**Creating Classes**

The *class* statement creates a new class definition. The name of the class immediately follows the keyword *class* followed by a colon as follows −

**Syntax: -**

class ClassName:

'Optional class documentation string'

class\_suite

* The class has a documentation string, which can be accessed via *ClassName.\_\_doc\_\_*.

**Example: -**

class Employee:

'Common base class for all employees'

empCount = 0

def \_\_init\_\_(self, name, salary):

self.name = name

self.salary = salary

Employee.empCount += 1

def displayCount(self):

print "Total Employee %d" % Employee.empCount

def displayEmployee(self):

print "Name : ", self.name, ", Salary: ", self.salary

* The variable *empCount* is a class variable whose value is shared among all instances of a this class. This can be accessed as *Employee.empCount* from inside the class or outside the class.
* The first method *\_\_init\_\_()* is a special method, which is called class constructor or initialization method that Python calls when you create a new instance of this class.
* You declare other class methods like normal functions with the exception that the first argument to each method is *self*. Python adds the *self* argument to the list for you; you do not need to include it when you call the methods.