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- The authors indicate that the rainfall intensity classification proposed for USA is not applicable to tropical countries like India. Rainfall intensity is one of the parameters which determines the erosivity of rainfall. By considering the one hour rainfall intensity maps for various return periods in India, a rainfall intensity classification with five intensity classes (viz. gentle: less than 15 mm/hr, moderate: 15.1-40.0 mm/hr, heavy: 40.1-70.0 mm/hr, Severe: 70.1-100.0 mm/hr and very severe: more than 100 mm/hr) have been suggested.