A large number of settlements in West Bengal as well as in India are neither belongs to the ‘urban’ category, as defined by the Census, nor do they bear rurality as an essential character. These settlements have crossed the minimum threshold population of being urban i.e. 5,000 much before and those have developed at nodal point locations as small market centres. Such settlements are of prime importance in the process of planning to check the rural urban migration flow to the medium and big cities and to have a balanced development at a regional scale. However, these settlements are under the jurisdiction of Gram Panchayats and are the subject of utter neglect, as they are not covered by any sort of planning initiatives in India, as everything is for urban local bodies (defined urban centre). The present discussion would focus on the problem of placing these settlements in the planning, growth and governance of towns and cities in India.