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Chinese Investment in Russia Fell 25% in the First Half of This Year

By Anna Dolgov

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Russia's President Vladimir Putin (R) and China's President Xi Jinping arrive for a family photo session with leaders of the invited states during the BRICS Summit in Ufa, Russia, July 9, 2015.

China's direct investments in Russia shrank by 25 percent in the first half of this year, even as its overall foreign investment increased, according to Chinese Ministry of Commerce figures cited by Russian media.

China invested $56 billion in the non-finance sectors of 147 countries and territories around the world in the first six months of this year, marking a 29.9 percent increase from the same period in 2014, Ministry of Commerce spokesman Shen Danyang said Tuesday in Beijing, Russia's Prime business news agency reported.

The greatest increase was reported in countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, or ASEAN, where Chinese investment grew by 92.6 percent, Danyang was quoted as saying.

Investment in Hong Kong increased by 71.8 percent, and in the U.S. by 30 percent, he said, without specifying absolute figures.

But Chinese investment in Russia saw a 25 percent decline, Danyang said. Investment in Australia also dropped by 39.1 percent, Prime quoted him as saying.

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