List of Figures

Figures	*Title*	*page*
1.1	Schematic diagram showing development of solar photovoltaic cells in generations along with targeted cost and present cost for power generation along with thermodynamic limit of solar cells	*2*
1.2	Schematic diagram showing the working mechanism of (a) conventional P-N junction solar cell and (b) excitonic solar cell	*3*
1.3	Schematic diagram of quantum Dot Sensitized Solar Cells, lower panel shown side view of QDSSC and top panel shows working mechanism in brief	*4*
1.4	Schematic diagram showing carrier multiplication with impact ionization along with energy requirement of incident photon for multiexciton generation	*5*
2.1	Schematic representation of introduction of various photovoltaic cell technology since 1976	*7*
2.2	Schematic representation of four generation for solar photovoltaic with schematics of representative devices	*8*
2.3	Schematic diagrams showing structure and brief working mechanism for (a) dye sensitized solar cells and (b) quantum dot sensitized solar cells	*10*
2.4	Dependence of detailed balance efficiency of quantum dot solar cell over QDs absorber bandgap	*11*
3.1	Schematic diagram for problems identified for improvement in quantum dot sensitized solar cells after literature review	*19*
3.2	Schematic diagram for in-situ hydrothermal sensitization of mesoporous electrode along with their photovoltaic characterization	*20*
3.3	Schematic diagram showing transition metal doping in CdS sensitized quantum dot solar cells and their photovoltaic performance evaluation	*21*
3.4	Process flow for zinc titanate photoelectrode material preparation, photoelectrode preparation, sensitization and PV performance evaluation	*22*
3.5	Detailed balance efficiency calculation with ideal and limited open circuit potential conditions	*23*
4.1	Schematic diagram of synthesis of CdTe quantum dots using hydrothermal process and in-situ sensitization of mesoporous electrode using CdTe quantum dots	*27*
4.2	CdS quantum dots sensitization of mesoporous electrode using SILAR	*28*
4.3	ZnS passivation of sensitized mesoporous electrode using SILAR method	*28*
4.4	Schematic diagram showing generation of characteristic X-ray	*30*
4.5	Schematic diagram of components of X-ray diffractometer	*31*
4.6	Schematic diagram showing components of scanning electron microscopy	*32*
4.7	Schematic diagram of atomic force microscopy	*32*
4.8	Schematic diagram of UV-Vis spectrometer	*33*
4.9	Schematic diagram of FTIR spectrometer	*34*
4.10	Schematic diagram of fluorescence spectrometer	*35*
4.11	Schematic diagram of transmission electron microscope	*36*
4.12	Equivalent circuit models to fit impedance data (a) Transmission line model and (b) Simplified model	*37*
5.1	Schematic diagram explaining different sensitization schemes adopted in past	*39*
5.2	Schematic diagram showing process flow for experimental procedures for in-situ sensitization and PV testing	*41*
5.3	X-ray diffraction pattern for sensitized mesoporous electrode	*42*
5.4	Surface morphology of (a) sintered, (b) sensitized, (c) magnified sensitized mesoporous electrode and (d) cross section of mesoporous electrode	*43*
5.5	AFM topo-graphs for (a, b, c) sintered and (c, d, e) sensitized electrodes for different scanning area	*43*
5.6	AFM topo-graphs for (a) sensitized and (b) sintered mesoporous electrode for 1 µm × 1 µm scan area	*44*
5.7	HR-TEM image for sensitized mesoporous electrode (a) Image showing organic covering and (b) d-spacing calculation for CdTe quantum dots	*45*
5.8	(a) absorption and emission spectra of dispersed QDs and (b) Absorbance calculated from	*46*

	diffuse reflectance measurement for sensitized, non-sensitized and ZnS treated electrode	
5.9	Photovoltaic response of sensitized electrode with and without ZnS treatment under 1 sun intensity illumination	*46*
5.10	Nyquist plots for (a, b) Without ZnS treatment sensitized electrodes and (c, d) with ZnS treatment under different bias conditions	*48*
5.11	Extracted parameter from impedance data fitted with equivalent circuit models (a) Counter electrode resistance R_{ce}, (b) transport resistance R_{tr}, (c) recombination resistance R_{rec} and (d) recombination capacitance C_{rec}	*48*
6.1	Schematic representation of adopted strategies for improvement in QDSSC	*51*
6.2	Schematic diagram showing possible energy level in transition metal doped CdS system	*52*
6.3	X-ray diffraction for Mn doped CdS sensitized mesoporous electrode (upper panel) and anatase diffraction reference (lower panel)	*54*
6.4	Surface morphology for (a, c) non- sensitized electrode and (b, d) sensitized electrode	*55*
6.5	Topography for (a, b, c) sintered and (d, e, f) sensitized electrode for different scanning area	*55*
6.6	Absorption of (a) Mn doped TiO_2/CdS electrode for different mole fraction and (b) different transition metal doped electrode	*56*
6.7	current voltage characteristic for (a) Mn doped TiO_2/CdS electrode and (b) different transition metal doped TiO_2/CdS QDSSCs	*57*
6.8	(a) Nyquist plot and fitted Impedance spectra for TM doped QDSSCs and (b) bode plots for TM doped QDSSCs	*58*
6.9	(a) Carrier lifetime for transition metal doped QDSSCs and (b) schematic diagram of introduced energy level diagram indicating Fermi energy of transition metal dopants	*59*
7.1	X-ray diffraction pattern for zinc titanate nano powder	*63*
7.2	(a) Estimated phase fraction of zinc titanate crystallographic phases and (b) schematic diagram for phase fraction variation with calcination temperature	*63*
7.3	(a, b) Tauc plot for zinc titanate powder with different calcination temperature and (c) vibrational spectra of zinc titanate nano powder with different calcination temperature indicated by labels	*65*
7.4	Surface morphology of (a, c) electrode A for sample calcinated at lower temperature and (b, d) shows surface morphology of electrode B calcinated at higher temperature	*66*
7.5	(a) absorption of electrode A and B and (b) absorption of sensitized electrode A and B	*66*
7.6	Photovoltaic response of best device made of Zinc titanate (a) electrode A and (b) electrode B	*67*
7.7	(a) Nyquist plot for electrode A, (b) Nyquist plot for electrode B, (c) bode plot for electrode A and (d) bode plot for electrode B	*68*
7.8	(a) Distribution of photovoltaic performance of zinc titanate electrode and (b) schematic diagram of QDSSCs	*69*
8.1	Schematic diagram showing operating principle of QDSSCs	*71*
8.2	(a) Generation rate and (b) ultimate efficiency for limited V_{oc} and ideal V_{oc} case	*73*
8.3	(a) Staircase carrier multiplication, (b) finite slope carrier multiplication, (c) ideal ultimate efficiency and non-ideal ultimate efficiencies for staircase carrier multiplication and (d) ideal and non-ideal ultimate efficiency for finite slope carrier multiplication	*74*
8.4	(a) open circuit voltage, (c) fill factor, (e) detailed balance efficiency with ideal E_{diff}, (b) open circuit voltage, (d) fill factor and (f) detailed balance efficiency with finite E_{diff}	*76*
8.5	(a) open circuit voltage, (c) fill factor, (e) detailed balance efficiency with finite E_{diff} and staircase carrier multiplication, (b) open circuit voltage, (d) fill factor and (f) detailed balance efficiency with finite E_{diff} and finite slope carrier multiplication	*78*