

Supporting Information for:

Ni/Co in and on CeO₂: A comparative study on dry reforming reaction

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Table S.5 Selected Co based DRM catalysts reported in the literature and their activity

Table S.6 Amount of Carbon deposited by various catalyst in DRM with different Feed vol.% concentration (CH₄/CO₂=1)

1.Supporting Results:

SI.1:Zoomed XRD patterns for (a) Ni& Co substituted CeO₂ (b) Ni& Co supported CeO₂

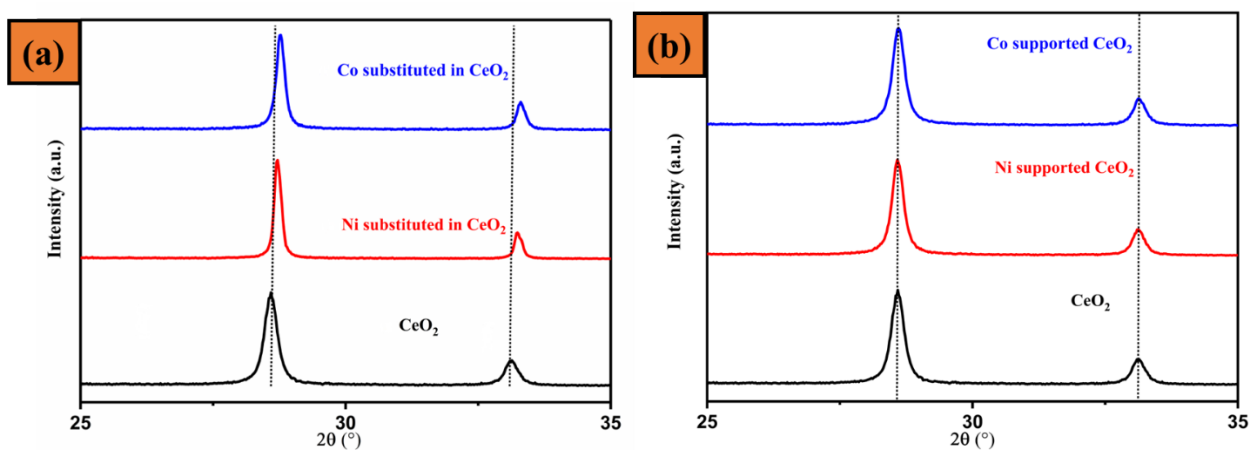
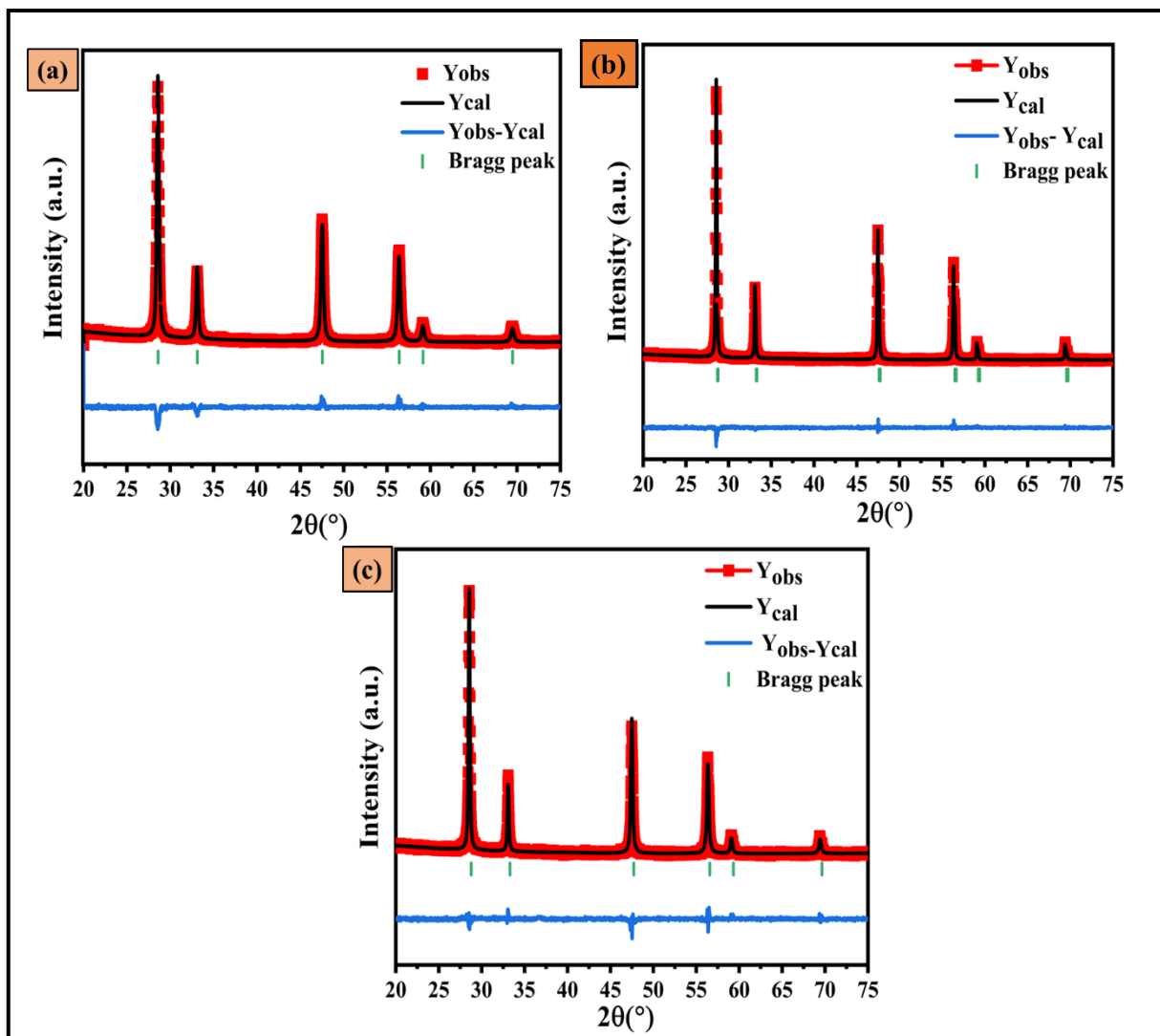


Figure S1 – Zoomed XRD patterns for (a) Ni& Co substituted CeO₂ (b) Ni& Co supported CeO₂

SI.2: Rietveld refined XRD patterns for (a) CeO₂ (b) Ni substituted CeO₂ (c) Co substituted CeO₂

Rietveld refinements (Figure S2) on the CeO₂ and transition metal (Ni, Co) substituted CeO₂ using the JANA 2006 software. The refinements were performed to approve the substitution of Ni and Co in CeO₂. Rietveld refinements have shown a considerable decrease in the lattice parameter and cell volume if we consider Ni and Co substitution on Ce site. The value of Goodness of fit (GOF) around unity specifies the admirable goodness of Y_{observed} and $Y_{\text{calculated}}$ value¹ and authorizes that refined parameters are resolved even more absolutely. R(obs), R(all), and wR(all) are the reliability factor which also gave the information regarding the profile fitting.



substituted CeO₂

Table S1. Rietveld refined structural parameters for CeO₂ substituted compounds

Compounds	CeO₂	Ni substituted CeO₂	Co substituted CeO₂
<i>Crystal System</i>	FCC Cubic	FCC Cubic	FCC Cubic
<i>Space group</i>	Fm-3m (No: 225)	Fm-3m (No: 225)	Fm-3m (No: 225)
<i>Lattice Parameters (Å)</i>			
<i>a=b=c</i>	5.4182 (7)	5.4154 (3)	5.4103 (6)
<i>Cell volume (Å³)</i>	159.07 (3)	158.57 (13)	158.3 (3)
<i>R Factors</i>			
<i>R_{obs}</i>	4.56	2.76	3.16
<i>GOF</i>	1.26	1.16	1.32
<i>R_{all}</i>	4.56	2.76	3.16
<i>wR_{all}</i>	4.72	3.38	3.76

SI.3: HR-TEM images of (a) Ni supported over CeO₂ (b) Co supported over CeO₂ (c) Ni substituted CeO₂ (d) Co substituted CeO₂. No indication of separated metal in substituted catalysts is apparent while the metallic Ni and Co are present in the supported catalysts



substituted CeO₂ (d) Co substituted CeO₂. No indication of separated metal in substituted catalysts is apparent while the metallic Ni and Co are present in the supported catalysts.

SI.4: High-angle annular dark-field (HAADF)-Scanning transmission electron microscopy and energy-dispersive X-ray elemental mapping of (a) Ni supported over CeO₂ (b) Co supported over CeO₂ (c) Ni substituted CeO₂ (d) Co substituted CeO₂

The morphology of deposited carbon on the spent catalyst after the reaction was carried out by the FEI Themis 60-300 with EDS detector and FEI CETA 4k x 4k camera for imaging the catalyst. Before performing the TEM analysis of catalysts were supported ultrasonically in methanol. A drop of dispersion was dropping cast over the carbon-coated copper grid and dried for two days.

Figure S4 shows Energy-dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDX) mapping of the (a) Ni supported over CeO₂ (b) Co supported over CeO₂ (c) Ni substituted CeO₂ (d) Co substituted CeO₂. The High-angle annular dark-field -Scanning transmission electron microscopy (HAADF-STEM) and corresponding EDX revealed a homogeneous elemental distribution and presence of Ni and Co supported over CeO₂ in figure S4 (a, b). The high-angle annular dark-field scanning transmission electron microscopy (HAADF-STEM) image (Figure S4c) of Ni substituted CeO₂ reveals that Ni aggregation is visible at some portion. The EDX of Ni distribution overall is low, but at some portion of concentration is high, possible reason for high concentration

intensity may be lot of particles stacked on each other. But from the XRD analysis we did not observe the separate phase of Ni or NiO. On the basis of that we are expecting most of Ni particle is substituted in the CeO_2 . In the case Co substituted species are highly disseminated and no aggregation of Co is visible over CeO_2 structure as seen the Figure S4d.

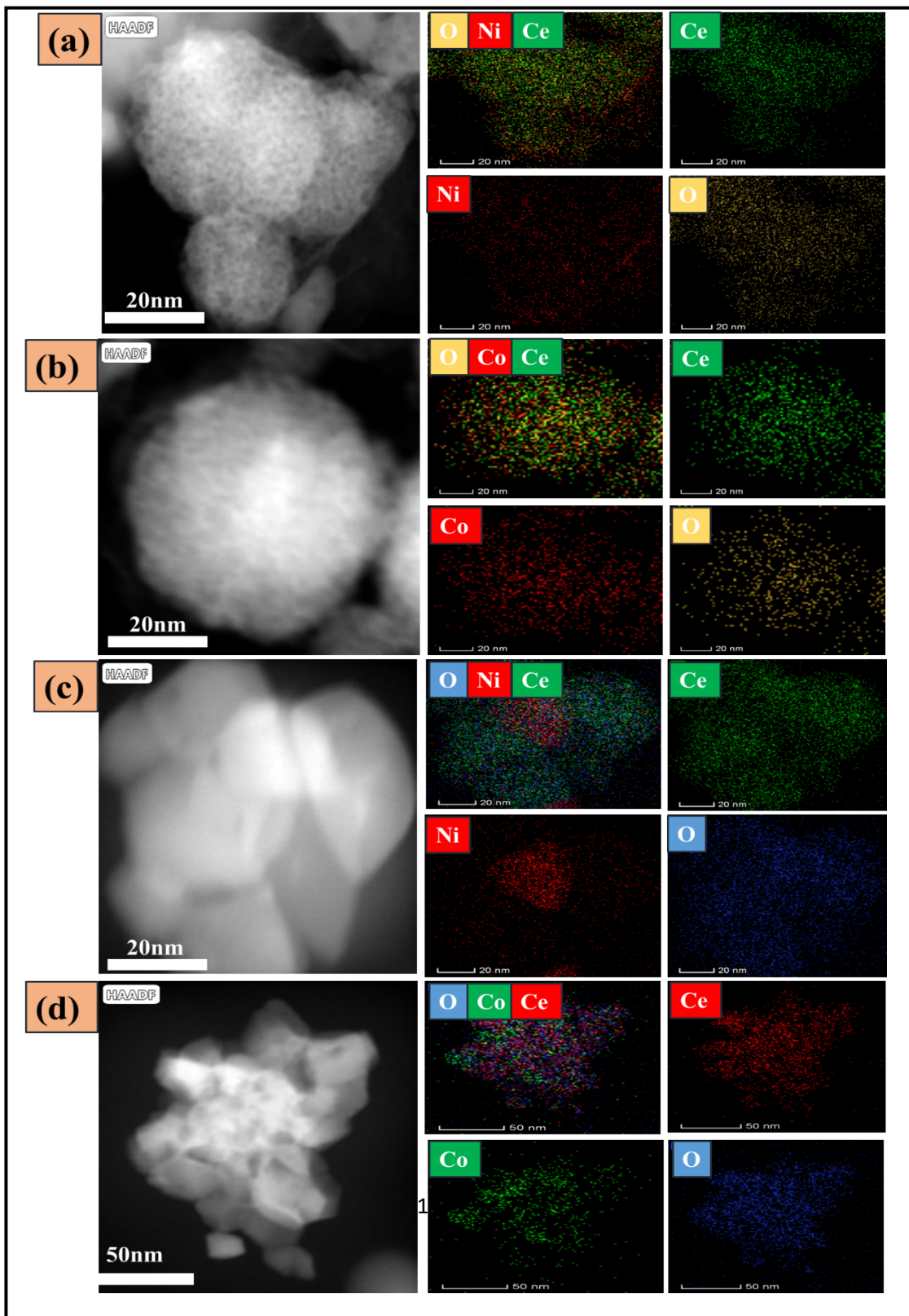


Figure S4: High-angle annular dark-field-Scanning transmission electron microscopy (HAADF-STEM) and energy-dispersive X-ray elemental mapping of (a) Ni supported over CeO₂ (b) Co supported over CeO₂ (c) Ni substituted CeO₂ (d) Co substituted CeO₂

SI.5: High resolution XPS spectra of Ce 3d in (a) Ni supported over CeO₂ (b) Co supported over CeO₂ (c) Ni substituted CeO₂ (d) Co substituted CeO₂

The complex XPS Ce 3d spectrum (FigureS5), explained in more detail somewhere else, was analysed following a procedure described in the literature. The Ce 3d spectrum was deconvoluted in 10 Gaussian-type functions with binding energies constrained to known values^{2, 3}. Following notation introduced by Burroughs et al., The signals of Ce³⁺ are labelled as U', U⁰, V', and V⁰. In contrast, those of Ce⁴⁺ is labelled as U, U'', U''', V, V'', and V''', where the superscript corresponds to different final states, and the V and U correspond to the 3d_{5/2} and 3d_{3/2} states, respectively^{4, 5}. The intensity of each peak permits the calculation of the Ce³⁺ fraction by using the equation-

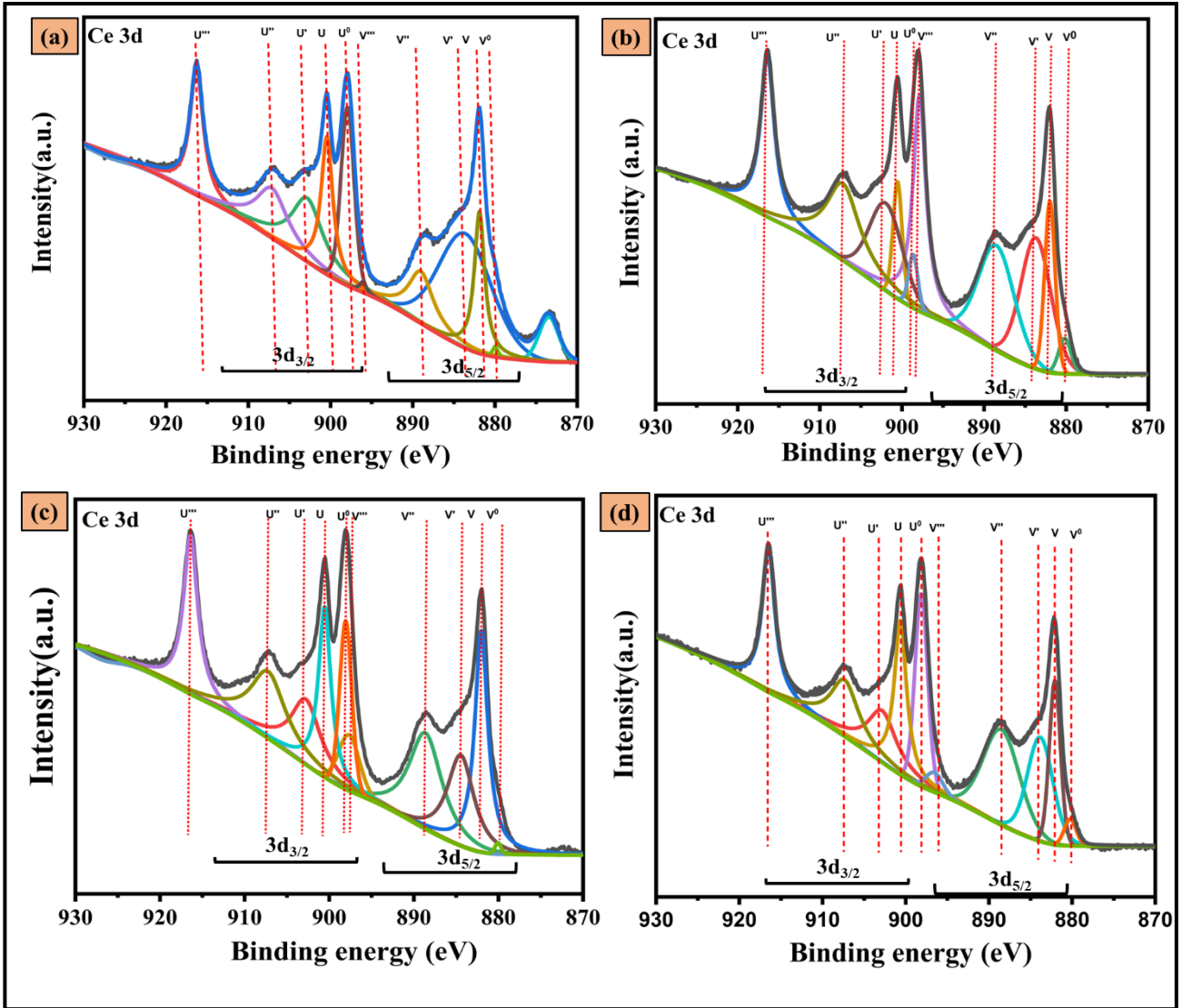
$$\text{Ce (III)} = U^0 + U' + V^0 + V'$$

$$\text{Ce (IV)} = U + U'' + U''' + V + V'' + V'''$$

$$\text{Fraction of Ce (III) from Ce 3d} = \frac{\text{Ce (III)}}{\text{Ce (IV)} + \text{Ce (III)}}$$

The ratio between Ce³⁺ to Ce⁴⁺+ Ce³⁺ concentration gives useful information regarding the presence of surface defects, that play a crucial role in determining the catalytic activity of Ceria based systems.

The fraction of Ce³⁺ is given in table(S2) for mono-metal substituted and supported catalyst. High-resolution Ce 3d XPS results and spectra are given in the Figure S5 and table S2 which listed-out the binding energies (BE) and the area of each peak. The ratio of Ce³⁺/Ce⁴⁺+Ce³⁺ was calculated to illustrate the content of oxygen vacancy around Ce³⁺ sites on the catalyst surface⁶.



supported over CeO₂ (c) Ni substituted CeO₂ (d) Co substituted CeO₂

Table S2 -High-resolution Ce 3d XPS results. The listed-out figures are the binding energies (BE) and the area of each peak. The ratio of $Ce^{3+}/Ce^{4+}+Ce^{3+}$ was calculated to illustrate the content of oxygen vacancy around Ce^{3+} sites on the catalyst surface

Peaks assignment	Binding energy (eV)	Ni supported over CeO ₂	Co supported over CeO ₂	Ni-substituted CeO ₂	Co-substituted CeO ₂
V ⁰	880.7-881.2	2145.2	3060.9	3671.3	3602.6
V	882.7-883.9	52795.6	221848.1	213387.8	65087.2
V'	885.3-886.9	115195.6	78986.4	141609.8	146203.7
V''	888.6-889.9	155738.1	71240.3	184317.3	173939.7
V'''	898.1-899	105698.3	4047.0	58504.6	3502.6
U ⁰	899.1-899.9	71260.5	88156.4	101659.0	200628.8
U	900.8-900.9	81176.9	87344.2	156351.3	122856.7
U'	903.7-903.9	45166.5	108933.0	143628.8	80969.2
U''	907.3-908	156190.6	86343.2	173856.6	151613.5
U'''	916.7-917.3	127736.0	91573.4	166848.1	160017.6
	Ce ⁺³	233767.8	279136.7	390568.9	431404.3
	Ce ⁺⁴	679335.5	562396.2	953265.7	677017.3
	Fraction Ce (III) from Ce 3d = $\frac{Ce(III)}{Ce(IV) + Ce(III)}$	0.25	0.33	0.29	0.38

SI.6: High resolution XPS spectra of O 1s in (a) Ni supported over CeO₂ (b) Co supported over CeO₂ (c) Ni substituted CeO₂ (d) Co substituted CeO₂

The O 1s XPS show two different types of oxygen species for supported catalysts, but substituted catalysts show three different types of oxygen species. The detected main peak labelled as O' at 529.01-529.5eV was the lattice oxygen in metal oxide, and a shoulder labelled as O'' at 531.01-531.9.5eV was ascribed to the chemically adsorbed oxygen^{3, 7}. The peak at 532.01-532.9eV (O''') can be ascribed water/carbonate species multiplicity of physisorbed and chemisorbed water on or near the surface, respectively⁸. Upon incorporation of Ni or Co in the CeO₂, increase the instability of O species (lattice oxygen – O') occurs which generates the active oxygen species (O[•], O²⁻, and O⁻) in CeO₂. As oxygen vacancy density could facilitate oxygen species adsorption(O'')⁹. So another word if more will be oxygen vacancies, more will be chemically adsorbed oxygen. The ratios of O''/O' for supported and substituted samples suggested that more active Oxygen vacancy on the ceria surface¹⁰. Occurrence of Ce³⁺ being related to oxygen vacancy formation, the higher Ce³⁺ concentration in the catalyst should indicate more generation of oxygen vacancies. High-resolution O1s XPS results and spectra are given in the Figure S8 and table S3 which listed-out the binding energies (BE) and the area of each peak. The ratio of O''/O' or adsorbed oxygen to the lattice oxygen was calculated to illustrate the content of oxygen vacancy around Ce³⁺ sites on the catalyst surface. The surface chemical state of Ce 3d and the high percentage of Ce³⁺ imply the existence of non-stoichiometric oxygen vacancy^{3, 8}.

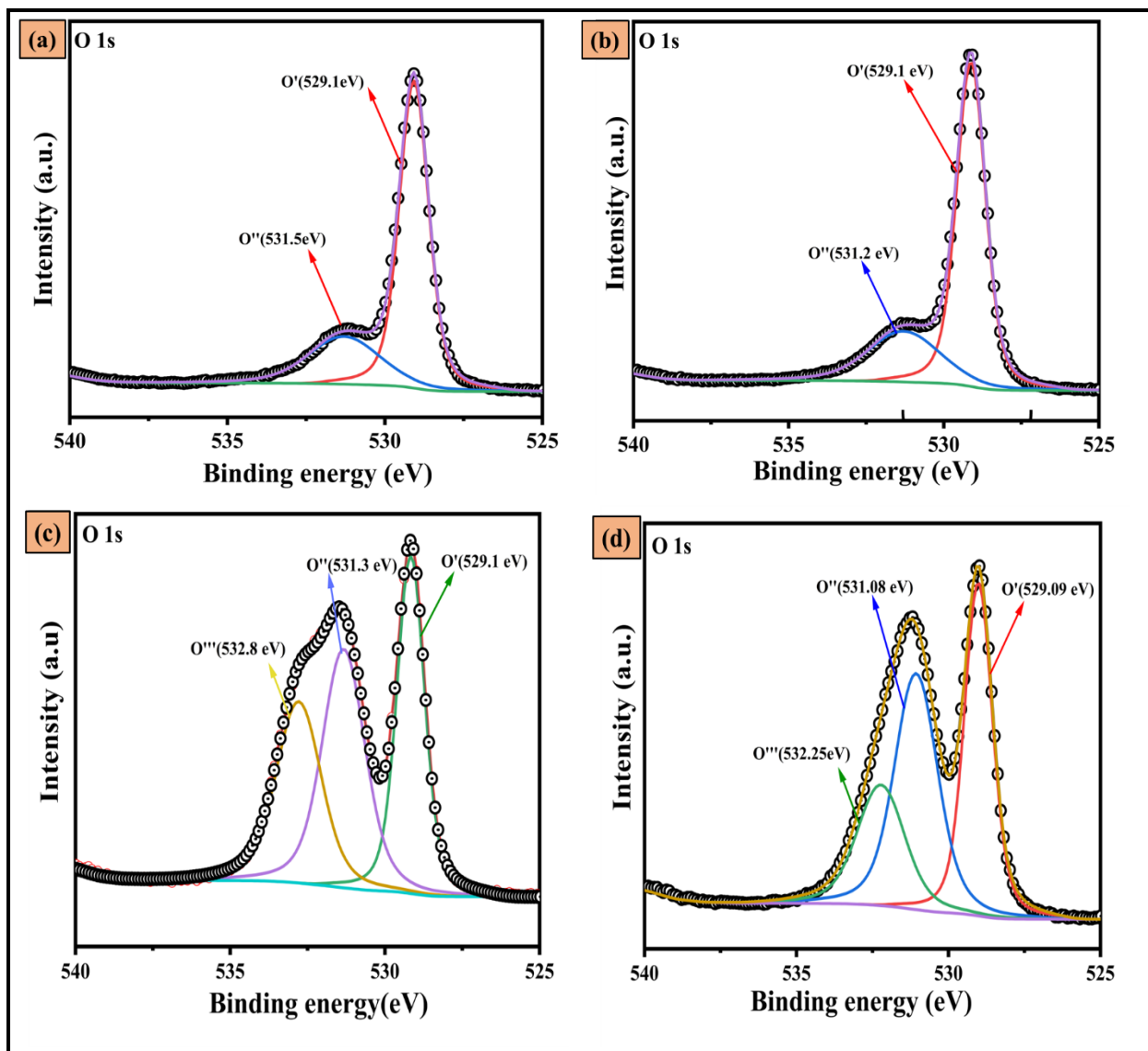


Figure S6: shows the O 1s XPS spectra of (a) Ni supported over CeO₂ (b) Co supported over CeO₂ (c) Ni substituted CeO₂ (d) Co substituted CeO₂

Table S.3 O1s XPS peak deconvolution results of (a) Ni supported over CeO₂ (b) Co supported over CeO₂ (c) Ni substituted CeO₂ (d) Co substituted CeO₂

Peaks assignment	Binding energy (eV)	Ni supported over CeO₂ (Area)	Co supported over CeO₂ (Area)	Ni-substituted CeO₂ (Area)	Co-substituted CeO₂ (Area)
O'	529.01-529.5eV	140037.13	178677.3	86936.96	105438.32
O''	531.01-531.9.5eV	53095.17	69274.17	95464.25	144595.24
O'''	532.01-532.9eV	-	-	76314	64631.9
O''/O'		0.37915066	0.38771	1.09809	1.371373

Table

Catalyst	Maximum conversion of CH₄ at 800 °C (%)	Maximum conversion of CO₂ at 800 °C (%)	H₂/CO at 800 °C	Loss in conversion and Yield after 300 minutes (%)			
				CH₄	CO₂	CO	H₂
Ni Supported CeO₂	100	84	0.5	15	12	18	11
Co Supported CeO₂	98	91	0.6	4	5	9	11
Ni Substituted CeO₂	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Co Substituted CeO₂	90.2	97	0.8	6	5	7	6

S.4 Summary of the Catalytic Activity in dry reforming of methane on the different Catalysts

Catalysts	Preparation Method	Reaction condition	Conversion		Reference
			CH ₄	CO ₂	
Co substituted CeO ₂	Solution combustion method	Temperature=800 ⁰ C, 1atm, CH ₄ /CO ₂ /N ₂ =1/1/18 and the flow rate was 20mLmin ⁻¹ , GHSV =~12000 h ⁻¹ TOS=20hours	90%	92%	This work
Co/CeO ₂	Incipient wetness impregnation method	700 °C with 50 sccm CH ₄ : CO ₂ : Ar (1:1:3) gas flow TOS=5 h.	20%	25%	¹¹

Table S.5 Selected Co based DRM catalysts reported in the literature and their activity

Co/TiO ₂	Incipient wetness impregnation method	CH ₄ /CO ₂ =1; 1023 K; 2.0 MPa;	~28%	-	12
26Co/ZrO ₂	Incipient wetness impregnation method	CH ₄ /CO ₂ /He (10:10:80 in volume). T=750 °C	85%	-	13
Co/γ -Al ₂ O ₃	Incipient wetness impregnation method	(CH ₄ /CO ₂ =1/1) flow rate =20 ml/min T=900 °C	90%	-	14
15Co/Al ₂ O ₃	Incipient wetness impregnation method	CH ₄ : CO ₂ : N ₂ = 1:1:3 (vol ratio), temperature = 873 K.	20%	-	15
Co/SiO ₂	Incipient wetness impregnation method oleyl amine/oleic acid	T=700 °C CH ₄ /CO ₂ /N ₂ =33.3:33.3:33.3	30%	30%	16
Co/SiO ₂ derived from	Hydrothermal	T = 750 °C, He: CH ₄ : CO ₂ = 1:1:1 with a total	5%	10%	17

phyllosilicates	method	flow rate of 30 ml/min			
Co/MgO-Al ₂ O ₃ from hydrotalcite	Incipient wetness impregnation method	T=800 °C CH ₄ /CO ₂ =40:60	20%	20%	¹⁸
Co/ZSM-5	Incipient wetness impregnation method	T=800 °C CH ₄ /CO ₂ =20:20:60	65%	75%	¹⁹

SI.7: Thermodynamic equilibrium conversion with Carbon formation calculations:

Total Gibbs free energy minimization was employed to evaluate the thermodynamics of dry reforming reaction using Aspen Plus V9, Aspen Tech.

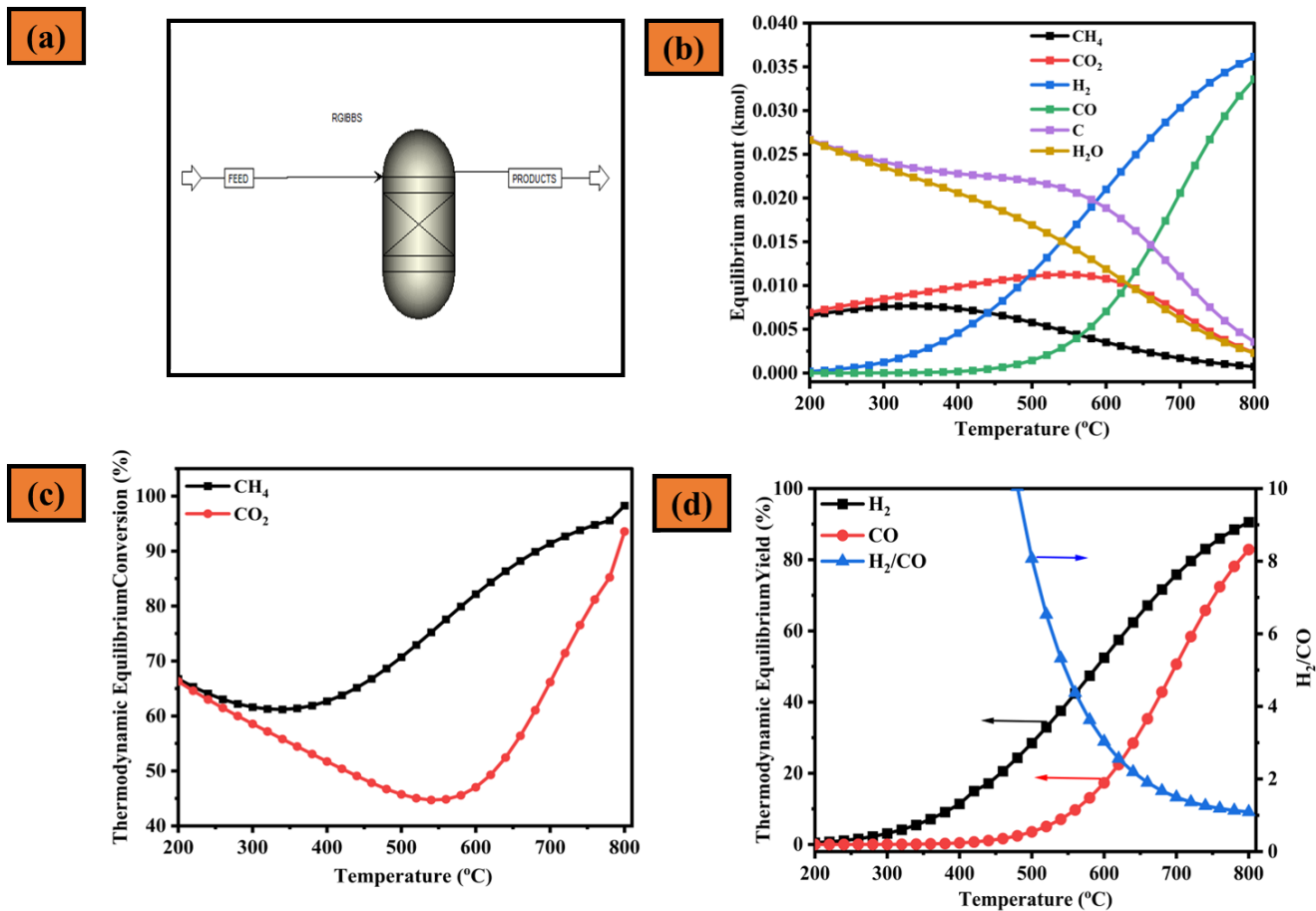


Figure.S7. (a) Flowsheet used in Aspen Plus simulation to carry out thermodynamic calculations via the Gibbs free energy minimization method. (b) Equilibrium composite (c) Equilibrium conversion of CH_4 And CO_2 (d) Equilibrium Yield of H_2 And CO . All results were obtained by considering carbon formation. Feedstock: $0.020 \text{ kmol CH}_4 + 0.020 \text{ kmol CO}_2$ as per our results obtained from GC Pressure: 1 atm; Temperature: 200-800 °C.

SI.8: Long term H_2 and CO Yield curve for the dry reforming of methane over Ni supported over CeO_2 , Co supported over CeO_2 , Co-substituted CeO_2

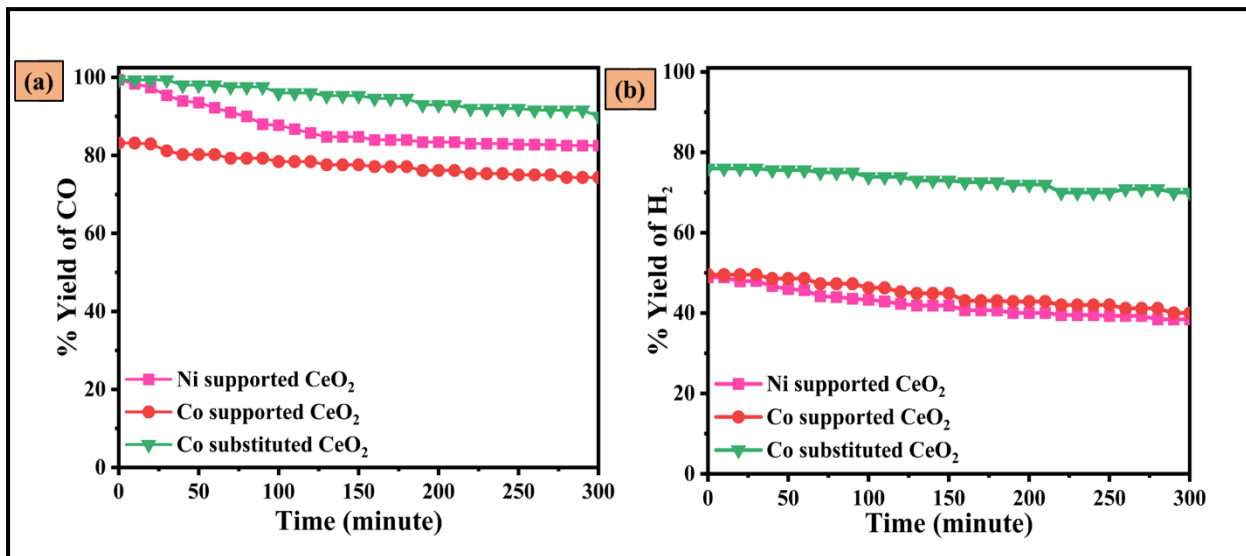
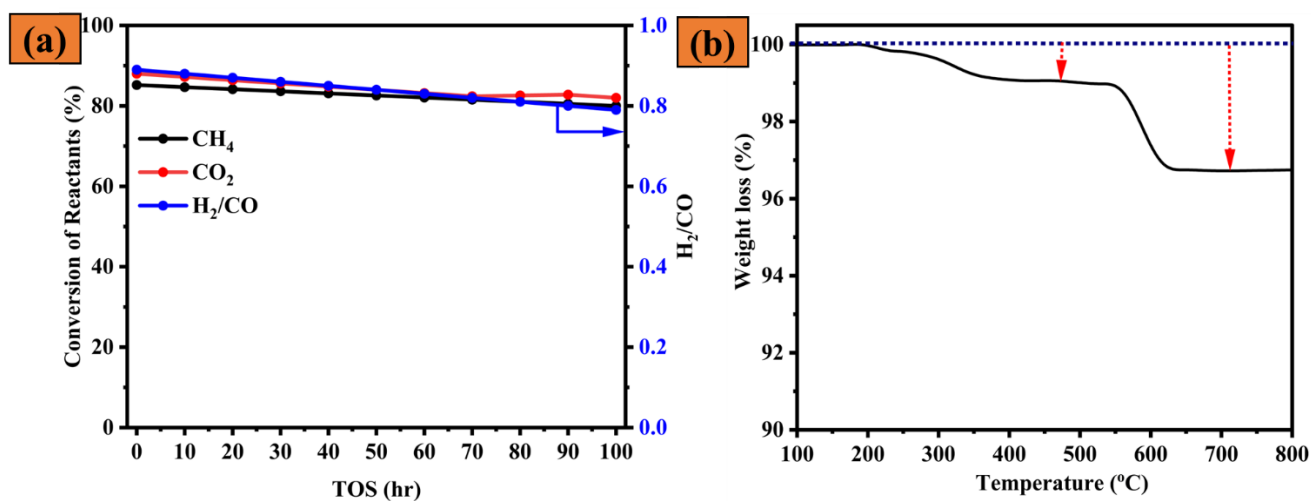


Figure S8: Catalytic activity for the dry reforming of methane: (a) CO Yield (b) H₂ Yield as function of temperature. Reaction condition: Temperature=800⁰C, 1atm, CH₄/CO₂/N₂=1/1/18 and the flow rate was 20mLmin⁻¹, GHSV =~12000mL/(g.h) For Ni supported over CeO₂, Co supported over CeO₂, Co-substituted CeO₂.

SI.9: Long term CH₄ and CO₂ conversion curve for the dry reforming of Co-substituted CeO₂



Catalyst	CH ₄ /CO ₂ (Vol.%)	GHSV	Operating Temperature (T°C)	TOS (hr.)	Amount of Deposited Carbon After the reaction (by TGA)	Ref.
Co substituted CeO ₂	30/30	12000mL/(g.h)	750	100	3.7 %	This work
5 wt. % Ni/14.7 wt. % Ce - SBA-16	33/33	30,000 mL h ⁻¹ g _{cat} ⁻¹	700	50	7%	20
12 wt.% Ni/Ce _{0.8} Gd _{0.2} O ₂	33/33	28,800 h ⁻¹	800	100	18%	21
Ni/CeO ₂	40/40	150,000 mL h ⁻¹ g _{cat} ⁻¹	800	50	19.4%	22
Ni/Zr-DC	40/40	150,000 mL	800	50	13.6%	22

Figure S9: Catalytic activity for the dry reforming of methane: CO₂ and CH₄ conversion as function of temperature. Reaction condition: Temperature=750 °C, 1atm, CH₄/CO₂/N₂ =6/6/8 and the flow rate were 20mLmin⁻¹, GHSV =~12000mL/ (g.h) (b) TGA curve after the 100hr TOS for Co-substituted CeO₂

Table S6. Amount of Carbon deposited by various catalyst in DRM with different Feed vol.% concentration (CH₄/CO₂=1)

		$\text{h}^{-1} \text{g}_{\text{cat}}^{-1}$				
Ni/Sm-DC	40/40	150,000 mL $\text{h}^{-1} \text{g}_{\text{cat}}^{-1}$	800	50	3.3%	22
Ni/La-DC	40/40	150,000 mL $\text{h}^{-1} \text{g}_{\text{cat}}^{-1}$	800	50	2.0%	22
Ni/mp-Ce _{1-x} Ni _x O _{2-y}	50/50	12 000 mL (h $\text{g}_{\text{cat}})^{-1}$	700	40	10%	23
Ni/n-Ce _{1-x} Ni _x O _{2-y}	50/50	12 000 mL (h $\text{g}_{\text{cat}})^{-1}$	700	40	20%	23
Ni-Al	50/50	36,000 mL $\text{h}^{-1} \text{g}_{\text{cat}}^{-1}$	700	80	15%	24
Ni-1Ce-Al	50/50	36,000 mL $\text{h}^{-1} \text{g}_{\text{cat}}^{-1}$	700	80	16%	24
Ni-2Ce-Al	50/50	36,000 mL $\text{h}^{-1} \text{g}_{\text{cat}}^{-1}$	700	80	12%	24
Ni/Al-IMP	50/50	36,000 mL $\text{h}^{-1} \text{g}_{\text{cat}}^{-1}$	700	80	52%	24

Ni/Ce-Al-IMP	50/50	36,000 mL	700	80	22.5%	24
Co/C						11
NiCo/C						11
CoNi/						12

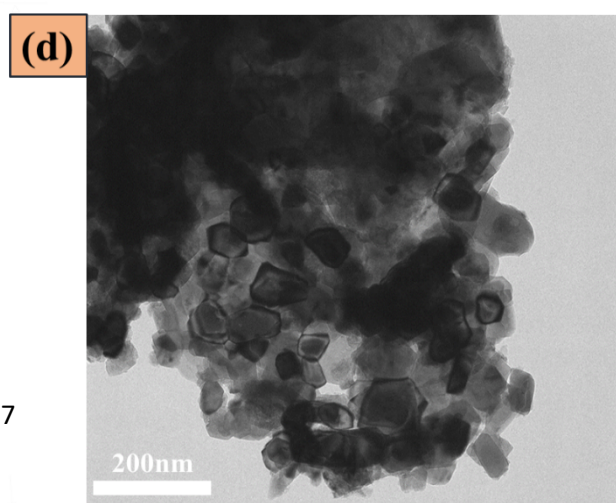
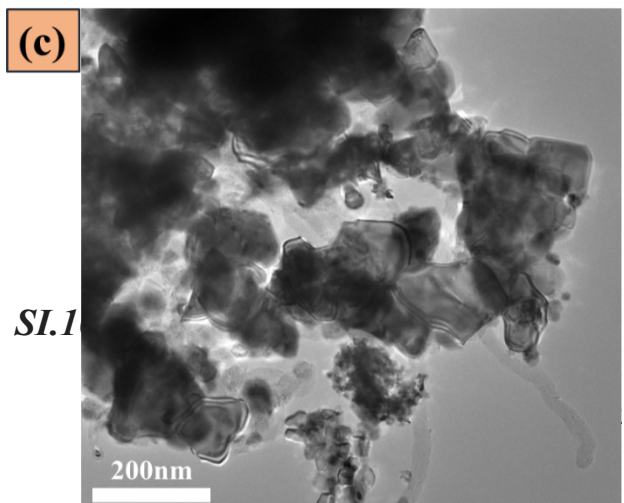
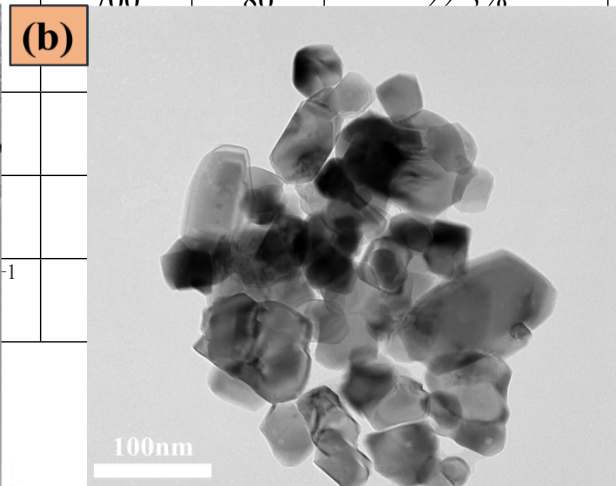
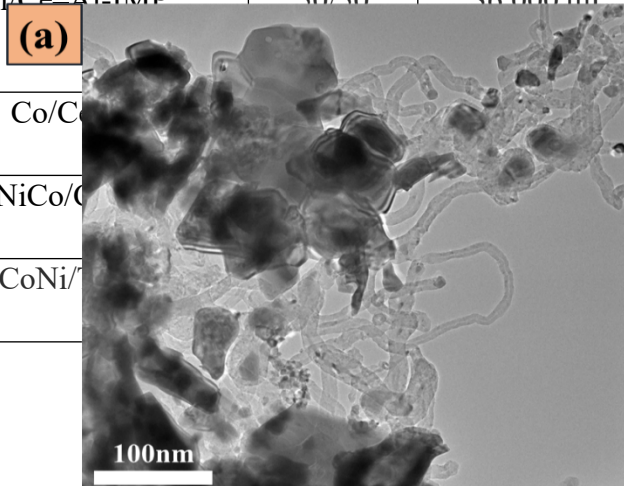


Figure S 10: TEM images of spent catalyst- (a) Ni supported over CeO₂ (b) Co supported over CeO₂ (c) Ni substituted CeO₂ (d) Co substituted CeO₂ Reaction condition: Temperature=800^oC, 1atm, CH₄/CO₂/N₂ =1/1/18 and the flow rate was 20mLmin⁻¹, GHSV =12000mL/(g.h)

SI.11:TGA profiles of Ni/Co substituted and supported catalysts after CH₄ decomposition test

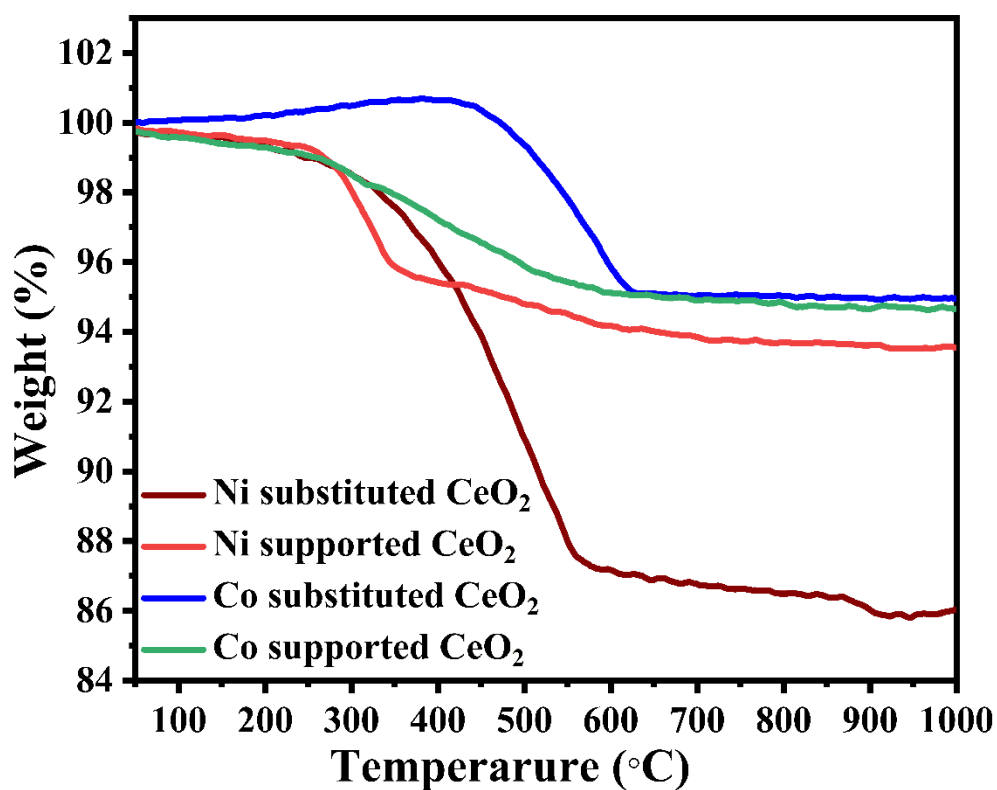


Figure S11:TGA profiles of Ni/Co substituted and supported catalysts after CH₄ decomposition test

SI.12: Schematic sketch for mechanism on the basis of transient studies of methane decomposition and CO₂ reaction with deposited carbon after CH₄ decomposition on the Ni and Co supported the CeO₂.

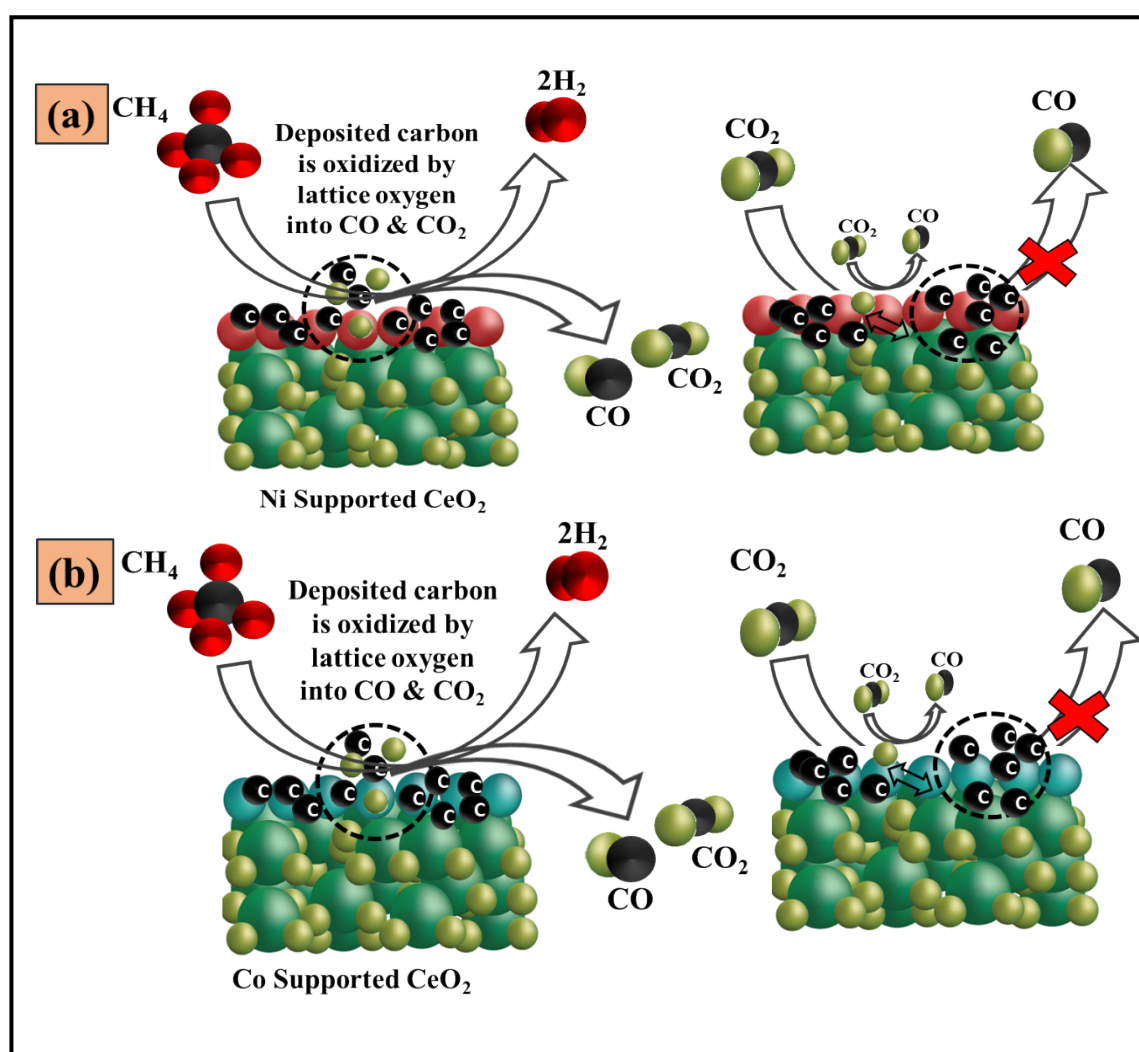


Figure S12: Schematic sketch for mechanism on the basis of transient studies of methane decomposition and CO₂ reaction with deposited carbon after CH₄ decomposition on the Ni and Co supported the CeO₂.

SI.13: Schematic showing methane on Ni- and Co- substituted catalyst surface used to calculate adsorption energy at different sites

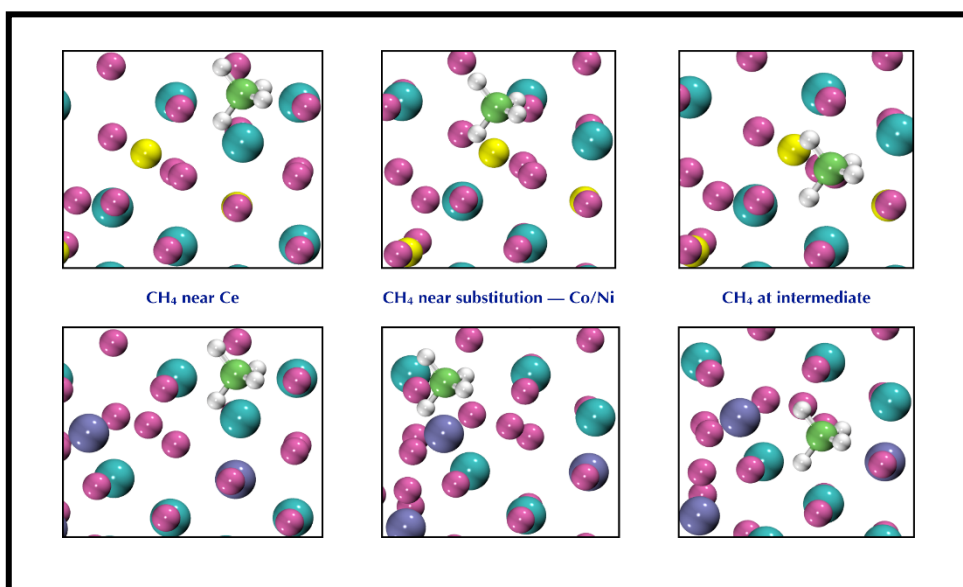


Figure S13: Schematic showing methane on Ni- and Co- substituted catalyst surface used to calculate adsorption

energy at different sites.

SI.14: Percentage CH_4 and CO_2 conversions for dry reforming of methane reaction at different flow rates for Co substituted CeO_2

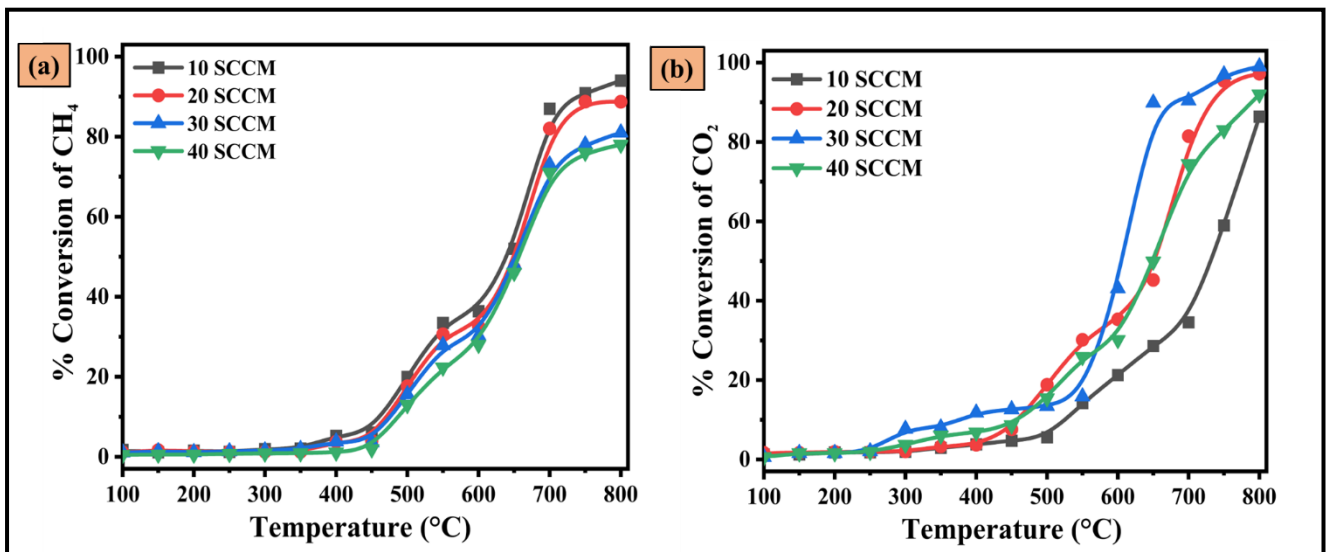


Figure S14: Percentage CH_4 and CO_2 conversions for dry reforming of methane reaction at different flow rates for Co substituted CeO_2

SI.15: Apparent activation energy estimation for Co substituted CeO_2

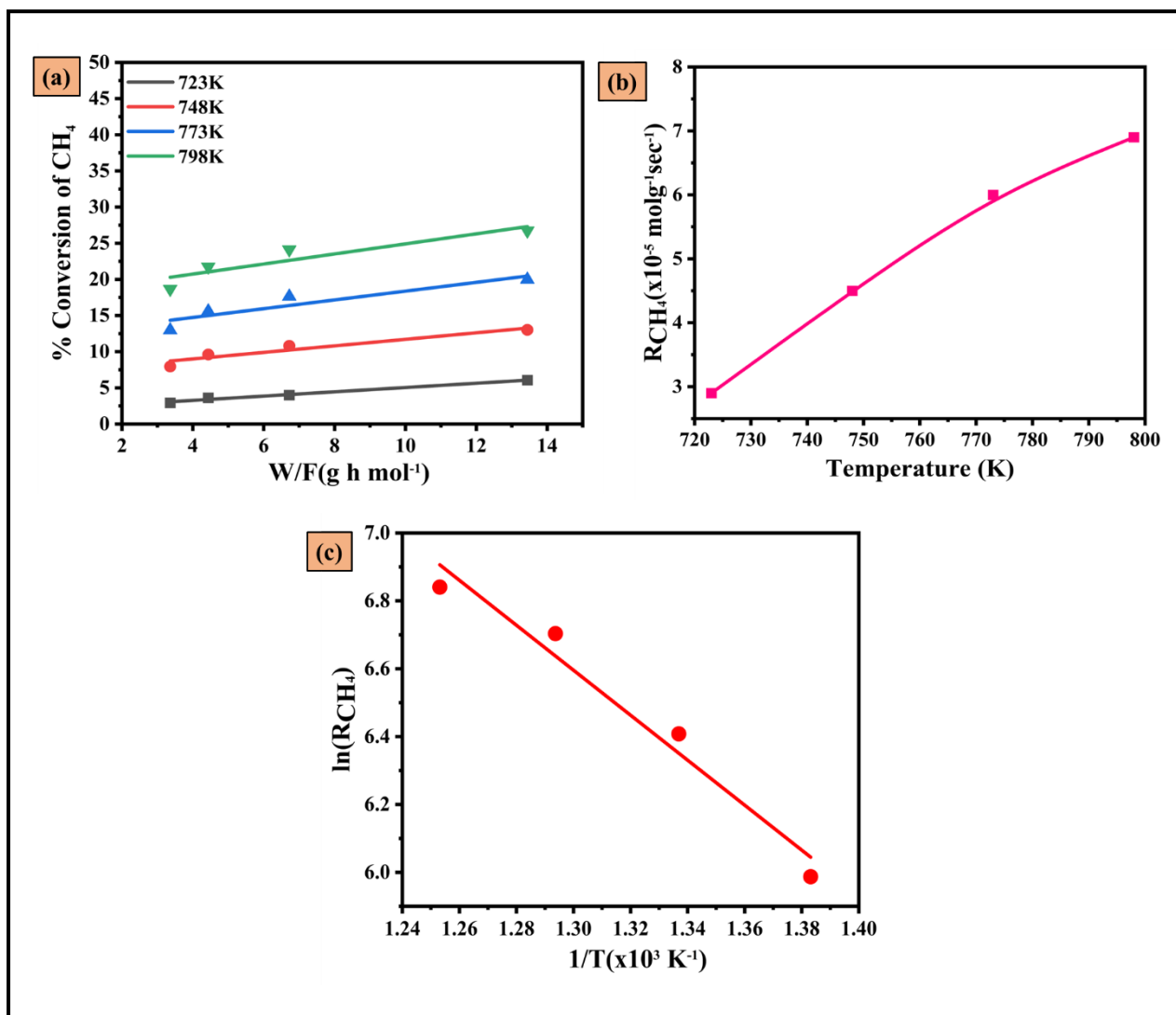


Figure S15: (a) Effects of space-time (W/F) on % conversion of methane at different temperature (b) Reaction rate curve (c) Arrhenius plots of dry reforming of methane over Co Substituted CeO_2 catalyst. Reaction conditions: $T = 723\text{--}798\text{ K}$, $CH_4/CO_2/N_2=1/1/18$, Catalyst 100 mg

2- Reference:

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