## **Supportive Information**

## Metal-organic gels and coordination networks of pyridine-3,5-bis(1methyl-benzimidazole-2-yl) and metal halides: self sustainability, mechano, chemical responsiveness and gas and dye sorptions

Avishek Dey, Sumit K. Mandal and Kumar Birdha\*

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Figure S1.  $H^1$  NMR of ligand (L<sub>1</sub>) in DMSO-D<sub>6</sub>



Figure S2. Illustration of inverted vials for gel formation at various ratios of metal and ligand for (a) MOG-2 and (b) MOG-3.



Figure S3. Illustration for microscopic studies: a) POM, b) SEM, c) FESEM, d) TEM images of MOG-2.



Figure S4. Illustration for microscopic studies: a) POM, c) FESEM images of MOG-3.



Figure S5. Methyl orange dye absorption by xerogel of (a) MOG-2 and (b) MOG-3 in aqueous solution



Figure S6. Monitoring of Rod-B dye absorption by xerogels at various time intervals for MOG-1.



Figure S7. Monitoring of Rod-B dye absorption by xerogels at various time intervals for MOG-2.



Figure S8. Illustration for the crystal structure of **2**: a) one-dimensional helical network via the coordination of imidazole and pyridine N-atoms with Hg(II), b) Space filling representation of right handed helices, c) pseudo-tetrahedral coordination environment around Hg(II).



Figure S9. Illustration for the crystal structure of **3**: a) pseudo-tetrahedral coordination environment around Hg(II), b) one-dimensional helical network via the coordination of imidazole and pyridine N-atoms with Hg(II), c) Space filling representation of one-dimensional helical network.



Figure S10. Illustration for the crystal structure of **4**: a) pseudo-tetrahedral coordination environment around Hg(II), b) one-dimensional helical network via the coordination of imidazole and pyridine N-atoms with Hg(II), b) Space filling representation of one-dimensional helical network.



Figure S11. FTIR spectra of ligand (L1)



Figure S12. FTIR spectra for xerogel of MOG-1



Figure S13. FTIR spectra for xerogel of MOG-2



Figure S14. FTIR spectra for xerogel of MOG-3



Figure S15. FTIR spectra of complex 1



Figure S16. FTIR spectra of complex 2



Figure S17. FTIR spectra of complex 3



Figure S18. FTIR spectra of complex 4



Figure S19. FTIR spectra of complex 5



Figure S20. PXRD pattern of xerogels of MOGs and crystalline complex 1