Question: Chemistry

The soft silvery metallic element which ionizes easily when heated or exposed to light and is present in atomic clocks is

1. Calcium
2. Cesium
3. Cerium
4. Califonrium

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Concept:

Caesium is a soft, silvery gold-coloured metal that is quickly attacked by air and reacts explosively in water. The most common use for caesium compounds is as a drilling fluid. They are also used to make special optical glass, as a catalyst promoter, in vacuum tubes and in radiation monitoring equipment.

Properties:

- Cesium is silvery gold in appearance, soft and ductile by nature.
- It is the most alkaline and the most electronegative element.
- It is in the liquid state at room temperature.
- The atomic number of cesium is 55 and it belongs to the alkali metal category.

Caesium: uses

- used as a catalyst in the hydrogenation of a few organic compounds.
- the metal can be used in ion propulsion systems.
- used in atomic clocks.
- because of its high oxygen affinity, the metal is used as a "getter" in electron tubes.
- used in photoelectric cells and vacuum tubes.
- IR lamps.

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