

# **MARINE DEPARTMENT NOTICE NO. 140 OF 2011**

## **(Navigational and Seamanship Safety Practices)**

### **Notice to Coxswains and Operators of Vessels**

A local passenger ferry hit a mooring dolphin inside Cheung Chau Typhoon Shelter soon after the vessel had departed from Cheung Chau ferry pier. In the accident, a number of passengers and crew members were injured while the ferry sustained damage to her starboard bow.

2. The investigation into the incident is still in progress. The preliminary findings of the investigation attribute the causes of accident to improper look-out and over-speeding.

3. Coxswains and Operators of vessels are hereby reminded that:

- vessels shall always maintain a proper look-out by all available means to prevent the vessel from colliding with other vessels, objects and/or mooring facilities which may be lit or unlit. When risk of collision exists, early actions should be taken to avoid collision so as to pass clear at a safe distance; and
- vessels shall always proceed at a safe speed appropriate to the prevailing circumstances and conditions. When navigating inside typhoon shelter, the speed limit of 5 knots shall be strictly observed.

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Director of Marine

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