

Detained immigration officers: Learn from our ISA detention
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TAIPING, Aug 2 — Four immigration officers, held under the Internal Security Act for suspected involvement in human trafficking, said today that what happened to them should be a lesson to their colleagues.

They also said detention under the ISA was different from what they had expected it to be.

Bernama quoted Officer A, a young woman, as saying: "I read stories on blogs that ISA detainees were tortured, had their fingernails pulled out and were given dog food. It's not true. To me, it is more mental."

She was one of eight immigration officers whom the Home Ministry had decided to release. She and two others were released today while the other five would leave the Kamunting detention centre here on Friday.

She told a press conference at the centre before her release that she had learned her lesson and felt that the ISA should be retained.

"I hope my friends will regard what happened to me as a lesson for them (as well) because this thing (human trafficking) concerns national security," she was quoted as saying

Officer B, who was also released today, echoed her sentiment.

"What happened to me should be a lesson to my friends and other immigration officers to be of greater integrity," Bernama quoted him as saying.

Officer C, who will be released on Friday but was allowed to meet the media today, said he had learned from what happened and hoped that his colleagues would open their eyes too.

He advised them to discharge their duties honestly.

He said colleagues who were still doing things that threaten national security should stop such actions.

Officer D, who was released today, said what he did threatened national security, and he regretted his action.

He advised his friends involved in such activities to stop.

"It is useless to regret later," he was quoted as saying.

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