The effects of preparation method on the performance of Co–CeO₂ catalyst for high temperature water–gas shift reaction of waste–derived synthesis gas

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In our previous research, Co–CeO₂ catalyst was studied for high temperature water–gas shift reaction to produce hydrogen from waste–derived synthesis gas. In this study, the various preparation methods such as sol–gel (SG), co–precipitation (CP), incipient wetness impregnation (IWI) and hydrothermal (HT) were applied to Co–CeO₂ catalyst to derive the optimal synthetic method. Also, the effects of preparation method on the physicochemical characteristics were investigated. As a result, Raman spectroscopy and XPS results showed that the Co–CeO₂ (SG) catalyst featured the highest oxygen storage capacity (OSC) compared to the other catalysts. According to the H₂–TPR results, Co–CeO₂ (SG) catalyst showed the strong metal–support interaction (SMSI) between Co⁰ and the CeO₂ support. In conclusion, Co–CeO₂ catalyst synthesized by the sol–gel method exhibited the highest catalytic activity among the prepared catalysts, even in the severe conditions (high CO concentration: ~38% in dry basis and high GHSV: 143,000 h⁻¹).