SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Soft-template mediated approach for Au(0) formation on heterosilica

surface and synergism in catalytic reduction of 4-nitrophenol

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Fig. S1. FESEM images of (a) SG-1, (b) SG-2



Fig. S2. TEM of sonicated supernatant of (a) SMSG-1 and (b) SMSG-2; EDAX of sonicated supernatant of (c) SMSG-1 and (d) SMSG-2 and their corresponding EDAX data in table form. The inset of (a) shows the particle in higher resolution



Fig. S3. Kinetics of 4-NP reduction with SMSG-2 as catalyst. (a) Plot of 1/Absorbance vs. time at different catalyst doses (Initial concentration of $4\text{-NP} = 1.0 \times 10^{-4}$ M, Concentration of NaBH₄ = 0.1 M), and (b) Plot of 1/Absorbance vs. time at various initial concentrations of 4-NP (Catalyst dose = 4 g/L, Concentration of NaBH₄ = 0.1 M)



Fig. S4. XRD of SMSG-1 after completion of the reaction (Initial concentration of $4\text{-NP} = 1.0 \times 10^{-4} \text{ M}$, Catalyst dose = 4 g/L, Concentration of NaBH₄ = 0.1 M)