

AWS RDS Database Security Project

Project Title:

Secure Deployment of MySQL Database using Amazon RDS and EC2

by:

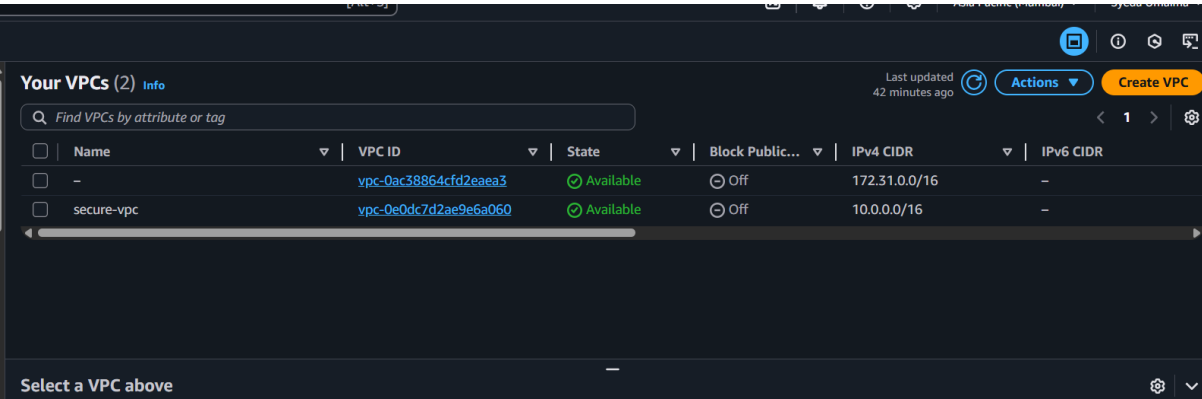
Syeda Umaima Abeer

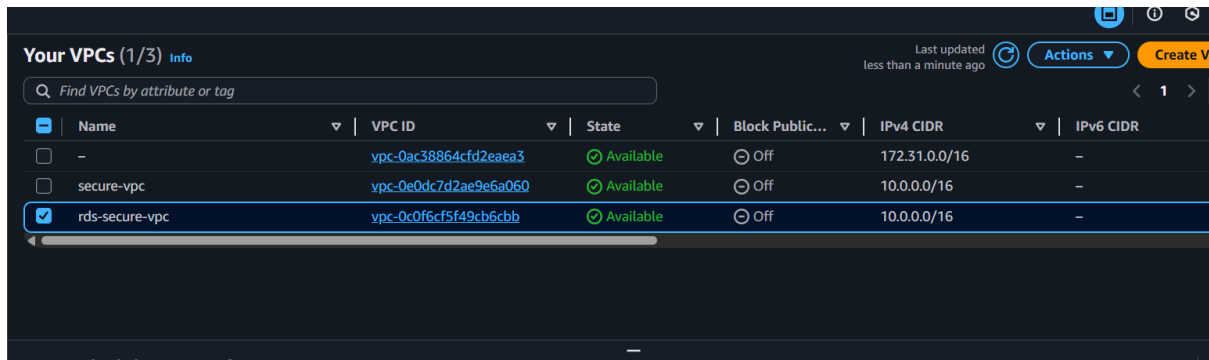
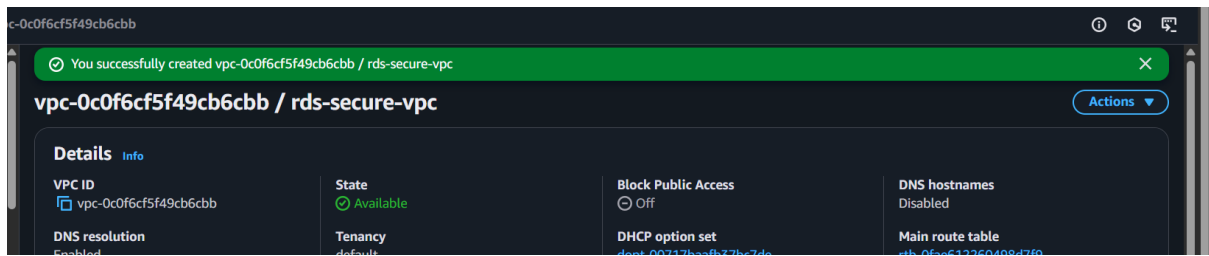
Date:

20 July 2025

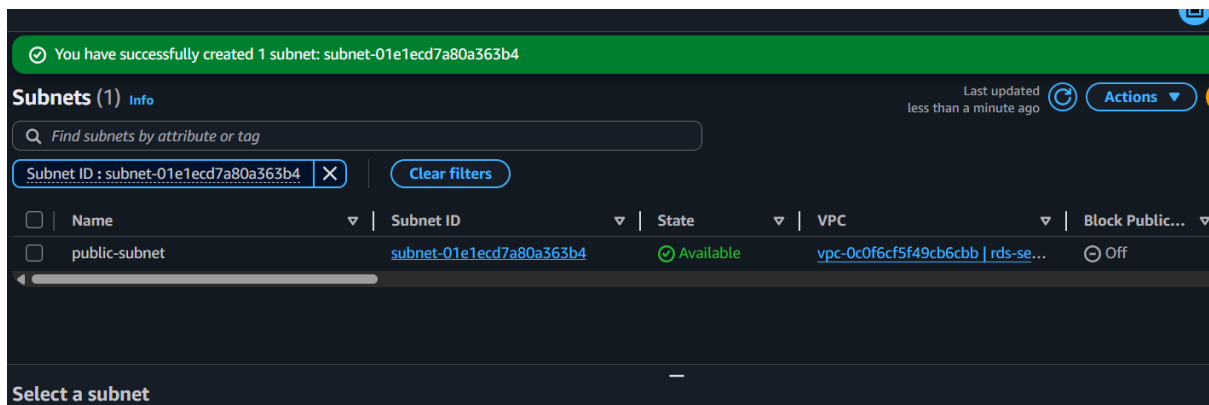
Introduction

The objective of this project was to securely set up an Amazon RDS (Relational Database Service) MySQL instance within a custom Virtual Private Cloud (VPC) on AWS. We created both public and private subnets—placing the RDS instance in the private subnet and the EC2 instance in the public subnet. The EC2 instance was configured to securely connect to the RDS instance using MySQL. Security groups and route tables were carefully configured to ensure that only the EC2 instance could access the database, maintaining strict access control.

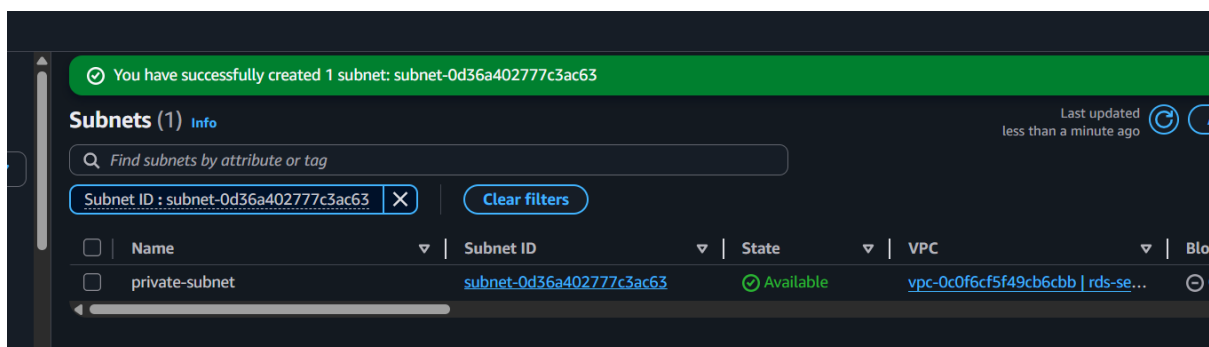




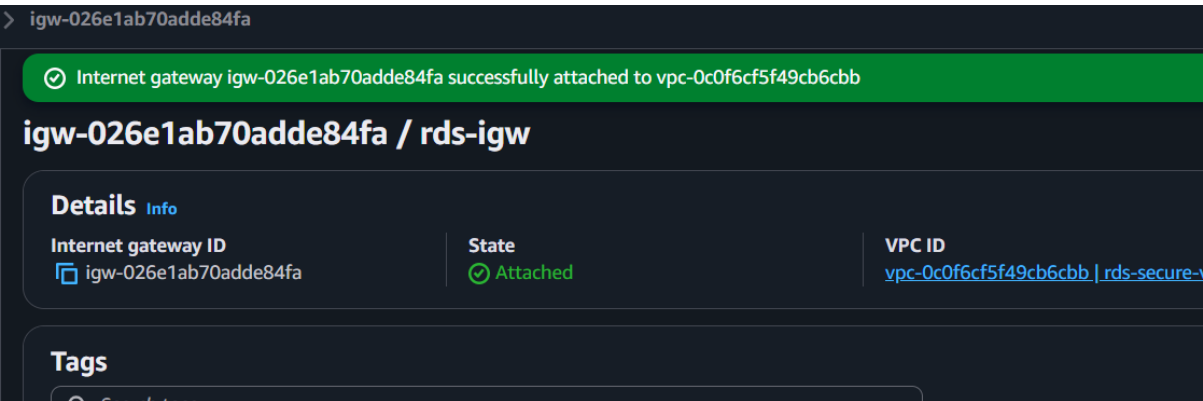
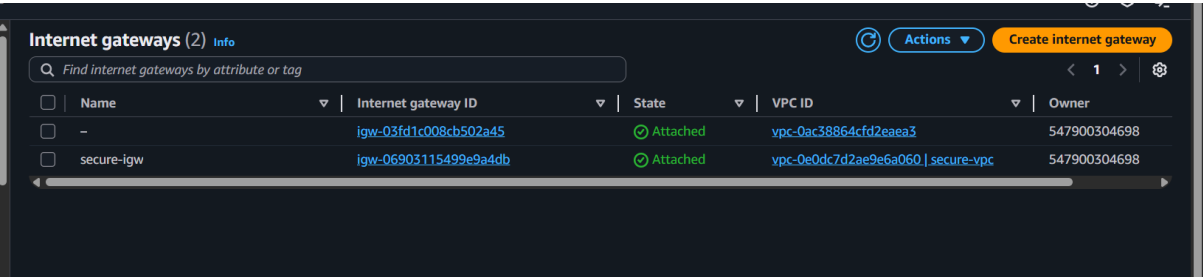
This screenshot shows the creation of a new VPC named rds-secure-vpc with CIDR block 10.0.0.0/16."



This screenshot shows the creation of public-subnet in ap-south-1a with CIDR 10.0.1.0/24



This screenshot shows the creation of private-subnet in ap-south-1b with CIDR 10.0.2.0/24.



This screenshot shows the creation and attachment of rds-igw Internet Gateway to rds-secure-vpc."

Create route table Info

A route table specifies how packets are forwarded between the subnets within your VPC, the internet, and your VPN connection.

Route table settings

Name - optional
Create a tag with a key of 'Name' and a value that you specify.

VPC
The VPC to use for this route table.

vpc-0c0f6cf5f49cb6cbb (rds-secure-vpc) ▼

Tags

A tag is a label that you assign to an AWS resource. Each tag consists of a key and an optional value. You can use tags to search and filter your resources or track your AWS costs.

Key **Value - optional**

You can add 49 more tags.

✔ Route table rtb-0e78005d56cf16d79 | public-rt was created successfully.

rtb-0e78005d56cf16d79 / public-rt Actions

Details Info

Route table ID	Main	Explicit subnet associations	Edge associations
rtb-0e78005d56cf16d79	No	–	–

This screenshot shows the creation of public-rt for rds-secure-vpc.

I rename public-rt to public-rt-rds

Edit routes

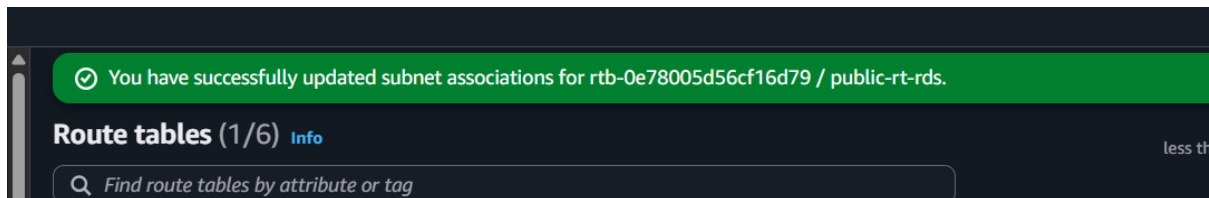
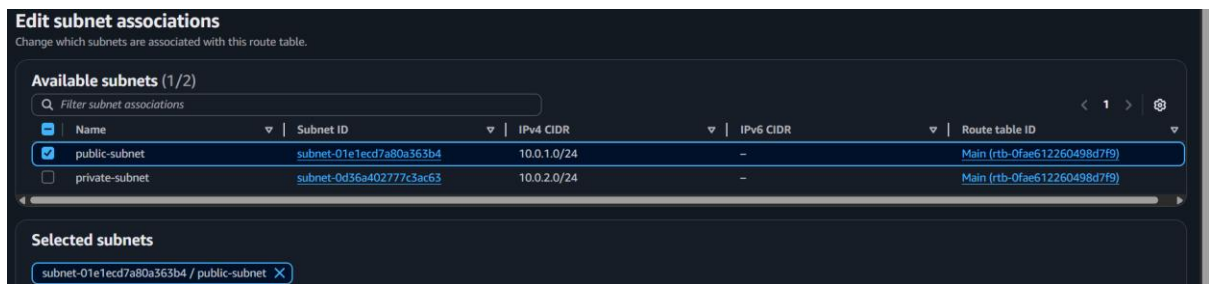
Destination	Target	Status	Propagated
10.0.0.0/16	local	✔ Active	No
<input type="text" value="Q 0.0.0.0/0"/> <input type="button" value="X"/>	<input type="text" value="Q local"/> <input type="button" value="X"/>	–	No
	Internet Gateway		
	<input type="text" value="Q igw-026e1ab70adde84fa"/> <input type="button" value="X"/>		
	Use: "igw-026e1ab70adde84fa"		
	igw-026e1ab70adde84fa (rds-igw)		

✔ Updated routes for rtb-0e78005d56cf16d79 / public-rt-rds successfully
▶ Details

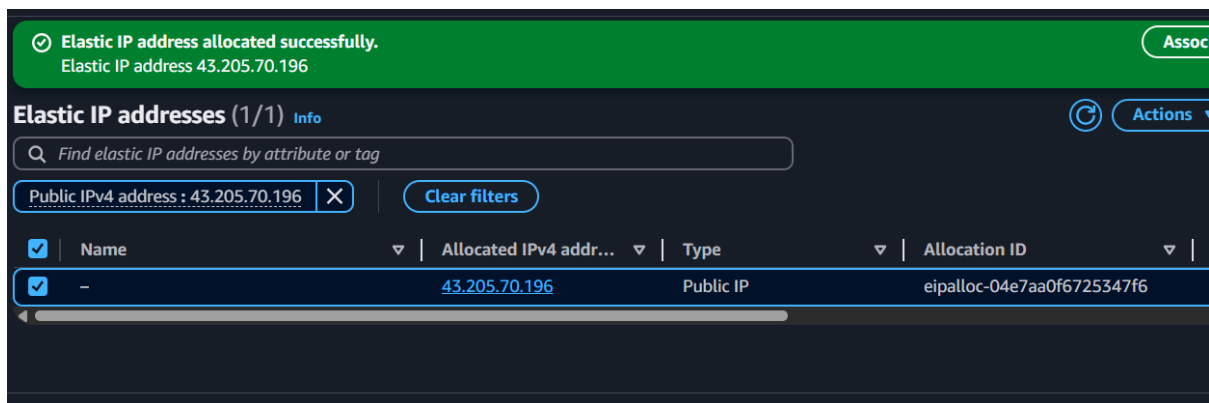
rtb-0e78005d56cf16d79 / public-rt-rds Actions

Details Info

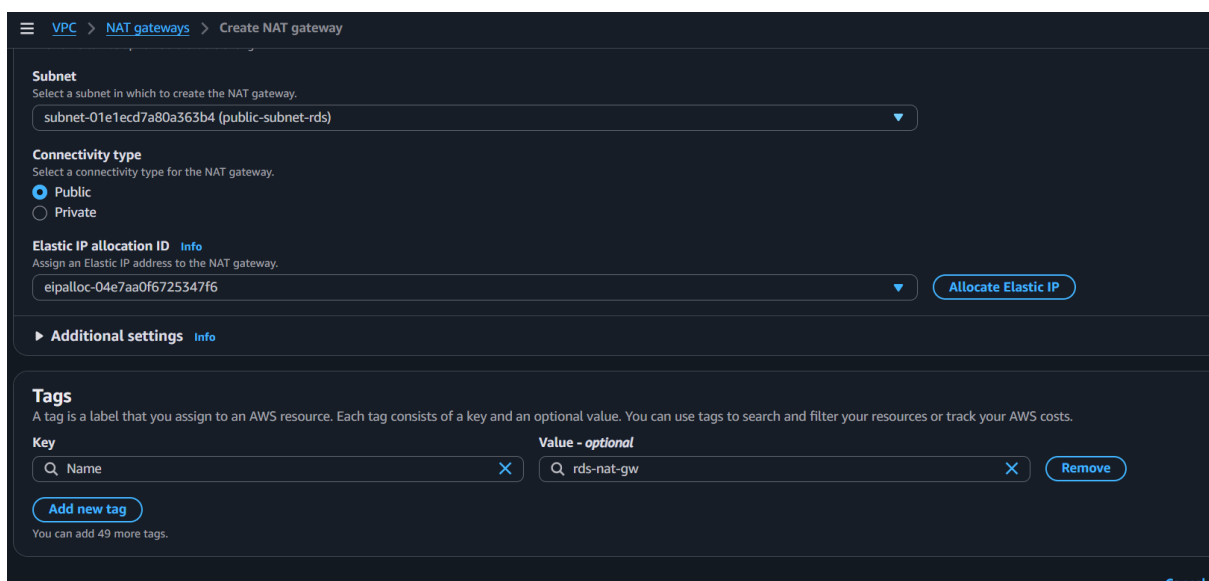
This screenshot shows adding route 0.0.0.0/0 pointing to rds-igw in public-rt

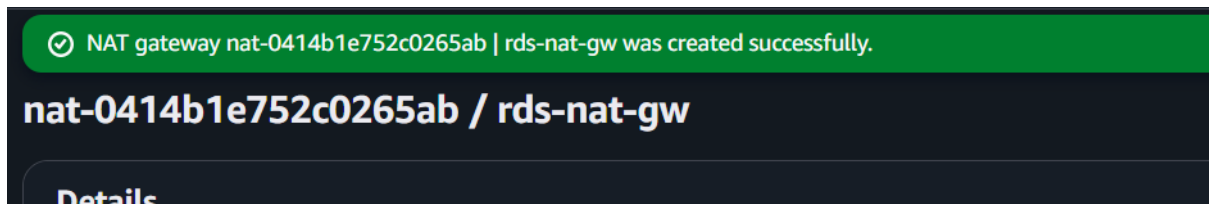


This screenshot shows associating public-subnet with public-rt

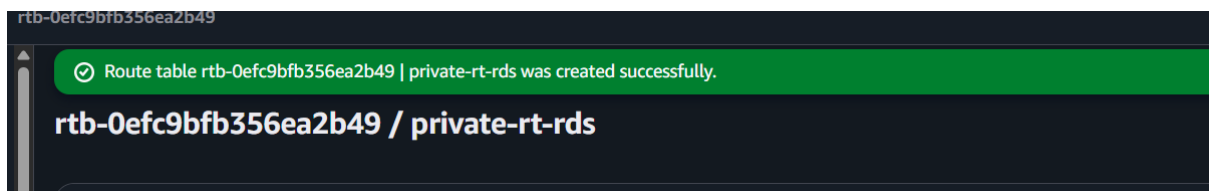
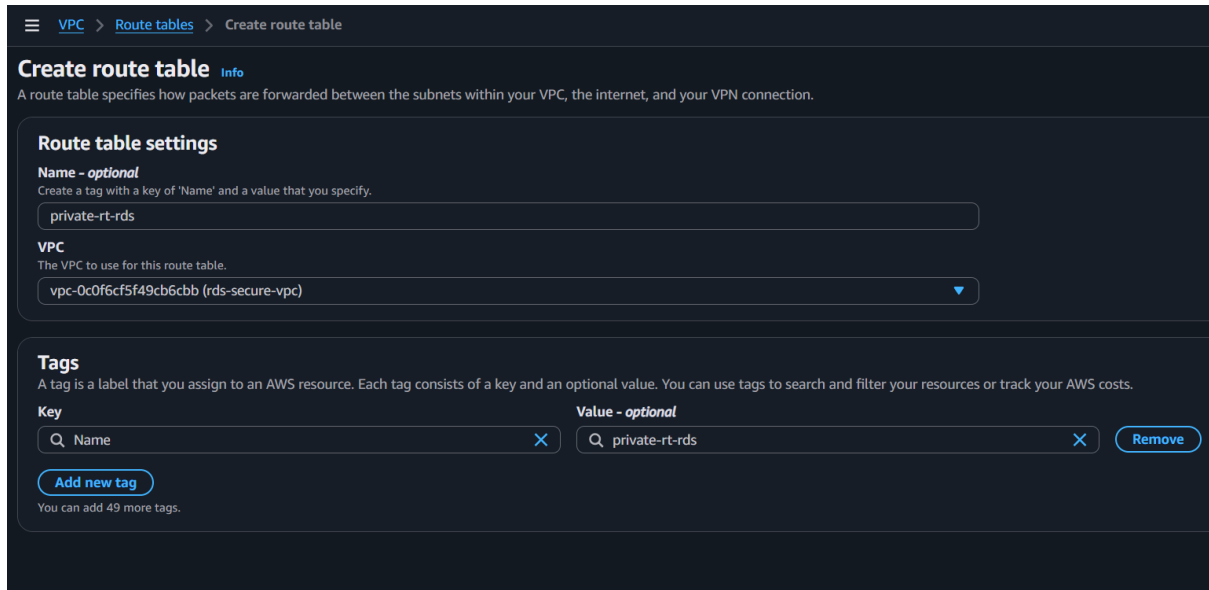


This screenshot shows allocating a new Elastic IP for the NAT Gateway.

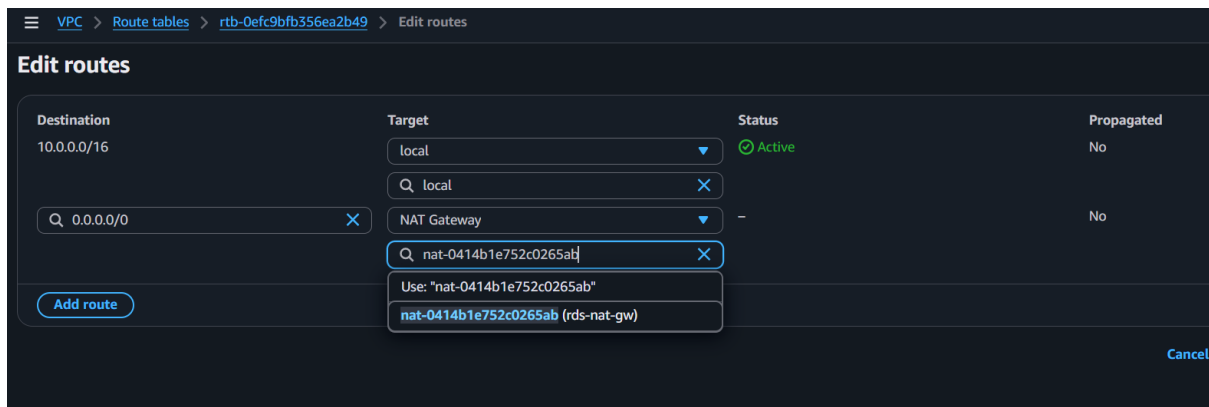


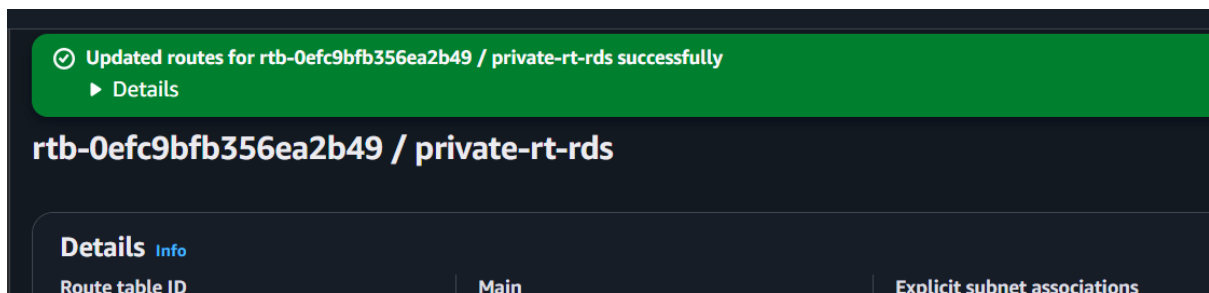


This screenshot shows creating the rds-nat-gw in the public-subnet with the Elastic IP attached.

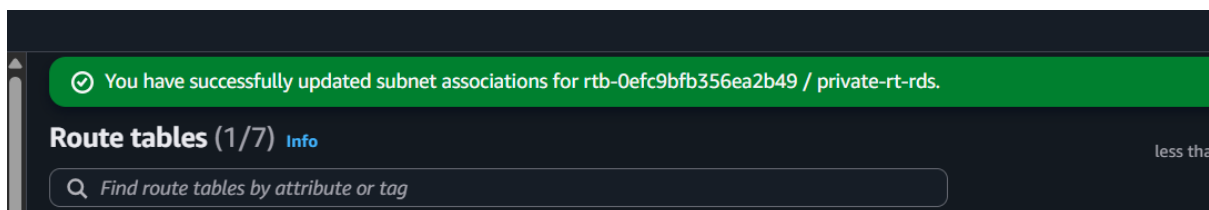
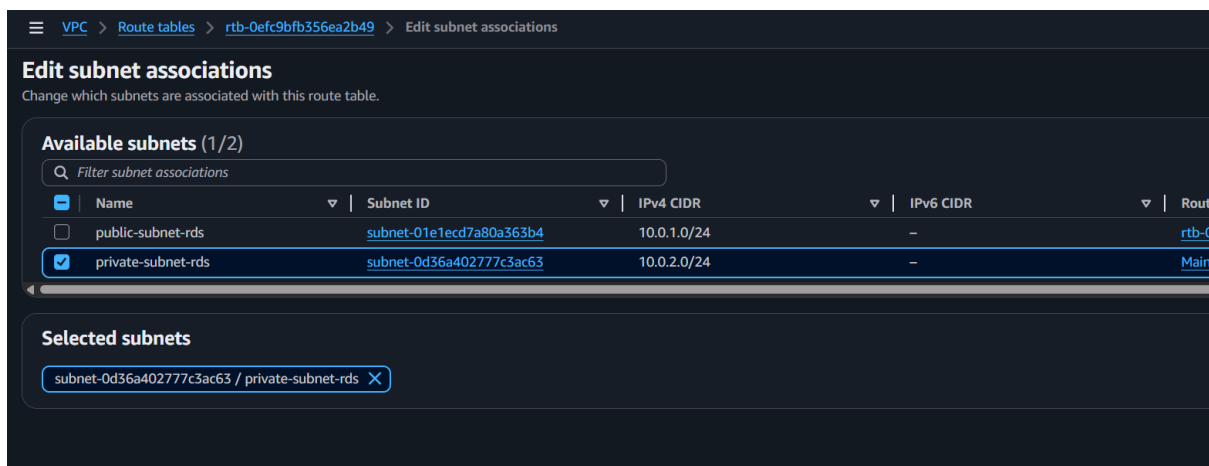


This screenshot shows creating private-rt-rds for the private subnet in rds-secure-vpc

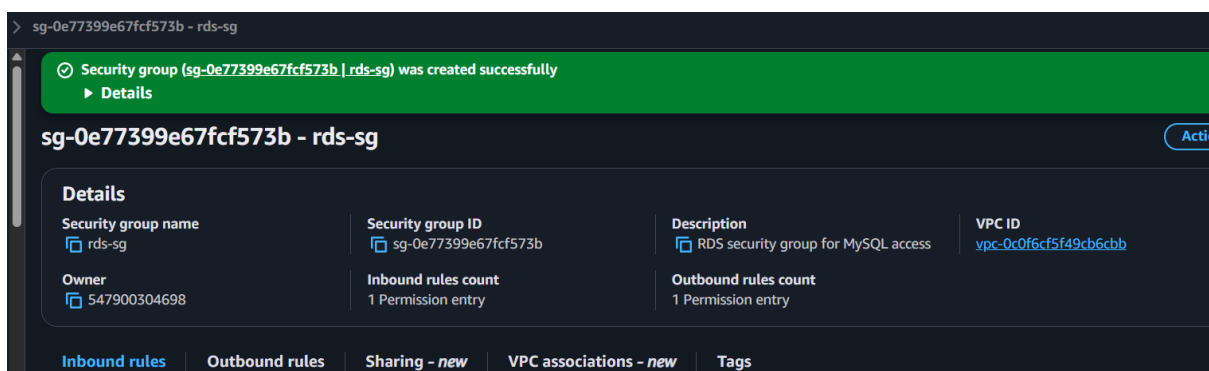




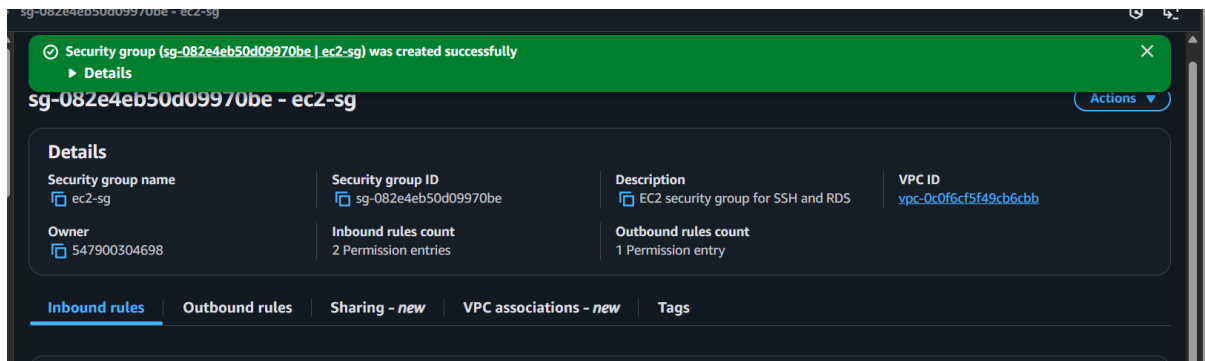
This screenshot shows adding a 0.0.0.0/0 route in private-rt-rds pointing to rds-nat-gw



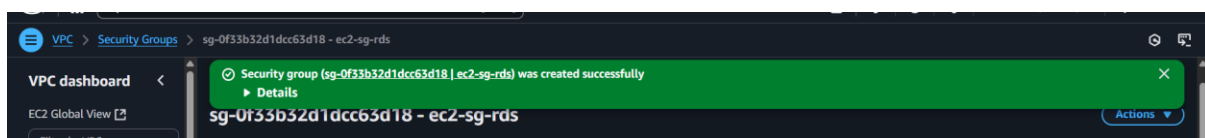
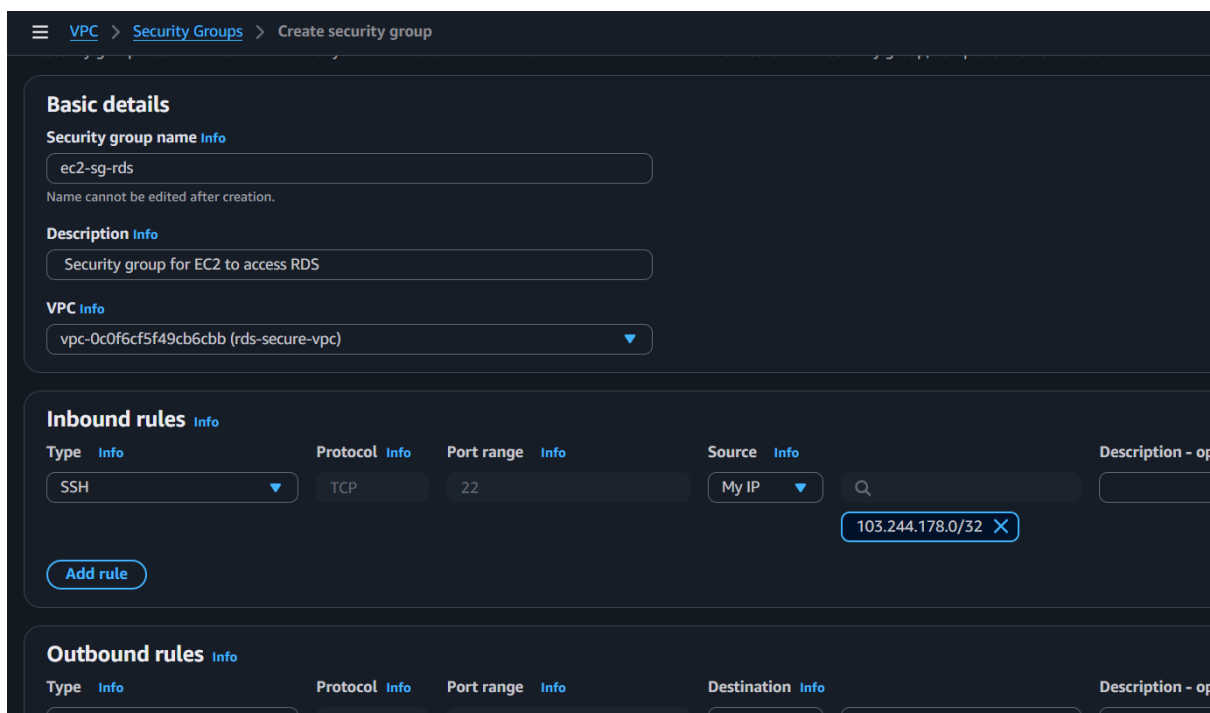
"This screenshot shows associating private-subnet with private-rt-rds.



This screenshot shows creation of rds-sg to allow MySQL access from EC2.



This screenshot shows creation of ec2-sg to allow SSH from user and access to RDS.



EC2 instance ke liye SSH access dene ke liye ec2-sg-rds security group banaya gaya with My IP as inbound source.

EC2 > Instances > Launch an Instance

Instance type Info | Get advice

Instance type: t2.micro
 Family: t2 1 vCPU 1 GiB Memory Current generation: true
 On-Demand Windows base pricing: 0.017 USD per Hour On-Demand Linux On-Demand Ubuntu Pro base pricing: 0.0142 USD per Hour On-Demand SUSE base pricing: 0.0124 USD per Hour
 Additional costs apply for AMIs with pre-installed software

Key pair (login) Info

You can use a key pair to securely connect to your instance. Ensure that you have the private key file available on your local computer.

Key pair name - required
 Select

Network settings Info

Network: vpc-0ac38864cfd2eaea3
 Subnet: No preference (Default subnet in any availability zone)

Create key pair

Key pair name
 Key pairs allow you to connect to your instance securely.
 RDSKeyPair3
 The name can include up to 255 ASCII characters. It can't include leading or trailing spaces.

Key pair type
☒ RSA RSA encrypted private and public key pair
☐ ED25519 ED25519 encrypted private and public key pair

Private key file format
☒ .pem For use with OpenSSH
☐ .ppk For use with PuTTY

⚠ When prompted, store the private key in a secure and accessible location on your computer. You will need it later to connect to your instance. [Learn more](#)

Cancel Create key pair

Summary

Number of instances: 1
 Operating system: Amazon Linux 2023.8.2...read more
 Amazon Linux 2023.8.2...read more
 Instance type: t2.micro
 Network: vpc-0ac38864cfd2eaea3
 Subnet: No preference (Default subnet in any availability zone)
 Security group: sg-0f33b32d1dcc63d18
 Volume: 8 GiB
 Free tiers: In your first year of opening an AWS account, you get 750 hours per month of t2.micro instance usage (or t3.micro where applicable).
 Launch instance Preview code

Network settings Info

VPC - required Info

vpc-0c0f6cf5f49cb6cbb (rds-secure-vpc)
 10.0.0.0/16

Subnet Info

subnet-01e1ecd7a80a363b4 public-subnet-rds
 VPC: vpc-0c0f6cf5f49cb6cbb Owner: 547900304698 Availability Zone: ap-south-1a
 Zone type: Availability Zone IP addresses available: 250 CIDR: 10.0.1.0/24

Auto-assign public IP Info

Enable

Additional charges apply when outside of free tier allowance

Firewall (security groups) Info

A security group is a set of firewall rules that control the traffic for your instance. Add rules to allow specific traffic to reach your instance.

☐ Create security group ☒ Select existing security group

Common security groups Info

Select security groups

ec2-sg-rds sg-0f33b32d1dcc63d18 X
 VPC: vpc-0c0f6cf5f49cb6cbb

Compare security group rules

Security groups that you add or remove here will be added to or removed from all your network interfaces.

► Advanced network configuration

aws | Search [Alt+S]

EC2 > Instances > Launch an instance

✓ Success
 Successfully initiated launch of instance (i-00fcc6490778e1439)

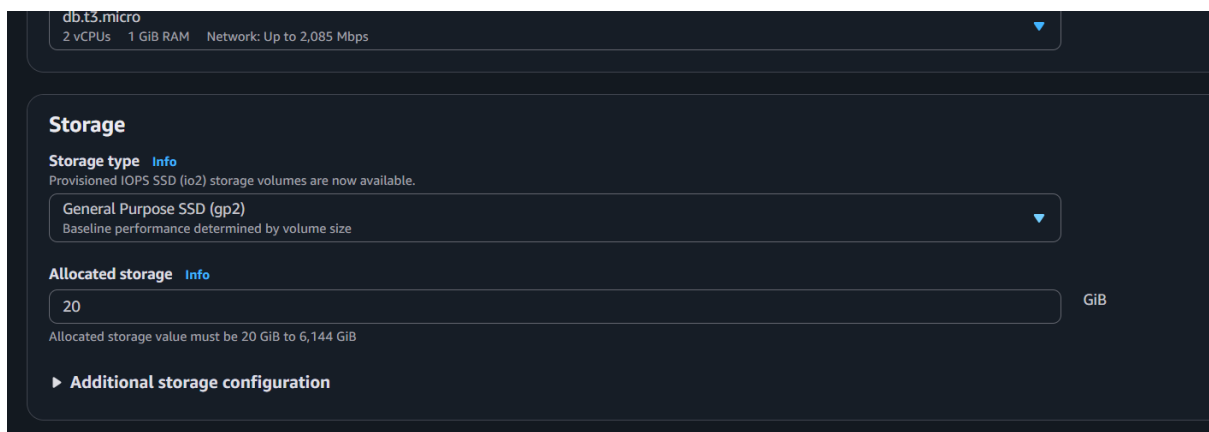
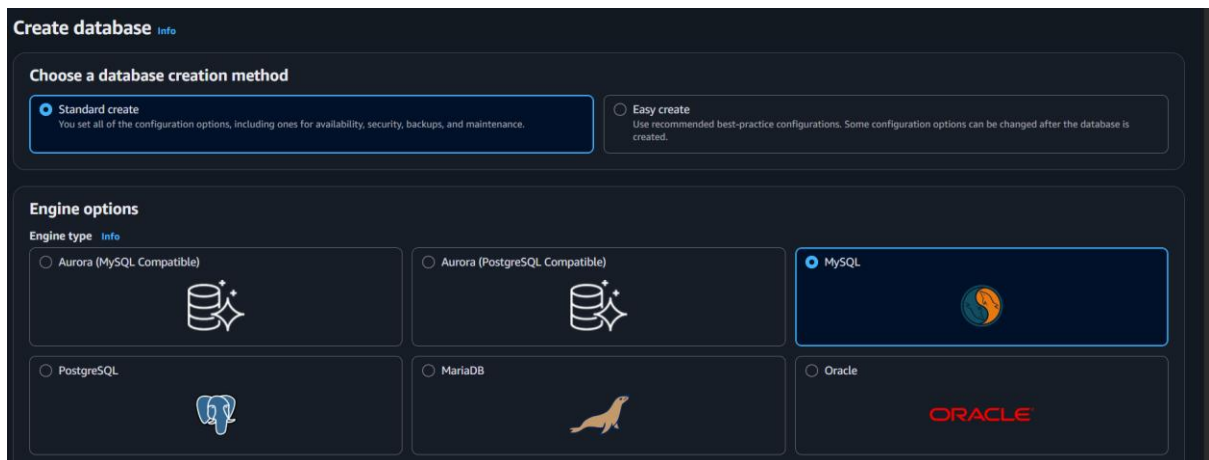
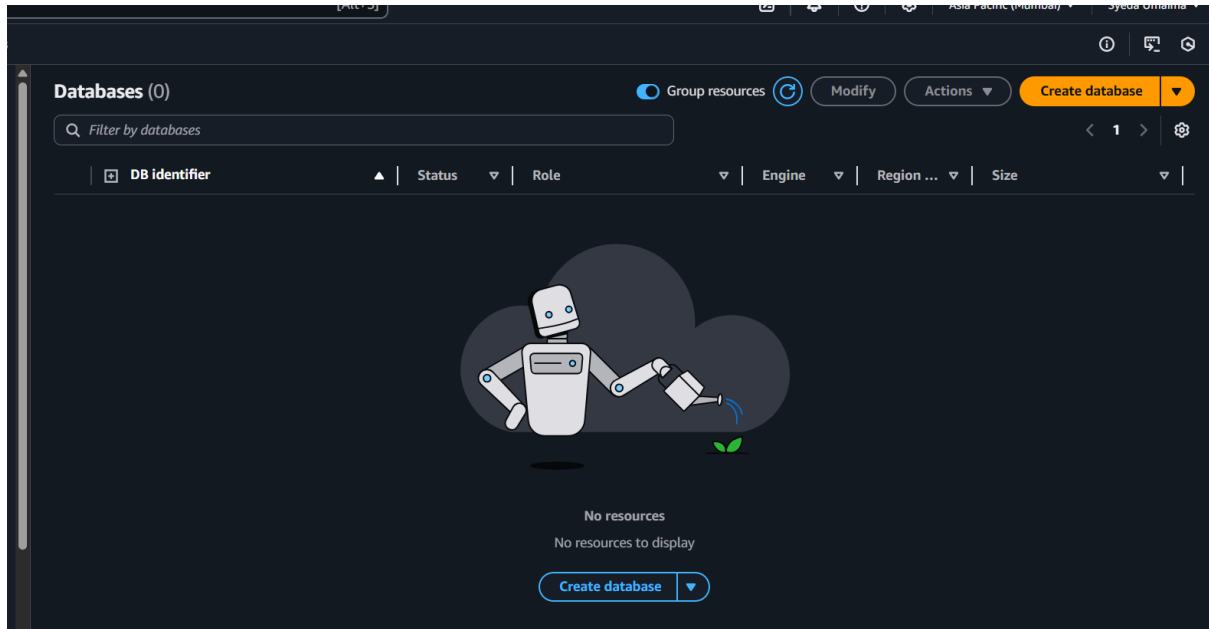
► Launch log

Next Steps

What would you like to do next with this instance, for example "create alarm" or "create backup"

Configuring EC2 instance with public subnet and security group allowing SSH access from My IP

Now we are going to create database



DB subnet group [Info](#)
Choose the DB subnet group. The DB subnet group defines which subnets and IP ranges the DB instance can use in the VPC that you selected.

Create new DB Subnet Group

Public access [Info](#)

☐ Yes
RDS assigns a public IP address to the database. Amazon EC2 instances and other resources outside of the VPC can connect to your database. Resources inside the VPC can also connect to which resources can connect to the database.

☒ No
RDS doesn't assign a public IP address to the database. Only Amazon EC2 instances and other resources inside the VPC can connect to your database. Choose one or more VPC security groups to

VPC security group (firewall) [Info](#)
Choose one or more VPC security groups to allow access to your database. Make sure that the security group rules allow the appropriate incoming traffic.

☒ Choose existing
Choose existing VPC security groups

☐ Create new
Create new VPC security group

Existing VPC security groups

Choose one or more options

ec2-sg-rds X

Availability Zone [Info](#)

Creating database secure-mysql-db [View connection details](#) X
Your database might take a few minutes to launch. You can use settings from secure-mysql-db to simplify configuration of suggested database add-ons while we finish creating your DB for you.

Databases (1) ☒ Group resources [Refresh](#) [Modify](#) [Actions](#) [Create database](#)

Filter by databases

DB identifier	Status	Role	Engine	Region ...	Size
secure-mysql-db	Creating	Instance	MySQL Co...	-	db.t3.micro

Successfully created database secure-mysql-db [View connection details](#) X
You can use settings from secure-mysql-db to simplify configuration of suggested database add-ons while we finish creating your DB for you.

Databases (1) ☒ Group resources [Refresh](#) [Modify](#) [Actions](#) [Create database](#)

Filter by databases

DB identifier	Status	Role	Engine	Region ...	Size
secure-mysql-db	Backin...	Instance	MySQL Co...	ap-south-1a	db.t3.micro

Created a MySQL RDS instance named secure-mysql-db in secure-vpc using the Free Tier template with version 8.0.41.

Configured private subnet group private-subnet-group, disabled public access, and attached custom security group ec2-sg-rds.

Enabled password authentication, automated backups (1-day retention), and used db.t3.micro instance with 20 GiB gp2 storage.

Create EC2 Security Group (ec2-sg) and Allow RDS Access

EC2 > Security Groups > Create security group

Create security group Info

A security group acts as a virtual firewall for your instance to control inbound and outbound traffic. To create a new security group, complete the fields below.

Basic details

Security group name Info
ec2-sg-rds
Name cannot be edited after creation.

Description Info
Allow EC2 to access RDS MySQL

VPC Info
vpc-0c0f6cf5f49cb6cbb (rds-secure-vpc)

Inbound rules

Type	Protocol	Port range	Source	Description - optional
Custom TCP	TCP	3306	Custom sg-0e77399e67fcf573b sg-0e77399e67fcf573b	

[Add rule](#) [Delete](#)

✔ Inbound security group rules successfully modified on security group (sg-0f33b32d1dcc63d18 | ec2-sg-rds)

[Details](#)

Security Groups (11) Info

[Find security groups by attribute or tag](#) [Actions](#) [Export security groups to CSV](#) [Create security group](#)

	Name	Security group ID	Security group name	VPC ID	Description
<input type="checkbox"/>	-	sg-0e77399e67fcf573b	rds-sg	vpc-0c0f6cf5f49cb6cbb	RDS security gr
<input type="checkbox"/>	-	sg-0680825238b8347b2	launch-wizard-3	vpc-0e0dc7d2ae9e6a060	launch-wizard-
<input type="checkbox"/>	-	sg-037e652b80b19b469	rds-private-sg	vpc-0e0dc7d2ae9e6a060	Allow EC2 acce:
<input type="checkbox"/>	-	sg-082e4eb50d09970be	ec2-sg	vpc-0c0f6cf5f49cb6cbb	EC2 security gr

Select a security group

Added an inbound rule in ec2-sg-rds to allow incoming MySQL traffic (port 3306) from EC2 security group ec2-sg.


```
[ec2-user@ip-10-0-1-233 ~]$ mysql -h secure-mysql-db.ctemmygso9wa.ap-south-1.rds.amazonaws.com -P 3306 -u admin -p
Enter password:
Welcome to the MariaDB monitor.  Commands end with ; or \g.
Your MySQL connection id is 46
Server version: 8.0.41 Source distribution

Copyright (c) 2000, 2018, Oracle, MariaDB Corporation Ab and others.

Type 'help;' or '\h' for help. Type '\c' to clear the current input statement.

MySQL [(none)]> |
```

Connected EC2 instance to private RDS MySQL using secure VPC, custom security groups, and MySQL client via terminal on port 3306.

```
MySQL [(none)]> SHOW DATABASES;
+-----+
| Database |
+-----+
| information_schema |
| mysql |
| performance_schema |
| sys |
+-----+
4 rows in set (0.007 sec)

MySQL [(none)]> CREATE DATABASE testdb;
Query OK, 1 row affected (0.015 sec)

MySQL [(none)]> SHOW DATABASES;
+-----+
| Database |
+-----+
| information_schema |
| mysql |
| performance_schema |
| sys |
| testdb |
+-----+
5 rows in set (0.001 sec)

MySQL [(none)]> |
```

This command creates a new database named testdb to verify write access on the RDS instance.

I can run any database query from there

```

-----+
Database |
-----+
information_schema |
mysql |
performance_schema |
sys |
-----+
1 rows in set (0.007 sec)

MySQL [(none)]> CREATE DATABASE testdb;
Query OK, 1 row affected (0.015 sec)

MySQL [(none)]> SHOW DATABASES;
-----+
Database |
-----+
information_schema |
mysql |
performance_schema |
sys |
testdb |
-----+
5 rows in set (0.001 sec)

MySQL [(none)]> USE testdb;
Database changed
MySQL [testdb]> CREATE TABLE students (
  ->     id INT PRIMARY KEY AUTO_INCREMENT,
  ->     name VARCHAR(50),
  ->     age INT
  -> );
Query OK, 0 rows affected (0.059 sec)

MySQL [testdb]> INSERT INTO students (name, age) VALUES ('Umaima', 21);
Query OK, 1 row affected (0.008 sec)

MySQL [testdb]> SELECT * FROM students;
-----+-----+
id | name  | age |
-----+-----+
1  | Umaima | 21  |
-----+-----+
1 row in set (0.001 sec)

MySQL [testdb]>

```

Through this project, we successfully deployed a secure RDS MySQL database and tested its connectivity using an EC2 instance. We implemented best practices such as network isolation, restricted access using security groups, and private subnet placement for the database. This project strengthened our understanding of secure cloud-based database deployment and laid a solid foundation for future production-level implementations.