DIRECTOR GENERAL OF SHIPPING		
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The matter of issue of TAR books to engine ratings in line with the requirements of STCW 95 and as spelt out in the META Manual has been under due consideration in the Directorate for some time. In accordance with Rule 28, Chapter III of the Engine Department as spelt out in META Manual I, an approved Sea Going Service is one, which requires the watch keeper to have a TAR Book. The TAR Book for engine ratings is under preparation, which may take some time. It is thus evident that requirement for such TAR Book before appearing for watch keeper examination cannot be complied with. Therefore, the provision for requirement of TAR Book is hereby exempted for all engine ratings serving on large coastal vessels and all foreign going vessels till 31st January 2002 by which time it is presumed that the TAR Book would be compiled and issued to the ratings, so that for rating joining sea after the cut off date, it would be mandatory to produce the TAR Book as a pre requirement towards eligibility for watch keeping certification.