Monitoring of data in Power BI

Version 1.0

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Purpose

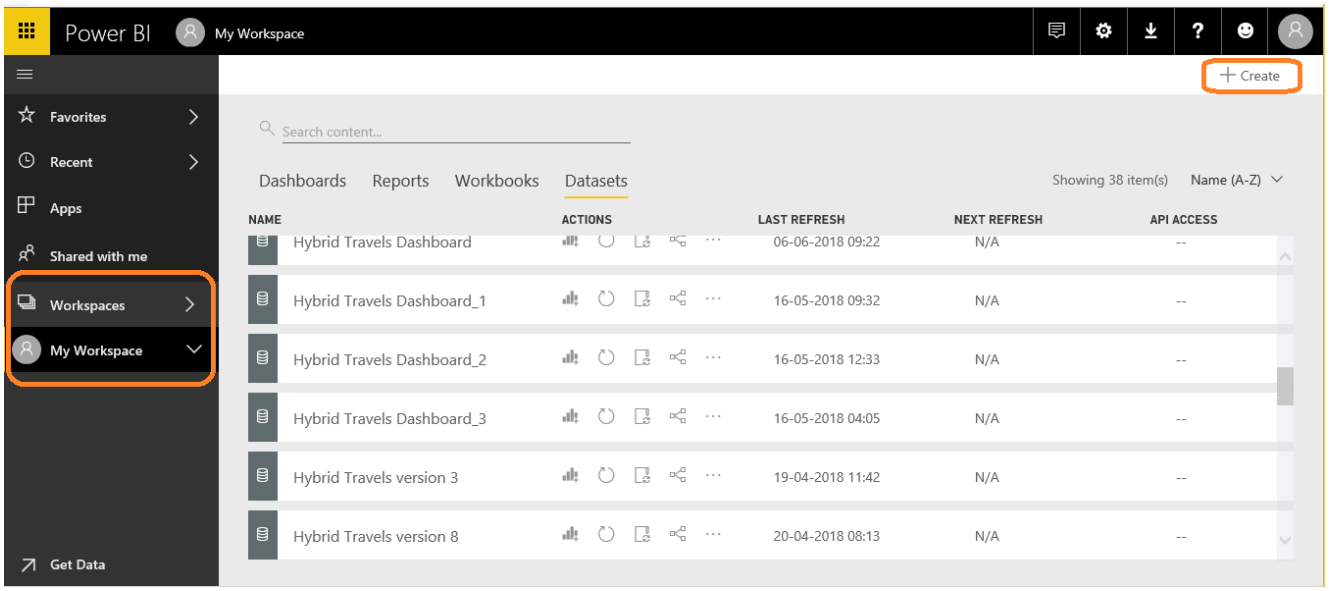
This document covers the concept of “Monitoring of data” in Power BI services. This is high level document assumes resource has basic knowledge of Power BI Concepts.

What is Data Monitoring?

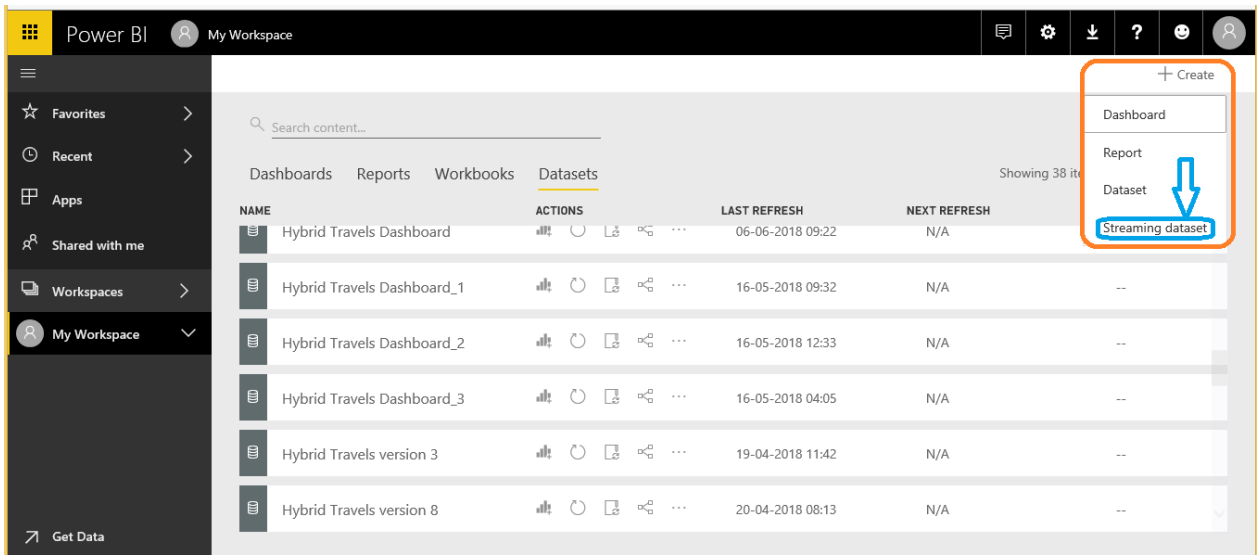
Data monitoring is a business exercise in which important business data is regularly monitored and reviewed against quality control rules to make sure it is always of high quality, fit for specific purpose and meets previously established standards for consistency and formatting. It is quite beneficial to measure and track data using alerts, dashboards and reports.

How to do Data Monitoring in Power BI?

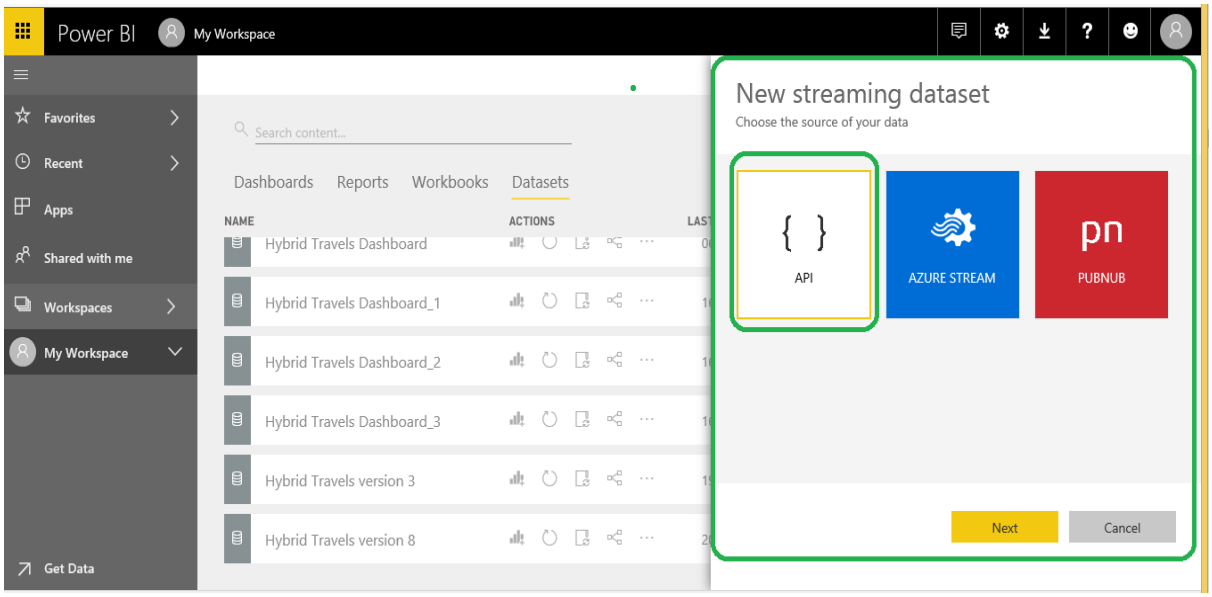
1. Log in to Power BI Services, go to “My Workspace” and click on “Create” icon in the top right corner as highlighted in below image.



2. After this, a dropdown will appear, select “Streaming dataset” from the list of options.

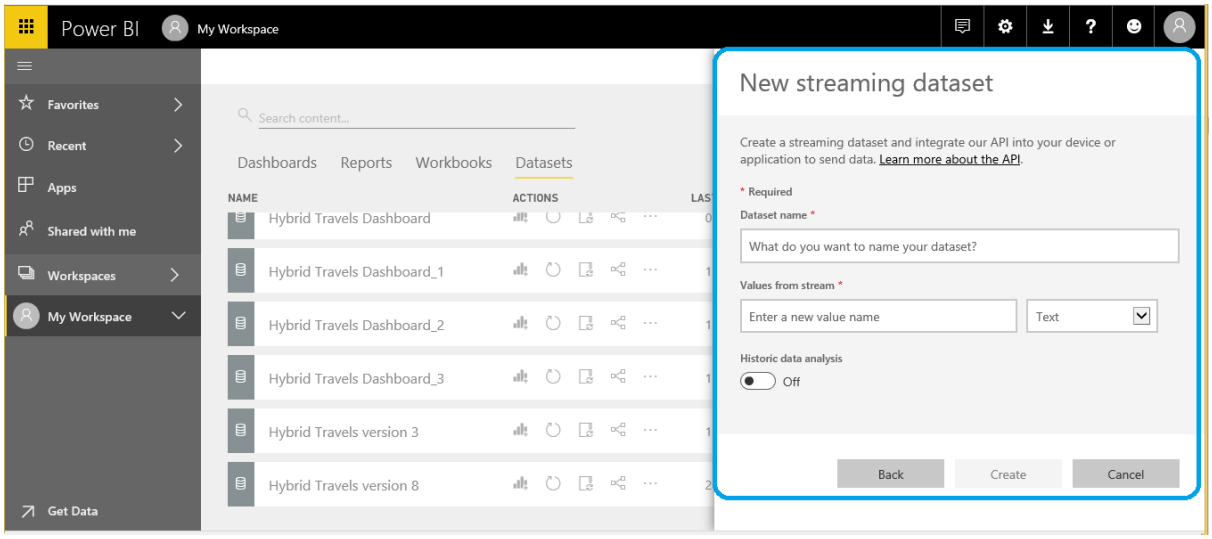


3. After selecting “Streaming dataset” a window will get opened. Create a new dataset by choosing API approach as highlighted below and then click on “Next” button.



Please note, we are choosing API here because flow connects directly in this and we can push the data straight to the API. We can also select any other option according to our requirement.

4. Give name to the Dataset and enter the columns that we want to pass from data source into the streaming dataset.



5. After entering the required fields, set "**Historic data analysis"** to ON (by default it is disabled) to make it enabled so that dataset created becomes both a **streaming dataset** and a **push dataset.**

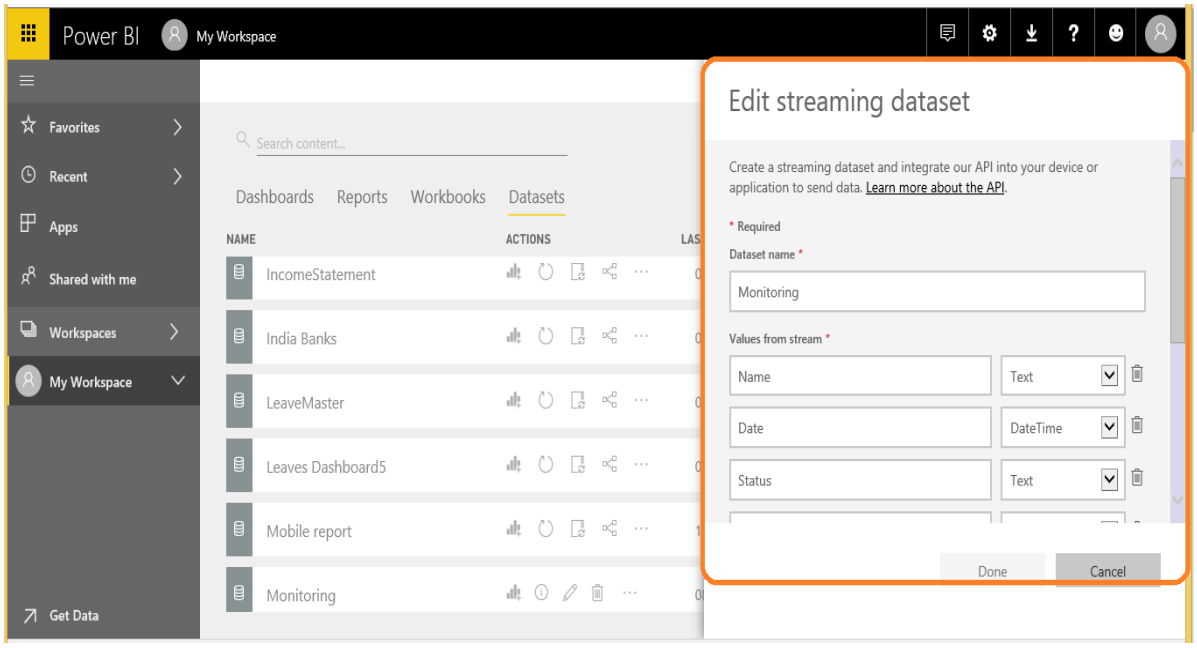


Fig. (i)

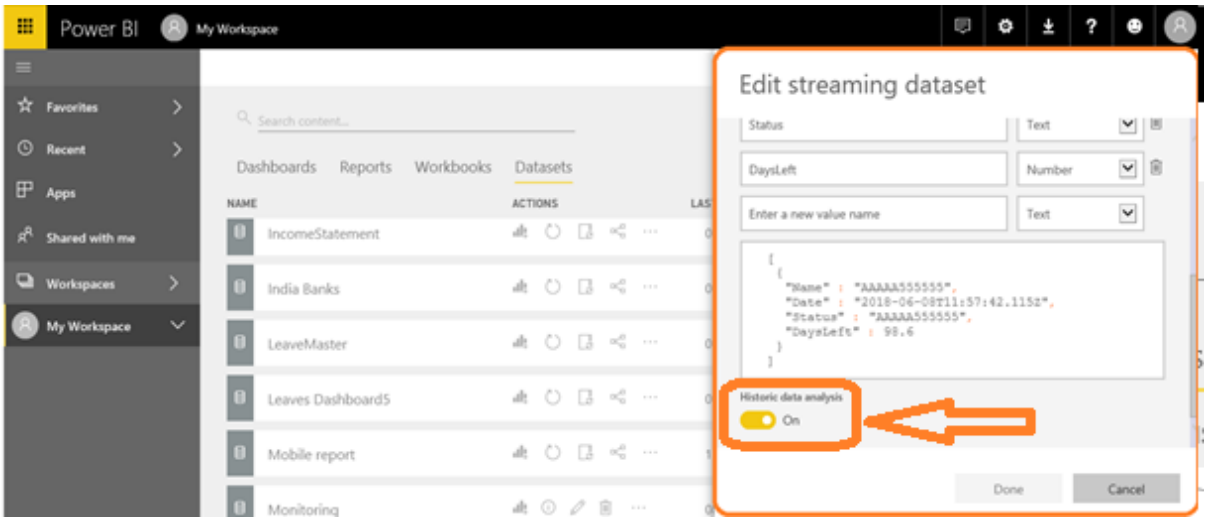
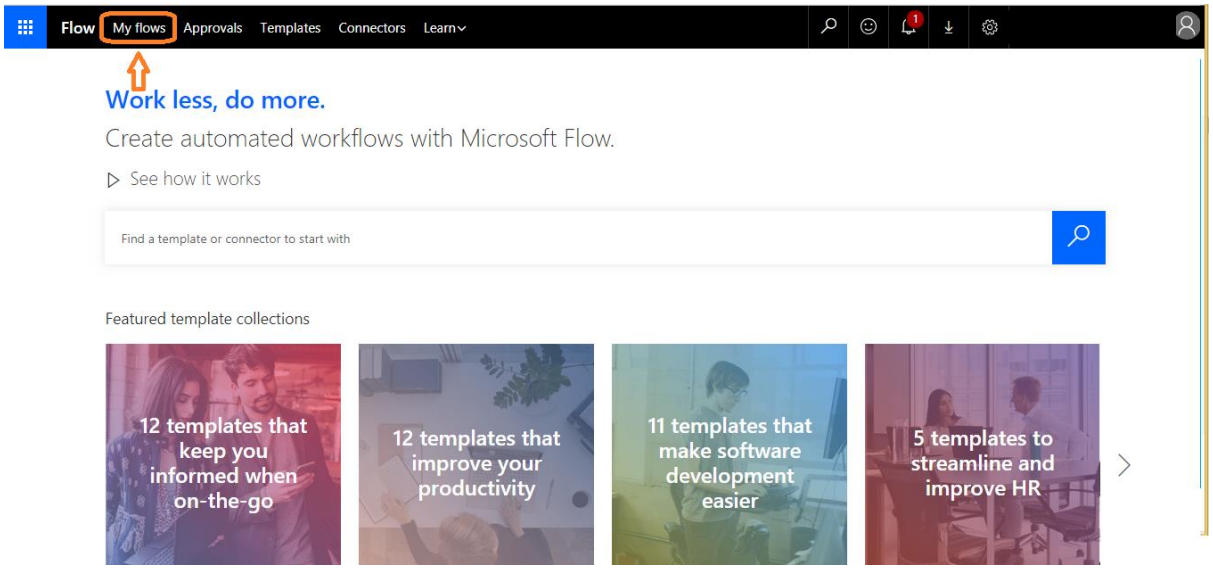
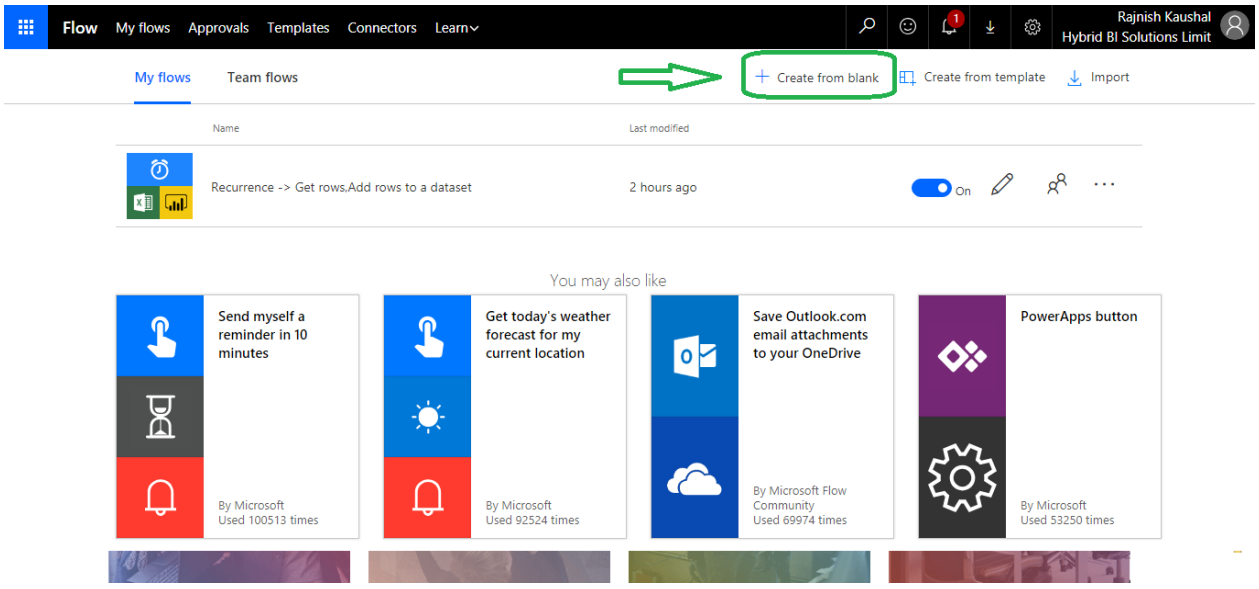


Fig. (ii)

6. Once we have dataset created, navigate to website “flow.microsoft.com” and click on “My flows”.



7. Now click on “Create from blank” option to create a flow from blank.



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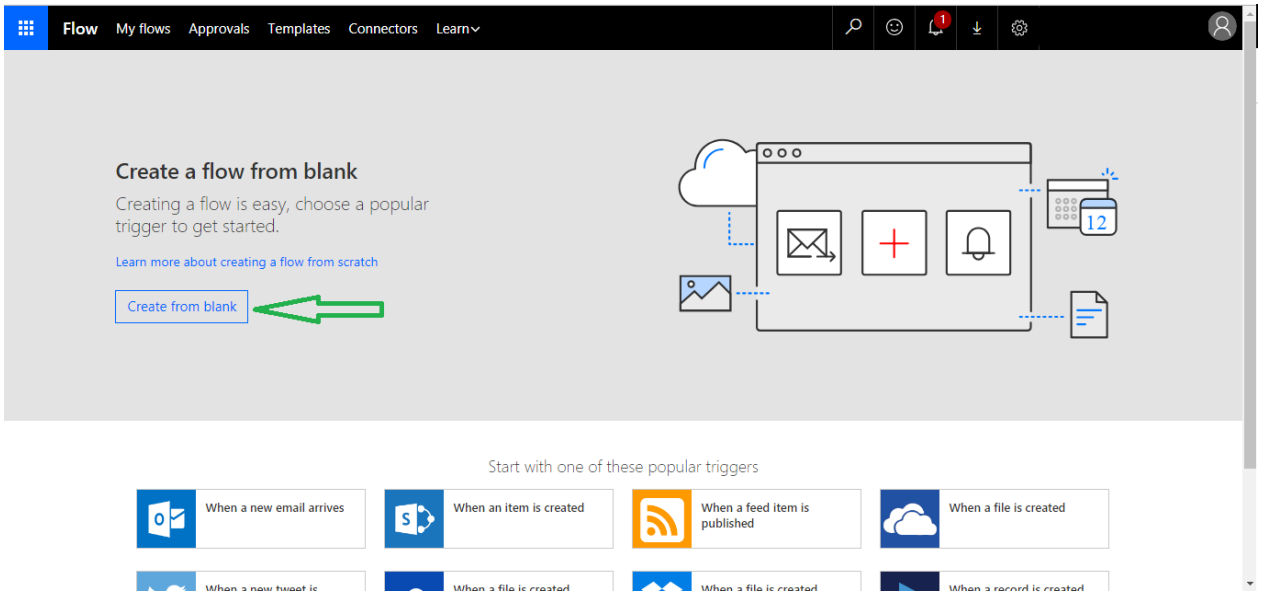
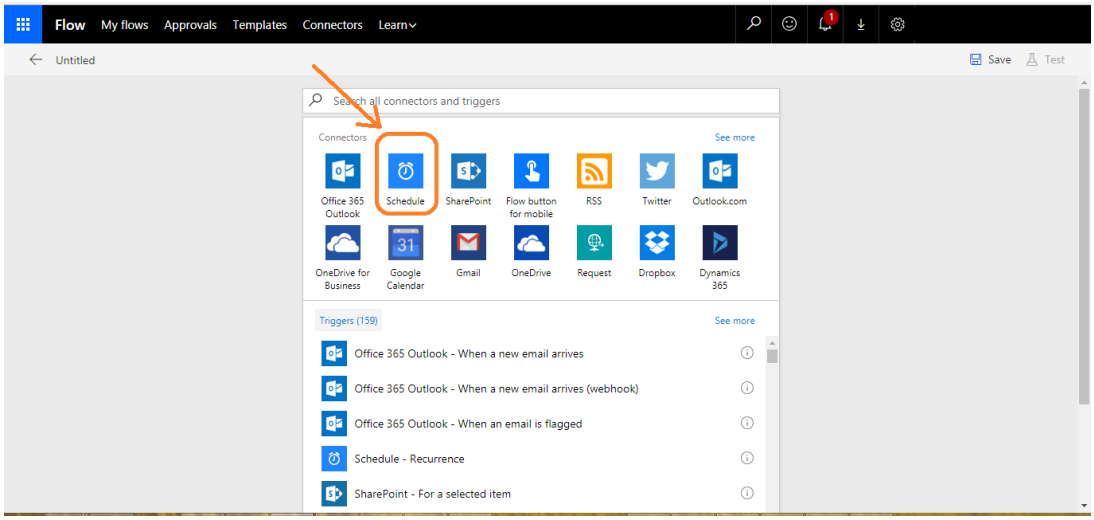
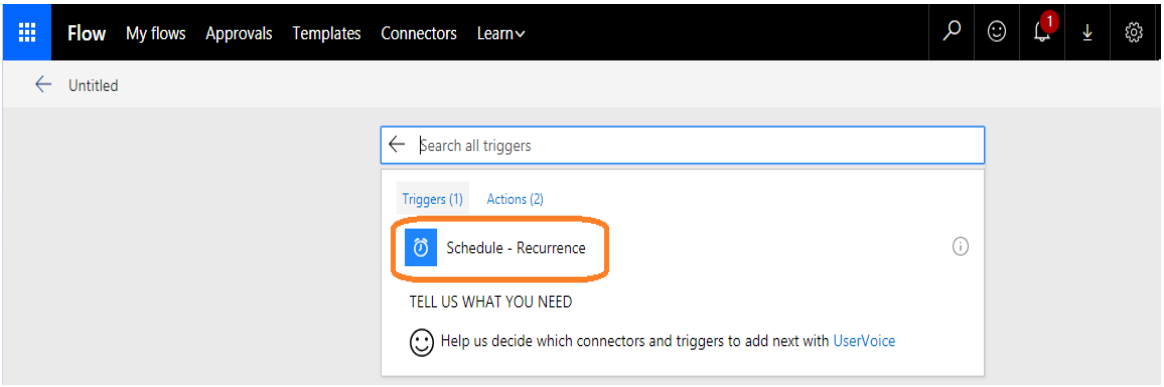


Fig. (ii)

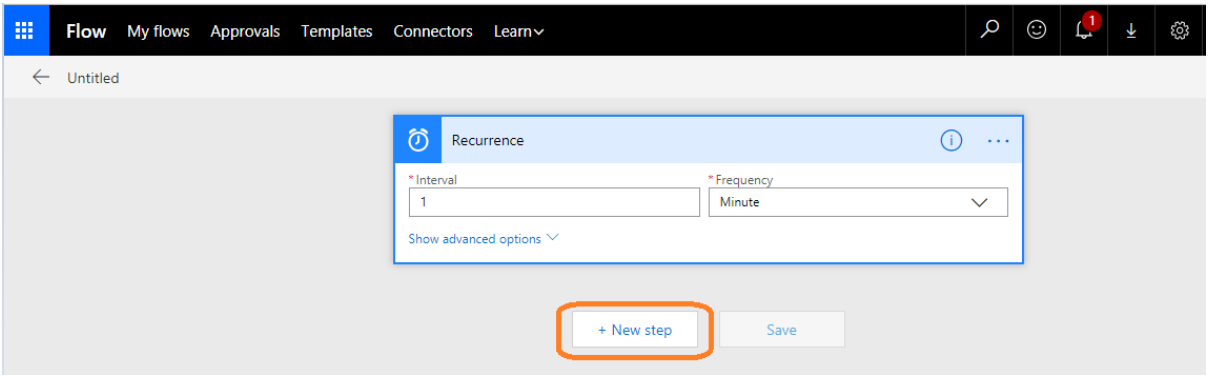
8. Click on “Schedule” present on next screen as displayed in below image.



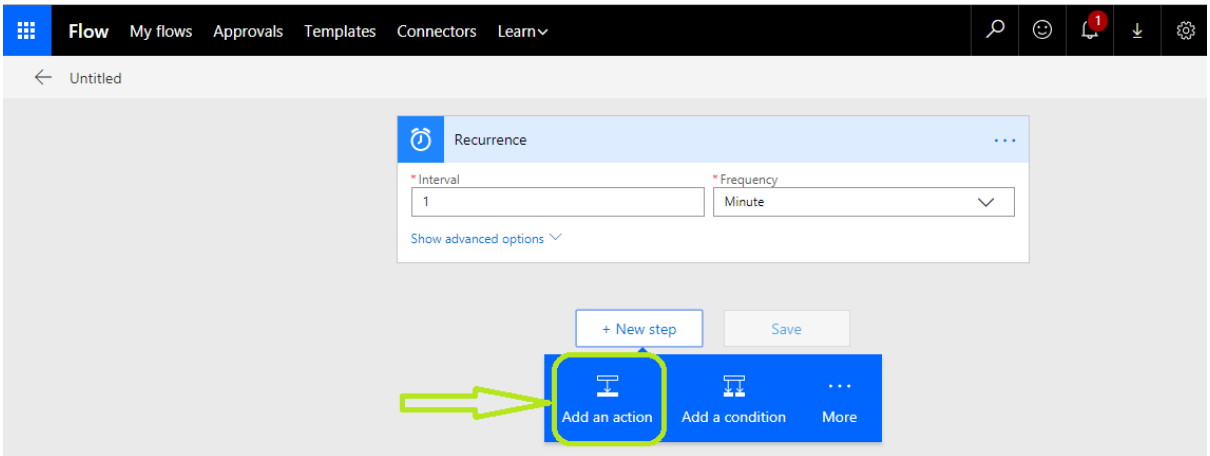
9. After that, click on “Schedule – Recurrence” option as highlighted below.



10. Edit the Recurrence step according to our requirement and then click on the highlighted button to create a new step.



11. Now, click on “Add an action” option and choose desired action from the list provided.



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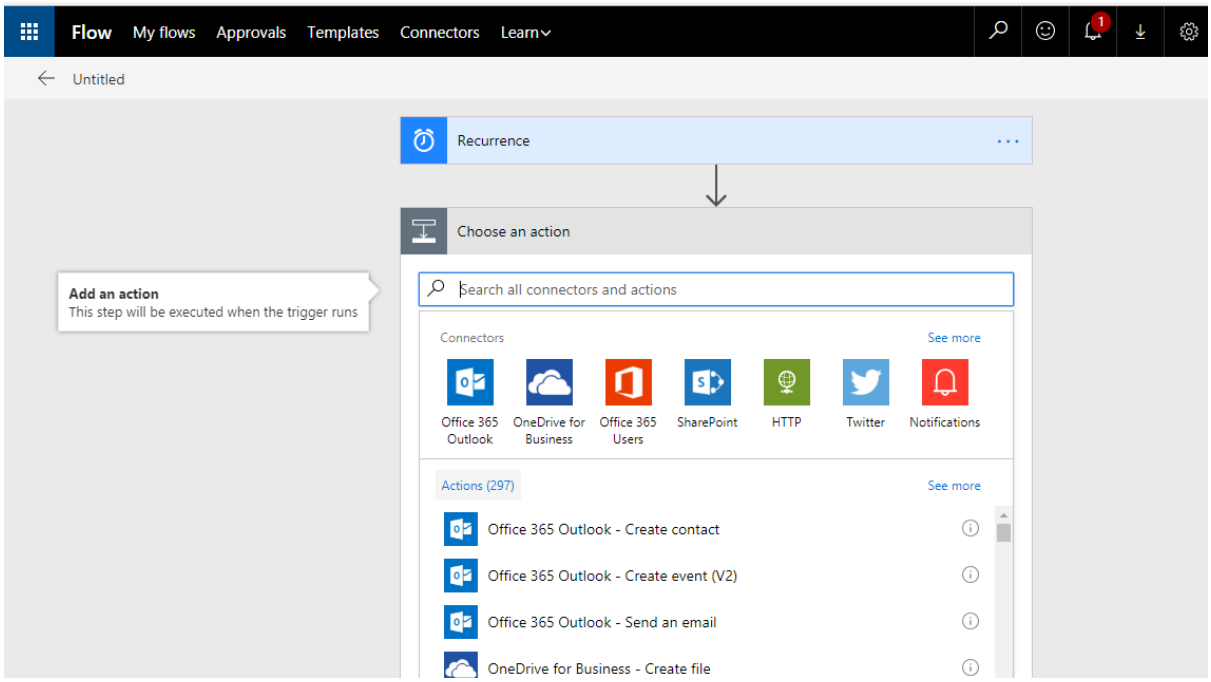
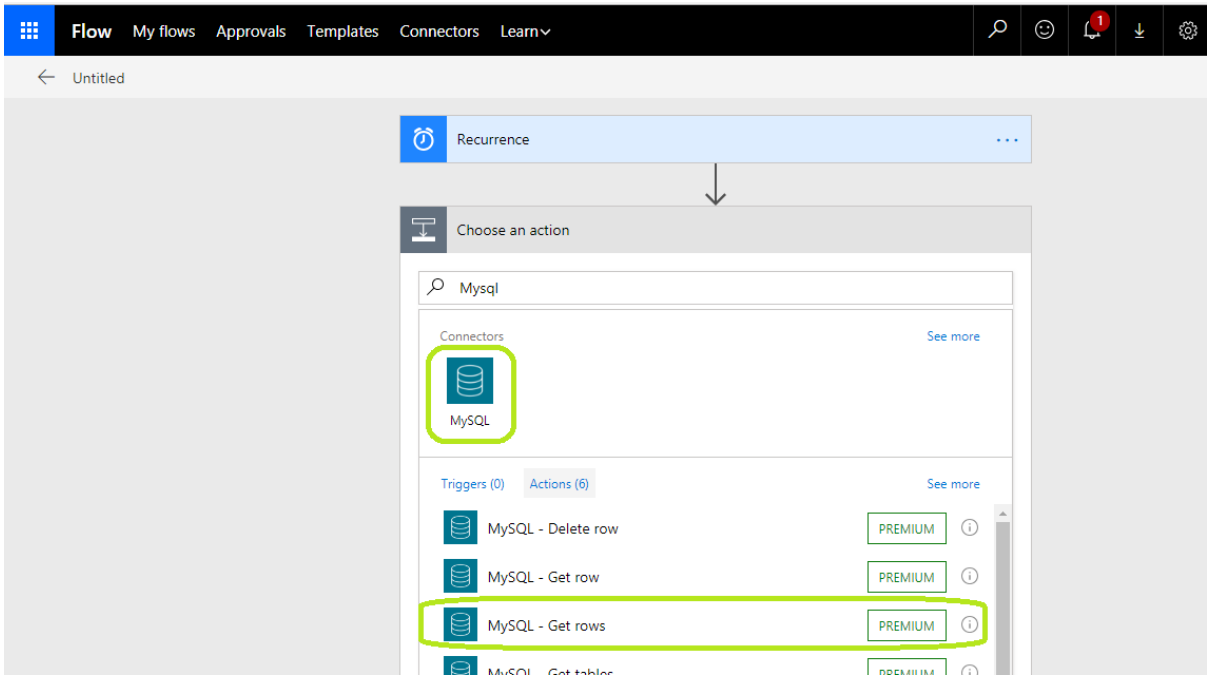
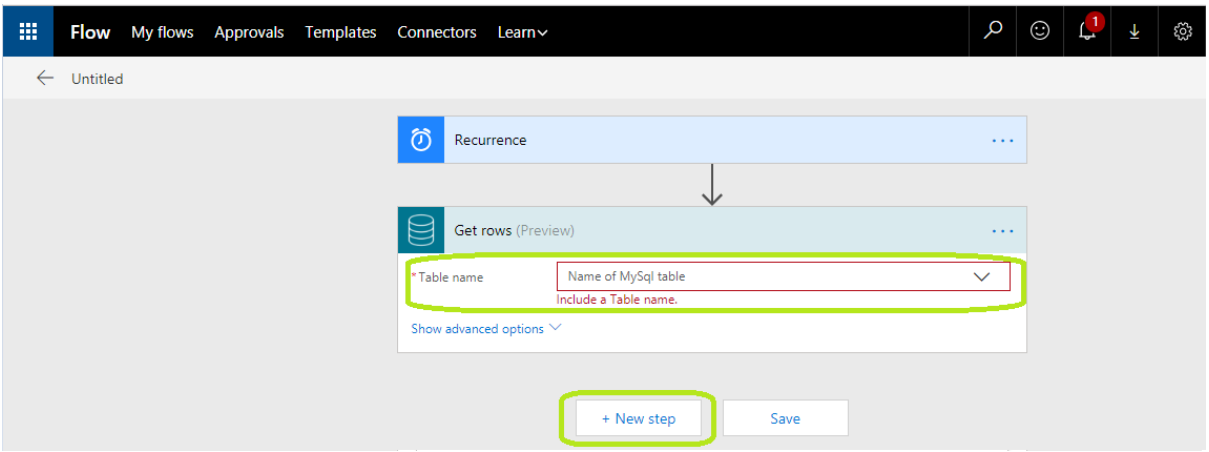


Fig. (ii)

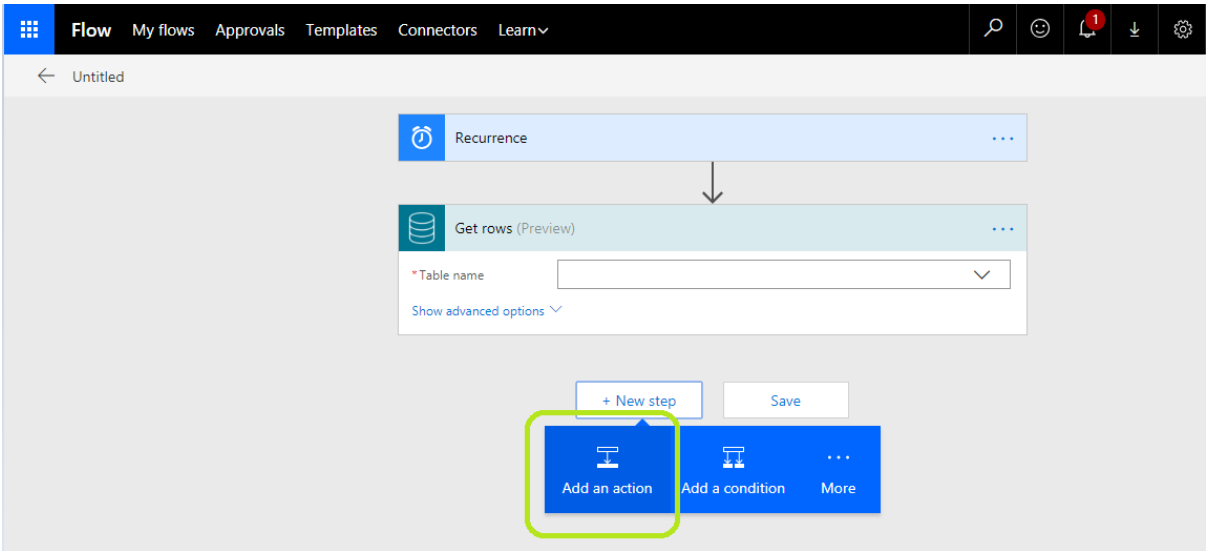
Here we will select MySQL so search it and select "MySQL – Get rows" as displayed below.



12. After this, add the table which you have created and go next step.



13. Click on “Add an action” and choose “Power BI – Add rows to a dataset” from the options available.



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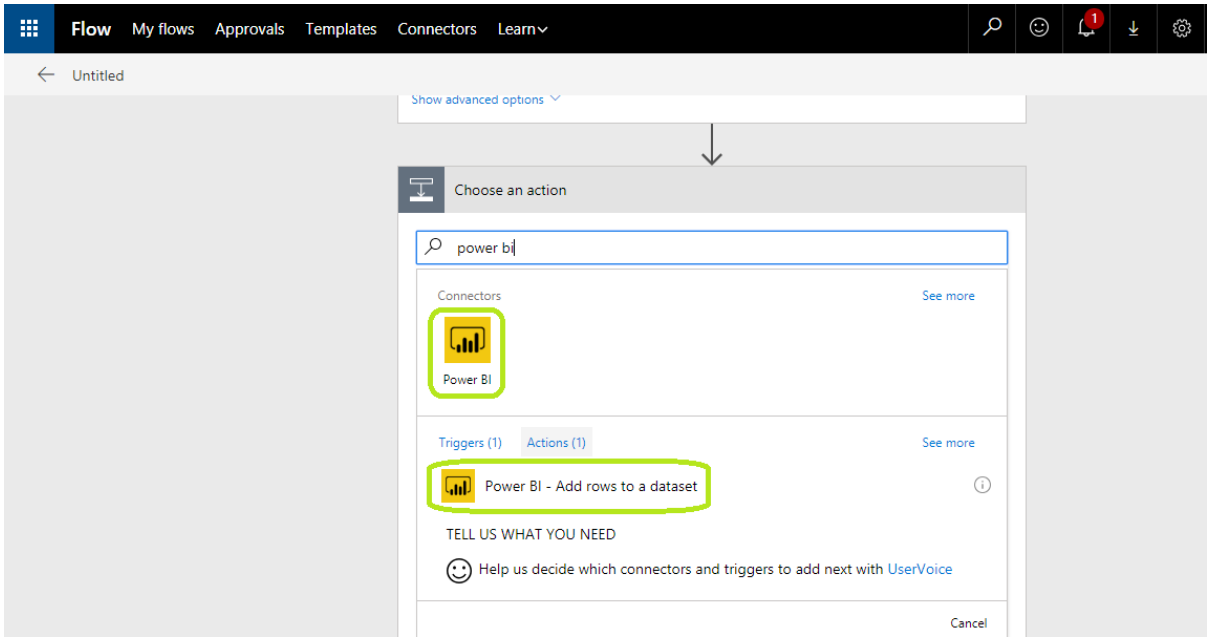
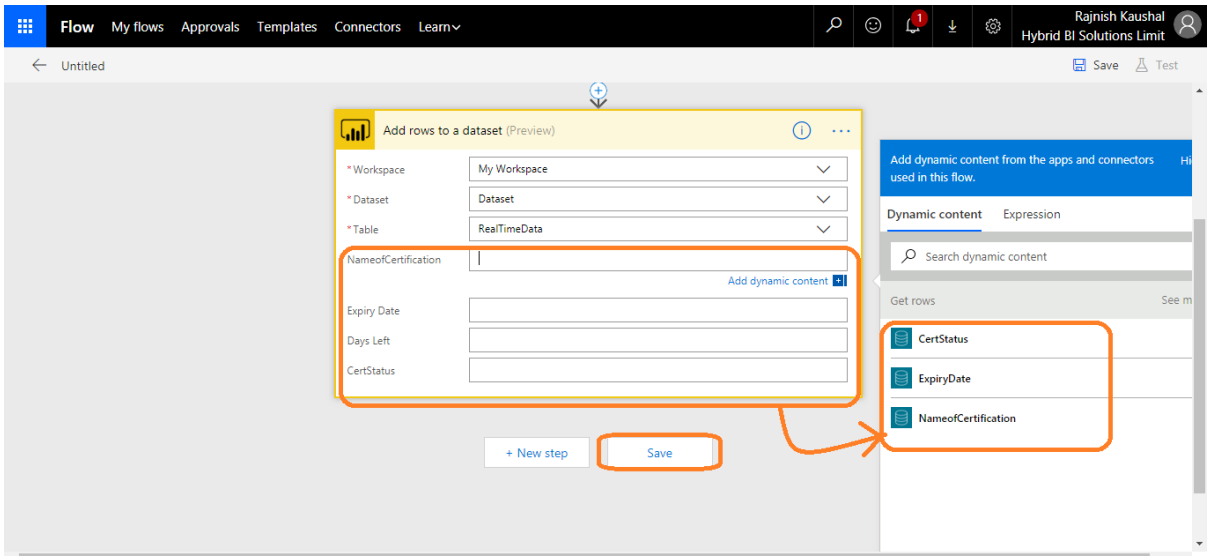


Fig. (ii)

14. Now we need to configure the service:

- Select the workspace where the streaming dataset is published: My Workspace.
- Select the name of the dataset: Dataset.
- Select the table: RealTimeData. After that fill the remaining fields by selecting from our database as shown in below figure and click on Save button.



15. After flow is set up, click on “Test” icon at the top right corner of the screen to check whether it is succeeded or not.

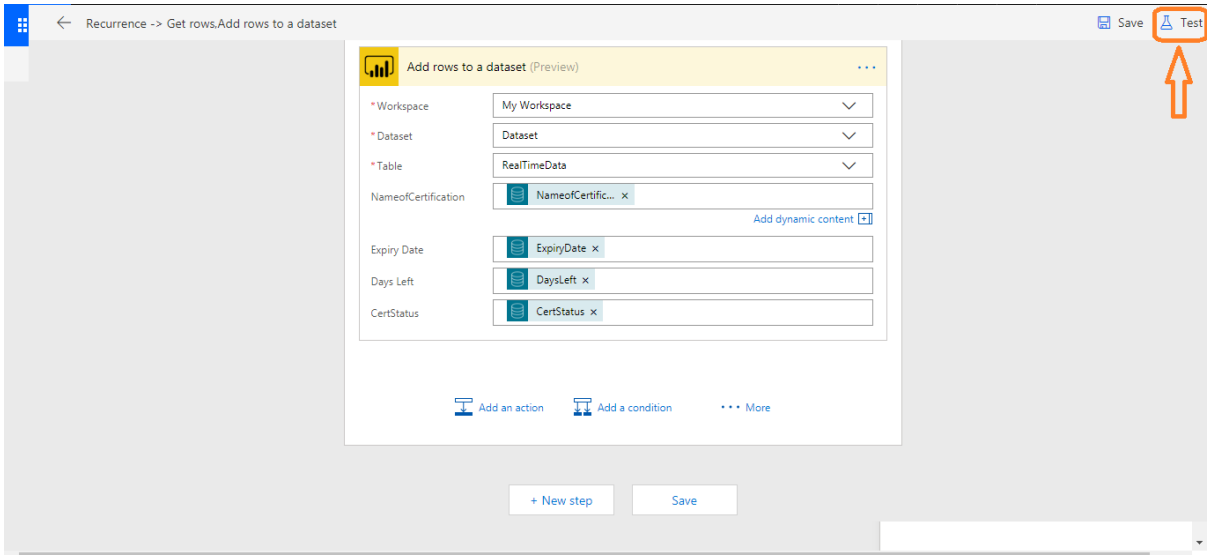


Fig. (i)

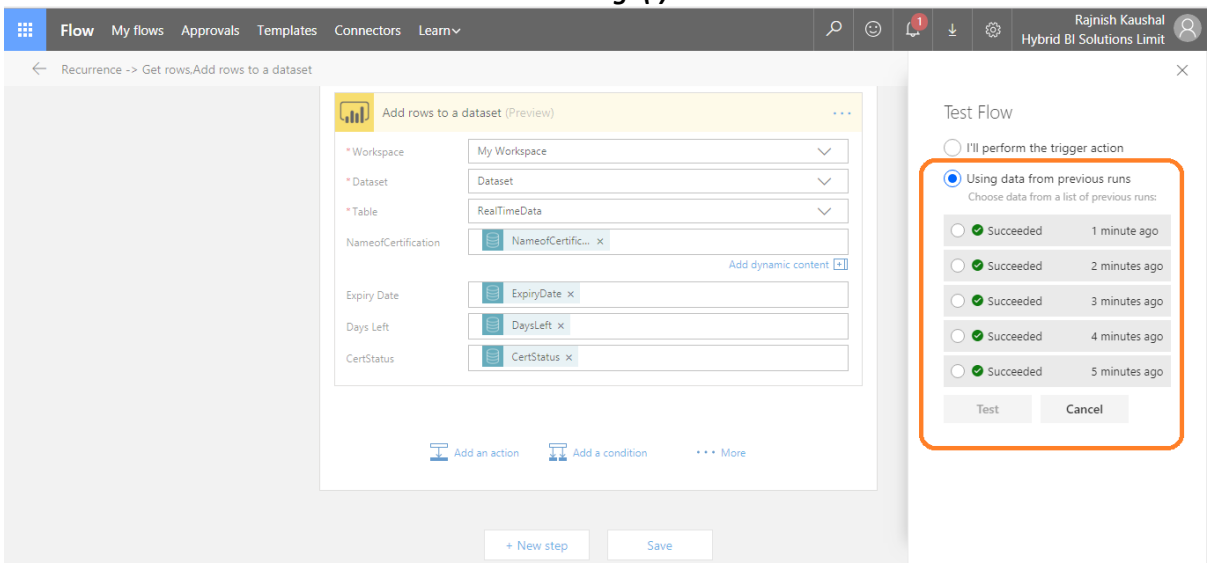
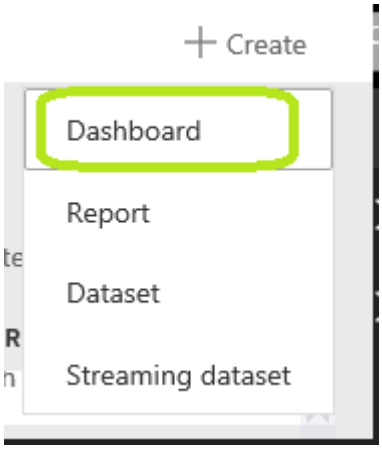
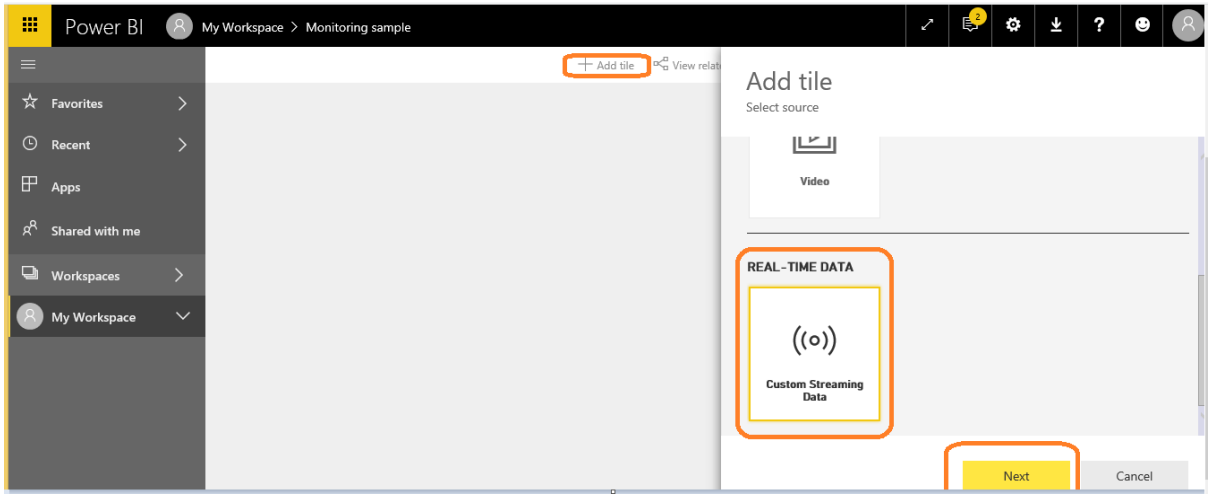


Fig. (ii)

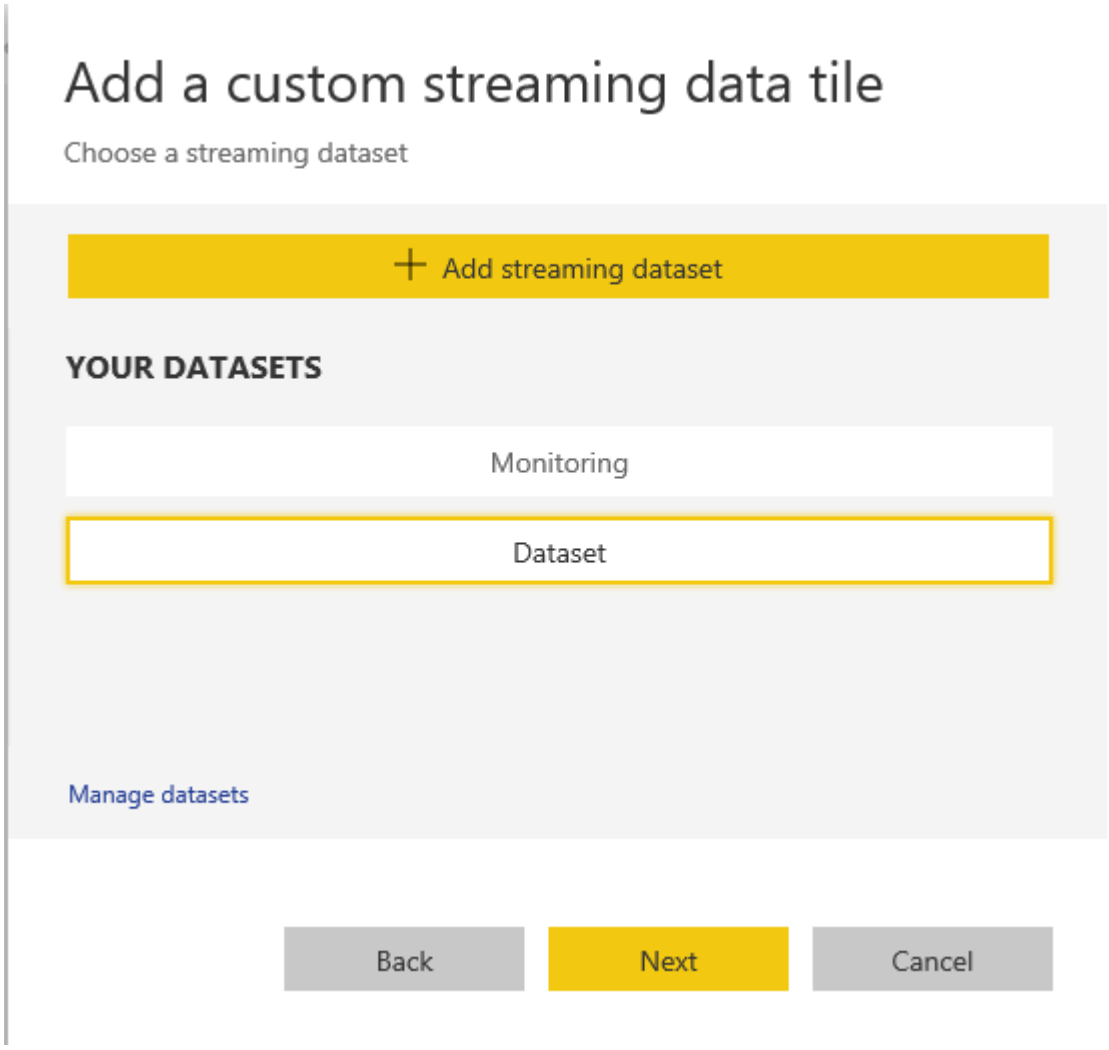
16. Now, go to Power BI service and create a new dashboard by clicking on “Create” option.



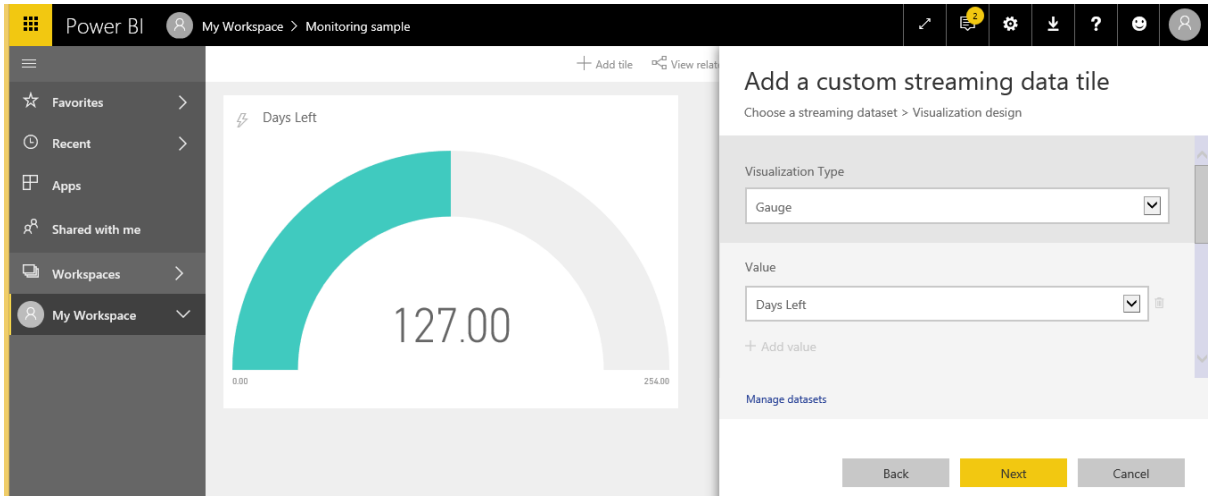
17. Click on “Add tile” icon and select “Custom Streaming Data” option from the list then click on “Next” button.



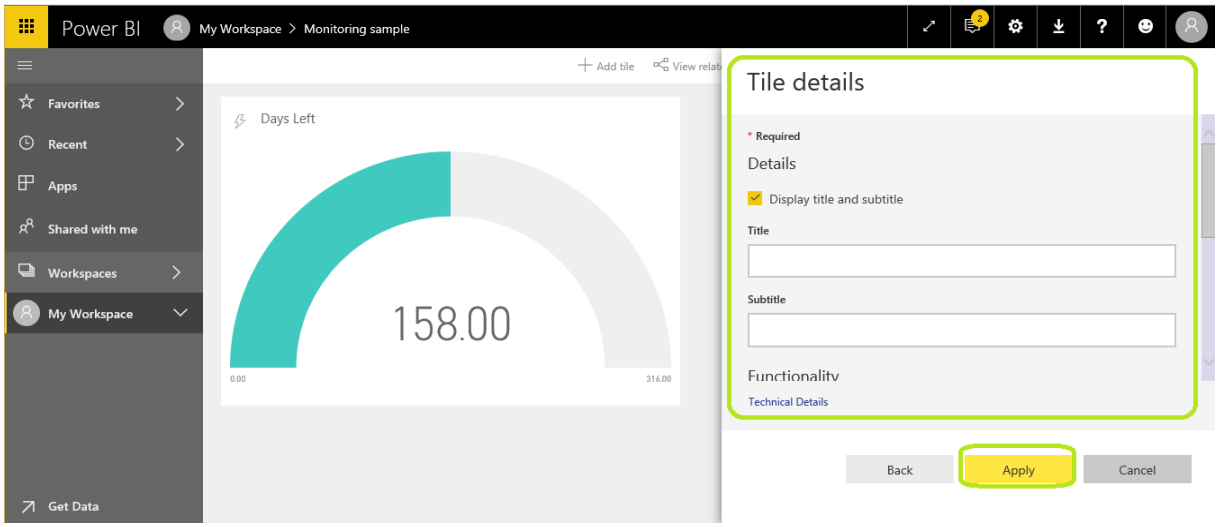
18. After that click on “Dataset” and go to next window by clicking on “Next” button.



19. Select “Visualization Type” and select “Value” for the field from the dropdown list. Then click on “Next” button.



20. Fill the required details and click on “Apply” button to apply the same.



In this way, Power BI meets flow and we are ready to monitor data.

Note: We can also configure alerts for the tiles to get notifications as per our requirement.