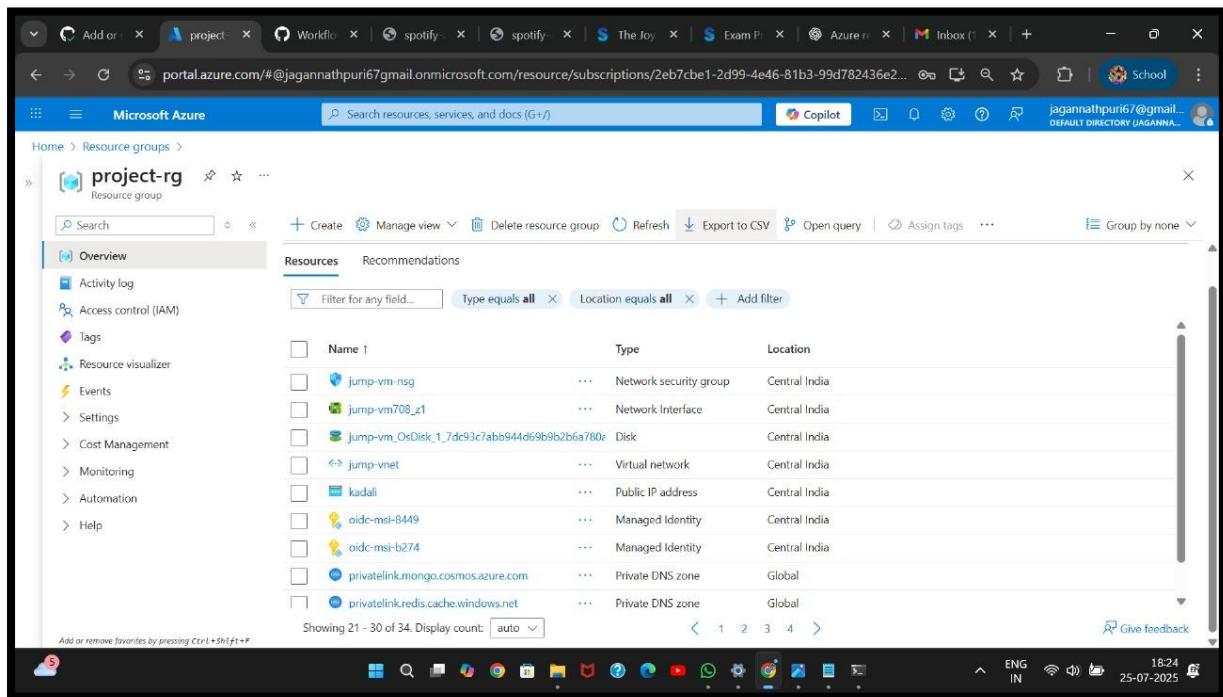
Configured to control inbound and outbound traffic to subnets and VMs, ensuring only required ports (like 22, 80, 443) were accessible and all other traffic blocked for security.

Architecture Diagram

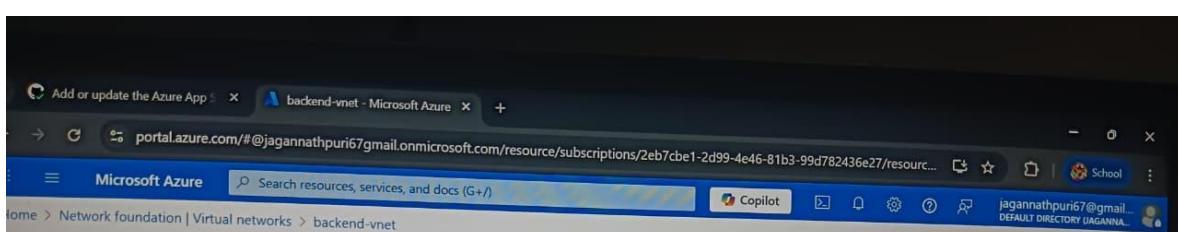




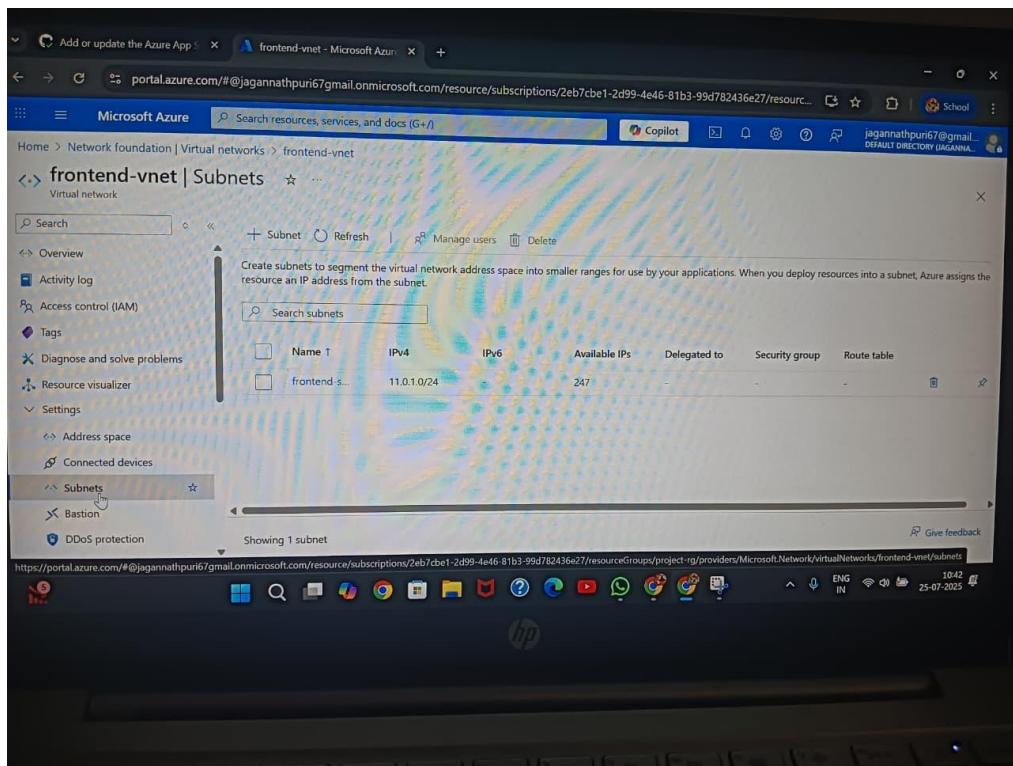
Steps-



I created a Resource Group to logically group and manage all related Azure resources for my Spotify backend project. This grouping allowed me to deploy, monitor, and control resources like VMs, VNet, and App Services efficiently under one umbrella. It served as the foundational scope for my deployment.



I created a Backend VNet to securely isolate backend services of my Spotify clone. Within this VNet, I configured two subnets — one for the API server and another for the database — ensuring controlled traffic flow and separation of concerns for enhanced security and scalability.



I created a Frontend VNet to host the user-facing components of the Spotify clone. This VNet is isolated from the backend and contains resources like the frontend VMSS and load balancer, ensuring a clean separation between UI and internal services.

The screenshot shows the Microsoft Azure portal interface. The URL is <https://portal.azure.com/#@jagannathpuri67@gmail.onmicrosoft.com/resource/subscriptions/2eb7cbe1-2d99-4e46-81b3-99d782436e27/resourceGroups/project-rg/providers/Microsoft.Network/virtualNetworks/jump-vnet/subnets>. The page title is "jump-vnet | Subnets". The left sidebar shows "Subnets" under "Virtual network". The main content area shows a table with two subnets:

Name	IPv4	IPv6	Available IPs	Delegated to	Security group	Route table
GatewaySubnet	10.0.1.0/24		availability...			
jump-subnet	10.0.2.0/24		250			

The screenshot shows the Microsoft Azure portal interface. The URL is https://portal.azure.com/#view/Microsoft_Azure_ComputeHub/ComputeHubMenuBlade/~/virtualMachinesBrowse. The page title is "Compute infrastructure | Virtual machines". The left sidebar shows "Virtual machines" under "Infrastructure". The main content area shows a table with three virtual machines:

Name	Subscription	Resource Group	Location	Status	Operating system	Size
fdvm-1	Azure for Students	project-rg	Central India	Running	Linux	Standard_B1s
fdvm-2	Azure for Students	project-rg	Central India	Running	Linux	Standard_B1s
jumpvm	Azure for Students	project-rg	Central India	Running	Linux	Standard_B1s

I created three Virtual Machines: fdvm1 and fdvm2 under the frontend VNet for hosting frontend services, and jumpvm under the JumpNet VNet to securely access other VMs via SSH tunneling. These VMs aid in managing and testing deployments across networks.

The screenshot shows the Microsoft Azure portal interface. The left sidebar is titled 'jump-vnet | Peerings' under 'Virtual network'. The main content area is titled 'Peerings' and shows two entries:

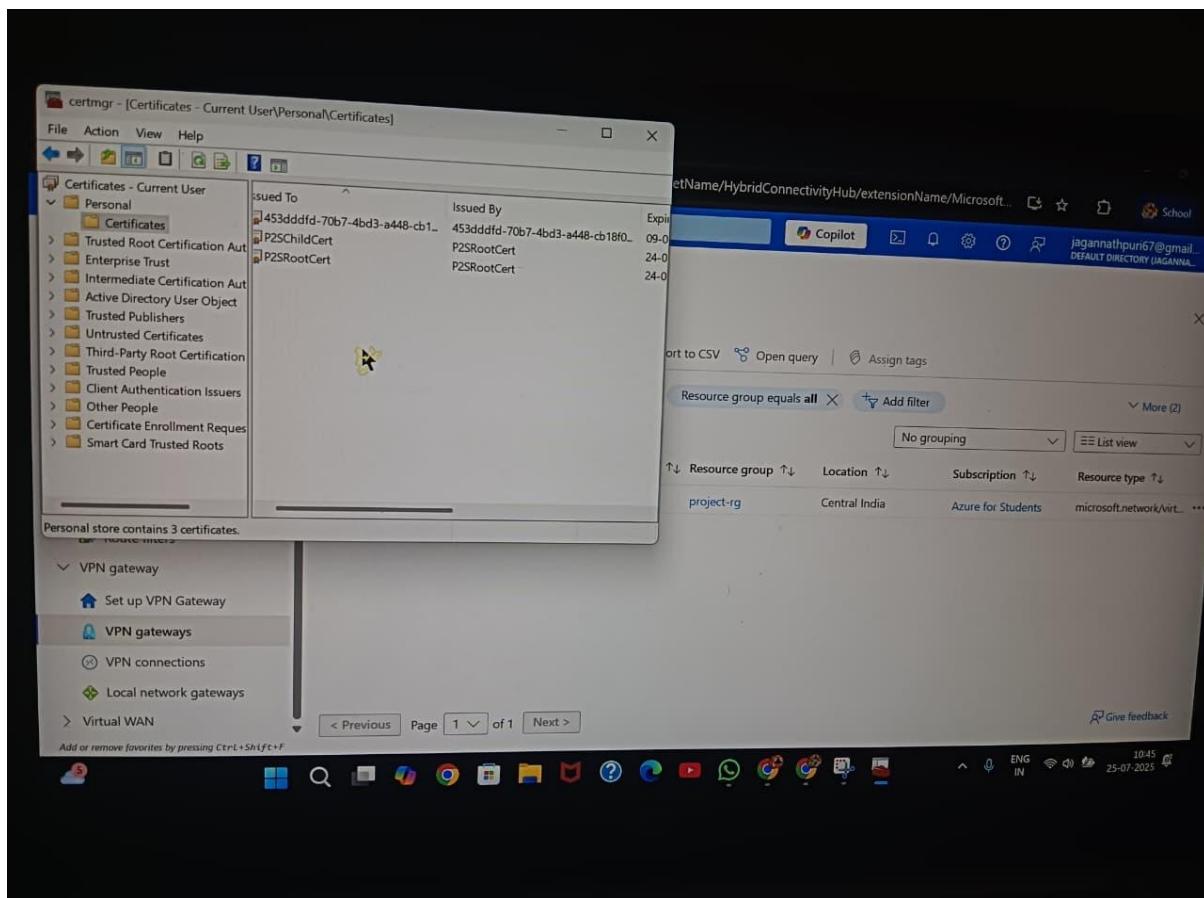
Name	Peering sync status	Peer... Connected	Remo... Disabled	Virtu... No	Cross-tenant
frontend-vnet-to-jump-vnet	Fully Synchronized	Connected	frontend...	Disabled	No
backend-vnet-to-jump-vnet	Fully Synchronized	Connected	backend...	Disabled	No

A message at the top states: "Virtual network peering enables you to seamlessly connect two or more virtual networks in Azure. The virtual networks appear as one for connectivity purposes. Learn more".

Frontend vNet (Jump-to-backend and jump-to-frontend). This enables secure and seamless connectivity between the Jump VM and other network resources without exposing them to the public internet.

The screenshot shows the Microsoft Azure portal interface, similar to the previous one. The left sidebar is titled 'jump-vnet | Peerings'. The main content area shows the same two peerings. A context menu is open over the 'backend-vnet-to-jump-vnet' entry, displaying options: 'Edit', 'Delete', and 'Sync'.

I created VPN Gateway (gate-2) in the Backend VNet to enable secure site-to-site or point-to-site communication over IPsec/IKE tunnels. This allows encrypted access to Azure resources from on-premises or other VNets.



I generated a Root certificate and derived a Client certificate from it to establish secure Point-to-Site (P2S) VPN connectivity. The Root cert was uploaded to Azure VPN Gateway, while the Client cert was installed on the local machine to authenticate VPN access.

Effective May 31, the dedicated Web App + Database create experience will be removed. All its functionality is now integrated into the main Web App create experience under the Database tab.

Account name *: spotify-ap-bd-server

Database name *: spotify-ap-bd-database

Azure Cache for Redis

Add Azure Cache for Redis?

Yes
 No

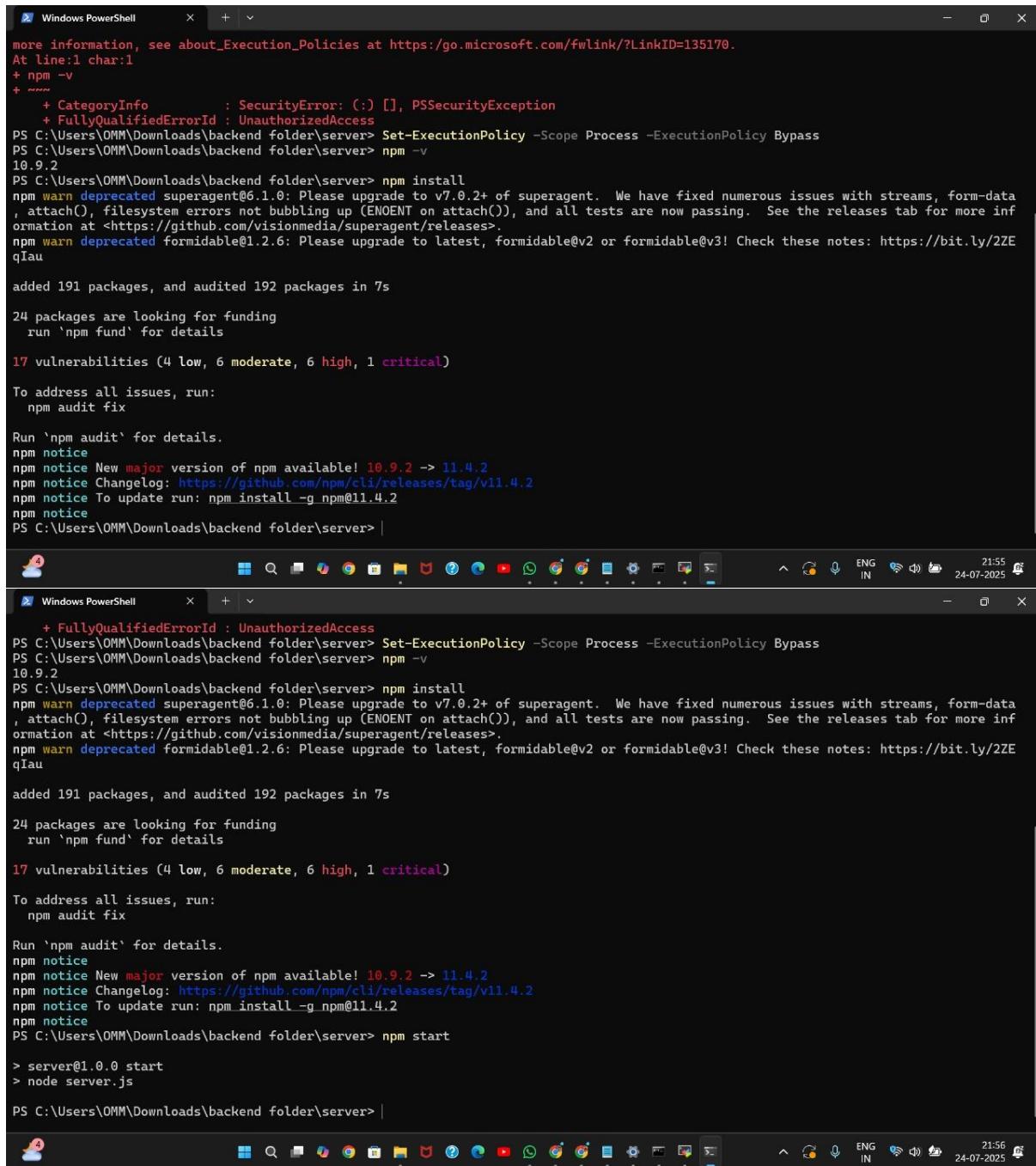
Hosting

Hosting plan *:

Basic - For hobby or research purposes
 Standard - General purpose production apps

Review + create < Previous Next : Tags >

for continuous deployment, ensuring the latest code is deployed automatically to the web app.



```

Windows PowerShell
more information, see about_Execution_Policies at https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkID=135170.
At line:1 char:1
+ npm -v
+ ~~~
+ CategoryInfo          : SecurityError: () [], PSSecurityException
+ FullyQualifiedErrorId : UnauthorizedAccess
PS C:\Users\OMM\Downloads\backend folder\server> Set-ExecutionPolicy -Scope Process -ExecutionPolicy Bypass
PS C:\Users\OMM\Downloads\backend folder\server> npm -v
10.9.2
PS C:\Users\OMM\Downloads\backend folder\server> npm install
npm warn deprecated superagent@6.1.0: Please upgrade to v7.0.2+ of superagent. We have fixed numerous issues with streams, form-data
, attach(), filesystem errors not bubbling up (ENOENT on attach()), and all tests are now passing. See the releases tab for more inf
ormation at <https://github.com/visionmedia/superagent/releases>.
npm warn deprecated formidable@1.2.6: Please upgrade to latest, formidable@v2 or formidable@v3! Check these notes: https://bit.ly/2ZE
qIau
added 191 packages, and audited 192 packages in 7s

24 packages are looking for funding
  run 'npm fund' for details

17 vulnerabilities (4 low, 6 moderate, 6 high, 1 critical)

To address all issues, run:
  npm audit fix

Run 'npm audit' for details.
npm notice
npm notice New major version of npm available! 10.9.2 => 11.4.2
npm notice Changelog: https://github.com/npm/cli/releases/tag/v11.4.2
npm notice To update run: npm install -g npm@11.4.2
npm notice
PS C:\Users\OMM\Downloads\backend folder\server> |
```



```

Windows PowerShell
+ FullyQualifiedErrorId : UnauthorizedAccess
PS C:\Users\OMM\Downloads\backend folder\server> Set-ExecutionPolicy -Scope Process -ExecutionPolicy Bypass
PS C:\Users\OMM\Downloads\backend folder\server> npm -v
10.9.2
PS C:\Users\OMM\Downloads\backend folder\server> npm install
npm warn deprecated superagent@6.1.0: Please upgrade to v7.0.2+ of superagent. We have fixed numerous issues with streams, form-data
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ormation at <https://github.com/visionmedia/superagent/releases>.
npm warn deprecated formidable@1.2.6: Please upgrade to latest, formidable@v2 or formidable@v3! Check these notes: https://bit.ly/2ZE
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npm notice
npm notice New major version of npm available! 10.9.2 => 11.4.2
npm notice Changelog: https://github.com/npm/cli/releases/tag/v11.4.2
npm notice To update run: npm install -g npm@11.4.2
npm notice
PS C:\Users\OMM\Downloads\backend folder\server> |
```



```

Windows PowerShell
> server@1.0.0 start
> node server.js
PS C:\Users\OMM\Downloads\backend folder\server> |
```

I ran the command `npm install` in the project directory to install all the required dependencies listed in the `package.json` file. This sets up the Node.js environment with the necessary libraries needed to run the Spotify backend server.

The screenshot displays two windows from the Microsoft Azure portal. The top window shows the 'Environment variables' section for the 'spotify-ap-bd' web app. It lists several environment variables with their values and deployment slot settings:

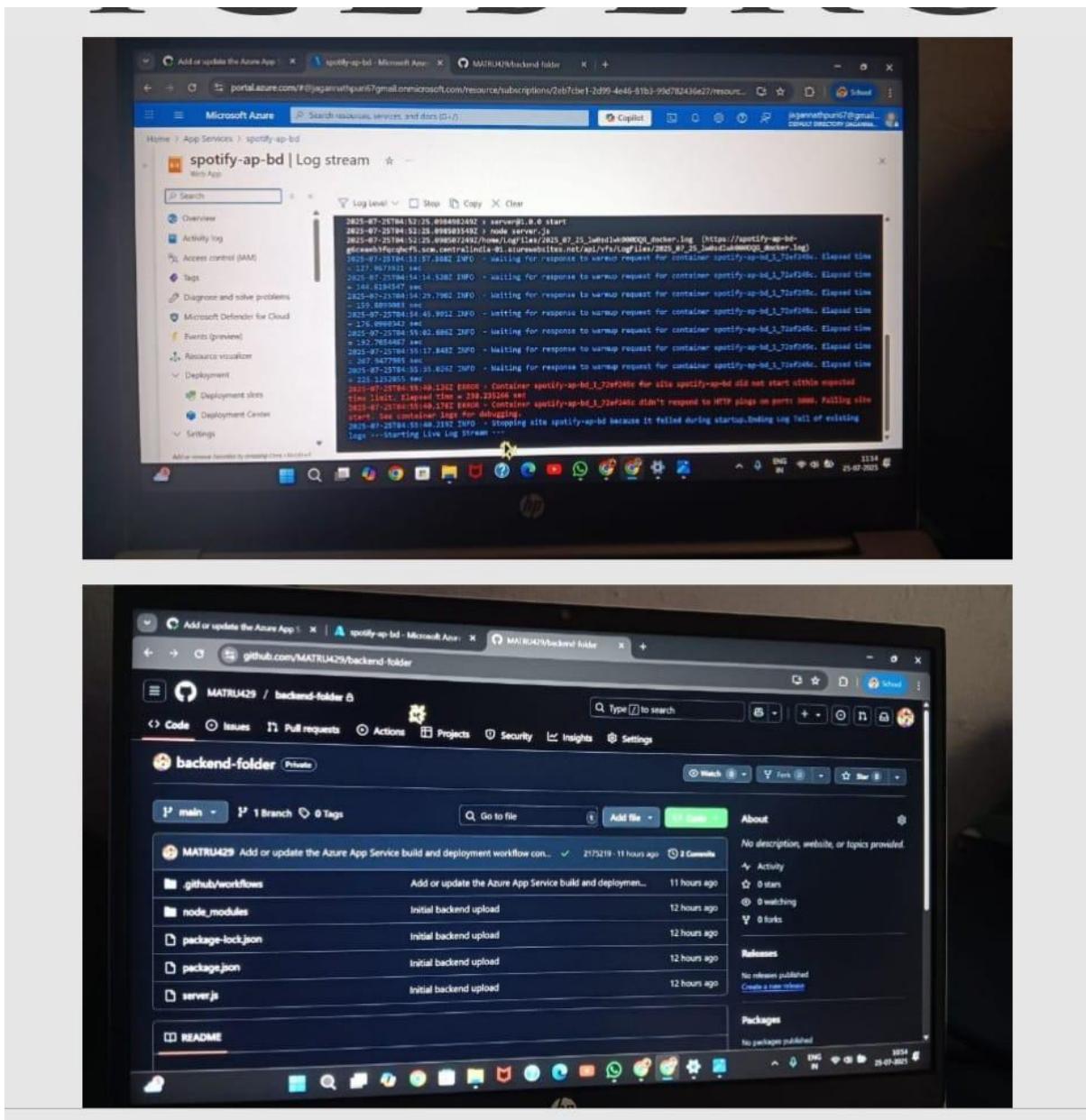
Name	Value	Deployment slot setting	Source
AZURE_COSMOS_CONNECTIONSTRING	(Show value)	✓	App Service
CLIENT_ORIGIN	(Show value)		App Service
JWT_SECRET	(Show value)		App Service
MONGO_URI	(Show value)		App Service
PORT	(Show value)		App Service

The bottom window shows the 'Deployment Center' for the same app. It displays a log of deployment activities for July 24, 2025:

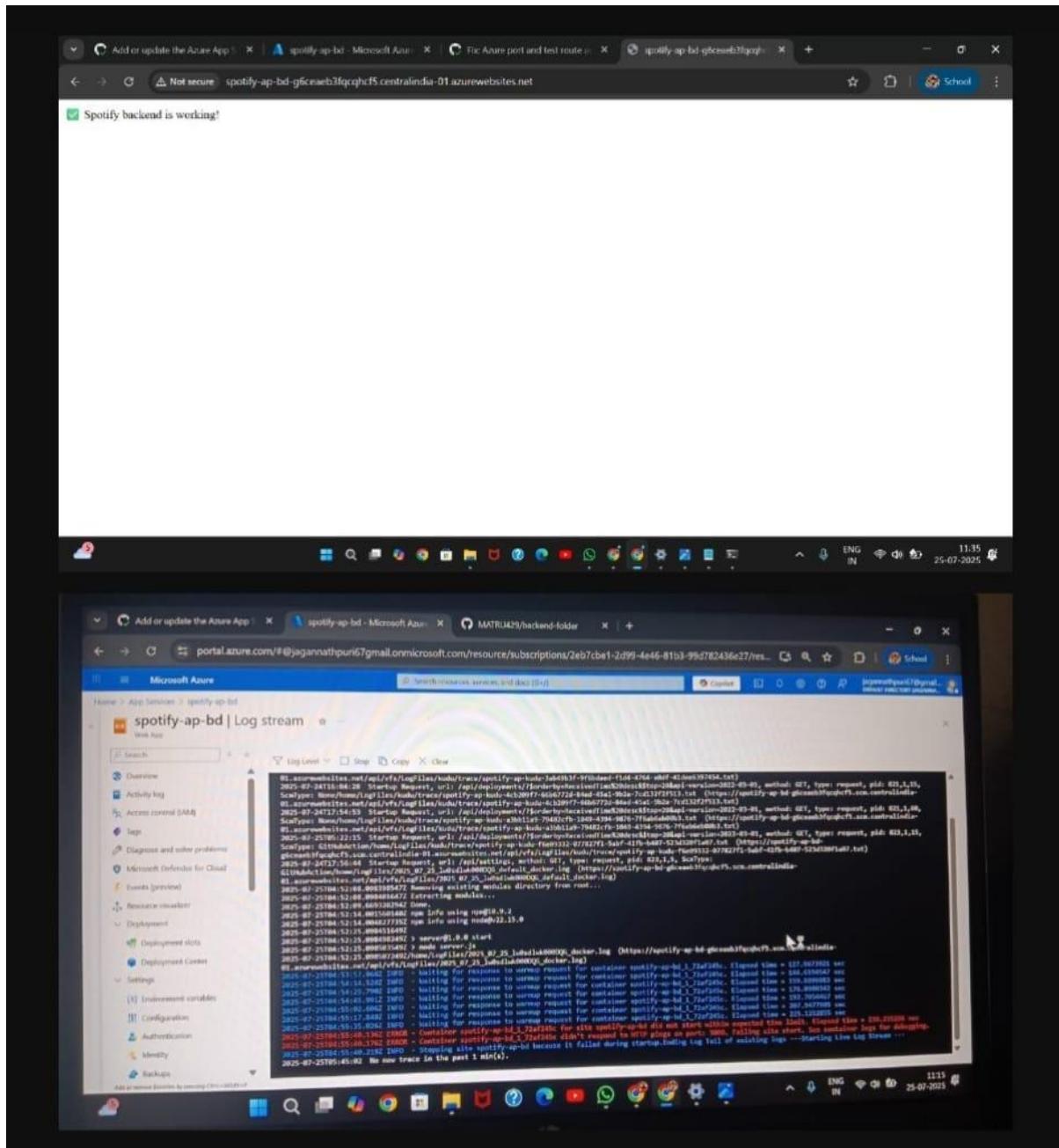
Time	Activity
7/24/2025, 11:26:58 PM	Updating submodules.
7/24/2025, 11:27:00 PM	Preparing deployment for commit id 'b2428723-8'.
7/24/2025, 11:27:00 PM	PreDeployment: context.CleanOutputPath False
7/24/2025, 11:27:00 PM	PreDeployment: context.OutputPath /home/site/wwwroot
7/24/2025, 11:27:00 PM	Running build. Project type: OneDeploy
7/24/2025, 11:27:00 PM	Copying the manifest
7/24/2025, 11:27:00 PM	NodeProjectOptimizer Initialized with repository path: /tmp/zipdeploy/extracted and output path: /home/site/wwwroot
7/24/2025, 11:27:01 PM	Optimizing build...
7/24/2025, 11:27:01 PM	Zipping node_modules...

I configured environment variables such as AZURE_COSMOS_CONNSTRING, CLIENT_ORIGIN, JWT_SECRET, MONGO_URI, and PORT in the Azure Web App to securely pass sensitive values to the backend server without hardcoding them in the codebase.

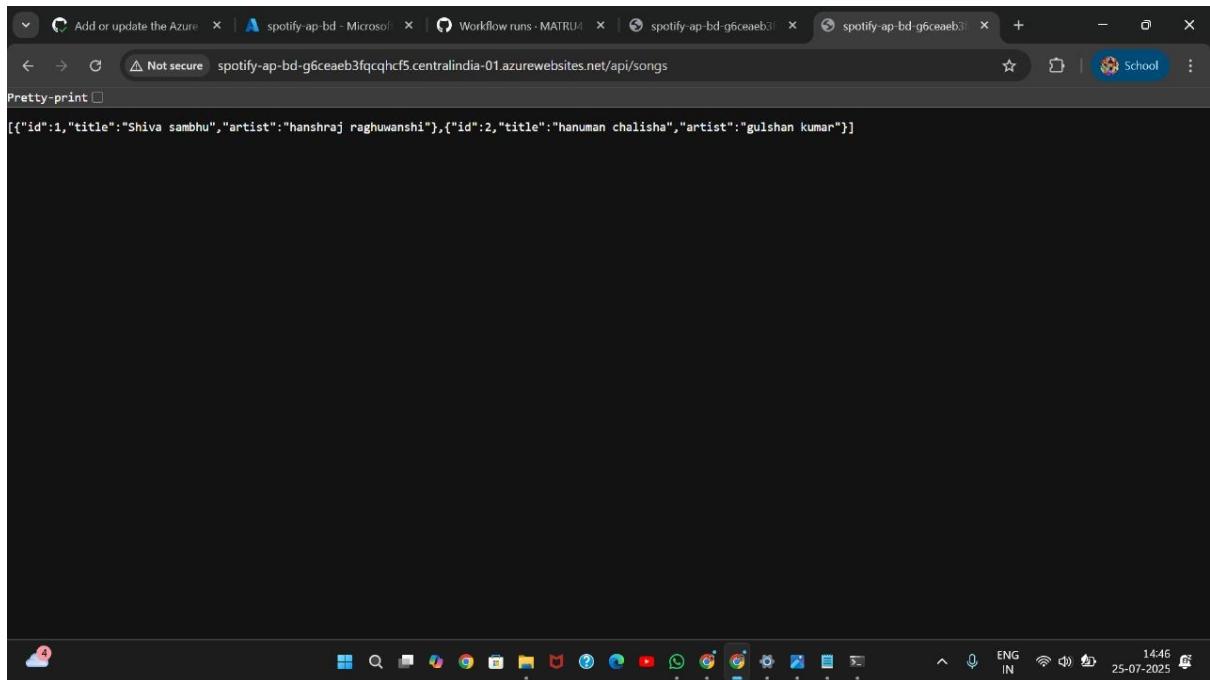
Then, I set up the Deployment Center in Azure App Services by connecting my GitHub repository, enabling automated deployment via GitHub Actions whenever I push changes to the main branch.



I used Azure App Service's Log Stream feature to monitor real-time logs from the deployed backend application. This helped me track server startup, debug application errors, and verify successful connection to services like Cosmos DB directly from the Azure portal.



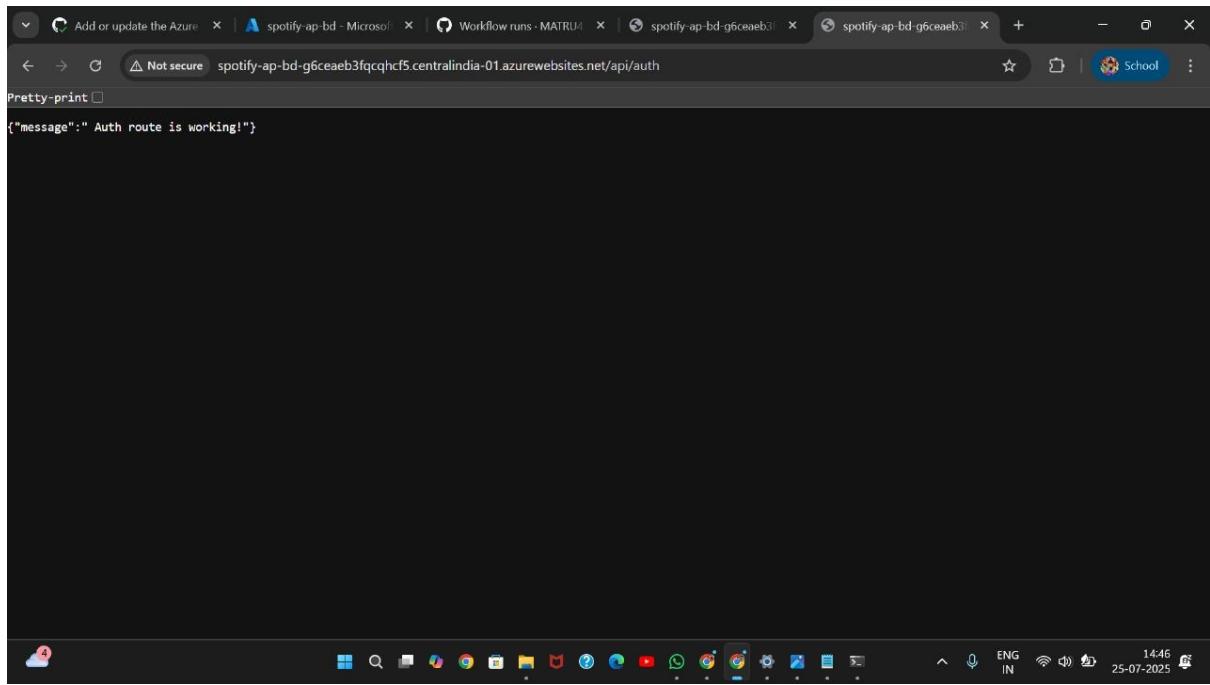
After deploying the backend to Azure via GitHub Actions, I verified the deployment by visiting the Azure-hosted endpoint (e.g., <https://.azurewebsites.net/api/test>). The message “Spotify backend is working” confirmed that the backend server was successfully deployed and running on Azure.



A screenshot of a Microsoft Edge browser window. The address bar shows the URL: `spotify-ap-bd-g6ceaebe3fqcqhcf5.centralindia-01.azurewebsites.net/api/songs`. The page content displays a JSON response with two song entries:

```
[{"id":1,"title":"Shiva sambhu","artist":"hansraj raghwanshi"}, {"id":2,"title":"hanuman chalisha","artist":"gulshan kumar"}]
```

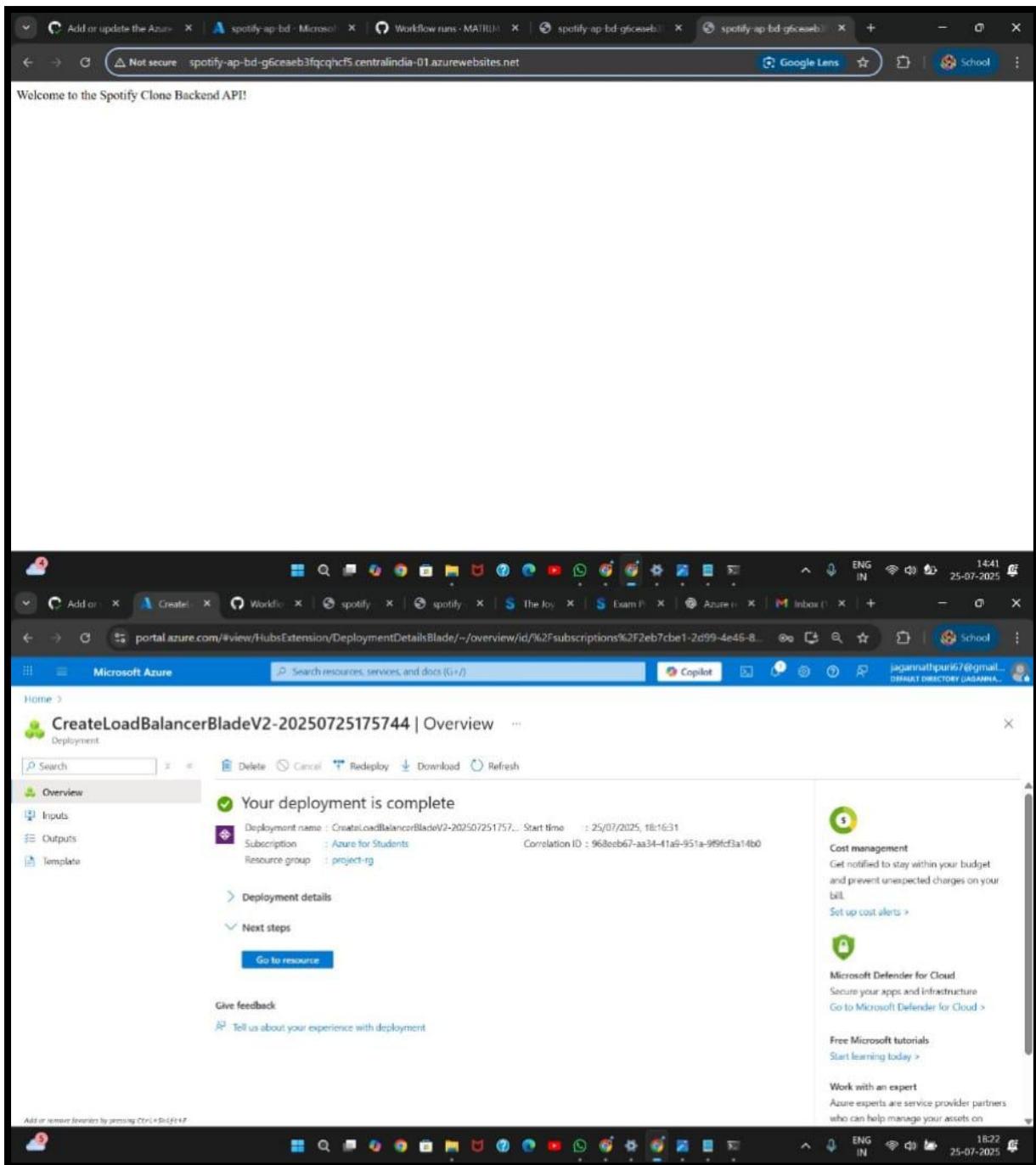
After deploying the backend, I successfully added a song to the database using a POST request to `/api/songs`. I provided song details like title and artist, and verified the entry through GET requests or Cosmos DB, confirming that data was being stored and retrieved correctly.



A screenshot of a Microsoft Edge browser window. The address bar shows the URL: `spotify-ap-bd-g6ceaebe3fqcqhcf5.centralindia-01.azurewebsites.net/api/auth`. The page content displays a JSON response with a single message:

```
{"message": "Auth route is working!"}
```

The `/api/auth` route is successfully responding, confirming that the authentication endpoint is functional. This indicates proper server-side route setup and integration of any required middleware or token handling.



The Spotify app backend is now successfully deployed and operational on Azure. All key routes like /api/test, /api/songs, and /api/auth are functioning correctly, confirming that the backend server, database connection, and deployment pipeline are properly configured.

After successfully deploying the Spotify backend and verifying its functionality, I proceeded to enhance the scalability and availability of the frontend by creating a Load Balancer (frontend-lb). This load balancer distributes incoming user traffic across multiple instances efficiently. Following this, I configured a Virtual Machine Scale Set (front-vmss) to automatically manage and scale multiple frontend VMs behind the load balancer, ensuring the application can handle increased load and maintain high performance.

Conclusion-

- Successfully designed and deployed a cloud-based Spotify backend application on Microsoft Azure.
- Created and configured three VNets (frontend, backend, and jumpnet) to isolate application tiers securely.
- Provisioned multiple subnets for APIs, databases, and management operations within respective VNets.
- Established VM instances (fdvm1, fdvm2, and jumpvm) to host and manage workloads and enable secure access.
- Implemented secure VNet peering and VPN gateway with root and client certificates for encrypted connectivity.
- Deployed a Node.js backend integrated with Azure Cosmos DB using Mongoose, hosted via Azure Web App.
- Environment variables like Mongo URI, JWT secrets, and client origins were configured securely in Azure settings.
- GitHub Actions was used to automate CI/CD workflows for backend deployment from the linked repository.
- Verified functionality using Log Stream and Postman, confirming routes like /api/test, /api/auth, and /api/songs worked correctly.
- Added load balancer and created VMSS (Virtual Machine Scale Set) for front-end scalability and high availability.