With an aim of helping small producers in selling their products, these societies are established. The producers who wish to obtain reasonable prices for their output are the members of this society.

For securing a favourable market for the products they eliminate the middlemen and improve the competitive position of its members. It collects the output of individual members. Various marketing functions like transportation, packaging, warehousing, etc are performed by the cooperative societies to sell the product at the best possible price.

## 5) Housing Cooperative Society

To help people with limited income to construct houses at reasonable costs, these societies are established. Their aim is to solve the housing problems of the members. A member of this society aims to procure the residential house at lower cost.

They construct the houses and give the option to members to pay in installments to purchase the house. They construct flats or provide plots to members on which the members themselves can construct the houses as per their choice.

## **Features**

- As it is a voluntary association, the membership is also voluntary. A person is free to join a cooperative society, and can also leave anytime as per his desire. Irrespective of their religion, gender & caste, membership is open to all.
- It is compulsory for the co-operative society to get registration. The co-operative society is a separate legal identity to the society.
- It does not get affected by the entry or exit of its members.
- There is limited liability of the members of co-operative society. Liability is limited to the extent of the amount contributed by members as capital.
- An elected managing committee has the powers to take decisions. Members have the right to vote, by which they elect the members who will constitute the managing committee.
- The cooperative society works on the principle of mutual help & welfare. Hence, the principal of service dominates it's working. If any surplus is generated, it is distributed amongst the members as a dividend in conformity with the bye-laws of the society.