

## **Associate Membership and Right of Associate Members**

**Prior to amendment of Maharashtra Co-operative Societies Act, 1960 effective from 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2013, the Associate membership of Co-operative Housing Societies and Premises Societies and Right to Participate in the election was available to those Associate members who were admitted as such by payment of membership fees and there was no requirement of interest in the property(Flat).**

**However, after introduction of the concept of active membership and right of participating in the election having being restricted to active members only, an Associate member also need to have interest in the property for participation in the election. The recent Bye-laws have been amended accordingly and therefore an Associate member should have right, title and interest in the property and his name in the Share Certificate should not stand first.**

**Other important change introduced in case of an Associate membership is in the matter of cessation of membership. This important change is that an Associate member having interest in the flat will not cease to be member of the society in case of death of the member whose name stands first in the Share Certificate.**

**To summarize an Associate member must have interest in the flat to participate in the election of the Managing Committee and he will continue to be member of the society even if the member whose name stand first in the share certificate expires.**