

08 Agencies for the formation and 09 expression of Public Opinion - I

10 The following are the eight main agencies
for the formation of public opinion -

- 11 (1) Press (2) Public Meetings (3) Political
Parties (4) Political Literature (5) Radio,
12 Television and Cinema (6) Educational
Institutions (7) Election (8) Religious
13 Associations

14 (1) Press -

15 The main agency for
the formation of public opinion is press.
16 A good press acts as a Light House for
democracy. Newspapers can be called 'the
17 book of democracy. Impartial, free and
fair press is a boon for any country.
18 A free press criticises the government
severely and creates a sound public
19 opinion fearlessly. It not only controls
the views of the government and
the people, but also shows them
20 the right path. The newspapers give
us information about everybody's problems
and create political consciousness. The
press acts as an important link
between the people and the government.
An enlightened press decides conflicts
in the country and takes it to
the heights of development. But if

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the press is controlled by some selfish party, the community or the capitalists, the country suffers a great loss. Therefore, the government should have a strict check or control on press.

(2) Public Meetings -

Public meetings are also an important agency for creating public opinion. The ministers support the policy of the government in the public and the opposition parties criticise the government bitterly and expose its shortcomings. This process gives political education to the people. The views of the people are moulded in public meetings. But all this is possible only at a place where the people are completely free to express their views.

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