VPN Setup and Privacy Protection Report

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Tool Used: ProtonVPN (Free Tier)

# Objective

To understand the role of VPNs in protecting online privacy and ensuring secure communication.

# Tools Used

VPN Client: ProtonVPN (Free Plan)  
Website to Verify IP: https://whatismyipaddress.com  
Browser Used: Google Chrome

# Steps Followed

1. Chose a Reputable Free VPN: Selected ProtonVPN, known for its no-log policy and strong encryption protocols.

2. Download and Installation: Signed up at protonvpn.com, downloaded the client for Windows, and logged in.

3. Connecting to a VPN Server: Connected to Netherlands (Free Server).

4. IP Address Verification: Verified that the IP address changed using whatismyipaddress.com.

5. Browsing Test for Encryption: Opened websites like Wikipedia and YouTube to test traffic encryption.

6. Disconnected VPN: Observed IP return to Indian ISP and slight increase in speed.

# VPN Encryption & Privacy Features (ProtonVPN)

- Encryption Protocol: AES-256 with OpenVPN/WireGuard.

- No-Logs Policy: ProtonVPN does not log user activity.

- DNS Leak Protection: Built-in feature for safe DNS queries.

- Kill Switch: Available in paid plans.

- Jurisdiction: Switzerland – strong data privacy laws.

# Summary: VPN Benefits and Limitations

* Benefits:
* Encrypts data and protects against surveillance.
* Masks IP address for better anonymity.
* Secure for public Wi-Fi and bypasses geo-restrictions.
* Limitations:
* Free VPNs have limited speed and features.
* Complete anonymity is not guaranteed.

# Conclusion

Using a VPN like ProtonVPN enhances privacy and online safety. It's not foolproof, but an essential tool in a privacy-conscious setup.