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Mas Selamat handed over to Singapore

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Singapore's Home Affairs Ministry says Mas Selamat Kastari, the leader of the Singapore Jemaah Islamiyah terrorist network has been arrested under the Singapore's Internal Security Act.

In a statement, the Ministry indicated he's currently under investigation.

Mas Selamat was handed over to Singapore custody today by the Malaysian authorities.

He escaped from the Singapore's Whitley Road Detention Centre on 27 Feb 2008.

The Home Affairs Ministry says following close co-operation between the security agencies in Malaysia and Singapore, the Malaysian Special Branch arrested Mas Selamat in Johor on 1 Apr 2009, and detained him under Malaysia's Internal Security Act until his repatriation to Singapore.

It says it has conveyed its deepest appreciation to its Malaysian counterparts, the Malaysian Special Branch and the Special Task Force, for their assistance in the arrest and repatriation of Mas Selamat to Singapore.

It adds that this operation illustrates the longstanding close cooperation between the Malaysian and Singaporean security agencies, which has served both countries well.

Rohan Gunaratna is a terrorism expert from the S Rajaratnam School of International Studies:

"The Malaysians have completed their investigations because Mas Selamat Kastari presented not only a threat to Singapore but also to Malaysia and now that those investigations have completed, Mas Selamat has been transferred to Singapore. Singapore government will continue to investigate based on what Mas Selamat Kastari was planning from Malaysia."

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