Let's Dissect The News (The Hindu)

Crisis in the Strait

By sending a record number of military jets towards Taiwan over the last week, China has shown a new intensity and military sophistication as tensions rise around the island

Taiwan's air defence identification zone covers an area including the Taiwan Strait and a large swathe of the Chinese mainland. Taiwan considers jets crossing an unofficial median line between China and the island as an incursion



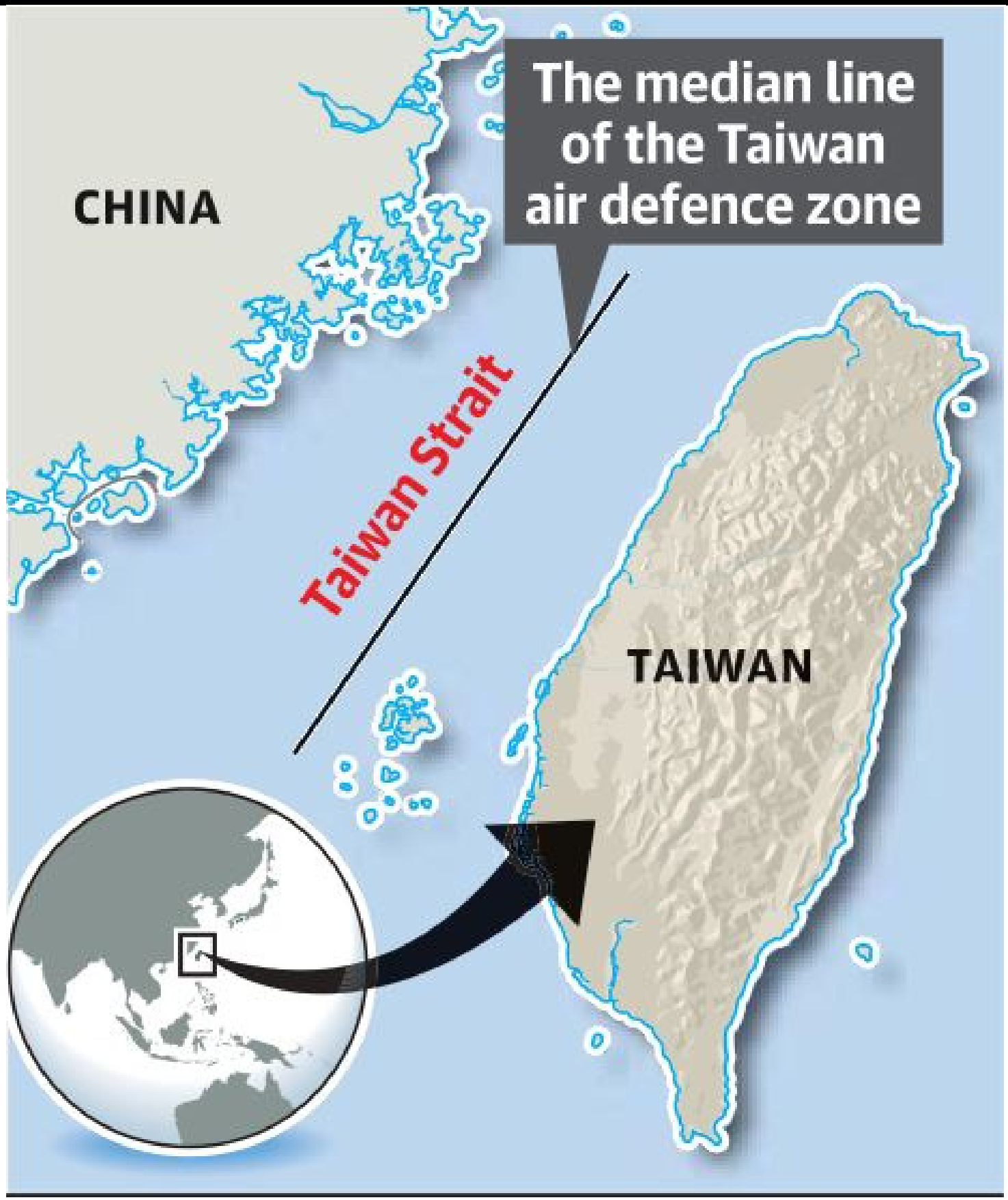
Over the past year, the PLA has flown more than 750 sorties of jets near Taiwan

China-Taiwan Crisis

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Why Is Taiwan Strait In News?



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Why Is Taiwan Strait In News?



- **Context**: **China** is putting enormous pressure on Taiwan by sending 56 aircraft to Taiwan.
- **Note:** Taiwan strait is also known as **Formosa strait**. ***Formosa meaning "Beautiful"***
- The strait lies between China and Taiwan and Connects the South China Sea and East China sea.
- **Tropic of cancer** passes through the strait.

What is China-Taiwan Issue?



- **China** claims Taiwan to be a part of its own territory. **Taiwan** and the **West** consider Taiwan as a separate entity with a democratic government.
- While **Taiwan claims** itself self-governed and *de facto independent*, it has never formally declared independence. ***China refuses diplomatic relations with countries that recognise the region.***

Know the Regional Geography



- **Parcel Islands:** Also known as the Xisha Islands, claimed by Vietnam and China.
- **Spratley Island:** The Spratlys are the main flashpoint in the South China Sea, claimed by the Philippines and China. The island has a **rich marine ecosystem**.
- **Bashi Channel:** Bashi Channel separates Taiwan from the Philippines.

What is the Nine-Dash Line?



China claims that all **islands** within the nine-dash line belong to China (According to the Statement on The Territorial Sea by The PRC Government, China 1958)

TextBooq Quiz 

Answer in the Comment Section

Arrange the following geographical locations from North to South

1. Philippines
2. Taiwan strait
3. East China Sea

A. 1 – 2 – 3

B. 2 – 1 – 3

C. 3 – 2 – 1

D. 3 – 1 – 2