

'Plans to allow staff to visit abroad on LTC'

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THE central government is considering allowing its employees to go abroad on Leave Travel Concession (LTC), top officials said on Thursday.

A proposal in this regard has been finalised by the Personnel Ministry, which has asked for comments from other departments concerned such as Home, Tourism, Civil Aviation and Expenditure "at the earliest possible", they said.

The plan, which has been mooted by the Ministry of External Affairs, proposes to include five central Asian countries, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, under the LTC scheme, the officials said. The move to allow Central government employees to visit these countries is aimed at increasing India's footprint in the Central Asian region, they said.

Earlier in March, the government had said it has shelved a proposal to allow LTC to its staff to visit SAARC countries.