**SQL SERVER Rules for Optimizing Any Query Best Practices for Query Optimization**

This subject is very deep subject but today we will see it very quickly and most important points. May be following up on few of the points of this point will help users to right away improve the performance of query. In this article I am not focusing on in depth analysis of database but simple tricks which DBA can apply to gain immediate performance gain.

* Table should have primary key
* Table should have minimum of one clustered index
* Table should have appropriate amount of non-clustered index
* Non-clustered index should be created on columns of table based on query which is running
* Following priority order should be followed when any index is created a) WHERE clause, b) JOIN clause, c) ORDER BY clause, d) SELECT clause
* Do not to use Views or replace views with original source table
* Triggers should not be used if possible, incorporate the logic of trigger in stored procedure
* Remove any adhoc queries and use Stored Procedure instead
* Check if there is atleast 30% HHD is empty – it improves the performance a bit
* If possible move the logic of UDF to SP as well
* Remove \* from SELECT and use columns which are only necessary in code
* Remove any unnecessary joins from table
* If there is cursor used in query, see if there is any other way to avoid the usage of this (either by SELECT … INTO or INSERT … INTO, etc)

There are few hardware upgrades can be considered as well like separating index on different disk drive or moving tempdb to another drive. However, I am not suggesting them here as they are not quick way to improve the performance of query.