

FLOW DATA ON RIVERS AND CANALS

The Island of Mauritius is divided into 25 major river basins and 21 minor ones. The catchment areas vary from 3.9 km² to 172.7 km². Flows in most of the major basins are gauged (Fig. 3.1). There are about 360 river diversions in Mauritius and most of the major ones are gauged. Table 3.1 gives the distribution of the number of diversions as a function of their relative water entitlement.

| <i>Class Interval</i> <i>Flow in Ls⁻¹</i> | <i>No.</i> <i>of Diversions</i> |
|---|------------------------------------|
| 0 < Q < 1 | 100 |
| 1 < Q < 15 | 68 |
| 15 < Q < 30 | 45 |
| 30 < Q < 75 | 46 |
| 75 < Q < 150 | 36 |
| 150 < Q < 500 | 34 |
| 500 < Q < 5000 | 28 |
| 5000 < Q < 20000 | 2 |
| T O T A L | 359 |

Table 3.1 Classification of surface water abstractions according to flow

The Water Resources Unit operates **106** flow-measuring stations out of which **59** are equipped with continuous water level recorders. Daily or twice weekly water level readings are available for the remaining **47** stations. Given the high number of river diversions, most of the hydrometric stations on streams measure residual flow.

Flow Data Presentation

Tables 3.2 and 3.3 respectively list the various river and diversion gauging stations that have been/or are operational. Table 3.4 provides a list of those selected hydrometric stations for which flow data are included in the present data book. Mean daily flow data are tabulated for 22 gauging stations and monthly flow summary are given for 21 gauging stations.

For each gauging station basic information together with river catchment schematic diagram is provided. A brief explanation on the technical terms used has been included in the glossary.