

## Hands-On with AWS SNS (Simple Notification Service)

I recently explored **Amazon SNS (Simple Notification Service)** – a powerful **region-specific** messaging service used to send notifications automatically when an event occurs in your AWS infrastructure.

With **SNS**, we can send messages to subscribers through various protocols such as Email, SMS, HTTP, or AWS Lambda. In this hands-on guide, I walk you through how to create a topic, add subscriptions, and test notifications using **Email** as the endpoint.

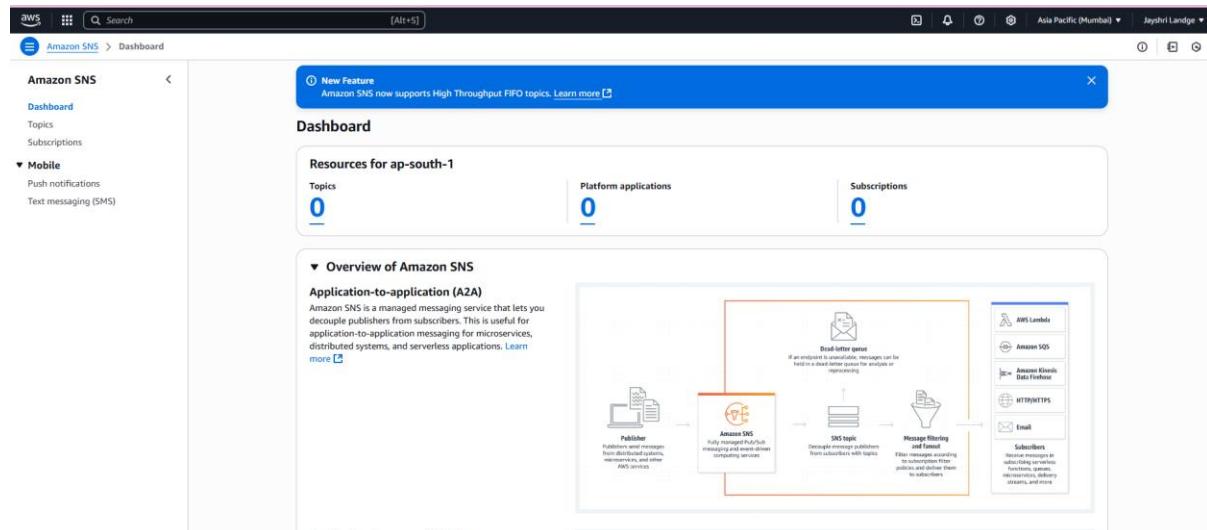
### What is AWS SNS?

- **SNS** stands for **Simple Notification Service**
- It's a **fully managed, highly available, and scalable** messaging service
- **Region-specific:** Each configuration (topics, subscriptions) is bound to a specific AWS region
- Sends real-time notifications triggered by events (like EC2 state changes, CloudWatch alarms, etc.)

### Steps to Configure AWS SNS with Email Notifications

#### Step 1: Navigate to the SNS Dashboard

AWS Console → Services → Search for **SNS**



Screenshot 1 : SNS Dashboard

## Step 2: Create a Topic

1. Click “Create topic”
2. Choose **Standard** type (for general notifications)
3. Set a **Topic name** (e.g., aws-activity-topic)
4. Click “Create topic”

Create topic

Details

Type: Standard

Name: My\_AWS\_Topic1

Display name - optional: My\_AWS\_Topic1

Screenshot 2: Topic Creation Form

## Step 3: Create a Subscription

1. Open your created topic
2. Click “Create subscription”
3. Set **Protocol** to Email
4. Enter the **Email Endpoint** (e.g., example@gmail.com)
5. Click “Create subscription”

Create subscription

Details

Topic ARN: arn:aws:sns:ap-south-1:396608790002:My\_AWS\_Topic1

Protocol: Email

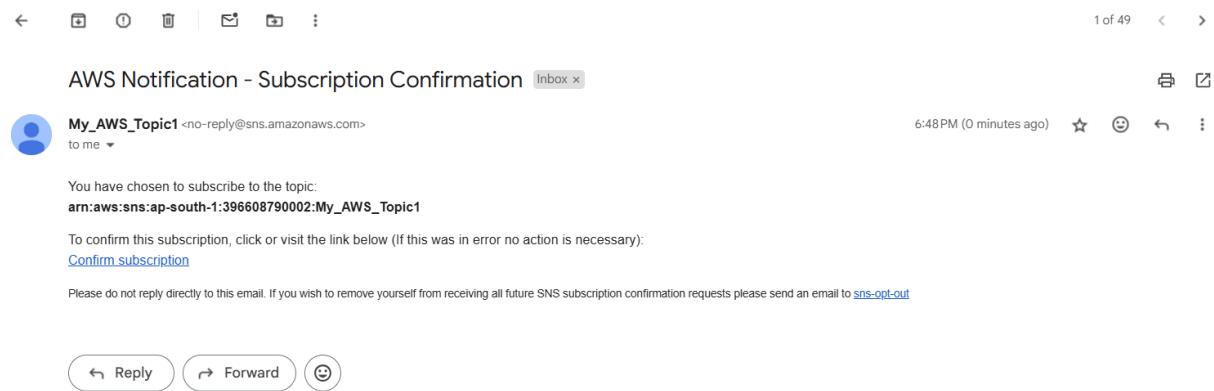
Endpoint: jayshri.landege3011@gmail.com

After your subscription is created, you must confirm it.

Screenshot 3: Subscription Form

## Step 4: Confirm the Email Subscription

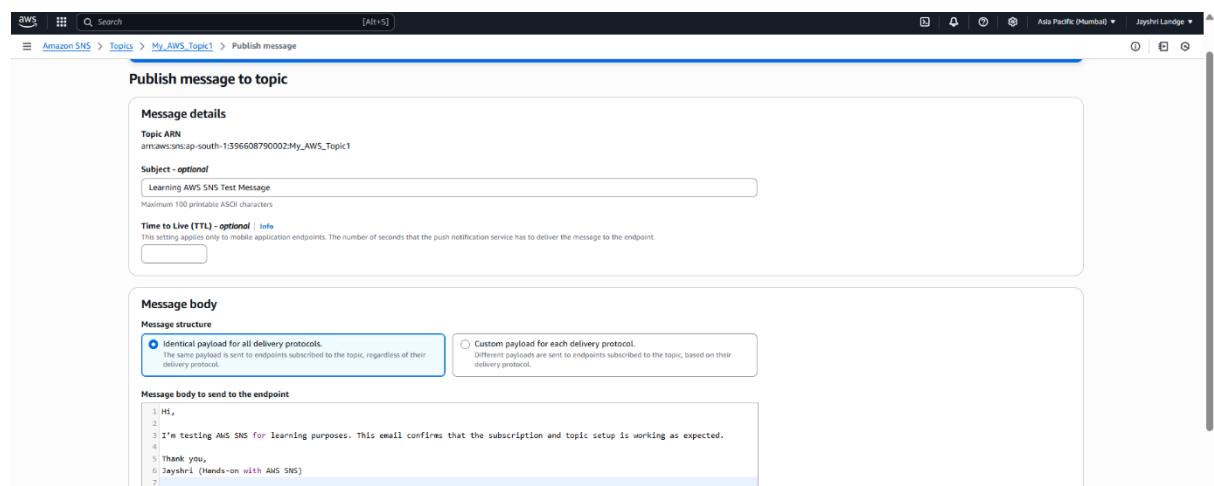
- Go to your email inbox
- Open the SNS confirmation email
- Click on **Confirm subscription** link



Screenshot 4 : Confirmation Email

## Step 5: Publish a Test Message

1. Inside your topic, click "**Publish message**"
2. Enter a **subject** and **message body**
3. Click "**Publish**"
4. Check your email for the notification



Screenshot 5 : Publish Message Page

Learning AWS SNS Test Message Inbox

 My\_AWS\_Topic1 <no-reply@sns.amazonaws.com>  
to me ▾

6:56 PM (0 minutes ago) ☆ 😊 ↶ ⋮

Hi,

I'm testing AWS SNS for learning purposes. This email confirms that the subscription and topic setup is working as expected.

Thank you,  
Jayshri (Hands-on with AWS SNS)

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If you wish to stop receiving notifications from this topic, please click or visit the link below to unsubscribe:  
[https://sns.ap-south-1.amazonaws.com/unsubscribe.html?SubscriptionArn=arn:aws:sns:ap-south-1:396608790002:My\\_AWS\\_Topic1:a358a2f8-44a1-4377-89b2-0371e93869a5&Endpoint=jayshrilandge3011@gmail.com](https://sns.ap-south-1.amazonaws.com/unsubscribe.html?SubscriptionArn=arn:aws:sns:ap-south-1:396608790002:My_AWS_Topic1:a358a2f8-44a1-4377-89b2-0371e93869a5&Endpoint=jayshrilandge3011@gmail.com)

Please do not reply directly to this email. If you have any questions or comments regarding this email, please contact us at <https://aws.amazon.com/support>

### Screenshot 6 : Inbox Notification

## Conclusion

This was a valuable learning experience in using AWS SNS for real-time alerting. I now feel more confident in integrating notification systems with other AWS services like EC2, CloudWatch, and Lambda. Looking forward to applying this in larger cloud-based setups!