

This work investigates the nitrogen ions ( $N^+$ ) implantation effects on Zinc Sulfide (ZnS) thin film deposited on Si substrate by radio frequency (RF) magnetron sputtering at room temperature. The film was exposed to  $N^+$  of energy 25 keV using an ion implanter at different doses ( $1 \times 10^{16}$  and  $1 \times 10^{17}$  ions/cm<sup>2</sup>). The un-implanted and the  $N^+$  implanted films were characterized by X-ray diffraction (XRD) for structural study, atomic force microscopy (AFM) for surface roughness, Four Probe method for resistivity measurements and UV-vis spectroscopy for the band gap calculation. The XRD results revealed polycrystalline ZnS with diffraction peaks along (222), (110) and (311) planes, indicating its cubic crystal structure. The  $N^+$  implantation in the ZnS decreased its crystallite size due to ions induced structural disorder. The surface roughness of the film was increased with the increase of  $N^+$  dose. Electrical resistivity and band gap of the ZnS were decreased due to ion-implantation. These changes were attributed to the structural disorder occurred due to  $N^+$  implantation in the film. The un-implanted and  $N^+$  implanted ZnS ( $10^{17}$  ions-cm<sup>-2</sup>) films were employed to fabricate metal-semiconductor-metal (MSM) photodetectors using  $N^+$  contacts. The photodetection response of the ZnS was investigated through current-voltage (I-V) measurements. The  $N^+$  implanted ZnS displayed higher current under UV light as compared to the un-implanted ZnS which was explained on the basis of the ion-induced changes in the film.