

## **Chowkidara-System-A Missing-Institution**

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### **Abstract**

The article unveils the history of ‘Chowkidara System’ in the sub-continent starting from Mughal era, and passing through the colonial period. The article reflects the need of ‘Chowkidara system’ in present day Pakistan as the original system seems vanishing. The legislation framed under section 39-A of The Punjab Laws Act, 1872 is the sole law for running the affairs of Chowkidars. The comparison study of ‘Chowkidara System’ prevailing in India further provides the utility of the system that seems missing in Pakistan. The talk with Chowkidar leader and case study of different citations portray the miserable conditions of Chowkidars who are struggling for their minimum wage, and for the recovery of lost glory of Chowkidars. The private security concept further deteriorated this public institution of security, and it has been suggested that the soaring challenges to the law and order can be overcome if the ‘system’ is rehabilitated under the command of law enforcement agencies.

**Key Words:** chowkidar, security, law enforcement, police

### **Introduction**

From the British Raj, we have not only inherited the main pillars of State such as Parliament, Judiciary, bureaucracy which are part and parcel of a state in the modern-day world sans there is no concept of state, but also innumerable other remarkable institutions in the arena of bureaucracy. Army, Police, Revenue, Railway were considered, and still so taken as hallmark of governance for running the affairs of state (Wolpert, 2019). In the backdrop of rule of British Raj in the sub-continent, the crown needed a strong hold to rule over the local population through these aforementioned institutions, and for achieving the same, the office of Deputy Commissioner along with revenue and police powers was deemed necessary, and for the

purpose of providing assistance at the grass root level, the helping hand was extended to these institutions of Police and revenue through the institution of 'Chowkidara' (Kumar, 2020) -the lost legacy of British Raj which once considered a powerful institution providing basis to rule over the masses as the Chowkidars were required to keep a vigilant eye on the public at large (Kumar, 2020). They were often termed as 'secret /spy agents' of the British Raj who were the ears, and eyes through which the Raj could hear and see the affairs of the local population (Wolpert, 2019).

Originally speaking in the historical context of the Sub-Continent though 'Chowkidar' had been a part of Mughal Administration (the word 'Chowkidar' being Persian word came into Urdu language) but our subject of 'Chowkidar' is not the one which had been in Mughal era but a reshaped institution of 'Chowkidar', finding its remarkable place in the legal system designed by the Raj (Shepherd, 2019). The word 'Chowkidar' is derived from the Urdu word Chauki, which essentially means one of the four posts on the periphery of a village that guard it from intruders, and dacoits. The Urdu word 'chawk' (outpost), and 'dar' (keeper) together make up the word Chowkidar, which has even made it to the Oxford dictionary. In the distant past, chowkidars were those who sat at the Chaukis on the four corners of a village, and guarded the villagers all night. Originally, they were part of the policing system and they were accorded special status of honorary policing to watch over the small villages as can be seen during the Mughal rule in India (Azad, 2019).

### **Content Analysis**

The British Raj considering the value of Chowkidar gave legal birth to the 'Chowkidara System' in a new form after having established its rule over India. Tracing the legal history of Chowkidara System in the sub-continent we come across The Punjab Laws Acts, 1872 which was the initial enactment right after abolition of the East India Company by Indian Act, 1858 when the colonial powers decided to rule sub-continent through the Crown (Punjab Laws, 1872). The British Raj started taking control of the sub-continent under the law in order to have complete rule over the Indians by *dejure*, and as per need and requirement to protect the institution of the Crown, and to govern the sub-continent in the name of law new enactments were being introduced by the British Parliament (Wolpert, 2019). The

establishment of Chowkidara System was the result of newly introduced laws which was established by virtue of Section 39-A of The Punjab Laws Acts, 1872, 'The Punjab Laws' which delineates — '*Power to establish a system of village -watchmen, and municipal Watchmen, and to make rules.*' Accordingly, the system was established and rules were framed and published in the same year of 1872. The preamble of 'The Punjab Laws' provides that in the exercise of the Power conferred by the Punjab Laws Act, 1872 Section 39-A, Lieutenant Governor with the previous sanction of the Governor General in council made the rules to provide for the establishment of a village watchman to the territories under the administration of the Government of the Punjab (Punjab Laws, 1872).

Under a comprehensive legal system, the Chowkidars were afforded special status particularly on account of their valuable assistance to the local police in order to maintain law and order (Hamid, 2019). The local population was keenly monitored through these Chowkidars. Apart from performing the duty as watch and ward, these Chowkidars played a significant role in detection and control of crimes. The local police were required to maintain all the records of Chowkidars, with full particulars along with their temporary and permanent addresses so as to ensure their availability as and when required (Mughal, 2021).

Perusal of rules framed under Section 39-A of 'The Punjab Laws' portray Chowkidara system as the backbone of Police and Revenue departments. Rule 5 provides that for each village, one or more Chowkidars shall be appointed provided that if any village is too small to make pay of one Chowkidar (Hamid, 2019). The appointment of chowkidar was and is made under Rule 7 which says that, '*the chowkidars will be appointed by the District Magistrate /Assistant Commissioner on the recommendation of village /ward councilor, and head man of the area, after due verification of antecedents by the local police....*' Rule-9 framed in the year 1983 talking about salary of Chowkidars provides that, '*A monthly ratio of Rs. 2/ in the case of village Chowkidar will be levied on each house, and shop /establishment in every village to cover monthly salary of village chowkidar. The Assistant Commissioner / Collector of the Sub-Division will be authorised to levy this rate for this purpose consisting of houses/shops from 100 to 200 will be created*

*in villages in such a way as the Chowkidara rate chargeable from these houses/shops is not less than Rs, 300/- per month'.*

Rule 13 authorises a Chowkidar to be armed with a Club, with a metallic top bearing distinctive insignia as may be prescribed by the Government. Moreover, each Chowkidar is entitled to get one free license for a non-prohibited bore arm along with a waist belt with suitable insignia prescribed by the Government. It was this special status of almost honorary police man through which the institution of police had strong control at the grass root level, and the crime rate was to the minimum level (Correspondent, 2018). The role of Chowkidar in eradication of crimes is well defined in Rule, 17 which provides that, *'every chowkidar shall at once give to the officer in-charge of the Police station within the limits of which his village or beat is situate , information he may obtain respecting the commission of, or intention to commit any of the following offences in his village or beat, that is to say, a) Rioting ; b) Concealment of birth by secret disposal of dead body ; c) causing miscarriage ; d) Exposure of a child; e) Mischief by fire; f) Mischief to animals by poisoning ; g) attempt to commit culpable homicide'.*

The existing rules of 1983 undoubtedly reflect the significance of the institution as a helping hand not only to the police department but also to the various other government institutions such as Revenue, Local Government, health, and education (Hamid, 2019). However, lack of interest to revise the rules by succeeding governments, and even non-compliance of existing rules has led this institution to erode whereby the ultimate sufferers are the Chowkidars who are struggling hard to protect this 150 years old institution which is still rendering service to the Government in various fields at the cost of receiving as less as Rs.300 per month, and thus leading very miserable and poor life (Azad, 2019). The minimum wage notification has not been extended to these poor workers of the Government, though many times, it has been pledged with these chowkidars to afford them the reasonable wages. In one of meeting with Chowkidara Union president namely Allah Ditta shed light on the wretchedness of these poor Chowkidars, and the struggle he has led to fight for the rights of these Chowkidars since 1986 when he was replaced by Siddique Nasir - the founding father of Chowkidara Union in Punjab (Divya Goyal, 2019).

Since 1872, the relevant rules for the appointment, the administration and running the affairs of Chowkidars (village

Watchmen), have been amended. In the year 1872, remuneration was fixed at Rs. 3 per month. In the year 1960, the remuneration was revised, and fixed at Rs.10, thereafter, in the year 1983, it was revised as Rs. 300/ per month and since then (Chowkidari Act, 1956), the remuneration is the same as these rules have not been revised for the last almost 40 years. Though Rule 11 of the existing Chowkidara Rules specifically, and jealousy protects these chowkidars, and provides that, *'Government may revise the salary of Chowkidar, and the rate of contribution per house/shop as and when necessary (Sharjeel, 2012).'*

From the nature of the work of these Chowkidars, it has been found that these Chowkidars have been rendering service to various other government departments such as Local government, education, health etc., apart from their main work and role in the Revenue, and police departments and in this connection almost each department has equally assigned the duties to them to get the job done (Apr 11 et al., 2021). Take the example of Revenue, where revenue collection is a major task to be performed through Chowkidars and this is evident from Rule 12 which prescribes, *'that the chowkidars will be required to keep the record of births, and deaths in his area, and report the same to the union council concerned without any delay, and would also render assistance to the Lambardar in collection of land revenue.'* Here, to keep the record of births, and deaths is work of such nature which is to be done for the local Government institution. Almost all types of Government campaigns whether it is educational campaign for the general masses in the villages or health campaigns during epidemics etc., are run through these Chowkidars. Rule 18 prescribes this very role by ordaining (Azad, 2019), that, *'every village head man and chowkidar shall in like manner report the appearance of every epidemic in his village or beat. On the occurrence in his village or beat of a first case of cholera or of sudden death preceded by purging and vomiting, it shall be the duty of the watchmen to report the fact at once to the officer-in-charge of the Police station within the limits of which his village or beat is situate.'* In the recent pandemic of covid-19, these chowkidars have served the best public interests as directed by the Government, but despite all delivering the toils of labor much to the utter astonishment, the rewards of their work have been least honored by the Government (Sharjeel, 2012).

In another meeting held with the president (Allah Ditta) of Chowkidara Union - a registered union under The Punjab Industrial Relations, Act, 2010, it was revealed that the total strength of Chowkidars in the whole Punjab is almost 40 thousand who are receiving Rs. 300/- per month, and struggling for their minimum wage Rs. 20,000/- (Twenty Thousand) per month, as per Government notification which has not been extended to these poor sons of the soil nevertheless (Sharjeel, 2012). It is their fundamental right under Article 9 of the Constitution of Islamic Republic of Pakistan to receive the sustenance as the means of life - bread and butter are vital for the existence of life, in absence thereof, there is no concept of life. It is only the implementation of the minimum wage notification that can save these chowkidars from being engulfed by hunger, and poverty, but sadly no concrete steps are in sight on the part of the Government (Constitution, 1973).

It is interesting to note that though work is taken by various departments, however, as per rules of business of The Government of Punjab Rules, 2018, the relevant enactment 'The Punjab Laws' is administered by Revenue department vide entry No. II under head of 'Board of Revenue Department', and the same status was there under previous Rules of Business, 2011, and the same has been the case for the last 150 years (Punjab Government Rules, 2018). A collective reading of the *Chowkidara* Rules, 1983 along with Rules of business 2018 leaves no room to believe that it is the utmost duty of the Government of Punjab to take care of this one of the oldest institutions, restructuring it as per demands, and needs taking care of downtrodden Chowkidars who have failed to attract the eyes of high ups of succeeding governments, and thus, in result thereof, are leading miserable life in poverty (Azad, 2019).

Is it not the discrimination which is otherwise prohibited under Article 25 and 27 of the Constitution of Islamic Republic of Pakistan when these Chowkidars are not afforded the equal protection of law by not applying the minimum wage notification to them. These Articles have guaranteed that all citizens are equal before law (Constitution, 1973), and there shall be no discrimination in service. Is it not the exploitation to hire the services of Chowkidars over Rs 300/ per month? The exploitation which is condemned under Article 3 of the Constitution when it is ordained that (Mughal, 2021), *'the state shall ensure the elimination of all forms of exploitation and the gradual fulfillment of the fundamental principle, from each*

*according to his ability to each according to his work” the equal protection ensure the application of minimum wage.’* Whether it’s not the deprivation from the protection of law provided under Article 4 of the Constitution wherein the rights of the individuals have been protected of every citizen for the time being within Pakistan, and no action detrimental to the life, liberty, body, reputation of any person shall be taken except in accordance with law? Whether these people are not required to be up-lifted by virtue of Article 37 (a) of the Constitution which ordains that, *‘the state shall promote with special care, the educational and economic interests of backward classes or areas...’* Does this not amount to ‘forced labor prohibited under Article 11 (2) of the Constitution when minimum wage is not provided to a Chowkidar under a law? The existing wages of Rs.300/ has been fixed by the rule 7 of the existing rules of 1983 (Constitution, 1973).

One of the most crucial demands raised by these Chowkidars is with regard to their ‘status’ which has not yet been declared permanent though it has been pledged many times with them by the Government to frame comprehensive rules of their service structure, however, till today no promise has been fulfilled in regard thereto since their appointment under Rule 7 is still considered purely of a temporary nature, and this has been the case since 1872 when the foundation of Chowkidara System was laid down in the sub-continent (Sharjeel, 2012). They can be removed at any time without serving any notice as their appointment is subject to the sweet will of the Government, and it is owing to this temporary nature of service that these Chowkidars have failed to secure their rights guaranteed under the Constitution, laws, and rules, and the verdicts rendered by the constitutional courts including the apex court of the country emphasizing that in matters of service discriminating policies cannot be applied, and the denial of minimum wage amounts to violation of Article 9 of the constitution (Hamid, 2019). In this regard, reference can be made to PLD 2011 SC 37—Lady Health Workers Case; 2013 SCMR 728 ----- Industrial Home Teachers Case’; 2005 SCMR 100- Ikram Bari Case; PLD 2019 Lahore 253-Subey Khan versus Secretary Labor, Government of The Punjab, and so on (*HR. CASE No.16360 of 2009, 1859-S & 14292-P of 2010, 2011*). The principles enshrined in these judgments call for the application of the minimum wage notification to all including these Chowkidars but the same has not been

extended to them. Lady health workers had no service structure, and were deprived from the minimum wage, and the Honorable Apex Court termed the same as a violation of Article 9 of the Constitution (Constitution, 1973).

Apart from entertaining the question with regard to the payment of the minimum wage to the contractual employees such as these Chowkidars are the Honorable apex court has equally condemned the clumsy attempt of such nature which break the continuity of service of such employees. The principles enshrined in this regard as not to 'break the continuity' can be found in the landmark judgments reported as 2019 PLC (C.S) 590; 2017 PLC 162 Peshawar; 2021 LHC 92; 2019 SCMR 233; 2019 PLC (C.S) 539 (*Subey Khan Vs. Secretary*, 2019). where it has been categorically held that artificial breaks cannot be allowed to exist, and intervene the job of the permanent nature. The historical institution of Chowkidara system deserved to be treated in the same line for creating a permanent structure so as to provide opportunity to serve Chowkidars without losing job save in accordance with law.

The interpretation of the Constitution with regard to the fundamental rights and the time to time verdict rendered by the constitutional courts including the apex court of the country on the question of 'minimum wage', and 'temporary appointment' has well protected vulnerable employees yet notwithstanding all the accolades for the landmark judgments the principles laid down by the courts have not impressed the relevant governments to frame policy and rules in order to revise the Chowkidara System in our villages (Azad, 2019). Has the Chowkidara system become outdated? Is it obsolete, and needs to be abolished instead of reviving it? A comparative study of this system of Chowkidara - the lost legacy of British Raj has been dealt differently in our neighboring India. There the Parliament enacted The Chowkidara Act, 1954, and rules were framed by the respective provinces. The Rules portray how well the Chowkidara system has been protected. Take the example of Haryana Chowkidara Rules, 2013 whereby a chowkidar receives Rs. 7000/ per month; uniform allowance Rs.2500/ per annum; Rs. 1,000/- as Lathi/Battery/ Umbrella allowance Rs. 1000/-.; and Rs.3500/ as bicycle allowance one time (Hamid, 2019).

Under the aforementioned rules, a chowkidar is not only required to prepare a register of birth and death sending a monthly report to the office of District Magistrate, but also to inform the police station



about any type of situation related to law and order situation. He is equally required to assist the police in controlling the crimes such as informing police about theft of electricity, water, trees, animals, machines, and equipment of agriculture. The assistance does not end here but he is also required to assist the police: to clear the blockade of road, and traffic; extinguishing fire in the fields (Sharjeel, 2012); police control, and emergency response vehicles in case of necessity; during the visit of VIPS, and VVIPS, and would assist the police and District administration in official works. Apart from above, he would carry out the work assigned to him by the District Magistrate from time to time (Azad, 2019).

The local Government Laws as in the case of The Punjab Local Government Act, 2019 does not make any reference to the 'Chowkidara System' nor determine the terms and conditions of village / municipal 'Chowkidars'. The same was the position in the earlier law i.e. The Punjab Local Government Act, 2019. A writ Petition bearing No.35863/ 2016, Anjuman- e-Chowkidara Versus Government of Punjab etc. was filed for the purpose of minimum wage (*Munir Masih vs. Secretary Local Govt. etc.*, 2021). The Local Government took the stance differently and stated that they were never ever paid by the Local Government, and they are only concerned for the purpose of regimentation and allocation of beats. In the present hard times, when it has become extremely difficult to maintain law and order on account of rising population, the dire need was to resurrect this one of the oldest institutions of the sub-continent in order to have better governance as well as to meet the security challenges of the modern world (Mughal, 2021), but the neglect approach has led this institution to erode in one sense as the institution is still there but in the dole drums. It is an established truth that our country in order to counter rising security threats are deeply in need of such a force of agents who live much closer to the public at large, and who equally could be a substitute to the 'private security guards (Hamid, 2019). Data shared by the police shows that only in the city of Karachi there are almost 125 security companies that are offering services of some 55000/ private security guards to individuals and organizations according to figures compiled by the All-Pakistan Security Agencies Association. Individuals, organizations, and private establishments of other cities are also not lagging behind to hire the services of private security guards. All this hiring of private security guards has not been helping hand to

the state institution of police, rather the rising trends of hiring private security guards have seriously prejudiced the state security operatives who are themselves requiring the people to hire services of private security guards (Mughal, 2021).

Originally, the 'security guard' or 'watchman' or 'Chowkidar' all perform the duties of security and watch. However, the term 'Chowkidar' has been considered and recognized in the public sphere with special reference to the sub-continent during the period of Mughal era. These Chowkidars were not less than the guards who guarded the city of Rome during the Roman empire under the command of state agency i.e., Police. It was these security guards who were later called watchmen in Europe, and we termed them as 'Chowkidars' (Mughal, 2021). However, the term 'chowkidar' was used in the wider term under the state agency operatives comparatively with security guard which often meant for 'private security personnel' not under the control of state agency. The chowkidars working under the direct control of police were meant to perform the duties on behalf of the state for the purpose of watch so as to prevent any unlawful criminal activities (Wolpert, 2019).

However, with the advent of private enterprise the states ignored these agents of state, and the issue of security got privatized which gave birth to the Private Security industry in the Europe in result thereof private security agencies started emerging across the world having independent working from state operatives and its agencies so as to provide security to the ones who can privately afford to do so, and those who are unable to afford are vulnerable (Correspondent, 2014). The state with the passage of time became least concerned with the extra security which had been provided through watchmen, and felt at ease to accommodate the private security agencies meant for nobles, and in our social fabric for Feudal, Politicians, Religious Imams, business tycoons (Hamid, 2019). In the backdrop of Afghan wars with reference to Pakistan which received the modern warfare deadly weapons, the religious leaders secured private guards rather than trained their own people for their self-security; this enigma became so evident that at certain times these 'nobles' on the back of their 'security workers' Challenged the writ of the state, and it was quite difficult to have control over them (Wolpert, 2019). The 'security workers' of rival factions clashed with one another in result thereof blood shed became the talk of the town during the period of 1980 and 1990. The

state seemed feeble to overcome the security dangers, there was no legislation in this regard till the year 2000 when the need to regulate the private security was felt, and the legislation to regulate, and control the security companies was promulgated as 'The Punjab Private Security Companies (Regulation and control) Ordinance, 2002'. The ordinance contained the rules, regulations and certain prohibitions which were mandatory to maintain the writ of government (Pb Ord. No.LXIX, 2002). The ordinance 2002 has not contemplated the replacement of watchmen appointed under Section 39-A of the Act of 1872 since the ordinance of 2002 has not provided the mechanism of the public security as had been there in the Act of 1872.

The Punjab Private Security Companies (Regulations and Control) Ordinance, 2002 under which a private security company works after a valid license is issued for the purpose of carrying on, maintaining or engaging in the business of providing security. Section 2 (h) of the Ordinance, 2002 defines 'security guard' as, "any watchman or other person engaged by the licensee for the protection of persons or property or to prevent theft or robbery at the protected places and who possess required training as prescribed by the licensing authority (Pb Ord. No.LXIX, 2002). The Ordinance carries complete code of private security from prohibiting private security companies not to wear certain uniform akin to the security forces under Section 4; the prohibition of maintenance of a company without a license under Section 5; the prohibition of cash in transit without a valid no objection certificate under Section 5-A; registration of existing companies under Section 7; the penalties for the violation of the provisions of the ordinance including failure to comply with the conditions of the license etc. under section 10; conditions for revocation of license under Section 11; and conditions precedent for employment of staff by licensee, etc. (Pb Ord. No.LXIX, 2002).

### **Conclusion**

Yet all the efforts on behalf of the state for providing private security has strengthened only the private enterprise, and the people in their private affairs, beyond the scope of the state operators. These security guards are not workers, and agents of state security institutions, and resultantly, they cannot be taken as trustees in comparison with the 'Chowkidars' established under Chowkidara

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System who were considered as agents of state, though at the same time they were no more a burden on state expense, and their remuneration was paid through the contribution of the public at large as the Chowkidara rules provide the complete mechanism for the purpose of payment of wages of these Chowkidars (Correspondent, 2014). The state in the modern warfare is in need of more security personnels and is constantly feeling the deficiency of such public force which could be utilized in order to channel and stream line the security operatives deep down among the public at large. Why the state of Pakistan couldn't establish this system of Chowkidara which could be beneficial both for the public and the state institutions is a serious question to be addressed keeping in view the raising challenges being faced day by day? Why the 'private security system' did over-ride the 'public security system'? Why the individual security was considered more important than the public security provided through complete mechanism? Whether it was not in favor of the state to have controlled private security system established under the existing Chowkidara system? Who is responsible for not establishing a link of private security with state security so the state could utilize the services in times of need, and in war times? (Ware, 2020)

The difference between private security system, and Chowkidara system is only that the former is alien to be useful for the state security agencies while the latter ensures to be working for the public as well as for the state enterprise, and thus, ultimately beneficial for the state as well. If any mechanism is developed to use the private security system to equally be useful for the state security institutions, the missing institution of Chowkidara system shall be considered to have taken a new form and shape under a new head of 'Private Public Security system' in the modern world to be useful in order to meet the challenges faced by the state, and ushered by the anti-state elements. It is a stark and bitter reality, that on account of facing multiple security challenges, it is becoming extremely difficult for the state to counter the insurgencies in certain areas as in the case of Baluchistan. It is interesting to see how the tiny establishment of British Raj has ruled over the whole sub-continent with the mighty hand (Wolpert, 2019). The secret lies in compact governance from top to bottom, and at the bottom were these chowkidars who were the secret agents of the British Raj. Why could we not formulate such a system in order to maintain law and

order, and for the purpose of peace and security in our homeland. Still efforts can be made to channelize the ‘private security’ into the ‘state security’.

There is in no other high time in the history as prevailing existing circumstances requiring not only to maintain law and order in the country but also to counter every threat that may arise from anti-state elements, and terrorist organizations who are all deeply engaged to weaken the state. In order to combat the deep-rooted criminals that are open threat to the peace and order, a Herculean task is required by having close links with the public which can best be performed by the tiny security agents in the form of Chowkidars who have laudable history enriched by the British Raj (Wolpert, 2019). It is heartening to see the dismal security situation prevailing in the troubled areas of Baluchistan which, on the other hand, due to the establishment of Gawader port has got significance across the globe and many international players are busy in the game of hide and seek in order to contain the emerging power of China which is benefitting on account of Gawader port.

How the ‘Chowkidara system’ can be developed as security wall in order to meet the upcoming challenges of security can be considered a million dollar question to be answered by those who are at the helm of security affairs, and are associated with peace and security which is in tatters in the backdrop of fifth generation war which is being fought on all fronts which nevertheless has been deeply realized by our security institutions, but the missing element to establish the bond between private security and state security is still missing, and is not in sight. No one can deny from the benefits arising out of bond between the two as the private security operatives if considered and taken as Chowkidars, they can well serve the purpose of state security operatives as historically speaking the mode and manner through which these tiny agents were made part and parcel of police by the British Raj was well accomplished task through which the Raj ruled us peacefully in the troubled waters.

Whether or not we should establish link between private security and state security through Chowkidara System, all depends as to how much we are conscious to combat security threats? If we are ready to take it as serious task of combating security threats. This can best be done by rehabilitating the lost institution of Chowkidara system. If the Raj was successful to maintain peace, law and order

through the long arm of law extended through the established Chowkidara system why not us? The need is to 'value' which was considered valuable by the Raj - the Chowkidara system, a missing institution - badly needed in times of turmoil where security lapses are causing irreparable losses in the country. The Chowkidara system if adopted can take into account the matters of national security as an agent of state institutions.

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