Heterometallic CPM-200 metal-organic framework: A promising candidate for CO_2 fixation reaction

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Recently many heterogeneous catalysts based on metal–organic frameworks (MOFs) have been researched for the conversion of CO_2 to cyclic carbonates. Cyclic carbonates can be used as solvents, electrolytes in lithium–ion batteries, and as intermediates in the synthesis of ethylene glycol, acyclic carbonates, polymers, and pharmaceuticals. Herein, CPM–200–In and CPM–200–In/Mg MOFs were synthesized by a solvothermal method and were characterized by using various Physico–chemical analysis methods. They were used as heterogeneous catalysts for the cycloaddition of CO_2 with epoxides and found to be highly efficient toward the cycloaddition reaction at moderate reaction conditions, with >99% selectivity toward cyclic carbonates under solvent–less conditions. In addition, a plausible reaction mechanism for cycloaddition reaction is proposed based on the experimental results and our previously reported DFT studies.