The Senate met at 10:22 a.m. The Senate President read prayers.

2. Votes and Proceedings:
The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Wednesday, 20th February, 2013.

Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved by unanimous consent.

3. Announcements:
   (a) Appreciation:
The Senate President read a letter from Senator Victor Ndoma-Egba (Cross River Central) as follows:

   SENATOR VICTOR NDOMA-EGBA OFR, SAN
   SENATE LEADER
   SENATE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

   February 26, 2013.

   Senator (Dr) David A.B. Mark GCON
   President of the Senate
   The Senate
   National Assembly
   Abuja.

   Your Excellency,

   APPRECIATION

   On behalf of the entire Ndoma-Egba family worldwide I write to thank you personally, the leadership and all distinguished Senators for the love and support you all demonstrated towards us towards the burial ceremonies of our father and patriarch, the Honourable Justice (Elder) E.T. Ndoma-Egba.

   You and my distinguished colleagues participated massively in every aspect of the ceremonies and inspite of the challenges of travelling to and within Cross River State, turned out massively at the burial on 23rd February 2013 at Akparabong, Ikom.
While thanking you for your sacrifices to attend the ceremonies I believe you all now have first hand appreciation of the peculiarities of Cross River State.

Your demonstration of love and support for me and my family at this time will undoubtedly challenge me to further exert myself to the very limits of my endowments in the service of my distinguished colleagues, this hollowed institution and indeed our great Nation. We are indeed grateful.

While assuring you of my highest esteem always, once again I say a big thank you.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed)
SENATOR VICTOR NDOMA-EGBA OFR, CON, S.A.N.
Senate Leader

(b) NTA/Startimes cables:
The Senate President read a letter from Senator Enyinnaya H. Abaribe (Abia South) as follows:

Your Excellency,

Senator H. Enyinnaya Abaribe

ANNOUNCEMENT

The NTA/Startimes cables for Distinguished Senators are ready for installation at the various offices of the Distinguished Senators from today Tuesday, February 26th, 2013.

Distinguished Senators are enjoined to instruct their Aides to allow the NTA/Startime Engineers access to their offices for the installation.

Thank you.

(Signed)
Senator Enyi Abaribe
Chairman, Senate Committee on
Information, Media & Public Affairs

(c) Acknowledgment:
The Senate President acknowledged the presence of the Staff and Students of First Choice International School, Lugbe, FCT, Abuja who were in the gallery to observe Senate Proceedings.

4. Committee on Establishment and Public Services:
Report on the screening of nominees:
Motion made: That the Senate do consider the Report of the Committee on Establishment and Public Services, on the screening of the following nominees for appointment as Members of the Federal Civil Service Commission (FCSC):
Question put and agreed to.

Report presented.

Debate:

Report committed back to the Committee on Establishment and Public Services for further Legislative Action.

5. Committee on Federal Character and Inter-Governmental Affairs:
Report on the State of the Nation's Address Bill 2013 (SB. 224):
Motion made: That the Senate do consider the Report of the Committee on Federal Character and Inter-Governmental Affairs on the State of the Nation's Address Bill 2013 (Senator Dahiru A. Kuta — Niger East).

Question put and agreed to.

Report presented.

Debate:

Report committed back to the Committee on Federal Character and Inter-Governmental Affairs for further Legislative Action.

6. Committee on Finance:
Report on the Customs and Excise Management Act CAP. C45, LFN 2004 (Repeal and Re-enactment) Bill 2013 (HB. 238 and SB. 148):

Consideration of Report deferred to another Legislative Day.

7. Quarantine Act CAP Q2 LFN 2011 (Repeal and Re-enactment) Bill 2013 (SB.210):
Motion made: That a Bill for Act to Repeal the Quarantine Act CAP Q2 LFN 2011 and enact the Nigeria Public Health (Quarantine Isolation and Emergency Health Matters Procedure) to make provisions for preventing the introduction into and spread in Nigeria, and regulate steps for the containment in Nigeria, and the transmission from Nigeria, of dangerous infectious and communicable diseases, organisms and agents and to repeal the quarantine Act, 1926, CAP Q2, LFN, 2004, Bill 2013 be read the Second Time(Senator Clever M. Ikisikpo — Bayelsa East).

Debate:

Further debate deferred to another Legislative Day.
8. Border Communities Development Agency Bill 2013 (SB.143):

Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.


Consideration of Bill deferred to another Legislative Day.

10. Adjournment:
Motion made: That the Senate do now adjourn till Wednesday, 27th February, 2013 at 10.00 a.m. (Senate Leader).

Adjourned accordingly at 11:57 a.m.

Dr. David A. B. Mark, GCON, fnim
President,
Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.