

Snake Island

June 23, 2022

In news– Recently, Ukraine caused “significant losses’ ‘ to the Russian military in airstrikes on **Zmiinyi Island, also known as Snake Island**, in the Black Sea.

About Snake Island-

- It is a small piece of rock less than **700 metres from end to end**, that has been described as being “X-shaped”.
- It is **located 35 km from the coast in the Black Sea**, to the east of the mouth of the Danube and roughly southwest of the port city of Odessa.
- The island, which has been known since ancient times and is marked on the map by the tiny village of Bile that is located on it, **belongs to Ukraine**.
- The island has been **known since classical antiquity, and during that era hosted a Greek temple to Achilles**.
- The island **does not have a prominently featured mountain, but rather a low-slope hill**.
- The **bedrock of the island consists of Silurian and Devonian sedimentary rocks, primarily metamorphosed, highly cemented quartzite conglomerate-breccias**.

Note:

- **Ilha da Queimada Grande, also known as Snake Island, is an island off the coast of Brazil in the Atlantic Ocean**.
- It is administered as part of the municipality of Itanhaém in the State of São Paulo.
- The island is small in size, only 43 hectares, and has a temperate climate.
- The island is the **only natural home of the critically endangered, venomous *Bothrops insularis* (golden lancehead pit viper)**, which has a diet of birds.

- The **snakes became trapped on the island thousands of years ago** following the end of the last ice age when rising ocean levels disconnected the island from the mainland.

